

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

HIGH WEST STREET DORCHESTER

within the RC Diocese of Plymouth: Diocesan Charity No 213227

"The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel" [Pope Francis EG114]

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year A

Sunday 15th February 2026 Psalter Week 2 of Breviary

Page 136 ff Mass Book

Date	Mass Times	Intentions
Sun 15 th February <i>Sixth Week in OT</i>	Mass 8.30 am Mass 10.30 am	Andrew Osmond RIP (MO)
Mon 16 th February	No Mass at Holy Trinity	
Tue 17 th February <i>Lent Begins</i>	Stations of the Cross 6.15pm led by JC Mass 7 pm	
Wed 18 th February <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	Mass 10 am Mass 7 pm	
Thu 19 th February	Mass 10 am	Deacon Nicholas Thompson Ints (PD)
Fri 20 th February	Holy Half Hour and Benediction 9.15 am Mass 10 am	Annie Delaney RIP (NG)
Sat 21 st February	Mass 9 am Confessions 9.35-10.45 am	

Sun 22 nd February <i>First Week of Lent</i>	Mass 8.30 am Mass 10.30 am	Mrs Lilian Hanson RIP (MH) Francis Osborn Ints (IO)
Mon 23 rd February <i>St Polycarp</i>	No Mass at Holy Trinity	
Tue 24 th February	Stations of the Cross 6.15pm led by JC Mass 7 pm	Mary Nicholson RIP (MN)
Wed 25 th February	Mass 10 am	
Thu 26 th February	Mass 10 am	
Fri 27 th February <i>St Gregory of Narek</i>	Requiem Mass Thomas Gunning RIP 10.30 am	
Sat 28 th February	Mass 9 am Confessions 9.35-10.45 am	

Intercessions for our Priests and Deacons:

Mon: Fr Scott Tanner I.C.K.S.P.; Tue: Fr David Mead (Birmingham); Wed: Fr Michael Brandon (Birmingham)
Thu: Fr John Guest (Nottingham); Fri: Fr Richard Northey (Clifton); Sat: Daniel Herrero Pena (Westminster)

Pray for the Sick: Rosemary Cortes, Christopher Browne, Sarah Jones, Ralph Johnson, Patricia Netley, Jim Watters, Carl Thomson, Sr Damian, William Parmiter, Richard Crail, Robin Netley, Kevin Gibson, Eileen L, Paul Burden, Ruth Davis, Deborah Follett, Deacon-Reverend Nicholas Thompson (Retired), Francis Osborn and for all those in Nursing Homes

Pray for those who have died recently: Phyllis Titterington, Audrey Bowen, Diana McGuinness, Robert Blackwell, Mary Hardiman, Mary Carmel, Kate Gorman, Noreen Hague, Janet Bicheno, Margaret McDade, Carmel Moore, Sr Cosmos, Alison Sandford, Paul Gladstone, Mei Xian Lin, Michael Phelan, Joseph Rigby, Frances Carroll, Marilyn Rowland and Colin Rolls

Right to Life: 15th February (6th Sunday in Ordinary Time) - "We pray for all considering abortion. We pray that the love and kindness of those around them would support pregnant women everywhere to continue with their pregnancy and find peace and joy in what the future holds. Lord hear us".

On Sunday 15th February there will be a second collection for the **Appeal in support of Lepra** after the Mass.

PARISH UPDATES AND PROGRAMMES

The statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus will be away for approximately one month for cleaning and painting. In the meantime, a smaller statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (Thanks to Elizabeth M) will be placed in the church.

The **Catholic Women's League** will be meeting in the classroom at the parish centre at 2pm on Wednesday 25th February.

Big Lent Walk Calling all Walkers! CAFOD is encouraging volunteers to raise funds for their Lent water appeal. This will involve walking 200 km during Lent- anywhere and at any time- and seeking sponsorship to help this appeal. A poster is on the notice board and information is on the CAFOD website; search for The Big Lent Walk.

Finances: If you are donating by cheque, it should be made payable to "Plymouth Diocesan Trust Dorchester RC Parish". Please make sure all giving envelopes are sealed, as donations may easily slip out.

