

BRIDPORT CATHOLIC PARISH

Serving Bridport, Beaminster and Chideock

Priest: Canon Richard Meyer
Presbytery: 01308-424754
email: Richard.Meyer@prcdtr.org.uk
Parish Secretary: Faith Leborgne
Parish Office: 01308-422594
Victoria Grove, Bridport DT6 3AD
Parish email:
bridport@prcdtr.org.uk
Usual Office Hours:
Tuesday - Friday: 8.30 am - 1pm



Parish website:
www.bridportcatholics.org.uk
Chideock website:
www.chideockmartyrschurch.org.uk
Parish School:
St Catherine's Primary School,
Pymore Road DT6 3TR.
01308-423568
Head: Mrs Frances Guppy
www.stcatherinesbridport.dorset.sch.uk

3 rd Week of Advent Year B	Psalter 3/Year2	Mass Intention
Saturday 16 th December	9.30am Bridport	Mass Sabina Bednarska & Family RIP <i>Confessions from 9am</i>
3 rd Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday	6pm Beaminster	Mass The Sutton Family <i>Confessions from 5.30pm</i>
Sunday 17 th December	10am Bridport	Parish Mass Katherine Goodfellow RIP
3 rd Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday	12 noon W.I. Hall	Parish Christmas Lunch
	4pm St. Swithuns	Joint Carol Service
Tuesday 19 th December	12 noon Bridport	Mass Eddie Breslin RIP <i>Confessions from 11am</i> <i>Prayers to the Divine Mercy after Mass</i>
Wednesday 20 th December	10am Beaminster	Mass Children & teachers of our school <i>Confessions from 9am</i>
Thursday 21 st December	9.30am Bridport	Rosary
	10am Bridport	Mass Those who will be seperated from their loved ones at Christmas
	12noon-1pm Bridport	Confessions
	6pm – 7pm Bridport	Holy Hour and Confessions
Friday 22 nd December	10am Chideock	Mass The CWL & The Catenians
	10am Bridport	Mother's Prayers
Saturday 23 rd December	9.30am Bridport	Mass Prisoners <i>Confessions from 9am</i>
4 th Sunday of Advent	6pm Chideock	Mass The sick & those who care for them <i>Confessions from 5pm</i>
Sunday 24 th December	10am Bridport	Parish Mass People of the Parish (Said Mass)
4 th Sunday of Advent		
Sunday 24 th December	6pm Bridport	First Mass of Christmas Miriam Langton-Smith RIP
Vigil of the Nativity	Midnight Beaminster	Midnight Mass Children of our families.

**We remember in our prayers: our parish school; our house bound who receive Holy Communion;
those of the parish who are sick; and those whose Anniversaries occur around this time:**

Eileen Byrne, Charles Tomlin, Helena Buin, Mollie Murphy, Derek Ambross, Sylvia Matterface, Maura Harman, , George Sylvester,
Patrick Digby, Frederick Messer, Elda Fussell, Carl Bland, Alfred Broughton, Joy Rodber, Ellen Sylvester, Mary Metcalfe.

May they rest in peace.

The response to the psalm at our weekend Masses this weekend is:-
“My soul rejoices in my God.”

This week’s quotation from our **Holy Father Pope Francis**:
“There are difficult moments in life, but with hope the soul goes forward and looks ahead to what awaits us.”

This is the weekend of **Gaudete (‘Rejoice’) Sunday**; when Advent was kept with great discipline and solemnity it was a welcome break from its rigours and the Church’s colour changed from purple to rose pink. It reminds us of the key value of joy in our Christian living.

We are very grateful to the committee and their helpers for all the work put into our **Parish Christmas Lunch** this Sunday. It is a very special expression of what it means to be part of our parish family and an occasion of real fun and friendship.

Our annual Carol Service is held jointly today at 4pm with our friends at St Swithun’s Church. Please come to join together and enjoy their warm hospitality.

Note our **Masses over Christmas**:
Sunday the 24th Parish Mass in Bridport at 10 (said)
Christmas Eve Mass in Bridport at 6pm
Midnight Mass at Beaminster at 12
Mass of the Dawn at Bridport at 8am
Mass during the Day at Chideock at 10am.

