

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]

Twenty-Second Week in Ordinary Time - Year A

Sunday 30th August 2026 Psalter Week 2 of Breviary

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Sun 30th August <i>XXII Week in OT</i>	Mass 8.30 am Mass 10.30 am	<i>Mary and Joseph Moonjely RIP (JJ)</i> <i>Thanksgiving Mass (BG)</i>
Mon 31st August <i>St Aidan</i>	No Mass at Holy Trinity	
Tue 1st September <i>World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation</i>	The Rosary 6.25 pm led by Fr Babu Mass 7 pm	<i>Intentions of Rawlings Family (DR)</i>
Wed 2nd September	Mass 10 am	<i>Alekkutty Joseph RIP (NJ)</i>
Thu 3rd September <i>Feast of St Gregory the Great</i>	Mass 10 am	<i>Jean Lea RIP (AF)</i>
Fri 4th September <i>St Cuthbert Bp</i>	Holy Half Hour and Benediction 9.15 am Mass 10 am	<i>Thanksgiving, Wedding Anniversary (LH)</i>
Sat 5th September <i>Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	Mass 9 am Confessions 9.35-10.45 am	<i>All Souls in Purgatory (BG)</i>

Sun 6th September <i>XXIII Week in OT</i>	Mass 8.30 am Mass 10.30 am	<i>Mr John Slevin RIP (KH)</i> <i>Martin Daese RIP (NL)</i>
Mon 7th September	No Mass at Holy Trinity	
Tue 8th September The Nativity of Bl Virgin Mary (F)	Stations of the Cross 6.25 pm led by CL Mass 7 pm	<i>Moria Slevin RIP (KH)</i>
Wed 9th September	Mass 10 am	<i>John Patrick Crespo RIP (JG)</i>
Thu 10th September	Mass 10 am	<i>Mary Oates RIP (AR)</i>
Fri 11th September	Holy Half Hour and Benediction 9.15 am Mass 10 am	<i>Elizabeth Kenny RIP (AR)</i>
Sat 12th September	Mass 9 am Confessions 9.35-10.45 am Annual Ride and Stride Event 11 am Rosary and Holy Mass for Kerala Community 3.30 pm	<i>Angelica Pinca RIP (VMc)</i>

Intercessions for our Priests and Deacons:

*Mon: Fr Placidus Ezech (Diocese of Orlu, Nigeria); Tue: Fr. George Nwadike (Diocese of Orlu, Nigeria);
Wed: Fr Kenneth Agu (Diocese of Orlu, Nigeria); Thu: Fr Jude Udokwu (Diocese of Orlu, Nigeria);
Fri: Fr. Emmanuel Uzoma (Diocese of Orlu, Nigeria); Sat: Fr Lukasz Nizio (Diocese of Lublin, Poland)*

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, Geoffrey Markham, Rosemary Chapman, Eva Cassidy and for all those in Nursing Homes.

Pray for those who have died recently: 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, Veronica Dawn Margret Alden, Michael Elleston, Janet Sandford and Christopher Jones

This Sunday, 30th August, there will be a Second Collection for the **Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth)** after both Masses

PARISH UPDATES AND PROGRAMMES

First Holy Communion Programme 2026-27: We are pleased to announce that the First Holy Communion Programme 2026-27 will be commencing this Autumn. If you wish to enrol your child and they are starting this September in Year 4 or above, please send an email to jdekretser@btinternet.com stating your desire for your child to receive this Sacrament, and your intention for them to attend the Preparatory Course, and you to attend the Parents' Meetings. We are so excited to be sharing this special journey with you and your children! God Bless, Kate, Sarita, David, Vilma and Connie.

Sacrament of Confirmation 2026-27

If you will be in Year 9, or above, this September and would like to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation, then please write a letter to Father Babu saying why you wish to be confirmed. The Preparation Course will begin this October and run till after Easter next year.

