

The Abbey Parish Newsletter

12th July, 2020 15th 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	St. Henry
Tuesday	Feria
Wednesday	St. Bonaventure
Thursday	Feria
Friday	Feria
Saturday	Feria

"Oremus pro invicem"

Please pray for those who are sick:

Geraldine Thompson Pat Hedges
Margaret McAvoyn Fred Cooke
Bob Beard

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

Phone line for prayer: call 01364 72768

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

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

Youtube.com/c/BuckfastAbbey

Facebook @buckfastabbeyofficialsite



Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time:

Dom Herluin Capelle; Arthur Conroy; Charles Berington; Sarah Noblet; Dom Maurice Nguyen Van-Danh; Derek Hedges; Mabel Carrack; Hugh Symons; Alice Howard; Gladys Fennessy; Trixie Northcote; Peggy Mitchell; Francis Vaughan; John Harrington; Stephanie Lister; Meryl Trude; Maddie Page-Dove; Violet Thompson; Stanley Lane; Jean Hext; Mary Smyth; Edward Canon Burke; Francis Cabusac; Annie Mottram; Abbot Bruno Febrenbacher; Frank Lock; David Williams;

May they rest in peace

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

Recommencing Holy Mass with a Congregation

Over the last week it has been an enormous pleasure to celebrate Holy Mass with some of you; what a moving moment it was to say directly to the Faithful once again: "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." There were some differences in the celebration from what we're used to, as I described last week, but I think they did nothing to dampen the enjoyment of celebrating the Eucharist together. The people who agreed to be stewards worked with great care, discretely managing things to create an ordered and prayerful environment while keeping everyone safe.

The parish is very grateful to those who have stepped forward to do this. They've taken on a role which the Government and the Bishops regard as essential – if no-one volunteered for a given Mass we'd have to cancel it, or celebrate it without a congregation.

It's not too onerous being a steward; we ask the stewards to obtain contact details for all who attend, offer hand sanitiser to everyone as they enter and leave, ensure people remain socially distanced throughout, organise people to come for Holy Communion while maintaining 2m distance from others and, at the end of Mass, encourage people to leave in a socially-distanced manner. **So please consider volunteering to take a turn at this if you are not clinically vulnerable to COVID-19.** That way we can share the load between us.

The online booking system is now in operation. Just go to the Abbey's website, <https://www.buckfast.org.uk/> and click on "Book Mass Seating". This is an added hassle for all of us, but it's surely worth it to keep everyone safe.

Another added hassle is that we have to keep the contact details of everyone who attends Mass for 21 days after that Mass takes place. This is part of the 'Track and Trace' regime. If you book online, there's the added advantage that you will not need to do this as you enter the church.

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.

From next Saturday, 18th July, the **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)** will again be available in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at 11 a.m. COVID guidance from the Bishops requires that a 'confessional box' is not used, so the priest will sit in a pew in the Blessed Sacrament chapel. Penitents will need to make their preparation in the Abbey church itself and then wait to be invited by the steward to enter the chapel one at a time for the celebration of the Sacrament. There will be a chair available 2 metres from the priest for 'face to face' confession; those who prefer not to be seen by the priest should kneel in the pew two rows behind him.

News from our Parish School (Courtesy of Mitzi)

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

Although the Coronavirus pandemic has been dire for the world, it has to be said that there have been small positive consequences experienced here and there. To watch nature gently unfurl its tendrils across the country in the absence of frenetic human activity, to feel a sense of community build as neighbour looks after neighbour, to be home one minute after you finished work, to get building work, scheduled for the summer holiday, finished weeks ahead of time...

