

# The Abbey Parish Newsletter

5<sup>th</sup> July, 2020 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 – Friday	Feria
Saturday	<b>St. Benedict</b>

### “Oremus pro invicem”

Please pray for those who are sick:  
Geraldine Thompson      Pat Hedges  
Margaret McAvoey      Fred Cooke  
Bob Beard

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

**Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time:**

T. Bergess; Louisa Patterson; Mildred Hendry; John Beard; Nellie Board; Dorothy Eugster; Frances Fox; Dom Boniface Pedrick; Henrietta Stanton; Reginald Whately; Gertrude Wills; Dom Maurus Massé; Lilian Henle; Hilda Hext; Hermione Fothergill; Penny Messer; Br. Athanasius Haveron; Louisa Carus; Dr. Noel Delaney; Selina Dent; Arthur Carus; Abbot Leo Smith; William Turner; Garren Hensman; Irene Rowe; Dom Edward Beane;

**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](mailto:parish@buckfast.org.uk)

### Recommencing Holy Mass with a Congregation

I am pleased to say that people have generously stepped forward to act as stewards, so Holy Mass with a Congregation will re-commence this weekend as follows:

Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> July, 5 p.m.	St. Benedict's, Buckfastleigh
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> July, 9 a.m.	St. Dunstan's, South Brent
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> July, 10.30 a.m.	Our Lady of Lourdes & St. Petrock, Ashburton

These churches will no longer be opened during the week for private prayer.

**\*\*\* There are no Masses with a Congregation in the Abbey this weekend \*\*\***

Each of the three churches in the parish other than the Abbey has COVID SECURE capacity of 12 households/ 24 people. As of Saturday morning, the available capacity in each church for this weekend is:

Buckfastleigh	9 households	South Brent	6 households	Ashburton	7 households
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**If you would like to attend this weekend, please email or phone Fr. Francis to book your place.**

According to Church and Government regulations, if the maximum number of either households or people is reached, no-one else may be admitted to the church, so if you turn up without booking, you must be prepared to be disappointed.

Things to bear in mind in deciding whether to attend Mass:

- People who feel unwell, especially those who have symptoms of COVID-19, must not attend church.
- Toilet facilities will not be available.
- Seating will be allocated by the stewards so that social distancing of 2 metres is maintained at all times.
- It is essential that you use the hand sanitiser which will be offered to you as you enter the church
- By order of the Bishop, Holy Communion must be received in the hand while standing.

From Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July, the Mass at 1205 will recommence in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel (Mondays to Fridays) and in the nave of the Abbey on Saturdays.

**I need to ask those people who attend the 9 a.m. Mass on Sundays in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel to consider acting as stewards. If no-one offers to do so it will not be possible to have Mass at that time on 12<sup>th</sup> July**

Two people have kindly stepped forward to act as stewards at the Abbey on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30 a.m. so that Mass will take place with a Congregation.

From Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July it will be possible to book to attend these Masses via the Abbey's website. Please do that if you can. Otherwise contact Fr. Francis. Again, if the maximum number of either households or people is reached, no-one else may be admitted to the church, so if you turn up without booking, you must be prepared to be disappointed.

**The ways in which Holy Mass will be different to what you have been used to:**

Following Government guidelines, the Bishops have asked that Holy Mass should be as brief as decorum permits, so there will be a short homily, no bidding prayers and no offertory procession.

To minimise the risk of spreading the virus, there will be no congregational singing. There will be no altar servers and, at least initially, all the readings will be read by the priest.

There will be no hymn books or Mass books available. If you have a smart phone or a tablet, why not consider a subscription to <http://universalis.com/> This app gives you all Mass readings and prayers, together with the Divine Office and many other items useful for Catholic devotion. There is a free trial; access to all its features are available for a one off cost of about £20.

There will be no passing of a collection basket. There will be basket available at the back of the church for your donations, HOWEVER, please consider either making a Standing Order (Fr. Francis can give you a form) or donating online (details next week). There will soon also be contactless machines in the Abbey church for donations.

**Change to the Communion Rite**

After the prayer and its response "Behold the Lamb of God...Lord I am not worthy," the priest should hold up the Host to the Congregation and say audibly "The Body of Christ" to which the people should respond "Amen."

When the priest is ready, the stewards manage the movement of the Faithful towards the sanctuary, maintaining social distancing throughout. Only the priest distributes the Host; the Faithful stand on the other side of table at the head of the nave. Holy Communion must be given silently in the hand only, with the communicant standing, hands at full stretch. The Chalice is not distributed.

In order to comply with Government guidance and avoid spread of the virus, the Bishop asks that, after Mass, the Faithful do not gather together or remain within or outside of the church talking. Parish halls, toilets and kitchens associated with the churches may not be used at this time.

*A little bird (actually, a very tall one ☺) tells me that Rachel & Kelvin Ellacott celebrate their Pearl Wedding Anniversary on 7<sup>th</sup> July.*

***Congratulations on thirty years of love!***

*Our prayers and good wishes are with you as you celebrate your happy day and look forward to many more of them in the years ahead!*

**News from our Parish School (Courtesy of Mitzi)**  
<http://www.st-marysrc.devon.sch.uk/>

Somehow we have arrived at the point where there are only two and a bit weeks left until what would have been the official start to the summer holidays. Our numbers are up to just under 50% and new children are coming in almost daily. There definitely seems to be a feeling that the opportunity of a little taster of school before September is entering into the "now or never" category. The children who are coming in to school (and possibly their parents too!) are telling their friends and the latter are also wanting to return - although, for some, a day or two is enough before the novelty wears off! Meldon Class which consists of our smallest children, who are all eligible to return, will have to divide into two "bubbles" from Monday as the numbers are going to exceed the limit of fifteen children per group as per the government guidelines. Mrs Teeder, the class teacher, has resisted this moment for as long as she could as she wanted the children to have access to all the play activity areas for as long as possible. However, through a little ingenuity, a long piece of string, some tarpaulin and the use of various different doors, all the children will be able to use separate bits of the orchard for their mini beast hunting. Some of the children are particularly good bug hunters and, this week, they were absolutely overjoyed to have found a newt in the pond area!

The other classes each have around ten children in each day - unfortunately for some of the teachers, it hasn't been the same ten on any occasion. The children are returning under a wide range of arrangements - some are back every day, some only when their parents are working, some when they, for want of a better description, feel like it. The important thing is that they, and their parents and, in some cases, their grandparents, are comfortable with the level of risk they feel they are taking. However, this makes it very difficult to teach anything with any continuity as staff cannot build on yesterday's lesson or plan for tomorrow. The other frustration / sadness is that, particularly, for our Year 6 children who will be leaving us soon, it will be almost impossible to have any kind of event to say farewell to them all. We have ordered their traditional leavers' hoodies and we have agreed the end of year awards but these will have to be given out "virtually" somehow as, unfortunately, not all of the Year 6's have come back, and are not likely do so. However, we still have a couple of weeks before we face what I fear will be a particularly poignant occasion and, one way or another, we will make the most of them.

**Live-streaming will continue:**

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](http://www.buckfast.org.uk/live)

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

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