The **Parish Office** will re-open on **1st September**. In an emergency, please contact Fr Babu on 01305 251976 or email babu.francis@prcdtr.org.uk

Golden Jubilee Celebration: Everyone is warmly invited to the **Golden Jubilee Celebration of Holy Trinity Catholic Church on Monday 12 October 2026**. A **Thanksgiving Mass** celebrated by **Bishop Nicholas** will begin at **6:00 pm**, followed by a **Social Gathering** in the **Parish Centre** at **7:00 pm**.

We will also celebrate the **Silver Jubilee of Ordination** of three Permanent Deacons serving the Dorset Deanery: **Deacon Geoffrey** (Weymouth), **Deacon Jonathan** (Sherborne) and **Deacon Jim** (West Moors). We thank God for their faithful ministry and dedicated service to the Church. Please come and join us as we give thanks to God and celebrate these joyful milestones together.

Holy Trinity Parish Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on **Thursday 10 September** at the **Parish Centre, starting at 7:00 pm**. All are welcome. If you lead or organise one of our many Parish groups, please send a brief update on your group, including your contact details, to be included in a Parish booklet that is being prepared. If you have a question you would like addressed at the AGM, please send it before the meeting. Send group details or questions to PPC Secretary Kate Bone (kate@ikbone.plus.com) and PPC Chair Mark Rodgers (markrodgers@macace.net).

Watch this space! CAFOD Harvest Supper: this year will be on **Saturday September 26th** at the **Parish Centre**. Please save the date. Offers of dishes are always welcome!

CHURCH CHOIR: More Singers - Our Choir would welcome some new Singers with vacancies available in all voice ranges - Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass. This is a great opportunity for Singers to step forward and support the leading of the Sung Liturgy in our Church. For more information, please speak to Chris or contact him on 07817 087493.

New Conductor and Leader: The Parish is looking for another Conductor and Leader of our Church Choir from November. Some experience in conducting and choral singing would be beneficial. Enquiries may be made via Fr Babu or Chris, contact details as above.

Dorset Historic Churches Trust – Annual Ride and Stride Event – Saturday 12 September 2026: This annual event is taking place again this year, and is in aid of the Dorset Historic Churches Trust (DHCT) which awards Grants towards the maintenance of our Historic Churches. Half the money raised in the Parish goes to our Church and the remainder goes to the DHCT. If any Parishioners would like to take part, be it walking or cycling to various Churches in the County on the 12 September 2026, or would like to join Fr. Babu and Elizabeth, walking around the Churches in Dorchester, departing Holy Trinity Church at 11 a.m. – 12.30 pm, then please contact Elizabeth Morris (01305 262599) or elizabethmorris888@icloud.com and she will let you have the necessary information. After both Masses on Sunday 6 September 2026, there will be a Collection in aid of the Dorset Historic Churches Trust. Thank you for your support.

Tennis: Fun and Friendship: A group of Parishioners are getting together to play tennis at the Parish Centre on Monday 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.

Presbytery Gardening: We kindly ask those who are able to help to come along on **Saturday 5th September at 11:00 am**. Many hands make light work, and there is plenty to be done!

Prayer Conference - Buckfast Abbey, Saturday 31 October and 1 November 2026

UNBOUND Freedom in Christ

A weekend immersion in the inspirational teaching of UNBOUND Deliverance Ministry. A safe, gentle and non-confrontational freedom and inner healing ministry model which helps people reclaim their true identity in Christ. Come and join us as we unpack each of the key themes of the ministry; Repentance and Faith, Forgiveness, Renunciation, Authority, and the Father's Blessing. With an opportunity for a personal prayer session and the chance to claim true freedom in Christ.

Weekend tickets from £65. To book [UNBOUND Freedom in Christ Prayer Retreat. Buckfast Abbey, Devon – Fill in form](#) or Call or email Michele Thompson, Officer for Evangelisation for more information 07940

453607 michele.thompson@prcdtr.org.uk

For more information on the Unbound Ministry please follow the link: <https://www.unboundprayer.com/>

Celebration of Marriage: at Midday in Plymouth Cathedral on Saturday 12 September. The Celebrant will be Bishop Nicholas. This year we shall make a point of including those spouses who are no longer with us in this life, in our prayers. Now this prayer will also include Fr Jon Bielawski RIP, a good Priest, who celebrated the Mass for Marriage for the last four years and who did so much to support Catholic Marriage in our Diocese.

