

**PARISH OF ST JAMES at ST ANDREW'S & 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

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## NEWSLETTER

**Third Sunday of Advent (C) – Gaudete Sunday**  
**15 December 2024**



### **Parish Clergy:**

Revd Canon Kristian Paver - Parish Priest  
Revd Deacon Michael Tosh

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

### **Parish Secretary:** Vacant

The Presbytery  
Castle Barton  
Parkhill  
Tiverton EX 16 6RP

**St James at St Andrew's**  
Blundell's Avenue  
Tiverton EX16 4DL

**St Boniface's Church**  
Crow Green  
Cullompton EX15 1EW

**St John's Catholic School**  
Melbourne Street  
Tiverton EX16 5LA  
Tel: (01884) 253630

### **Parish Office**

Tel: 01884 252292  
[tiverton@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:tiverton@prcdtr.org.uk)

### **St Vincent de Paul Society**

Tel: 07762 921878

### **Parish Website & Social Media**

[www.stjameschurchtiverton.org.uk](http://www.stjameschurchtiverton.org.uk)  
**Facebook:** Parish of St James and  
St Boniface, Mid-Devon

### **Parish Safeguarding Team**

Marian Coombs  
Shelagh Eastwood  
Siobhan Gilroy  
Iwona Pacosz  
Tel: 07856 582303  
[safe.stjames.stboniface@gmail.com](mailto:safe.stjames.stboniface@gmail.com)  
**Safe Spaces Team**  
Tel: 0300 303 1056  
[safespaces@firstlight.org.uk](mailto:safespaces@firstlight.org.uk)

## The "O" Antiphons leading up to Christmas



The Roman Church has been singing the "O" Antiphons since at least the eighth century. They are the antiphons that accompany the *Magnificat* canticle of Evening Prayer from 17-23 December. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the

messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfilment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well. Their repeated use of the imperative "Come!" embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah: *O Sapientia* (O Wisdom), *O Adonai* (O Lord), *O Radix Jesse* (O Root of Jesse), *O Clavis David* (O Key of David), *O Oriens* (O Rising Sun), *O Rex Gentium* (O King of Nations) and *O Emmanuel* (O God-with-us).

## Advent Reflection Group

Join Monika Manser at 7 Blundell's Avenue after 9.00am Mass each Tuesday in Advent to reflect on the daily meditations in the book "Advent and Christmas Wisdom" by Henri J.M Nouwen? The book is published by Redemptorist Publications and is readily available from various on-line bookshops.

## Tree of Hope for CHAT

We are hosting a CHAT Tree of Hope in the narthex at St Andrew's. Each tag on the tree contains the option of either making a financial donation or purchasing a specific item to be dropped off at CHAT, who will ensure it goes to people in need in the community. Choose a tag and either donate on your own behalf or perhaps as a thoughtful gift for that person who seems to have everything and then present them with the tag so that they can see the impact of the contribution made on their behalf.

## Diocesan Advent Reflections

Here is the link for the next Advent Reflections: Journey to Christmas and The Jubilee of Hope, which includes a reflection on the Gospel for Gaudete Sunday by Monsignor Robert Draper: <https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/t-E58097C2B0E9A3FE2540EF23F30FEDED>.

## Christmas Draw Tickets

The tickets for the Christmas Draw are still on sale. Instead of multiple prizes, this year there are only three large hampers, filled to the brim with luxury or local products for Christmas! Tickets for these great prizes are £5.00 each.

## St John's School Carol Service

This year we are delighted to welcome our children from St John's School to St Andrew's for their Carol Service this Thursday, 19 December, at 6.00pm. Do come along and give them your support.

### **Parish Carol Service**

Our Carol Service involving the communities of St James, St Boniface and St Andrew will take place at 7.30pm next Saturday, 21 December, at St Andrew's. Please make a special effort to come and take part!

### **Christmas Get-Together at St Boniface**

The annual Christmas Get-Together at St Boniface Hall will take place next Saturday, 21 December, 2.00-4.00pm. Finger food will be on offer and some desserts too. If they can, people are asked to bring a plate of food along to share. Carols will be sung, and "Goody bags" and selection boxes will be given to the children.