As you know, we have been very lucky to have new rooms in the old convent into which we can expand the school. When we return in September, St Mary's will have five classes but we now actually have room for seven. Initially, this will allow us the space for an art room and a music room which the teachers are very keen to have. As I may have mentioned before, Miss Slack is very organised and, although there are some finishing touches still to be done, she has forged ahead with getting the classrooms ready for September. Tables, chairs and cupboards have been delivered and moved into place; wonderful art and music displays have been put up in the appropriate rooms.... At this point the government produced more guidelines for schools in September which caused us to reflect on the layout of the school next year and maybe beyond. (One thing I need to mention here is that children come in different sizes and, out of kindness, we purchase furniture to fit them.) Needless to say, following the re-think, the chairs and tables put upstairs were of the wrong size. So, this week has seen the relocation of many chairs and tables, said beautiful displays have been moved and replaced, and staff have been wandering around, looking slightly perplexed, in search of equipment that has been moved or a key bit of display that has been misplaced. Fortunately, Miss Slack has been "on it", as she would say, and by Friday, just in time for a visit by Fr Francis, everything was pretty much where it should be.

I am considering imposing a news block-out for Miss Slack as I don't think the staff could face another "re-think" irrespective of what the government might come up with!

Oh, and for those of you who are following our numbers, on Wednesday we reached fifty-three children in school. Not quite fifty per cent but getting there!

Marriage Matters:

Reflections on the Sunday readings.

Listen to the person behind the words

The stony ground is when we are too engrossed in the telly, reading or working on the computer to listen to our partner. The thorny ground is where we disengage with such but not wanting real involvement, suggest a cuppa as a diversion. We are called to be fertile ground by real listening – hold hands, look in each other's eyes.

Please pray for Albert Lawes who will be ordained a Deacon by Bishop Mark in the Cathedral at 2 p.m. tomorrow. The liturgy will be live-streamed.

A message from St. Patrick's Missionary Society (Kiltegan Fathers)

Because of the unfortunate Covid Virus situation, we will not be meeting for our annual Mission Days. Hence, we hope to have a Mission Day Online on Saturday 18th July 2020 from 10 a.m. Kindly visit our website, www.kilteganfathers.org for more information as to how the day will proceed. You may invite your family and friends to join us. Thank you and keep safe.

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

Truths children learn: 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats. 2) When your mom is mad at your dad, don't let her brush your hair. 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person. 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato. 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food. 6) Reading what people write on desks can teach you a lot. 7) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair. 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.

Buckfast Abbey Parish Lottery

The June draw took place on 30th June and the lucky winners are:

1 st Prize (£25)	83	Name withheld
2 nd Prize (£15)	26	Mr. M. Alcock
3 rd Prize (£10)	67	Name withheld
4 th Prize (£7.50)	29	Mrs. P. Alcock

PROCEEDS IN AID OF THE PARISH SYRIA APPEAL.

This lottery has been registered with Teignbridge District Council

New players are always welcome. For an application form please contact Mike Lang, or Fr. Francis on 01364 645526 or parish@buckfast.org.uk

Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) celebrates after receiving £6,000 from the National Lottery

The Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) is celebrating after being awarded £6,000 in National Lottery funding to support its work with vulnerable children and their families. They will use the cash to help with their Essential Grants programme. This aims to prevent an immediate crisis from threatening the stability of family life, by providing essential items that parents and carers could otherwise not afford for their children.

In April and May, with £2,000 funding from the Devon Coronavirus Fund (DCF), the charity was able to support 10 families by purchasing 4 cookers, 3 washing machines, 1 fridge/freezer, 1 bed & mattress and 1 cot, mattress & high chair. And CCSP have just heard that they've been awarded another £4,000 from DCF as well as some funding from the Albert Gubay Foundation Trust in addition to the National Lottery funding.

Vicki Dunstone, who works for the charity as their Fundraiser and Communications officer, says: "We're delighted that The National Lottery Community Fund has recognised our work and is able to help us with this funding. Now, thanks to National Lottery players, we will be able to continue to support families who are already struggling financially, but as a result of Covid-19, face even more financial hardship. We rely entirely on the generous donations from our parishes, individual donors, grant funders and Catholic schools but with the recent lockdown restrictions, all of our fundraising activities have been cancelled. We have already begun to see an increase in grant applications as more families living in the Diocese are affected by Covid-19, and we only envisage this number continuing to increase. We do not want to turn anyone away when they need our help more now than ever."