

HOLY CROSS CHURCH
STATION ROAD, TOPSHAM, EXETER, EX3 OEE
Holy Cross Church Registered Charity Number 213227
Parish Priest: Fr. Petroc Cobb, The Presbytery, 25 South Street, Exeter EX1 1EB
Telephone: 01392 642388 email: exeter-sacredheart@prcdtr.org.uk
Sacred Heart Parish Office: 01392 642389 email: exeter-holycross@prcdtr.org.uk
Retired priests: Mgr Keith Mitchell, Fr Gerard Wilberforce
Holy Cross parish website: <http://holycrosstopsham.org>

DURING SEPTEMBER THE CHURCH WILL NORMALLY BE OPEN DAILY DURING THE DAY

Mass during SEPTEMBER 2026			
Scripture readings Year A		Weekday Mass Cycle 2	
Weekday Mass will normally be celebrated on Thursdays at 10 a.m. Please check the parish website			
11.15 a.m.	6 September	23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	
11.15 a.m.	13 September	24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Education Sunday
Monday 12 noon	14 September	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross Patronal Feast Day (90 th anniversary)	
11.15 a.m.	20 September	25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Evangelii Gaudium Day Mandatory collection and Mass count
11.15 a.m.	27 September	26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	The Harvest. Mass Count
Confession: At Sacred Heart, Saturday after 10 a.m. Mass and 4.30-5.30 p.m. or by arrangement with Mgr Keith Mitchell (keith.mitchell@prcdtr.org.uk)			
Holy Cross Ignatian Prayer Group: 1 st Thursday of the month (3 September) after 10 a.m. Mass and coffee			
Silent Adoration followed by Benediction: 1 st Friday of the month (4 September), 6-6.45 p.m.			
Holy Rosary: every Monday at 6 p.m.			
Syro-Malabar Mass at Holy Cross: 2 nd , 4 th and 5 th Sundays at 5 p.m.			
Ordinariate Mass at Holy Cross: 1 st Saturday of the month (5 September), 12 noon. All welcome.			
Julian prayer group: 2 nd Monday of the month (14 September), 2.30 p.m. at St Margaret’s Church			
Special days:	1 September	World Day of Prayer for the care of creation	
	3 September	St Gregory the Great.	Feast
	8 September	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.	Feast
	17 September	St Hildegard of Bingen – Virgin and Doctor of the Church	Opt. Mem.
	21 September	St Matthew – Apostle and Evangelist.	Feast
	24 September	Our Lady of Walsingham.	Feast
	29 September	SS Michael Gabriel and Raphael – Archangels.	Feast
The Pope’s intentions – for the care of water: <i>Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.</i>			
Holy Communion at home: If you know of anyone who cannot come to Mass and would like to be added to the list for home Communion visits, please inform Fr Petroc or the Sacred Heart Parish Office.			
Hospital visits: Please inform Fr Petroc if you would like a priest to make a visit to you or to a friend or relation in hospital.			
Sick and Housebound: Please pray for the sick or housebound in our parish and those known to you who are particularly poorly at this time.			

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, 14 September: our patronal feast day falls on a Monday this year. It is the 90th anniversary of the foundation of the church, established thanks to Canon Cahill's vision and generosity. It is encouraging to see how the parish community is flourishing, thanks not least to the four wonderful priests who serve the community and to the active involvement of many parishioners. On 14 September, there will be Mass at noon, followed by a blessing of the garden and a light lunch with a glass of wine (or soft drinks). A lot of work has been done on the garden over the last year, clearing and tidying the upper garden, pruning trees and hedges, and planting shrubs along the left-hand side of the church. We hope these improvements will lead to greater use being made of the garden for a variety of parish events. Margot and Malcolm generously ensure that there are always flowers at the front of the church, which contribute to making the church and grounds attractive and welcoming. Our 90th anniversary feast day seems an appropriate opportunity to bless the garden as we go forward, praising God, giving thanks for our parish, doing all things for His greater glory. We hope that many of you will be able to come to this celebration.

Sunday 4 October, 4 p.m. Organ and baroque trumpet recital at Holy Cross: David Davies (organ) and David Shead (trumpet). Tickets (free) available from events@holycrosstopsham.org, by putting your name on the list at the back of the church, or telling me, Frances Nieduszynska. There will be a retiring collection. **Please apply for tickets in advance as numbers are limited.**

The concert will feature works predominantly from the eighteenth-century, together with some organ solos and later compositions. English Trumpet Tunes and Voluntaries will be performed alongside European classical compositions, showing the versatility of both instruments and their much-celebrated combination. The recital will be followed by refreshments. **We would be grateful for contributions**, for example, homemade cakes or biscuits or savoury finger-food.

Sewing Group: we will meet every 3rd Thursday of the month in the Lower Room after 10 a.m. Mass. Bring your sewing and enjoy a chat, a cup of coffee and good company. Bernie can help with any sewing/embroidery queries you may have. We will meet for the first time on Thursday 17th September.

Parish Support Group: the next meeting of the PSG was deferred and will be on Saturday 26 September at 10.30 a.m. Please let Frances Nieduszynska know if there are items which you would like added to the agenda (email: parishmatters@holycrosstopsham.org)

The Diocesan Safeguarding Office, Diocese of Plymouth: The safeguarding office is open Monday-Friday 9 a.m.- 4.30 p.m. General enquiries: 01364 645430 or safeguarding@prcdtr.org.uk . If the office does not respond immediately, they will aim to get back to you that working day or the next. If the matter requires an immediate response, then contact should be made directly with the Police or Social Services.

Patricia Venn Rees and Mirtha Mangone are our parish safeguarding representatives (safeguarding@holycrosstopsham.org).

For more information and other news and events see Sacred Heart, Blessed Sacrament and the Plymouth Diocese websites: (<http://sacredheartexeter.org> and <http://blessedsacrament.org.uk>) (<https://www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk>)

Keep up to date at Holy Cross: Mass and church services online are easy to access via our Holy Cross Parish website, where you will also find more information about the parish.

Newsletter contact: If you would like to receive the newsletter and other important parish information by email, please email newsletter@holycrosstopsham.org or speak to Frances Nieduszynska. Material for the newsletter should be sent to this email address, before the last weekend of the month.

