

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

NEWSLETTER

Third Sunday of Easter
19 April 2026



Parish Clergy:

Revd Canon Kristian Paver - Parish Priest
Revd Deacon Michael Tosh

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

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

St Boniface's Church
Crow Green
Cullompton EX15 1EW

Parish Secretary: Vacant

The Presbytery
Castle Barton
Parkhill
Tiverton EX 16 6RP

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

Parish Office

Tel: 01884 252292
tiverton@prcdtr.org.uk

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

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

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Next Sunday, 26 April, is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, also known as Good Shepherd Sunday. It is an opportunity to pray for vocations and to encourage those who may be considering ordained or religious life. The Diocese of Plymouth also asks for your assistance in supporting our seminarians through their training and formation, both through prayer and financial support. If you are able to contribute to our Seminarians' Fund, we would be grateful for your donations at the retiring collection or you can donate online at <https://priesthoodplymouth.co.uk/donate>.

First Reconciliation

In preparation for their First Holy Communion in June, our First Communion children will be celebrating the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation for the first time next Saturday, at 10.00am in St Andrew's Church, Tiverton. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

200 Club

Congratulations to Terry Starkey who won the £30 prize and to Terry Ellis who won the £20 prize in the April draw. If you would like to join this on-going fund raiser for as little as £1 a month, please speak to Simon Coombs or Sheelagh Bourdon at St Andrews or Siobhan Gilroy at St Boniface.

Parish Monthly Lunch

The next Parish Monthly Lunch will take place on Tuesday 28 April, 12noon-2.00pm, in St Andrew's Parish Hall. All welcome.

The Friends of St James and St Boniface

The Friends of St James and St Boniface, the parish group that plans both the social and fund-raising events, which support and enhance our parish community, will next meet on Saturday 2 May, at 9.00am in St Andrew's Hall. Everyone is welcome to come along to this meeting.

"Rise to Our Cause"

This year's Catholic Children's Society 'Rise to Our Cause' event will be held at the Church of the Assumption of Our Lady in Torquay on Thursday 14 May. The event will start with Holy Mass at 12.00 noon, followed by a two-course hot lunch. After lunch, the Guest Speakers will be John and Myfanwy Quine. Tickets cost £15 and can be ordered by emailing vicki.dunstone@ccsplymouth.org.uk or by calling the CCSP office on 01364 645420. All proceeds will go towards helping vulnerable children and families living in our Diocese.

Fundraiser for Cancer Research UK

On Saturday 16 May, Ewelina Zychlinska will be taking part in the Ultra Jurassic Coast Challenge. She will be walking 36 miles, which she hopes to complete within 16 hours. Each mile will be dedicated to someone who has

lost their life to cancer, is currently fighting the disease or who has survived it. If anyone would like to dedicate a mile to a name, do get in touch with Ewelina. You can also sponsor her by going to her JustGiving page at: https://www.justgiving.com/page/ewelina-yeh-5?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL.

Meeting and Message from the Parish Palestinian Support Group

The recent Palestinian Supper event raised £816 for Medical Aid for Palestine, and several £100s in direct support to a Palestinian student stranded in the UK. This is a good time to reflect on what is now needed and could be done by the Parish Palestinian Support group. To this end, there will be an open meeting on either 19 May or, more likely, 2 June. More information will follow.

As some background for that meeting, in Gaza alone, the death toll for Palestinians since October 2023 currently stands at 72,344, of which perhaps 20,000 are children and which doesn't include the bodies yet to be retrieved from demolished buildings. Some 765 Palestinians have been killed since the "ceasefire" in October 2025. In the West Bank, over 1100 violent deaths have occurred since October 2023 and the number continues to rise, with widespread intimidation and violence from Israeli "settlers", frequently supported or protected by the Israeli Defence Force. In Jerusalem, some Palestinians have also been killed, but the main concern is the continued destruction of homes and agricultural buildings on the basis that the government has not granted planning permission. Some of these homes were erected as far back as 1970, and planning permission to build for Palestinians in either Jerusalem or in the occupied West Bank is hardly ever given! Gaza itself has been split, with more than half now in Israeli hands and all residents living in tents or makeshift accommodation on a thin strip near the coast.

In nearby Lebanon, since 2 March 2026, the violent death toll is in excess of 1500. More than a third of its land has been taken as a "military buffer" by Israel, with the south of the country cut off from the north by the destruction of bridges. None of the above figures include the tens of thousands who have been injured and maimed.

On top of all this, the negotiations between the USA and Iran, that were within a whisker of reaching a new Nuclear Agreement, were broken off as Israel and the USA attacked Iran on 28 February 2026. Currently, there is a fragile ceasefire, whilst both Iran and the USA block the Strait of Hormuz. President Trump has managed to upset many Christians with the self-posted image of himself as Jesus and his verbal attacks on Pope Leo. This behaviour has been supported by Vice President JD Vance, who has tried to throw doubts on the Pope's understanding of theology and especially of the Just War theory, presumably because Pope Leo is an advocate of non-violence and negotiation.

The Archbishop of Southwark, John Wilson, has defended Pope Leo as a courageous bridge-builder and peacemaker: "*Our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV*

is showing the world that in the face of war, God demands peace. As Pope Leo has made clear, we cannot stand by and allow the message of the Gospel to be abused. As bishops, we are not politicians, nor statesmen, nor do we pretend to have all the answers. But as followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, we know that each of us is called to be a beacon of His peace. We know that, in the face of war, where so many innocent lives will be lost, we must be clear that God demands peace. Please join me in praying for peace and for Pope Leo XIV. May we all be as courageous as our Holy Father in proclaiming the truth that God demands peace."

St Rita of Cascia's Feast Day

The celebration for the Feast Day of St Rita of Cascia will take place on Friday 22 May 2026 at St Rita's Centre, Honiton. The day will begin with Mass at 12 noon, presided by Fr Jose Romero OAR, followed by the blessing and distribution of roses for the sick. Hot drinks will be available all day, but visitors should bring a packed lunch. The day will conclude with Benediction at 3 pm. Early arrival is advised as car parking can be difficult if you arrive after 11.30 am.

Parish Diary

Saturday 18 April – Easter Weekday

- Vigil Mass at 6.00pm

Sunday 19 April – Third Sunday of Easter

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

Monday 20 April – Easter Weekday

- Singing to Remember at 2.00pm

Tuesday 21 April – St Anselm, Bishop and Doctor

- Holy Mass at 9.00am

Wednesday 22 April – Easter Weekday

- Mass at 12noon (St Boniface)

Thursday 23 April – St George, Martyr, Patron of England and Protector of the Realm

- Holy Mass at 9.00am

Friday 24 April – St Aldabert, Bishop and Martyr

- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 11.30am
- Holy Mass with Prayers for Healing at 12noon *Howard Hooper RIP*
- Prayer of the Holy Rosary at 12.30pm

Saturday 25 April – St Mark, Evangelist

- Celebration of First Reconciliation at 10.00am
- Vigil Mass at 6.00pm

Sunday 26 April – Fourth Sunday of Easter

- Holy Mass at 9.30am (St Boniface) *Pro Populo*
- Holy Mass at 11.30am *Peter Moy RIP (anniv)*