The Catholic Children's Society Plymouth: These are challenging times for many families experiencing financial hardship. Such families are often in temporary accommodation after fleeing abuse or the breakdown of relations or the loss of their jobs due to illness and circumstances beyond their control. The Essential Grants Programme exists to provide essential items to help relieve families' needs. CCSP warmly encourage applications from such families for school uniforms, shoes, beds, mattresses and bedding, clothes for children and newborn babies, cots, bottles, chests of drawers, wardrobes, alongside white goods such as cookers and fridges. They require all such applications to be accompanied by a Referee. The process from application to supply is usually within two to three weeks. CCSP also need Trustees. If anyone is interested in offering their time, please contact the office on 01364 645420 and ask to speak to the Chair, Shelagh Fearnley. They would love to hear from you.

Marriages this year:

Regina Alege OGAR and Dibang Parchely Matthew BEBIA at St Patrick Parish, Ikot Ansa, Calabar, Nigeria on 7th September 2026

Iona Christine ROBINSON and Lewis Jak GUNTER at Holy Trinity Catholic Church Dorchester on Saturday 14th November 2026 at 3.30 pm.

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

Sunday Reflections on OT XXII [A] (Aug 30, 2026) Jer 20:7-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

Today's Gospel reminds us that following Jesus is not always easy. Jesus gives us three simple but challenging instructions: **“Deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me”**

Christian discipleship means having self-control, accepting difficulties with faith, loving others, and giving our whole lives to God. As St Paul says, we are called to **“offer our bodies as a living sacrifice to God”** (Romans 12:1).

A simple example is this: **A Christian is not someone who only follows Jesus when life is easy. A true disciple continues to follow Him even when there are difficulties, sacrifices and crosses.**

Scripture Lessons

Today's Readings teach us what it means to be a true disciple of Christ.

In the **First Reading**: Jeremiah suffers because he remains faithful to God. He becomes an example of someone who accepts suffering rather than giving up his faith.

In the **Responsorial Psalm**: the Psalmist expresses his deep trust in God: *“My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.”* Even in difficult times, he knows that God will never abandon him.

In the **Second Reading**: St Paul tells us to offer ourselves to God as a **“living sacrifice.”** We should not simply follow the values of the world. Instead, we should seek to know God's will and live according to it.

In the **Gospel**: Peter has just proclaimed that Jesus is the Messiah. But Jesus then tells His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, suffer and die. Peter cannot understand this and tries to stop Him.

Jesus then gives us the three conditions of discipleship:

“Deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me.”

Messages

1. We are called to be courageous disciples of Christ:

Being a Christian means more than simply coming to Mass. It means showing the love of Jesus in our daily lives.

A true disciple:

- **Shows compassion** by caring for the sick, the elderly, the lonely and those who are suffering.
- **Is humble**, remembering that everything we have is a gift from God.
- **Is patient**, especially with people who are difficult or struggling.
- **Is forgiving**, because we ourselves have received God's forgiveness many times.
- **Is loving**, reaching out to prisoners, the homeless, the lonely and those who need our support.
- **Is faithful**, remaining committed to God, our family and the people entrusted to our care.

This is what it means to take up our cross and follow Jesus.

2. Let us examine our lives:

Today we can ask ourselves some simple questions:

- **Am I willing to give some of my time, talents and resources to God and to others?**
- **Do I practise self-control in my thoughts, words and actions?**
- **Do I use my phone, television and internet responsibly?**
- **Do I help my children grow in faith by praying with them and reading the Bible together?**
- **Do I teach them, by my own example, to forgive, to say sorry, to thank God and to pray?**
- **Do I make Sunday Mass and the life of faith a priority in our family?**

Following Jesus does not mean having a life without problems. **It means knowing that we never carry our crosses alone. Jesus walks with us.**

So, let us remember His words today: **“Deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me.”**

And let us pray: **“Lord Jesus, give me the courage to carry my cross, the strength to remain faithful and the love to follow You every day”**