

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]

Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time - Year A

Sunday 12th July 2026 Psalter Week 3 of Breviary

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Sun 12th July <i>XV Week in OT</i>	Mass 8.30 am Mass 10.30 am	<i>Rawlings Family Ints (DR)</i> <i>Donnan's Ints (BG)</i>
Mon 13th July <i>St Henry</i>	No Mass at Holy Trinity	
Tue 14th July <i>St Camillus</i>	Leavers Mass at St Mary's School 6 pm Stations of the Cross 6.25 pm led by MR Mass 7 pm	<i>Souls of deceased of the Hanson Family</i>
Wed 15th July <i>St Bonaventure Bp (Mem)</i>	Funeral Service of Veronica Dawn Margret Alden 12 pm	
Thu 16th July <i>Our Lady of Mount Carmel</i>	Mass 10 am	<i>Qi Ints (S)</i>
Fri 17th July	Holy Half Hour and Benediction 9.15 am Mass 10 am	<i>Rosemary Chapman's Ints (P Mc)</i>
Sat 18th July <i>Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	Mass 9 am Confessions 9.35-10.45 am	

Sun 19th July <i>XVI Week in OT</i>	Mass 8.30 am Mass 10.30 am Baptism (Akisha Luna) 12 pm Parish Picnic 12 pm	<i>Jack and Sarah Smuller RIP (BS)</i> <i>Richard Crail RIP (MC)</i>
Mon 20th July <i>St Apollinaris Bp</i>	No Mass at Holy Trinity	
Tue 21st July <i>St Lawrence of Brindisi</i>	Stations of the Cross 6.25 pm led by SB Mass 7 pm	
Wed 22nd July <i>Feast of St Mary Magdalene</i>	Confessions 10-10.45 am followed by Mass for Sick 11 am at the Parish Centre	<i>Fr Barry Hallett RIP (IO)</i>
Thu 23rd July <i>Feast of St Bridget of Sweden Rel</i>	Mass 10 am	
Fri 24th July <i>St Sharbel Makhluf Pr</i>	Holy Half Hour and Benediction 9.15 am Mass 10 am	
Sat 25th July <i>Feast of St James Apostle</i>	Mass 9 am Confessions 9.35-10.45 am	

Intercessions for our Priests and Deacons:

Mon: Fr Jonathan Stewart; Tue: Fr. Adrian Toffolo; Wed: Fr John Watkins;

Thu: Fr John Webb; Fri: Fr Peter Webb; Sat: Fr Michael Wheaton

Pray for the Sick: Rosemary Cortes, Christopher Browne, Sarah Jones, Ralph Johnson, Patricia Netley, Carl Thomson, Sr Damian, William Parmiter, Robin Netley, Kevin Gibson, Eileen L, Paul Burden, Ruth Davis, Deborah Follett, Deacon-Reverend Nicholas Thompson (Retired), Maria Go and Geoffrey Markham 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, Mei Xian Lin, Michael Phelan, Joseph Rigby, Frances Carroll, Marilyn Rowland, Colin Rolls, Joseph Kerrigan, Jim Watters, Ann Thomas, Damian Cosmos Cummins, Monica Riley, Terence Francis Henshall, Kathleen Hilda Anne Cameron, Richard Crail and Veronica Dawn Margret Alden

Right to Life: 12th July (15th Sunday in Ordinary Time) - "Let us pray for the ears to hear God's call to help the vulnerable in our midst, including people with disabilities, people in hospital, those in nursing homes, the housebound, and the unborn. Lord hear us"

PARISH UPDATES AND PROGRAMMES

Parish Picnic: Sunday July 19th: Come along and join in the Holy Trinity Parish Picnic in the **Borough Gardens** for a relaxing time together. Meet by the Green in front of the Clock Tower **from 12 noon**. Bring your own picnic, blankets and chairs. Everyone is warmly invited and feel free to bring a friend along!

SICK AND HEALING MASS

A Mass for the Sick and Elderly will be celebrated on **Wednesday, 22 July, at 11:00 am** in the **Holy Trinity Parish Centre**. The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be available from **10:00 am to 10:45 am**. All are warmly welcome. Tea and Refreshments will be served after Mass.

