



# Holy Cross Parish

## Newsletter

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026

Part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Plymouth, Registered Charity No. 213227

**Parish Church:** *Our Lady Star of the Sea*, Runnacleave Road, Ilfracombe, North Devon, EX34 8AQ

**Parish Office:** 01271 863563

**E-mail:** [ilfracombe@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:ilfracombe@prcdtr.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.holycrossilfracombe.org.uk](http://www.holycrossilfracombe.org.uk)

**Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/HolyCrossRCParish>

**Parish Clergy:** Rev Philip Waites & Rev Stephen Bearman (Deacons)

**Convent Church:** *The Most Holy Saviour*, Lee Road, Lynton, EX35 6BS

**Chaplain to the Nuns:** Fr Guy de Gaynesford

**Parish Safeguarding Rep:**

**Parish Secretary:** Mary Hammill

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

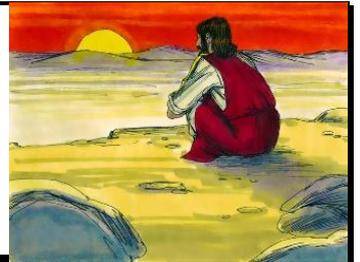
**Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

**ILFRACOMBE - 9:00am Mass**

Geoffrey Geraghty and The Geraghty Family

**LYNTON - 11:30am Mass**

The People of the Parish



## FIRST WEEK OF LENT

Year A, Psalter 1

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb

**St Polycarp Bp M (died c.155) Commemoration**

Tues 24<sup>th</sup> Feb

Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Feb

**ILFRACOMBE – Mass 10.30am** Intention: Millicent Anne Shaw RIP

*Followed by the Rosary*

Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> Feb

Thursday of the First Week of Lent

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Feb

**CAFOD LENT FAST DAY**

**St Gregory of Narek Ab Dr (c.950-c.1003) Commemoration**

**ILFRACOMBE - 12noon STATIONS OF THE CROSS followed by Lent Lunch**

Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Feb

Saturday of the First Week of Lent

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

**Sun 1<sup>st</sup> March**

**ILFRACOMBE – Mass 9:00am** Ken Geraghty RIP

**LYNTON – Mass 11:30am**

Foundation Mass Intention:

Sisters M Constant, M Olivia and M Yves of the

Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary



### THE MOST HOLY SAVIOUR, LEE ROAD, LYNTON:

For weekday Mass times visit [www.marymorningstar.co.uk](http://www.marymorningstar.co.uk) OR ring 01598 753373 or 07783 150328

### CONFESSIONS:

Lynton - Saturdays 10:30-11:30am, before 11:45am Mass

Barnstaple – Saturdays 10:30am, after 10:00am Mass

Ilfracombe - Sundays 8:15-8:45am, before 9:00am Mass

### Opening times for Our Lady Star of the Sea Church:

Sun. 9:00am-5:00pm; Mon. **CLOSED**;

Tues. 9:30am-12.30pm & 6:00-7.00pm;

Wed. 9:30am-5.00pm; Thurs. & Fri. 9:30am-12.30pm;

**These times may be subject to change at short notice.**

**The Pope's Intentions for February 2026: For children with incurable diseases.**

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

**Please pray for the sick and housebound:** Pat May, Harley Stratton, Geoff Fenning, Marion Wilson, Noreen Farrar, Hazel Villiers, Barbara Chelsom, Rory & Anne Stewart, Landa Peace and Isabella Kenedy. *If you or someone you know is in hospital or ill at home, please let Deacon Steve or the office know for the Sacramental Ministry.*

**Prayer for First Week of Lent:**

Let us pray that as we begin the season of lent we embrace the opportunity to:



Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness and fill our hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words and be silent so we can listen.

We pray that our only desire and our one choice is to choose what better leads to the deepening of God's life in us.

Amen

*Attributed to Pope Francis*

**Sanctuary Lamp at Our Lady Star of the Sea**

The Sanctuary Lamp is sponsored by Barbara Chelsom in memory of Bernard Taylor RIP and Peter Taylor RIP.

If you are able, please sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp. There are envelopes at the back of Church for the details of who you wish to have the lamp sponsored for and your donation.



The Diocese of Plymouth **Newsletter for February** is now available by using this link: <https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/t-0BE37BCB3841CCDF2540EF23F30FEDED>

**UPCOMING RETIRING COLLECTION**

**NEXT WEEKEND there will be a CAFOD Family Fast Day Collection – Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> March**

This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour.

By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table.

Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions – such as on flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought.

Please use the attached CAFOD envelope to bless others with your support or scan the QR code provided, donate online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call **0303 303 3030**.

Text **CAFODLENT to 70085** to donate £10.



**Ready for a challenge?** - CAFOD is inviting parishes across our Diocese to join their "Big Lent Walk" fundraising challenge for life-saving water. Step up this Lent to help our neighbours. See noticeboard for further details.

