

The Abbey Parish Newsletter

26th April, 2020 Third Sunday of Easter

Full details of times of Services are posted in the Abbey and the other churches in the parish

Confessions: In grave necessity, please telephone the parish priest to arrange a meeting. Facebook page: search for Buckfast Abbey Parish

Liturgical Calendar:

Monday	Eastertide
Tuesday	Eastertide
Wednesday	St. Catherine of Siena
Thursday	Eastertide
Friday	St. Joseph the Worker
Saturday	St. Athanasius

"Oremus pro invicem"

Please pray for those who are sick:

Geraldine Thompson Pat Hedges
Margaret McAvoy Fred Cooke

If you or someone you know would like to be included here, please contact Fr. Francis

Phone line for prayer: call 01364 72768

Live-streaming:

Sundays	
Matins	6.45 a.m.
Lauds	7.45 a.m.
Holy Mass	10.30 a.m.
Vespers & Benediction	6.30 p.m.
Compline	8.00 p.m.
Monday - Saturday	
Matins	6.30 a.m.
Lauds	7.45 a.m.
Holy Mass	9.00 a.m.
Vespers	6.30 p.m.
Compline	Mon-Fri: 8 p.m.

You can view online in any of these places:

www.buckfast.org.uk/live

[Youtube.com/c/BuckfastAbbey](https://www.youtube.com/c/BuckfastAbbey)

Facebook @buckfastabbeyofficialsite

Parish Priest: Fr. Francis Straw;
01364 645526; parish@buckfast.org.uk

Congratulations to Ryan, who attends our Parish School, and has the magnificent sum of £862 for CAFOD. Sadly Ryan's beloved grandad died a little while ago and, because he was devoted to CAFOD, Ryan decided to run a raffle in his memory.

What a wonderful example of affection leading to initiative, determination and relieving the suffering of others. Well done, Ryan!



Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time:

Clare Lindsay; Isabel Thomson; John Gilroy; Patrick Stuart; Graham Cottle;
Evan Tredegar; Dom Richard Dillenz; Ernest Long; Edward Le Hunte Ward;
William Macmullen; Francis Gomet; Alastair Stuart; Dom Alban Lavery; Joseph Moll;
Fr. Eugene Reynolds; Robert Fox; George Crook; Greta Tench; Joy Nunn;
Samuel Sproston; Dom John Stephan;

May they rest in peace

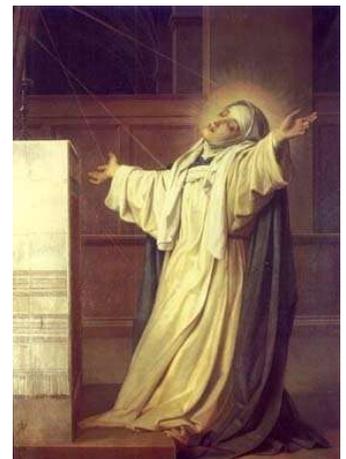
If you are self-isolating and need help getting food or medicine, please give Fr. Francis a call.

Congratulations and prayers go to Sue and Adrian Lethbridge who celebrate forty years of marriage on Sunday.
Ad multos annos!

Caritas Plymouth Quarterly Update
Caritas Plymouth aims to provide fresh impetus to put the command of the Lord into practise: 'Love one another as I have loved you', (John 13:34-35). It works with partner organisations already existing to put the Church's Social Teaching into action and provide a network to share good practice in the service of the most poor and vulnerable. It also aims to encourage new initiatives to put the Gospel imperative of love and mercy into action. The latest newsletter shares our recent work and highlights the positive actions that have been happening during the current Coronavirus and the many ways in which people are supporting each other. **It also features and introduction to the new Diocesan Manager of Caritas, who is a parishioner of this parish: Deborah Fisher, who worships in Ashburton.** She would love to hear and share your stories so please do get in touch with Deborah caritas@prcdtr.org.uk with any news or updates.

St. Catherine of Siena

She was born in Sienna in 1347. Deeply religious and ascetical, she had a mystical experience at the age of 21 which spurred her on in her efforts to help the poor and the sick, attracting followers who helped her in her mission. Caring deeply about the Church, she called for its reform and worked successfully to keep the Italian city states loyal to the Pope. From 1375 she dictated letters, petitioning for peace, and was instrumental in persuading the Pope to return to Rome from Avignon. Her 400 letters and her prayers became so influential that Catherine was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Paul VI in 1970. In 1999, Pope John Paul II made her one of the Patron Saints of Europe



St Mary's School continues to tick along in its new routine. About a dozen children are being cared for overall but the most in at any one time so far has been nine. The days seem to fly by as fast as they ever did with plenty of admin still to do. The teachers are setting work online but also providing hard copies of learning packs for the families who have little or no access to the internet. Fortunately, we have had, for many years, an all singing, all dancing photocopier which will staple and fold the booklets as they are printed. There was a slightly worrying moment this week when it started to jam on a regular basis but, as a school, we are considered to be an essential service and an engineer soon arrived. Luckily, it was a quick repair. Some little rollers which should have been textured had been worn smooth by their labours and were struggling to pick up the paper properly. They were easily replaced and normal service was resumed.