The **Catholic Women's League** are hosting a Cream Tea on **July 22nd at 2.30 pm** in the Parish Centre. There will be a speaker, a raffle, and a table for donations to the Foodbank. If you would like to attend, please email Jill Kerley by the 18th July at jillandfrankkerley@talktalk.net

If you would like to place an order for the **Ordo 2026-27**, please leave your name on the Form at the back of the Church. Deadline is Thursday, 23rd July.

CAFOD Appeal:

Two devastating Earthquakes have struck Northern Venezuela, killing and injuring scores of our neighbours there and bringing down buildings. Our local partner, Caritas Venezuela, is ready to help the survivors of this crisis with emergency water, food and shelter. Please help us to support this emergency by making a donation online: <https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/venezuela-earthquake-appeal>

Holy Trinity Sharing Group Social 3-5pm on Friday 17th July at the *Quiet Space in Poundbury*. Drinks provided, bring and share light refreshments. All Welcome. For more information, please contact johnrcavert@btinternet.com

Tennis: Fun and Friendship: A group of Parishioners are getting together to play tennis at the Parish Centre on Wednesday evenings at 5.30 pm. We play for FUN and people of all ages and abilities, OR NONE, would be most welcome to join in. Come and Try - we can lend you a racquet. If you would like to use the court on any other evenings after 5.30 pm or at the weekend or require more info - ring Liz on 01305 269163 or just turn up.

Finances: The Parish is grateful to all Parishioners who support the Parish financially. The Offertory collections for June were as follows: Standing Orders £3,948.50; Card Machine/Website £876; Envelopes £183; Loose plate £1,498.60; Total for June 2026 £6,506.10. Thank you to all Parishioners.

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.

Gift Aid and Standing Orders: Could you consider making your contribution by Standing Order and if you pay Tax signing a Gift Aid Declaration. The regular Income the Parish receives from this method of giving enables the planning of expenditure. Forms are available near the Card Machine or if you would like more information, please email dorchester-giftaid@prcdtr.org.uk. Thank you for considering this method of giving.

Presbytery Gardening: We kindly ask those who are able to help to come along on **Saturday 1st August at 11:00 am**. Many hands make light work, and there is plenty to be done!

The Diocesan June Newsletter is out now: <https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/t-5EF9A62E5613824F2540EF23F30FEDED>

Fr. Chris (Parish Priest in Poole) is planning a day-return coach for the **Eucharistic Congress in London 10th October**. It would leave Plymouth at 5am and pick up at Exeter Services - and possibly Taunton or Wincanton. If you would like to come, we have 32 places left. Please contact Fr Chris (01202) 746539.

The Brown Family Annual Cake Sale and Raffle in aid of Weldmar Hospice will be held on Saturday 1st August from 10am to 2pm in the Old Salvation Army Hall in Durngate Street Dorchester. All are very welcome to come and support this amazing cause.

Churches Together: People's Emergency Briefing, St George Church, at 7 pm on 23rd July. Please join us for this showing of a film based on the National Emergency Briefing on Climate and Nature held in November 2025, in Westminster. This high-profile event briefed an invited audience of over 1,200 leaders—including politicians, business executives, and the media. Ten leading experts delivered clear-eyed assessments on our climate and nature, with a view to bringing hope of solutions to tackle these issues. St George's Church, in collaboration with the Dorchester Churches Ecology Group, is holding this event to share ideas of what we are already doing in our Churches and community, and to think about new possibilities going forward. We have also invited members from the Town Council and from the local Climate Action group. Tickets are free but please book in advance through the QR code (on the Notice Board) or email admin.stgeorges@gmail.com

Catechetical Summer Camp 2026 (Must be applied for very soon), 27th - 31st July, Buckfast Abbey. At this year's **Summer Camp** young people aged 9-12 will explore Pope Francis and Pope Leo's Dilexi Te - 'I love you'. Summer Camp has been enjoyed by many generations. It is a great way for young people to meet others from across the Diocese and gain a sense of belonging to the Diocesan and Catholic family. Cost £150 per person. To book: Summer Camp 2026 – Fill in form and for further information please contact: summercamps@pcdtr.org.uk

