

Pope's December Prayer Intention - For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

Sounds for the Lord - Polish Carols Concert

Polish choir, the Sounds for the Glory of the Lord, is currently on tour, which includes three churches of our Diocese. Entry is free

12th December, 7pm - Sacred Heart, Exeter

14th Dec, 5:30pm - Our Lady of the Assumption & St Mary Magdalene, Tavistock

Walk with me - A journey of prayer for the Advent Jubilee

booklets are available at the back of the church.

Residential for Teens (13-17yrs) 23-25 January 2026

East Shallowford Farm, Dartmoor. 'I was a stranger and you invited me in' *Matt 25v35*. Refugees and asylum seekers, who are they? Why did they flee?

A contribution of £50 per person to assist with costs. Further info youth@prcdtr.org.uk

Axminster Foodbank

Items needed: cereal, soup, rice pudding, long-life milk, tins fruit, mixed veg carrots, peas, potatoes, pasta, tomatoes, beans, tinned meats, tea bags, coffee, jam, biscuits, long-life milk, washing powder/liquid, shampoo, shower gel.

Seaton Foodbank . Items we're short of: Sugar, Toilet rolls, shower gel, shampoos, toothpaste, soap, tampons, washing-up liquid, semi-skimmed & whole long life milk, small jars coffee, tinned potatoes, instant mash, instant soup, small bottles squash, chopped tomatoes, sardines, tinned fruit, sponge puddings, savoury & sweet biscuits. **Thank you**

We cannot accept alcoholic drink, fresh food, out of date or opened food.

SAFEGUARDING EVERYBODY EVERY DAY

You can speak to our parish safeguarding reps in confidence if you have any concerns or if you are offering to carry out a ministry that will need a DBS check and want to find out more.

Safeguarding contacts: Julie Gray and Liz Tompkins

In the absence of a Parish Safeguarding Representative, any concern of a safeguarding nature should be raised with the Diocesan Safeguarding Team who can be contacted on 01364 645430 or email safeguarding@prcdtr.org.uk

The Parish of the Most Holy Trinity**Priest in Charge: Fr Jacek Kostuch**

The Priest's House

St Mary's RC Church, Lyme Road, Axminster EX13 5BE

Telephone: 01297 32135 or in an emergency 07776 082408

Parish office hours

Monday - Friday 4pm - 6pm

Monday 10am - 12pm

Email: axminster@prcdtr.org.uk Website: <https://thecatholictpn.org/>

*The Parish
of the
Most Holy
Trinity*



St Mary's
Church,
Axminster,
EX13 5BE



SS Michael &
George Church,
Lyme Regis,
DT7 3HS



St Augustine's
Church,
Seaton,
EX12 2AJ

Sunday 7th December 2025

In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Responsorial Psalm: 72

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

**Our Parish School:**

St Mary's
Catholic Primary,
Lyme Road, Axminster
EX13 5BE
T: 01297 32785

	Mass times	Mass intentions
SUNDAY 7th December 2nd Sunday of Advent - Year A	Axminster 9am Lyme Regis 11am Axminster 7pm (First Mass of Sol.)	Terry FOGARTY RIP Richard SHARMAN RIP and Jerzy NOWAKOWSKI RIP
MONDAY 8th December Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the B V Mary	Axminster 10am Seaton 12noon	
TUESDAY 9th December	Axminster 12noon	Souls in purgatory
WEDNESDAY 10th December	NO MASS	
THURSDAY 11th December	Lyme Regis 10am	Vocations to the priesthood
FRIDAY 12th December	Axminster 10am	Holy Souls
SATURDAY 13th December 1st Mass of 3rd Sunday of Advent - Year A	Seaton 5:30pm	Mary Teresa BEASON RIP
SUNDAY 14th December 3rd Sunday of Advent - Year A GAUDETE SUNDAY	Axminster 9am Lyme Regis 11am	FM: Provost Michael J BURNS RIP Krzysztof GROTEK RIP
Confessions: After Masses weekdays or by arrangement with Fr Jacek		

The Carmel of the Annunciation, Thicket, York *Thought from Thicket....*

"Think what must have been in the soul of the Virgin when, after the Incarnation, she possessed within her the Incarnate Word, the Gift of God. In what silence, what recollection, what adoration she must have been wrapped in the depth of her soul in order to embrace this God whose Mother she was." (St Elizabeth of the Trinity)

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM

The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin."