### **200 Club**

Congratulations to Jean Fitz-Costa who won the £30 prize and to Siobhan Gilroy who won the £20 prize in the December draw. We are looking for more parishioners to join in this on-going fundraiser. Please consider joining for as little as £1 a month, and speak to Simon Coombs or Sheelagh Bourdon at St Andrew's or Siobhan Gilroy at St Boniface.

### **Raffle for CHAT**

Raffle tickets are still on sale for £1 each. These can be bought via Ewelina Zychlinska's Justgiving page. Just email her via the page and she will reply with your ticket numbers. At St Boniface, tickets can be bought with cash. The draw will take place on 22 December. You can also continue to make donations via her fundraising page <https://www.justgiving.com/page/ewelina-yeh-1731777385365?newPage=true>, which will be match-funded by Barclays Bank.

### **Friends of the Holy Land Christmas Appeal**

This Christmas, there will be no celebrations in Bethlehem once again. Without tourism, Bethlehem's lifeblood which supports 80% of the population, unemployment has surged. With the borders closed, there is no option to seek work in Israel. Prices have skyrocketed, residents are traumatised by the constant fear and anxiety for the future, while their daily lives are restricted by checkpoints and roadblocks.

This brutal war has already claimed over 700 lives in the West Bank and devastated countless others. Parents have run out of words to comfort their children as their loved ones perish in neighbouring Gaza, barely 50 miles away. Nearly every family has lost someone. Yet, the Friends of the Holy Land have not lost hope, and neither should you. Over the past year, FHL have seen hope shine more brightly than ever through the Christian community in the West Bank. Though they number around 45,000, less than 1% of the population, the impact they make is remarkable.

Click [here](#) to watch an animation about the situation in Bethlehem. You can donate at <https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/donate/christmas>.

## Parish Diary

### **Saturday 14 December – St John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor**

- Friends of St James and St Boniface at 9.30am in St Andrew's Hall
- Meeting of Confirmation Parents at 11.00am in St Andrew's Hall
- Youth Club, 11.00am-12.30pm in St Boniface's Hall
- Vigil Mass of Sunday at 6.00pm *Pro Populo*

### **Sunday 15 December – Third Sunday of Advent: Gaudete Sunday (C)**

- Holy Mass at 9.30am (St Boniface) *David Perkins RIP and Family*
- Holy Mass at 11.30am *Lucy Gorlo (birthday ints)*

### **Monday 16 December – Advent Weekday**

- Singing to Remember at 2.00pm in St Andrew's Hall

### **Tuesday 17 December – Advent Weekday (O Sapientia)**

- Holy Mass at 9.00am
- Advent Prayer Group at 9.45am at 7 Blundell's Avenue
- Monthly Lunch, 12noon-2.00pm in St Andrew's Hall
- Reception of Baby Brodie RIP into Church at 5.00pm

### **Wednesday 18 December – Advent Weekday (O Adonai)**

- Requiem Mass for Baby Brodie RIP at 11.30am
- **No** Mass at St Boniface

### **Thursday 19 December – Advent Weekday (O Radix Jesse)**

- Holy Mass at 9.00am
- St John's School Carol Service at 6.00pm

### **Friday 20 December – Advent Weekday (O Clavis David)**

- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 11.30am
- Holy Mass at 12noon
- Prayer of the Holy Rosary at 12.30pm

### **Saturday 21 December – Advent Weekday (O Oriens)**

- Christmas Get-Together, 2.00-4.00pm. in St Boniface's Hall
- Vigil Mass of Sunday at 6.00pm
- Joint Parish Carol Service at 7.30pm

### **Sunday 22 December – Fourth Sunday of Advent (C) (O Rex Gentium)**

- Holy Mass at 9.30am (St Boniface)
- Holy Mass at 11.30am *Pro Populo*

### **Monday 23 December (O Emmanuel)**

- Singing to Remember at 2.00pm in St Andrew's Hall

### **Tuesday 24 December – Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord**

- Vigil Mass of Christmas at 5.00pm
- Mass during the Night at 9.00pm

### **Wednesday 25 December – The Nativity of the Lord**

- Mass at 9.30am (St Boniface) *Pro Populo*
- Mass at 11.00am *Jakubowski Family (ints)*