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 NOVEMBER THE CHURCH WILL NORMALLY BE OPEN DAILY DURING THE DAY

Mass during NOVEMBER 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.	1 November All Saints
12.00 noon	Monday 2 November All Souls – followed by blessing of the graves at the cemetery
11.15 a.m.	8 November 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Remembrance Day 10.50 a.m. Act of Remembrance at the Topsham War Memorial
11.15 a.m.	15 November 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time World Day of the Poor
11.15 a.m.	22 November Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Youth Day
11.15 a.m.	29 November 1st Sunday of Advent (Year B) 4 p.m. Advent Service
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: 1st Thursday of the month (5 November) after 10 a.m. Mass and coffee **Silent Adoration followed by Benediction**: 1st Friday of the month (6 November), 6-6.45 p.m. **Holy Rosary:** every Monday at 6 p.m. **Syro-Malabar Mass at Holy Cross:** 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays at 5 p.m. **Ordinariate Mass at Holy Cross:** 1st Saturday of the month (7 November), 12 noon. All welcome. **Julian prayer group:** 2nd Monday of the month (9 November), 2.30 p.m. at St Margaret's Church.	
Special days:	9 November The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica. Feast 19 November World Day for the Prevention of Child Abuse 29 November St Cuthbert Mayne – Secondary Patron of the Diocese of Plymouth 30 November St Andrew – Apostle. Feast
The Pope's intentions – for the proper use of wealth: *Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put to the service of the common good and solidarity with those who have less.*	
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.	

All Souls, **Monday 2 November:** Mass at noon will be followed by a visit to the cemetery to bless the graves of our past parishioners.

Remembrance Sunday, 8 November: as usual, there will be a short ecumenical Act of Remembrance at the Topsham War Memorial outside St Margaret's church at 10.50 a.m. St Margaret's and St Nicholas's hold a joint service at 9.30 a.m. at St Margaret's, to which we are welcome. Mass at Holy Cross will be at 11.15 a.m., as usual.

Sunday 29 November, 4 p.m. at Holy Cross: there will be an Advent Service of prayers, readings and reflection, followed by mince pies and mulled wine.

Christmas Raffle: this will take place on Sunday 20th December. We are looking for festive donations such as chocolates, biscuits, food items, bottles of wine, spirits or soft drinks. During the month of November we will begin collecting donations. There will be a box at the back of the church or you can give your donation to Bernie or Louise. Thank you for your generosity.

Bible Study group: John Troy is starting a weekly bible study group in his home in Parkfield Way, near the church in Topsham. The aim is to discuss one chapter of the Gospel of St Mark each week starting on Saturday 28 November at 11.00 a.m. and completing the 16 chapters by the end of March. If you are interested in principle, please speak to John or email exeter-holycross-info@prcdtr.org.uk giving your phone number, so that he can make contact with you.

Thank you to all those who helped make the organ and trumpet recital such a success, especially those who generously donated refreshments. We took almost £700 in donations and will therefore be able to send £100 each to our chosen charities. Several people emailed to thank us, including one which said 'Yesterday's concert was as enjoyable as I had hoped for. What I hadn't expected was the delightful social gathering afterwards and those wonderful savouries and cakes - and wine. It made for a really lovely occasion and I would like to thank you and all those involved in its organisation.'

Help needed: we are short of volunteers for various tasks in the church, especially flower arranging, cleaning, welcoming, refreshments after Mass and readers. If you feel you could help with any of these, please make contact with Sandra (flowers), Mirtha (cleaning), Patricia (welcoming), Bernie (refreshments) or Frances (readers). You can find out more about the various ministries on the parish website, in the section 'information/parish organisation'. The parish depends on volunteers to keep going. We are grateful to those who already help, in so many different ways.

Sewing Group: we will meet every 3rd Thursday of the month (19 November) 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.

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.

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 exeter-holycross-info@prcdtr.org.uk or speak to Frances Nieduszynska. Material for the newsletter should be sent to this email address, before the last weekend of the month.