

The Abbey Parish Newsletter

31st May, 2020 Pentecost



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

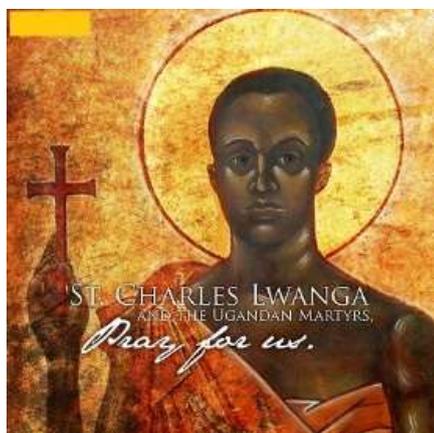
Liturgical Calendar:

Monday	Mary, Mother of the Church
Tuesday	Feria
Wednesday	The Martyrs of Uganda
Thursday	Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest
Friday	St. Boniface
Saturday	Feria



Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time:

Evelyn Jones; Wiseman Grisbrook; Jack Lewis; Concetta Collinge; Br. Ignatius Birk; Gabrielle Myhill; Stephan Kwidzinski; Thomas Stuart; Vera Hubbard; Ernest Minns; Dom Aloysius Coles; Dom Ernest Graf; Mary Lock; Margaret Ballenden;
May they rest in peace



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

Phone line for prayer:
 call 01364 72768

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

"Oremus pro invicem"

Please pray for those who are sick:
 Geraldine Thompson Pat Hedges
 Margaret McAvoy Fred Cooke

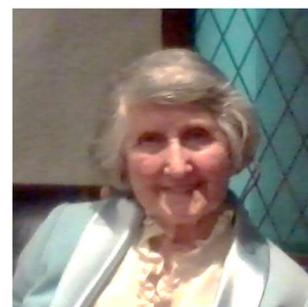
If you or someone you know would like to be included here, please contact
 Fr. Francis

A kindly neighbour of one of our parishioners in Ashburton has a Hotpoint/Creda electric cooker to give away to anyone who has financial difficulties. He brought it with him when moving house, only to find that the previous owners had left theirs in situ!
If you are interested, please contact Fr. Francis who will pass on your contact details.



Please pray for the repose of the soul of

Pam King



who died
 on Wednesday 27th May
 aged 95 years

May she rest in peace.

Formerly of Diptford, Pam spent the last few years closer to her family in Rugby.

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](https://www.facebook.com/buckfastabbeyofficialsite)

Some of the wonderful staff at the Abbey gave up their spare time to learn sign language last year, so that they can assist anyone who comes here and is hard of hearing. They've now put together a video of them signing to Louis Armstrong's "It's a Wonderful World".

The result is a very moving message of hope and concern for everyone who is suffering the effects of the enforced isolation, which, I suppose, is all of us. Many thanks and congratulations to all involved for such an uplifting gift to the world. You can view it on the Abbey Education Department's facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/educationatbuckfastabbey/>

News from our Parish School (Courtesy of Mitzi)

<http://www.st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk/>

Unless there is a very last minute change of government guidance, St Mary's School will be opening on Monday to welcome back our three, four, five, six and eleven year olds.

For the dozen or so key worker children who have continued to attend school for the last ten weeks, it will probably feel a little strange as they have been settled into their own routine and had the run of the place to themselves. The total number of children who are entitled to come to school, if their parents want them to, is about eighty but realistically we are expecting between twenty and thirty children to join us initially. To ensure that the school can operate as safely as possible, a lot of thought and work has gone into preparing the school environment and planning new routines. However, although many, both staff and parents, are seeking definitive answers to allay any concerns they may have, the truth is that we are in uncharted waters and we shall have to think on our feet a lot over the coming days. I am sure, though, before too long we will settle into another new routine which in itself will become a reassurance.

As you may already know, as part of the preparations, we have forged ahead with getting the new buildings ready and it was this week, as the headteacher, Miss Slack, and I did a final walk around to check what was left to be done, that I had the chance to investigate the top floor of the old convent. This has been changed into office and meeting room space and it was the view from the window of this area that really caught my eye. Yes, it is fabulous! You can see far across the woodland and the beautiful countryside which surrounds us but what really caught my eye was the green roof at the back of the school.... Some of you may know that I have always been a little less than impressed with these particular "design features" of the school building. For a start, there continues to be an ongoing battle between the resident sedum and the interloping weeds which means that the roof outside my office still looks like a bad hair day. Then there is the tendency for the roofs to fill with water in heavy rain which then leaks into the rooms below which is the first you know that your gutters are probably blocked by some of those same sedum and weeds fighting for space. Oh, and they don't seem to be actually green in colour but brown which is also not so attractive. But now, from my new found eyrie atop the convent, I can see the roof that has given me so much grief over the years.

I will be able to monitor its behaviour closely and despatch a person in good time to clear its waterways and hopefully put an end to our own particular water cycle. I may have to disappear regularly to this particularly quiet and out of the way room where not many people will find you on the pretext on checking said roof!

Meanwhile, on a more sensible note, one of our older key worker children, Imogen, has been busy making volcanoes! Not only that, but she then taught the other children how to make their own volcanoes - possibly a teaching career already beckons!



Speaking in his homily during the latest weekly Mass for the sick, their families, care workers and NHS staff, Bishop of Middlesbrough Terry Draine said he believed the increasing desire to foster the common good seen in recent months will last beyond the current pandemic.

Bishop Terry welcomed the way key workers have replaced the rich and famous as "icons of esteem" in the eyes of society as the importance of their roles has become increasingly evident.

"Values seem to be changing, as do icons of esteem," he said. "No longer the rich and famous, no longer the A-list celebs. Rather nurses, doctors, care-workers, teachers, those who feed us and supply everything we need for daily life; those who inspire us and uplift us and give us hope.

"The present crisis has forced people to dig deep and they have been surprised at themselves and others to find that there is a well of empathy and a desire to foster the common good in most of us."

Bishop Terry examined the day's Gospel reading, commonly known as "Christ's High-Priestly Prayer" when Jesus gathered his disciples knowing that the next day he was to be crucified.

"In the face of his imminent death he offers them and us his last will and testament," he says. "He prays for the gift of unity.

"As Christians we believe that living out this unity, this love, solidarity, fellowship, this communion is the greatest witness to God's presence in our lives and in our world."

Marriage Matters: *Reflections on the Sunday readings*

The Spirit works in all sorts of different ways Years ago, on a Marriage Encounter weekend, we had a real experience of the Spirit working "in all sorts of different ways in different people", not in Church documents, but in real life. We were like the disciples at Pentecost, "filled with joy when they saw the Lord", and we heard our own native language, deep inside each of us.

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

Baldwin, who is noted for his gracious manners, was awakened one morning at four forty-four a.m. by his ringing telephone. . .

"Your dog's barking, and it's keeping me awake," said an angry voice. Baldwin thanked the caller and politely asked his name and number before hanging up.

The next morning at precisely four forty-four a.m., Baldwin called his neighbour back.

"Good morning, Mr. Warburton.... I just called to say that I don't have a dog."