Volunteering for Youth Ministry, in the Diocese of Plymouth: Do you or have you thought about volunteering to work with the youth either in your Parish or further afield? Youth Events are setting up a database of volunteers to keep in contact with them, offer training and support for the work they do, and keep them informed of events that are happening across the Diocese. In completing the form it does not mean you are committed to any voluntary work, it is simply an expression of interest. People on the database will be contacted and asked if they would like to support an event. Please follow the link: Volunteer Data Form – Youth Diocese Events – Fill in form. For further information please contact Ruby or Saskia.

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@pcdtr.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@pcdtr.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

Sunday Reflections : OT XV [A] (July 12 2026) Is 55:10-11; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23

Today's Readings remind us of the power of God's Word. When we listen to it with an open heart and put it into practice, it has the power to change our lives. At the same time, the Readings remind us not to become discouraged if we do not see immediate results. Like a farmer who patiently waits for the harvest, we are called to keep sharing the Gospel with faith and hope. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the Parable of the sower. The seed is God's Word, and the soil represents our hearts. The fruit depends on how ready we are to receive and live God's Word.

Scripture Readings

In the First Reading, the Prophet Isaiah compares God's Word to the rain and snow that water the earth and help plants to grow. Just as rain never falls without producing fruit, God's Word never fails. It always accomplishes His loving plan.

In the Second Reading, St. Paul reminds us that our present sufferings are not the end. Like a seed that must be planted before it bears fruit, our struggles can lead to new life and eternal glory if we remain faithful to God.

In the Gospel, Jesus explains that God's Word is like seed scattered on different kinds of soil. Some hearts are closed, some are distracted, and some receive the Word with joy but do not persevere. But a heart that is open, faithful, and generous becomes good soil, producing an abundant harvest.

Message for Our Lives

First, we are invited to make God's Word a part of our daily lives. Reading the Bible, listening attentively at Mass, and reflecting on God's message help us grow in faith.

Second, we should prepare the soil of our hearts. We need to remove anything that keeps us away from God—such as pride, anger, jealousy, worries, selfishness, or unconfessed sin. Through prayer, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and the Holy Eucharist, God softens our hearts and helps His Word take root.

Finally, let us ask ourselves today: **What kind of soil is my heart?** If we welcome God's Word with faith and live it every day, our lives will bear fruit—not just for ourselves, but also for our families, our Parish, and everyone we meet. God's Word never returns empty; it always brings new life to those who receive it with an open heart.

Joke of the Week

The costly parrot trained to sow the word of God: Four brothers left home for College and became successful doctors and lawyers. Some years later, they had a Reunion. They chatted after having dinner together. They discussed the gifts they had been able to give their elderly mother who lived in a faraway city and decided to open their mother's thank you letter to each. The first said, *"I had a big house built for Mama."* The second said, *"I had a hundred-thousand-dollar theatre built in the house."* The third said, *"I had a Mercedes dealer deliver an SL600 to her."* The fourth said, *"You know how Mama loved reading the Bible, and you know she can't read anymore because she can't see very well? Well I met a preacher who told me about a parrot that can recite the entire Bible. It took twenty preachers 12 years to teach him. I had to pledge to contribute \$100,000 to the Church, but it was worth it. Mama just has to name the chapter and verse and the parrot will recite it."* The other brothers were impressed. Then they solemnly opened the thank-you letters sent to them by their mom. Mama wrote: *"Milton, the house you built is so huge. I live in only one room, but I have to clean the whole house. Thanks anyway."* *"Michael, you gave me an expensive theatre with Dolby sound, it could hold 50 people, but all my friends are dead, I've lost my hearing and I'm nearly blind. I'll never use it. Thank you for the gesture just the same."* *"Marvin, I am too old to travel. I stay at home and I have my groceries delivered, so I never use the Mercedes. The thought was good. Thanks."* *"Dearest Gerald"*, she wrote to her fourth son. *"You have the good sense to know what your mother likes. I cooked the chicken you sent. It was absolutely delicious!" (Tony)*