Staff are still working in shifts of one week in school, one week at home. Miss Slack has asked that staff also use their time for a little online learning and to consider how their new found or refreshed knowledge can be put to good use in the school when more normal times return. There are a vast number of courses available (although, I have to say, some are decidedly more boring than others) and staff have been asked to look at various things from autism to dyslexia and will undoubtedly return to school with increased expertise in many areas. One of the key courses is a refresher for our First Aid qualification - all staff hold at least an Emergency First Aid Certificate - which proved to be more useful than I had anticipated. However, to date I have been unable to complete the course as I have hit a major stumbling block - I cannot do virtual CPR! One has to hit the mouse button in the same rhythm as one would carry out chest compressions and that is not as easy as it looks. My colleagues have suggested I sing a song (the BeeGees "Staying Alive" to be exact) whilst doing it to help get the right speed. In order to tackle the CPR again one has to re-do the whole section. The positive side to my failure is that I can now recite pretty much exactly what a defibrillator says when you activate and use it, which will stand me in good stead if ever the need arises. The down side is that I now have repetitive stress in my right hand from the numerous attempts. To add to that is the worry for my husband when he hears me singing Staying Alive to myself in an increasingly furious manner as I try to master the mouse and the rhythm. Hopefully, I will achieve my First Aid Certificate soon and I can move onto something else less taxing!

Catholic South West

The publishers of this and other Catholic Diocesan newspapers have set up a website where it can be viewed, since printed editions are not being produced at the moment. Please visit www.ChurchPaper.co.uk

MISSION MADE POSSIBLE

Normal life may have 'paused' but the Mission of the Church can continue and grow. We have a great opportunity within our diocese to deepen our discipleship and answer the call to Mission.

You are invited to learn from your home, how to have conversations about faith, with friends, family or in everyday encounters that don't make you or anyone else feel awkward. Join disciples across the globe who are learning together to spread the Good News. To begin, register your interest to be part of this great mission at info@genesismission.co.uk and click on this link <https://youtu.be/nmigFaMrs4w> to watch the 40 minute overview.

Marriage Matters: *Reflections on the Sunday readings.*

How well do we listen to each other?

As Jesus walked to Emmaus, he listened carefully to His disciples and experienced their grief. An important part of our relationship is listening. We may disagree with our partner's thoughts and judgments but they are part of who this person is. We need to experience him/her and convey the joy of discovering the person he/she is.

He fills your mouth with laughter and your lips with rejoicing" (Job 8:21)

One day an elderly pastor confides in his parishioners that he's feeling a bit lonely and depressed. So one of the parishioners suggests to the pastor that he buy a pet. Thinking this a grand idea, the pastor hurries into town and after much deliberation, buys a parrot. Unfortunately, not five minutes after arriving home, the parrot starts hurling a string of expletives at the pastor.

After about an hour it gets to be too much, so the pastor walks up to the parrot, slaps him on the beak, and yells, "QUIT IT!" But this just makes the parrot madder and he starts swearing at the pastor in even

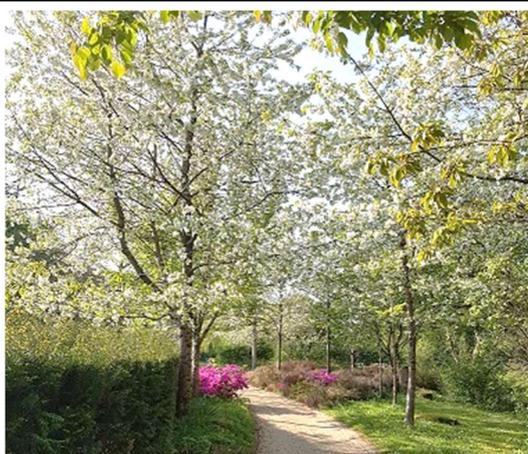
more colorful language. Finally, the pastor has had it and says, "All right, that's it. Grabbing a blanket, the pastor throws it over the parrot's cage and screams, "Now, SHUT UP!" Well, this really irritates the parrot and he starts clawing and scratching at the bars of his cage. Finally, the pastor removes the blanket. Immediately the parrot starts right in on the pastor again.

By this time, the pastor is so infuriated that he grabs the parrot by the throat and throws him into the freezer. Well, the parrot starts swearing and thrashing about so loudly that the pastor is considering killing the bird. Just as he's thinking this, it gets very...very quiet.

At first the pastor just stares at the refrigerator, but then he starts to think that the parrot might be seriously injured. He becomes so worried that he runs over to the refrigerator and throws open the freezer door.

The parrot climbs out of the freezer, flaps the ice off his wings, and says, "Awfully sorry about the trouble I've caused you father. In the future, I'll do my best to improve my vocabulary."

The pastor is astounded. He can't believe the sudden transformation that has come over the parrot. Finally, the parrot turns to the pastor and says, "Um....by the way, what did the chicken do?"



I hope you enjoy this photo of the lovely blossom along the riverbank in the monastery garden. May it put you in mind of the sunshine the Lord brings into our lives, even in these challenging times.