



29th December 2024
Feast of the Holy Family

St James' Church
www.stjamesexeter.org Exeter

Rector

Fr Henry Pryse 01392 431297
Day off: Thursday

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Charity register number: 1128877

Notices

No Coffee After Church Today

There will be no refreshments in the hall after church today, as the hall floor is still being polished.

Bring Your Friends!

In the quieter days after the hustle and bustle of Christmas, the series of concerts on Sunday afternoons in January is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends to a relaxed event in the church.



Collect

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

10.00 am Music

Processional hymn 687 **Unto Us a Boy is Born!**
Offertory hymn 4 **A Great and Mighty Wonder**
Recessional hymn 364 **Joy to the World!**

This Week

Morning Prayer is said at 8.30 am
Online: Mon, Wed
In the church: Tue, Thu, Fri

Mon 30th December Luke 2: 36 – 40
7.00 pm Choir practice

Tue 31st December John 1: 1 – 18
12.00 noon Eucharist

Wed 1st January Luke 2: 15 – 21
Public holiday: no Morning Prayer
9.00 am St Mary's Jacobite Syrian
Orthodox Church Mass until
1.00 pm

Thu 2nd January John 1: 19 – 28
7.30 pm Fr Brian's house group

Fri 3rd January Luke 1: 29 – 34
2.00 pm Craft group

Sat 4th January John 1: 35 – 42
12.00 noon Interment of ashes

Next Sunday: 5th January
Epiphany

Matthew 2: 1 – 12
8.00 am Holy Communion
10.00 am Parish Eucharist
2.30 pm Free organ concert by
Marco Bresolin
6.00 pm Evening Prayer & Benediction

Sharing God's love through worship, fellowship and service

First Reading: 1 Samuel 2: 18-20 & 26

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, 'May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord'; and then they would return to their home. Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with the people.

Psalm 148: 7-14

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps; fire and hail, snow and mist, tempestuous wind, fulfilling his word; mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars; Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and birds on the wing; kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world; young men and women, old and young together; let them praise the name of the Lord. For his name only is exalted, his splendour above earth and heaven. He has raised up the horn of his people and praise for all his faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Alleluia.

Second Reading: Colossians 3: 12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Gospel Reading: Luke 2: 41-52

Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

Post-Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