The **Card Machine** is available for your Offertory giving and you can Gift Aid Offertory donations. It is also available for purchases from the Repository. *The Card Machine works on a mobile signal in a similar way to a mobile phone and sometimes the signal is weak and it does not work. So please try again later.* Many thanks for using this method of contributing. The Card Machine has now been installed for a year and has been used 600 times raising a total of over £7,000.

The Church Roof Repairs: Thank you to all who have contributed to the £30,698 cost of repairing the Church roof. The total donated and grants received is now **£15,979. 73**. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. We have also applied for a VAT refund because the work was carried out on a Listed Building.

Hand gel: new Hand gel has been placed at both Church doors. Please make use of it during this time of colds etc.

Presbytery Gardening: We kindly ask those who are able to help to come along on **Saturday 7th March at 11:00 am**. Many hands make light work, and there is plenty to be done!

Diocese of Plymouth Newsletter for February: <https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/OBE37BCB3841CCDF2540EF23F30FEDED> This newsletter also has helpful Lenten resources

Caritas: Dilexi Te – The Burning Heart of the Church's Mission. A day of reflection with Bishop Nicholas Hudson. 21 February 2026, 11am-4pm, Buckfast Abbey Conference Centre. Join Caritas and CAFOD this Lent for a diocesan day to reflect on Pope Leo XIV's powerful Apostolic Exhortation Dilexi Te, which calls us to return to the Gospel and reminds us that love of the poorest of our sisters and brothers is part of the "burning heart of the Church's mission". Hear from our inspirational Speakers: Rt Rev Nicholas Hudson, Bishop of Plymouth; Christine Allen, CAFOD Director; Raymond Friel OBE, CSAN Chief Executive Officer; Fr. Richard Finn OP, University of Oxford. To register go to <https://forms.office.com> or email: caritas@prcdtr.org.uk

Stay Awake! Save the date: Saturday 2 May, 2026 'Stay Awake' tickets are now available – book yours today at www.stayawakejc.com. Taking place at The Thomas Hardy School, Dorchester, from 10am – 6pm, finishing with Holy Mass and optional free pizza until 19:00. Inspiring talks and workshops for all, with kids' groups, meaning fun & fellowship for all ages! Could this be part of your New Year's resolution, to come closer to the Lord as a family, individual, and community?

Right to Life: Stop assisted suicide - further action needed! Please take 30 seconds to stop assisted suicide from being forced into law. Right To Life UK has made an EasyAction tool to email your MP asking them to oppose attempts to force assisted suicide into law by bypassing the House of Lords. Please visit www.righttolife.org.uk/ASCommons2026 to ask your MP to oppose forcing the assisted suicide Bill into law.

We look forward to welcoming you to our annual **GATHER conference** 20th-22nd March at Livermead Cliff Hotel, Torquay. This year's theme is 'I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live' and our speakers include Avril Baigent (School for Synodality) and Fleur Dorrell (The God who Speaks). Pauline Books will be bringing a selection of their excellent range for people to peruse and buy, and you can expect a warm welcome and a wonderful weekend of faith, formation and friendship. We are delighted that we will also be joined by Bishop Nicholas as we journey together synodally - we'd love you to join us too! Booking forms is attached or by emailing plymouthgather@yahoo.com

40 Days for Life Lent Vigil 2026: Wednesday 18th of March - Sunday 29th of April 2026. Through prayer and fasting, with a peaceful and respectful presence in proximity of abortion centres (outside buffer zones), we seek to reach women in pregnancy crises, to offer them alternatives to abortion, and both spiritual and practical support. And, in doing so, to give witness to the culture of life. If you would like to take part in the 40DFL, you can contact Livia Tossici-Bolt via email: 40daysforlifebournemouth@gmail.com

The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham seeks help to purchase a property to accommodate their growing community and further their apostolates of prayer, parish missions, hospitality, chaplaincy and youth work. Any amount, large or small is greatly appreciated and the community assure you of their prayers. Cheques payable to COLW can be sent to House of the Divine Will, Neatherd Moor, Dereham, NR20 4AZ. More information, as well as the option to donate online, can be found at: www.maryshouseappeal.org E: office@walsinghamcommunity.org T: 01362 692574

'Mission Made Possible' is the course that helps us to PROCLAIM the Gospel message to our friends, colleagues and family in a totally natural way (and people we meet casually in life). So often we hear that people do not want to evangelise but that is because they have the wrong idea about evangelisation! All proclamation is natural as it bubbles up from our every day conversations. In addition, we encourage stepping out of our comfort zones and inviting people into our churches via special team events...help and support is provided! Wouldn't it be great to hear what has been happening around the diocese? Come to St Joseph's in Poole on Saturday, 14 March from 10.30 to 2.00 pm to catch the fire of growing in mission where you are! (Croissants & refreshments provided - do bring a packed lunch to keep you going!) See the poster for more information!

