

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC PARISH

St. Mary, Immaculate Mother of God, Barnstaple
& St. Joseph's, South Molton

Tel: 01271 343312

Parish Office Email: barnstaple@predtr.org.uk

Website: www.barnstaplecatholicchurch.com

Parish Priest

Canon Peter Morgan

peter.morgan@predtr.org.uk

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A) Weekday: Advent Week 4; Psalter Week 4 Sunday 18th December

BARNSTAPLE SERVICE TIMES

Date		Time	Feasts & Mass Intentions
Saturday	17th	10:00 10:30	The Sick and Housebound Confession and Exposition
Sunday	18th	09:30 18:30	4th Sunday of Advent Expectant Mothers
Tuesday	20th	10:00	The Sick and Housebound
Wednesday	21st	10:00	The Recently Deceased
Friday	23rd	10:00	
Saturday	24th	10:00 20:00	Confession Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord
Sunday	25th	09:30	The Nativity of the Lord

SOUTH MOLTON SERVICE TIMES

Date		Time	Feasts & Mass Intentions
Saturday	17th	17:30	The People of the Parish
Saturday	24th	17:30	The People of the Parish

*Please note that there will be no morning Mass or Exposition on Christmas Eve.
There will also be no evening Mass on Christmas Day.*

Live Streaming of Mass from St. Mary's: Sunday at 9.30 am

Sunday Mass is live streamed from St Mary's, Barnstaple at 9:30am. This can be found on the Barnstaple parish Facebook page: www.facebook.com/BarnstapleCatholicParish

Request for a lift to Sunday Masses

A new parishioner to the area is looking for a regular lift to the 9.30am Sunday Mass at St Mary's. She lives in the Rumsam area of Barnstaple. If you think you can help, please contact the parish office for more information. Thank you.

Ordos/ Yearbooks 2023

The new Ordos and Yearbooks have arrived in the parish. Preordered Yearbooks can be found, labelled, in the Narthex. Ordos can be collected from the parish office. All the spare Yearbooks have been taken, but we still have spare Ordos remaining (1 normal print and 1 normal print with diary). Thank you.

The Pope's Intention for December: For Volunteer not-for-profit organisations.

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations, committed to human development, find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international co-operation.

Extract: Dipping into the Catechism (18/12/22)

Does the Church need places in order to celebrate the liturgy? The worship "in spirit and truth" (John 4:24) of the New Covenant is not tied exclusively to any place because Christ is the true temple of God. Through Him Christians and the whole Church becomes temples of the living God by the action of the Holy Spirit. Nonetheless, the people of God in their earthly condition need places in which the community can gather to celebrate the liturgy.

Day of Special Prayer: Expectant Mothers 18/12/22

For all those who are waiting to give birth; may they be given patience and strength. For all who work in maternity units and with mothers; may they always recognize and cherish the gift of life.

Christmas Cake Raffle (- 18/12/22)

Bryony Sapsford is raffling off a Christmas cake, to raise funds for North Devon Hospice. It is the last chance to buy tickets. 50p each, or £2 for a strip. The final draw will take place on Sunday 18th December. An additional, smaller Christmas cake has been made as a second prize. Hand crafted decorations, to add to your own cakes, will be available for purchase at the same stall.

Sisters of Mary Morning Star in Lynton: Day Retreat in Advent (20/12/22)

11.30am - 6.30pm. Starts at 11.30am with Mass. There will be time for adoration, rosary, walk in the valley of the Rocks, teaching on lectio divina, and ending with vespers. Please bring a packed lunch and a bible. At the Convent in Lynton (EX35 6BS). For more information, contact the Sisters at srsmarymorningstar@gmail.com or 01598 753373.

CCS(P) Christmas Crib Donations.

Putting all children first, especially at Christmas. Please take time to visit our nativity over the Christmas period. The collection 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. Thank you for your generosity.

Christmas Day

Although Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year, there will be no Sunday morning coffee after Mass. This has been decided to enable volunteers to go home and celebrate the festivities with their families.

	24th December Christmas Eve Saturday	25th December Christmas Day Sunday	26th December St Stephen Monday
St Mary's	8pm	9.30am	10am
St Joseph's	5.30pm	-	-

Christmas Mass Times

The 8pm Christmas Eve Mass and 9.30am Christmas Day Mass will be live streamed. Please visit www.facebook.com/BarnstapleCatholicParish

Christmas Offerings

The Christmas offering, along with the Easter offerings, are used by the parish to help support your parish priest. All offerings on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, whether in envelopes or in the plate, will be treated as Christmas offerings.

Synodal Journey – A conversation about safeguarding online event (09/01/23)

Many significant questions and issues have been raised around safeguarding, ranging from disappointment and concern over past events, the impact on both individuals and the reputation of the church, as well as concern over what needs to be done in the future. More recently we have seen the release of the final report from the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) which highlighted the terrible and damaging impact on children and families caused by abusers. Whilst looking back, this paints a very grim picture of society as a whole. Looking forward both nationally and locally there is a great deal of work undertaken both in the voluntary and statutory sector to prevent abuse from occurring, and to work with and support those who have been hurt in the past. We as a Diocese are playing our part in that not only within the Church, but in wider society. Being aware that many of you may have questions around how safe my church is, what are the implications arising from the IICSA report, and what about safeguarding and the synodal journey, we have decided to host an online event which will be led by Robert Brown, the Senior Safeguarding Professional employed by the Diocese. The event will take place between 6:00pm and 7:30pm. If you wish to attend then please sign up via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/synodal-journey-a-conversation-about-safeguarding-tickets-471079791337> so that we can send the Zoom meeting details to you.

Gift Aid Envelopes

Gift Aid envelopes are available to pick up from the Narthex. For those tax payers interested in registering as Gift Aiders, please contact the parish office.

Financial Support of the Parish

Parishioners who wish to contribute to the financial support of the parish can do so in the following ways:

- Placing a donation in a collection basket in the church
- Posting cheques or money to the presbytery
- By Standing Order or BACS Transfer (contact the parish office for details)

Office Closed

Please be advised that the Parish office will be closed from Friday, 23rd December-Tuesday, 3rd January. If you need to speak to Fr Peter during this period, please telephone or email him directly. All contact information can be found on the front cover. Thank you.

<p>Parish Office Hours Mon, Tue, Thurs, & Fri. 8.30 - 12.30 St. Mary's Church House, Higher Church Street, Barnstaple. EX32 8JE Parish Secretary: Claire Spears Plymouth Diocesan Trust Registered Charity Number 213227</p>	<p>Parish Primary School Our Lady's Catholic Primary School Chanter's Hill, Barnstaple. EX32 8DN Tel: 01271 345164 Principal: Rob Meech Chair of Governors: Geraldine Herage</p>
<p><i>Safeguarding Rep. (Barnstaple): Ruth O'Donovan (Tel: 01271 342493)</i> <i>Please contact her if you have any safeguarding concerns.</i></p>	