

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

St James and St Boniface Parish is part of Plymouth Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust
Registered Charity No. 213227

NEWSLETTER

Fourth Sunday of Advent (B) 24 December 2023



Parish Clergy:

Revd Canon Kristian Paver - Parish Priest
Revd Deacon Michael Tosh
Revd Deacon Peter Found

Also resident in the Parish:
Revd Fr Paul Rea CRE (retired)

Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosie Croker

The Presbytery
40 Old Road, Tiverton EX16 4HJ
Telephone: (01884) 252292

Parish Office

Tuesday-Friday
10.00am-2.00pm

St Vincent de Paul Society

Tel: 07762 921878

Parish Website & Social Media

www.stjameschurchtiverton.org.uk

Facebook: Parish of St James and
St Boniface, Mid-Devon

St James' Church

Old Road
Tiverton EX16 4HJ

St Boniface's Church

Crow Green
Cullompton EX15 1EW

St John's Catholic School

Melbourne Street
Tiverton EX16 5LA
Tel: (01884) 253630

Parish Safeguarding Team

Marian Coombs
Shelagh Eastwood
Siobhan Gilroy
Iwona Pacosz
Tel: 07856 582303

safe.stjames.stboniface@gmail.com

Safe Spaces Team

Tel: 0300 303 1056

safespaces@firstlight.org.uk

More News of Bishop-elect Christopher



It was announced this week that the Ordination of Canon Christopher as the 10th Bishop of Plymouth will take place on the Feast of the Chair of St Peter, 22 February 2024, at 12noon in the Cathedral in Plymouth. Please keep our Bishop-elect in your prayers over the coming weeks as he prepares to take on this challenging ministry among us. Bishop-elect Christopher has sent us all a beautiful

Christmas Message, reflecting on the significance of the Christmas Crib. This Message can be found at <https://vimeo.com/896311805?share=copy>.

Canon Christopher also recorded an interview for the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales in which he shares his joy at the news of his appointment by the Holy Father as Bishop-elect of the Diocese of Plymouth. He also gives us an insight into how he finds his peace and the ways in which he prays. He includes a special message for the priests, religious and people of the three counties of Cornwall, Devon and Dorset: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishop-elect-of-plymouth-shares-thoughts-after-appointment-announcement/>.

Christmas Message from Canon Paul Cummins

Canon Paul, our Diocesan Administrator, shares with us a Christmas Message (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yR_7RoJIGAg) which he recorded prior to receiving the news that Canon Christopher had been appointed as our Bishop-elect. Canon Paul will continue to lead our diocese until Canon Christopher's episcopal ordination at the end of February 2024.

Diocesan Advent Reflection

The final Reflection for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, focussed on the theme of "love", can be found at <https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/t-2D9E4575C1E1A8302540EF23F30FEDED>.

Carols at St Boniface

This Sunday, after the 11.30am Mass at St Boniface (and tea, coffee and cake!), the music group will be having an informal sing-through of favourite Christmas hymns and carols. All are welcome to stay behind and sing along.

Putting Children First – Crib Offerings

Please take some time to visit the crib in our churches over the Christmas period. There is a basket in which to leave an offering and these offerings will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) as it works across the Diocese spreading God's love and giving families hope in times of crisis.

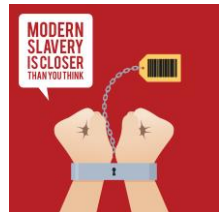
Homelessness – How are we called to respond?

Catholic Social Teaching reminds us that housing is not a valueless system, but a core part of what it means to live a dignified human life. Cardinal Vincent Nichols has said that “the provision of secure, decent housing for all is a hallmark of a good society”. Yet, on any given night, tens of thousands of families and individuals are experiencing the worst forms of homelessness across the UK. This includes more than 200,000 households in England alone.

This online event of prayer and reflection, which will take place on Wednesday 17 January 2024, 6.00-7.00pm, will include presentations from organisations working on the frontline of homelessness, including St Petrocs in Cornwall and Routes to Roots in Dorset. They will share their response to the enormous challenge of homelessness and provide suggestions about how we can best respond. All are welcome to take part. Please register to receive the Zoom invitation at <https://forms.office.com/e/VVp5t5qU7F>.

Modern Slavery – It’s happening near you.

Modern slavery is a serious crime being committed across the UK in which victims are exploited for someone else’s gain. It can take many forms, including trafficking of people, forced labour and servitude. Victims are often hidden away, may be unable to leave their situation or may not come forward because of fear or shame. This two-hour event will hear from a range of speakers about modern slavery in our Diocese and what response we can give. There will be practical advice about what to look out for and what we can do if we have concerns. The event will take place on the Feast of St Bakhita, Patron of victims of modern slavery, on Thursday 6 February, 10.30am-12.30pm at the Church of the Assumption Parish Rooms, Abbey Road, Torquay TQ2 5NJ, and will be followed by a free light lunch. Please register [here](#) or email caritas@prcdtr.org.uk.



Mid Devon Mobility National Awards



**Mid Devon
Mobility**
Connecting Communities

Mid Devon Mobility, a charitable organisation tucked away in a corner of the multistorey car park in Tiverton, has been growing for over three decades thanks to being powered by the goodwill of its great team of volunteers.

It provides services way beyond Tiverton, such as having a centre in Crediton, and operates multiple services in and around Barnstaple up in North Devon. Last month it won three national awards from the Community Transport Association. Congratulations! Further information is attached to the Newsletter.

November Parish Giving

Loose: £917.41 Contactless: £290.00 Standing Orders: £2882.00

"Name the Bear"



A Harrods Millenium Teddy Bear, which has been generously donated to the parish, needs a new home! For just 50p a go, you can try to guess the bear's name from a list of possible names. The name has been chosen by Canon Kristian and the winner of the bear will be announced on 2 February.

Parish Diary

Saturday 23 December – Advent Weekday (O Emmanuel)

- Vigil Mass of Sunday at 6.00pm *Pam Lydon RIP (anniv)*

Sunday 24 December – Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)

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

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Sunday 24 December – Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord

Vigil Mass of Christmas at 5.00pm

Mass during the Night at 12.00am preceded by Carols from 11.30pm

Monday 25 December – The Nativity of the Lord

Holy Mass at 10.00am

Holy Mass at 11.30am (St Boniface)



Tuesday 26 December – St Stephen, Protomartyr

- Holy Mass at 10.00am

Wednesday 27 December – St John, Evangelist

- No Mass

Thursday 28 December – Feast of the Holy Innocents

- No Mass

Friday 29 December – St Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

- No Mass

Saturday 30 December – Seventh Day of the Christmas Octave

- Vigil Mass of Sunday at 6.00pm

Sunday 31 December – Feast of the Holy Family

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

Monday 1 January 2024 – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

- Holy Mass at 10.00am