Parish Information

Priest in Charge: Fr. Babu Francis CM, Hon Assistant Priest: Fr. Scott Anderson,

Deacons: Rev Nicholas Thompson (Retired) and Rev Jonathan de Kretser (07876 748836)

Parish Safeguarding Reps: Elizabeth Hughes (01305 269163) and Catherine Macer-Wright (07577 479119)

Guidance and information also on www.csas.uk.net/resource-area

The Presbytery, Holy Trinity Parish Centre, Culliford Road North, Dorchester DT1 1QG

Tel: 01305 251976 or email: babu.francis@prcdtr.org.uk (Presbytery)

Website: www.holytrinitycatholicchurchdorchester.org.uk Facebook: Holy Trinity Catholic Church
Dorchester

Parish Secretary: Irina Osborn Tuesday– Friday 9 am – 2 pm

Email: dorchester@prcdtr.org.uk

Pastoral Council: Chair – Mark Rodgers (01305 250488)

St. Mary's Catholic School, Lucetta Lane, Dorchester DT1 2DD Tel: 01305 262258

Headteacher: Mr. Simon Thomas

Today's readings challenge us to choose freely and wisely to observe the laws given by a loving and caring God. He revealed His laws to His Chosen People through Moses and the prophets in the Old Testament, and through His own Son, Jesus, in the New Testament. For the Israelites, the Torah was not a set of laws, but the instruction or teaching intended to promote the holiness and wholeness of each believer. It was the revealed will of a caring God, for the people with whom He made His covenant. In today's gospel Jesus as a new law-giver reinterprets four Mosaic laws. (An anecdote may be added)

Scripture lessons: The first reading, taken from Sirach, contains the clearest statement in the Old Testament concerning the God-given freedom of the human will. It exonerates God from all responsibility for evil in the world. "If you choose, you can keep the commandments . . . before you are life and death, whichever you choose shall be given you." In the second reading, Paul challenges his Corinthian believers to appreciate the wisdom of God's saving plan for His people, a plan hidden for ages but now revealed by the Spirit. In the selection from the Sermon on the Mount in today's Gospel, while challenging his disciples to live a life of justice and righteousness which should exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees, Jesus, as the new lawgiver, sets forth his own position with regard to the Law given through Moses, by providing new interpretation and meaning for the old laws. In today's Gospel passage, Jesus explains the real meaning of three Mosaic laws concerning murder, adultery, divorce and false oaths. Anger is murder, impure look is adultery and unlawful divorce is double violation of natural law and covenant with God and false oaths are sacrilegious.

Life messages: 1) We need to obey God's Law, appreciating its basic principles: In obeying God's law and Church law, let us remember the two basic principles on which these laws are based, namely, the principle of reverence and the principle of respect. In the first four of the Ten Commandments, we are asked to reverence God, reverence His holy Name, reverence His holy day, and reverence our father and mother. The next six commandments instruct us to respect life, one's personal integrity and good name, the legal system, another's property and another's spouse. Our obedience to these laws must be prompted by love of God and gratitude to God for His blessings. Jesus explains that anger is murder, evil thoughts, words, looks and behavior are adultery, unlawful divorce is sinful and false oaths are sacrilegious.

2) We need to forgive, forget, and move toward reconciliation as soon as possible. St. Paul advises us "Be angry (righteous anger) but do not sin" (Eph 4:26). When we keep anger in our spirit, we are inviting physical illnesses, like hypertension, and mental illnesses, like depression. Let us relax and keep silence when we are angry, wait before acting on our anger, giving it time to detoxify and cool off, pray for God's strength for self-control, and give the Holy Spirit time to help us to see the event through Jesus' eyes instead of through anger's eyes.

3) We need to be true to God, to ourselves, and to others. Let us allow God's word of truth to penetrate our minds and hearts and to form our consciences, making us men and women of integrity. (LP/26)