Christmas Confessions, will be available at the following times:
Tuesday 19th December from 11am in **Bridport**, Wednesday 20th December from 9am in **Beaminster**, Thursday 21st December 12 noon till 1pm, and also Holy Hour and Confession from 6pm till 7pm, in **Bridport** and Saturday 23rd December from 5pm in **Chideock**.

Are you able to offer transport to the Christmas Masses? Do you need transport to the Christmas Masses? If the answer is yes to either please see Faith in the office.

Weekly soup bread and cheese lunches in our hall are starting on Tuesday 9th January, after the 12 noon Mass. All are welcome and a donation towards the costs would be appreciated.

The **beautiful crib** put up by Mary, Brian and Pat at our church at Chideock was the centrepiece of a visit for the annual **Christingle** by St Catherine’s Year 3s on 7th December. 26 children and several teachers and mums enjoyed a lovely service led by Chrystine, and followed by a delicious tea in the museum. We now look forward to welcoming Year 5s in July for the Martyrs Feast Day, confirming the **special link** between the church and the school.

First Holy Communion Programme 2018. It is now the time for interested parents to register their child for inclusion in this programme. To be eligible your child must be in Year 3 or above at school. To register your child’s details please contact Faith in the Office. A letter will be sent to all registered parents at the beginning of December, with further details of the programme.

“Have you ever considered being a catechist? Are you being called to pass on your faith to budding young Catholics? **Then your Parish needs you!** If you would like to join our team of catechists who undertake the Sunday Children’s Liturgy in Bridport and/or the First Holy Communion Team, then please talk to Fr Richard or contact Natalie Williams on 01308 897261. Such a position is subject to DBS clearance but it is very rewarding and your own faith will grow too.”

Children First, the newsletter of the Catholic Children’s Society, is now available at the back of church or can be found on the Society’s website www.cccplymouth.org.uk. To receive the newsletter direct to your door or mailbox please contact our office on 01364 645420 or email ccs@prcdtr.org.uk

Do you support Catholic Schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard. The government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic Schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now we need you to tell them not to do a u-turn on their promise to Catholics. Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> or search for Catholic Education in your search engine to write to the government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic Schools. Thank you for your cooperation.

We hope shortly to have our small, **2018 Parish Diaries** they are selling for just **50p** each this year half the price of last year!

Gather 2018 19th – 21st January Livermead Hotel Torquay. Join Bishop Mark catechists, teachers, clergy and friends of the Diocese of Plymouth for a weekend of friendship faith and formation. Cost £150 residential, £40 day rate. To book please contact Fr. Jonathan Stewart on 01392 274724 or e-mail jonathan.stewart@prcdtr.org.uk.

Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes 2nd - 8th August 2018 led by Bishop Mark. Flying from Exeter a time of prayer and relaxation. Cost £779. For further information and to book please see the information in each of our churches.

Plymouth Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 18th – 25th February 2019. For further information please see the posters in each of our churches.

The **Trustees of the Diocese** are responsible to the Charity Commission for the running of the Diocese as a registered Charity. Their oversight helps ensure that the resources of the Diocese are used for the designated charitable purposes and that all is carried out in accordance with the law of the land. Their invaluable work helps ensure that the mission of the church in the Diocese is carried out responsibly and smoothly. The expertise they bring from their own background and experience are greatly appreciated. **The Diocese is looking to recruit one or two new trustees** to support the work of the Diocesan trust. The particular areas of expertise that would be most valuable at the present time would be experience in accountancy, corporate financial management or in Human Resources management. If you could help in this way please see Canon Richard.

Bridport is a Parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Plymouth. Reg. Charity No: 213227.
The receipts for November are **£4,656** and the payments **£5,019**
Please make any cheques payable to:
PRCDTR Bridport RC Parish.
Our Safeguarding Representatives are
Heather McCaughey & Faith Leborgne
01308 422594 (Office Number)

A REFLECTION FOR THIS ‘GAUDETTE SUNDAY’

*Christians are a joyful people,
and their joy is not something superficial and
ephemeral,
but deep and stable,
because it is a gift from the Lord that fills life.
Our joy comes from the certainty
that ‘the Lord is at hand’; he is close
with his tenderness, his mercy,
his forgiveness and his love.
[Pope Francis]*