

The Parish of St David, Exeter

Parish Newsletter for Sunday, 26 January 2025

Our services this week at St David's:

Sunday, 26 January 2025 – 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

9.30am Parish Communion with celebrant, Sarah Cumming, and preacher, Simon Taylor from the Baptist church (a pulpit swap as part of which Robert will be going to the Quakers) – *live-streamed via Facebook*

6 pm Evening Prayer led by Robert Mitchell

Tuesday, 28 January, (Thomas Aquinas, priest, philosopher, teacher of the faith, 1274) 9.00-9.30 am Zoom Morning Prayer. Please join us using this link

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77269635517?pwd=Lb40Ha9TejMxaaXMc7XrFokjutLaZ1.1>

Meeting ID: 772 6963 5517

Passcode: 0q5ZR4

Thursday, 30 January, (Charles, king and martyr, 1649), 10.30am Holy Communion led by Sarah Cumming

Sunday, 2 February 2025 – Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

9.30am Parish Communion with celebrant, Mike Clark, and preacher, Catherine Blundell

6 pm Evening Prayer led by Robert Mitchell

For services this week at St Michael's and All Angels CD, please see: <https://www.stmichaelsmountdinham.org.uk/worship/>

Message from the Vicar and Churchwardens

1. Week of Christian Unity pulpit swap and this morning

This morning, we are delighted to welcome Revd Simon Taylor as our preacher as part of the Week of Christian Unity. Simon is part of the leadership team at South Street Baptist Church and is Baptist Chaplain at the University of Exeter.

At the same time, as part of the same initiative, Robert is joining the Quakers. If anyone would like to go along with him, do get in touch with him.

2. Organist

We are very pleased to welcome Larissa Flett as our organist this morning. We hope Larissa will be able to play for us once a month while she studies at Exeter University.

3. Message from Susan and Robert

A belated thank you to all who joined us to celebrate Chris and Gillian's wedding at St David's on 10th January. It was a very special day which we were delighted to share with you (including sausage rolls!!) Your support was greatly appreciated.

4. Fairtrade Stall this morning

Richard and John will be running the monthly Fairtrade stall this morning.

5. Compilation of a New Electoral Roll

As mentioned last week, the process of drawing up a new Electoral Roll has started, which means we have to ask everyone on the existing roll, as well as anyone else who would like to join, to fill out a new form. Further details below. *Forms are on the table at the back of the church. Please hand*

completed forms to Sue Wilson or Alice Francis, or speak to them if you would like to know more.

6. Date for your diary – Parish Quiz Night, Saturday, 22 March 2025

Do come and enjoy this very popular event. Tickets will be on sale shortly and will include a Ploughman's Supper. Would you like to make up a team?

7. Covid & flu: sensible precautions

With Covid and flu very much about, a gentle reminder that if you are coughing/sneezing and/or feeling unwell, out of consideration for others, please refrain from attending church, and where possible, join us via the live-stream.

Visiting and home Communion

If you would like to be visited or phoned by someone from the church community, please let Howard Friend know by ringing him on 07733 739453; for Communion at home, either for yourself or someone you know, please contact Ian Cartwright on 07813 795616.

Parish lunch – Thursday, 30 January, @34

The first parish lunch of 2025 will be on Thursday, 30 January at Exeter College's @34 restaurant at 12 noon. A sign-up sheet and menu are available at the back of the church. Please sign up by *Sunday, 26 January*. A group will be walking over from the church at 11.45, for anyone who doesn't know the way. Thanks, Sue Wilson and Jenny Baker

Compilation of a New Electoral Roll

We now have to draw up a completely new electoral roll. This means that we have to ask everyone on the existing roll, as well as anyone else who would like

to join, to fill out a new form. These are available at the back of church or electronically by contacting electoralrollofficer@stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk

This will need to be done fairly promptly so that all is in order before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

Membership of the electoral roll is our opportunity to play a part in the decision making of the church and enables us to vote for the church officers and stand for office ourselves. It is also useful in determining numbers of those who worship here. It is open to anyone over the age of 16, who is baptised and a member of the Church of England, and who either lives in the parish or has habitually attended at St David's over the last six months. Please see either Sue Wilson or Alice Francis if you would like to know more and to hand in completed forms.

Parish Magazine – this will be out shortly. *Please note there is a new email address:* newleaves@stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk

Tuesday Friendship Café

St David's Church is normally open on Tuesday mornings from 10.30 am to 12 noon as a drop-in for people to find a Christian welcome and company. All welcome.

Wednesday Walks

Wednesday walkers meet and enjoy convivial conversation, gentle strolls, the changing of the seasons and a coffee together. Would you like to join us? We'd make you very welcome! We meet at 9am at the door at the west end of St David's and we leave promptly. If you'd like to join us please just turn up, or speak to Helena in church.

Knit and Natter

Please see Glynis for details of future meetings.

Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast will be advertised early in 2025. Please contact Alan Baker if you would like a reminder alan.baker1963@outlook.com

From the Green Team

RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch 24th - 26th [Big Garden Birdwatch](#)

Request for help with research from a student – "Hi, I am Jasmine. I am a third-year undergraduate student at Exeter University, studying Anthropology. For my dissertation project, I will be studying St David's Church to help me answer my dissertation title 'Exploring the ability of individuals, over the age of 60, to talk about their health and well-being, particularly in light of their religious beliefs.' (working title). With all data I collect anonymised, I shall complete observations and semi-structured interviews with volunteers from St David's Church congregation. If you would like to get in contact with any questions about this study or to become a participant, please email: jj530@exeter.ac.uk or chat with me after the Sunday Morning Service. Thank you for having me!"

The Iron Bridge – notice of closure – the bridge is now closed for major works (*13 January 2025 for 22 weeks*).

Your Prayers are asked for...

those who are suffering including:

Caroline Speed-Andrews; Ann Barnet, Maggs Bedford; Delia Bloom; Libby Clapham; Andrew Francis; Hazel Gowland; Eileen Jarman, Roger Luscombe; Anne Smith; Sarah Wood; Clive and Jeanie; Beth; Charlotte, Paul and Grace; Will, Dave

those who have died recently

In our Parish Cycle of Prayer please pray for:

The Samaritans; Devon Recovery Learning Community

Please also pray for:

Our church

Our country and its leaders, both political and religious; for all those affected by the ongoing weather, and those trying to put things right, both here and especially in Los Angeles

Our world, for wisdom for its leaders and a wish for peace not war, for the peace process in Gaza, the new President of the USA

Sunday, 26 January 2025 – 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Collect

Almighty God,

whose Son revealed in signs and miracles

the wonder of your saving presence:

renew your people with your heavenly grace,

and in all our weakness

sustain us by your mighty power;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

1st reading - 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then

deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Gospel Reading - Luke 4.14-21

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

Post Communion

Almighty Father,

whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world:

may your people,

illuminated by your word and sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory,
that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed
to the ends of the earth;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please tell us
at notices@stdavidschurhexeter.org.uk

Please send notices/content/prayer requests or amendments to Hilary
on todd.stdandm@gmail.com)

(All readings can be found via Oremus Bible Browser: <https://bible.oremus.org/> in
the New Revised Standard Version (anglicized edition))