In 1854, Pope Pius IX's solemn declaration, "Ineffabilis Deus," clarified with finality the long-held belief of the Church that Mary was conceived free from original sin. Mary was granted this extraordinary privilege because of Her unique role in history as the Mother of God. That is, she received the gift of salvation in Christ from the very moment of her conception.

What is a Solemnity ? Solemnities are the highest degree of liturgical celebrations and are usually reserved for the most important mysteries of faith. These include Easter, Pentecost and the Immaculate Conception; the principal titles of Our Lord, such as King and Sacred Heart; and celebrations that honour some saints of particular importance in salvation history, such as Ss. Peter and Paul, and St. John the Baptist on his day of birth.



Bambinelli Sunday is a Catholic tradition where adults and children bring the "Baby Jesus" (bambinelli in Italian) figurines from their home Nativity scenes to church for a special blessing. The figure is then typically placed in the empty manger on Christmas eve or Christmas morning. The tradition helps to emphasize that Jesus is the true gift of Christmas and at the centre of the holiday. The tradition started in the mid-1900s at the Vatican. St. Pope John Paul II popularized it by encouraging children in Rome to bring their figurines to St. Peter's Square for a blessing during his Sunday Angelus address - **also at Masses in our Parish over the weekend 13th/14th December.**



Bishop Nicholas' Installation

A special edition newsletter celebrating the installation of Bishop Nichols is available here: bit.ly/4pkNWJe
You can view images here: bit.ly/448HkFi

If you would like a printed version of the newsletter, please contact the parish office. (Image credit @mazur/CBCEW)

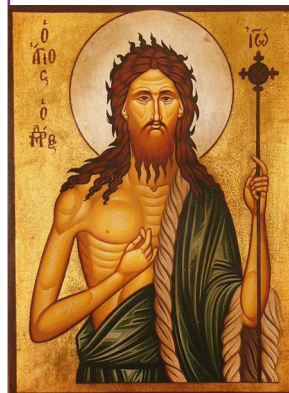
St Francis Leprosy Guild is the UK's only Catholic leprosy charity.

Founded in 1895, and with Cardinal Vincent Nichols as our patron, SFLG today supports over 30 centres in 13 countries, caring for people who have been marginalised by leprosy. We also fund research projects, hospitals and an active case-finding programme to detect and diagnose people affected by leprosy as early as possible to stop the transmission of the disease and prevent lifelong disabilities occurring. Will you help SFLG work towards a leprosy-free world? For more information please visit our website www.stfrancisleprosy.org or email parishes@stfrancisleprosy.org

Reflection

A prophet does not speak on his own behalf, therefore he never seeks recognition in the eyes of people nor expect reward from them. The Gospels depict John's radical way

of life with great accuracy. The prophet feeds on God's law (symbolized by locusts) and already experiences the sweetness of God's love (honey) during his mission. The edge and challenge of his teaching is not directed against people, but against sins. We can be left with no doubt therefore that everyone is called to repentance.



Listening to John's call to repentance, Lord, grant me the understanding of what within me needs to be purified and transformed. May even the harshest words of Your prophets not provoke resistance in me, but ignite zeal in preparing to meet You.



Please keep in your prayers those who are sick, housebound and those have requested prayers in our parish including Helen Smith, Liz Marney, Canon George, Mick Shephard, Mary Hart, Matthew Waters, Tony Kavanagh, Susan Dack, Dermott Lyons.

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve

Axminster Carols 5:30pm, Mass 6pm
Lyme Regis 11pm
Axminster 11pm (Malayalam)

Christmas Day

Seaton 9:30am
Lyme Regis 11am
Axminster 3pm

Please also note Sunday 28th December is celebrated as Holy Family and Sunday 5th January is celebrated as Epiphany (moved from Tuesday 6th January).

Others Masses of the Christmas Octave will be:

26th December 12noon - Axminster (St Stephen)
27th December 10am - Axminster (St John)
29th December 12noon - Axminster (St Thomas Beckett)
30th December 7pm - Axminster
31st December 10am - Seaton
11pm - Axminster (end of year liturgy until Midnight)
1st January 12noon - Axminster

Thank you for our Parish Family Event which took place at our Parish School (St Mary's) last Sunday. It gathered a whole range of ages 4-94 and with such a gathering we had the opportunity to see how we all experience our Faith at the various stages of our life's journey. This being experienced in the context of our reflection on God's eternal Presence for us in history (the 'Jesse Tree') I am sure enriched us all. Special thanks to Hilary for 'the feast' and to Luca and Ava for leading our activities.