**DO YOU LOVE KNITTING?** – Thanks to local parishes, many bundles of garments have been posted to families applying for Essential Grants as they don't have funds to pay for essentials for their babies such as cots and mattresses, single and double pushchairs, baby monitors, baby clothes, travel systems, high chairs, car seats, sterilisers, electric breast pumps, changing bags and bottles, nappies and wipes. If you enjoy knitting and would like to help families of all faiths and none, contact our Essential Grants Manager on 01364 645424/email [vicki.dunstone@ccsplymouth.org.uk](mailto:vicki.dunstone@ccsplymouth.org.uk) These Easter chicks look pretty cute too.

[https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.prima.co.uk%2fcraft%2fknitting-patterns%2fa63538723%2feaster-chick-knitting-pattern%2f&c=E,1\\_LouvG9IldQ3UOXOTP2jAEYcF0ENFBULT0wGXfntIRDxf4CTniVGFQOB9BZs4ZiZwT2vKj7V-4GoYHvTxb3X8U80QsiGqxYyL8PR7vuTi1tUVQuR8DY,&typo=1](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.prima.co.uk%2fcraft%2fknitting-patterns%2fa63538723%2feaster-chick-knitting-pattern%2f&c=E,1_LouvG9IldQ3UOXOTP2jAEYcF0ENFBULT0wGXfntIRDxf4CTniVGFQOB9BZs4ZiZwT2vKj7V-4GoYHvTxb3X8U80QsiGqxYyL8PR7vuTi1tUVQuR8DY,&typo=1)



**Lent Talks** - this year we are reflecting on five of the Parables of Jesus.

Please do feel free to join the Parish Zoom Course during our Lenten journey together as it is a lovely virtual community that gathers and is a great opportunity to reflect together on our faith. The Meeting ID is 895 7188 9251 and the Password is 125755. Please see noticeboard for details of the dates and speakers.

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS & FRUGAL LENT LUNCHES**

Fridays in Lent (27<sup>th</sup> February; 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, & 27<sup>th</sup> March)  
at 12noon followed by Frugal Lent Lunches at 12:30pm.



**Frugal Lent Lunches, all proceeds to CAFOD:** Fridays 27<sup>th</sup> February; 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> March after Stations of the Cross; if you are able to provide the lunch/help with the preparation please put your name on the list at the back of Church, thank you.

**World Day of Prayer: Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026** – unfortunately, this will not be taking place in Ilfracombe this year but will be taking place in **St Peter ad Vincula, Combe Martin, EX34 0LG, at 10.30am**. This year Nigeria is the organising country with the theme "I will give you rest, come" (taken from Matthew 11:28-30). Parking is available.

### **Spring Garden Day at the Most Holy Saviour Church, Lee Road, Lynton, EX35 6BS, on Saturday, 7th March 2026, from 9.30am until 4pm with Holy Mass at 4.30pm**

On previous Garden Days terraces were prepared and levelled, and these are now grassed over and are flat enough to mow with a lawn mower, that is an incredible achievement! Coming together for a common project is a lot of fun. Do invite your friends to come with you, especially those who may not have faith yet, gardening together is an excellent way to introduce people to God! Please bring a picnic lunch with you.

### **Inspire, Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at Buckfast Abbey from 11.00 am to 6.00 pm**

For young people **aged 12-24** - a festival of musicians, speakers and workshops encouraging young people to explore how Christ is rooted in their lives. Tickets **£30pp**. Under 18's to be accompanied by an adult. For further information contact Saskia or Ruby: [youth@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:youth@prcdtr.org.uk)

**Stay Awake 2026** – 8th all-age, all-day Catholic Christian Conference with music and worship on **2 May 2026** at the **Thomas Hardy School in Dorchester, DT1 2ET from 10am-6pm**. The theme this year is: 'Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.' (Ps 51:10). Places can be booked from [stayawakejc.com](http://stayawakejc.com) now! All parishioners are invited – whatever age - to a fun faith-filled day with appropriate children's streams (so that adults can engage) and David Wells is the main keynote speaker! There will be a choice of workshops too and more! Refreshments supplied including home-made cakes and free pizza after Mass. Free for children and £12.50 for adults.

**Supporting people with leprosy during Lent** - St Francis Leprosy Guild (SFLG) is the UK's only Catholic leprosy charity and has been caring for people with leprosy for over 130 years. During this Lenten season of prayer and almsgiving, please take time to remember those less fortunate than ourselves, and keep people with leprosy in your prayers. You can make a donation to SFLG at <https://app.donorfy.com/form/8XCQIB4NS1/2UDKA?p=yes> or alternatively by post to St Francis Leprosy Guild, 51 High Street, Arundel, West Sussex, BN18 9AJ.