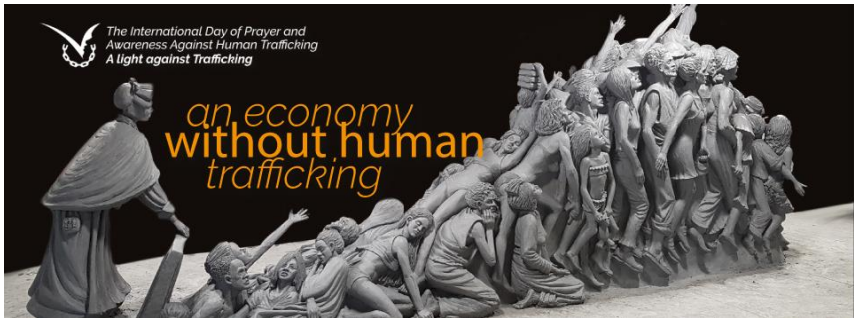


PARISH OF ST JAMES & ST BONIFACE
with St John's RC Primary School
The Catholic Community in the Heart of Mid Devon

NEWSLETTER

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Sunday 7 February 2021



Parish Clergy:

Canon Kristian Paver - Parish Priest
Rev Michael Tosh – Deacon
Rev Peter Found - Deacon

Parish Secretary: Rosie Croker

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St Boniface's Church

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St John's RC School

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Parish Safeguarding Reps

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Coming to Church during the National Lockdown

At this critical time in this wave of the Covid-19 pandemic, in order to halt the spread of the virus, the central message is **STAY AT HOME** and only go outside for essential journeys. This applies above all to those who are especially vulnerable to infection – the elderly and those with underlying medical conditions. Therefore, although most churches remain open for the time being, please think very carefully before venturing out to come to Mass, especially if you are included amongst those who are particularly vulnerable. Consider staying out home and taking part in Mass online or on the telephone, or simply join us in spirit in silent prayer or by reading the Mass texts.

When in church, great care must be taken to observe the social distancing rules, to wear a face covering (unless you are exempt) and to sanitise your hands frequently. Moreover, you should refrain from engaging others in extended conversation and maintain an appropriate distance from others at all times, both inside the church and outside in the carpark.

If you would like to come to **Mass at the weekends**, please contact the Parish Office to book a place, either by telephone on weekdays between 10.30-11.30am, or by email. There is no need to book a place at a weekday Mass but, on arrival at church, please give your details to one of the stewards.

International Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking

This Monday, 8 February, is the feast day of St Josephine Bakhita who was born in Sudan, kidnapped at the age of nine and sold into slavery. She was shipped to Italy and, after suffering terrible physical abuse, was eventually freed and became a Sister. As the patron saint of all those who suffer from human trafficking in all its forms, it is also the International Day of Prayer and Awareness for victims of human trafficking and those who work to combat it.

This year's theme is "A light against trafficking: an economy without human trafficking" and we are invited to join in a worldwide online 7-hour Marathon of Prayer on that day with prayers and testimonies from international bodies and people fighting against human trafficking, which will be streamed in five languages. For more information, follow the [link](#).

Global Healing Lent Evenings

In 2015, Pope Francis published his ground-breaking letter on the environment *Laudato Si'*. Since then, millions of people worldwide have joined the global movement to address the environmental crisis our world is facing.

This Lent, the Global Catholic Climate Movement invites you to join them for a series of reflective evenings with inspiring speakers, prayer and discussion, using the film-based resource "Global Healing". These engaging

documentaries will inform and challenge people to respond to Pope Francis' call to Care for Our Common Home.

The sessions are suitable for all who are concerned about what is happening to our world and who want to take action. They will take place on Thursdays from 18 February-25 March 2021, 7.30pm-8.30pm. To register click [here](#) (via Zoom) or email jane@catholicclimatemovement.global.

"Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or secondary aspect of our Christian experience... Truly, much can be done!" (Laudato Si' 217, 180)

Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation

We are hoping to organise the celebration of the delayed First Communions at St James after the lockdown restrictions are eased, hopefully sometime in March. Deacon Michael will keep parents informed of developments.

Those children who should have started preparing for First Communion this year, as well as our young people waiting to be confirmed, have not been forgotten. Plans are in place to take both groups forward, once the ease in restrictions permit.

CAFOD Lent Challenge - Walk for Water - 40,000 Steps

This Lent, CAFOD is inviting us to join their "Walk for Water" challenge – 10,000 steps a day, every day, for 40 days. Money raised will go towards changing the fact that one in three people around the world do not have access to safe drinking water. If you would like to do this challenge as individual, then go to the CAFOD website and follow the instructions.

We would also like to set up a "Parish Team" for those who would like to commit themselves to a smaller number of steps a day. If you would like to offer a commit for each day of Lent, please email Jane with your details: jtrott@cafod.org.uk. A [Just Giving Page](#) for our "parish team" has been set up and is open for donations. Hopefully, we should have no problem surpassing our stated target of £250!

Next week, the Newsletter will have more information about the CAFOD Lent Fast Day and the Big Walk for Water on Saturday 20 February.

Our Parish Choir Goes Virtual!

In an exciting initiative, some of our parish singing group are making individual recordings of hymns and songs which are then being skilfully combined by our parishioner and choir member, Rebecca Goldby. It is hoped that these will become a regular part of our Sunday Liturgy.

This week, *Soul of my Saviour* will be played during the distribution of Holy Communion at 10.00am Mass at St James.

"The Thought Expressed"

Philip Berthoud, a parishioner of the Sacred Heart Parish in Kingsbridge, has produced a CD of songs and hymns based on the poetry of his Godfather, John Bradburne. All profits from sales will go to Mutemwa Leprosy Settlement in Zimbabwe, where John Bradburne spent his last ten years, devoting his life to the care of the patients in the settlement.

The CD costs £10 is available from www.johnbradburne.com or www.philberthoud.com. It can also be found on Amazon, Spotify, Google play etc. To find out more about this extraordinary man's life and the cause for his sainthood, visit www.johnbradburne.com.

Rediscover Your Marriage

Retrouvaille simply means "rediscovery". The programme offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse and a loving relationship in your marriage. It has helped 6000 couples, who were experiencing difficulties in their marriage in the past year alone. The programme is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples that have already separated or divorced. There is no group therapy or group work.

For confidential information about *Retrouvaille*, or to register for the next programme - a virtual weekend on 25-28 February 2021 - call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com, or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk.

Holy Mass and Events this week

Saturday 6 February – St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

- Holy Mass at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass)

Sunday 7 February – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- Holy Mass at 10.00am *Pro Populo*
- Holy Mass at 11.30am (St Boniface)

Tuesday 9 February - Weekday

- Holy Mass at 10.00am *Aniela Rieunier RIP*

Wednesday 10 February – St Scholastica, Virgin

- Holy Mass at 12 Noon (St Boniface)

Thursday 11 February – Our Lady of Lourdes - World Day for the Sick

- Coffee Morning at 11.00am on Zoom
- Holy Mass at 6.00pm

Friday 12 February – Weekday

- Holy Mass at 12noon

Saturday 13 February – Weekday

- Holy Mass at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass)