

The Abbey Parish Newsletter

2nd August, 2020 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Confessions: 11 a.m. on Saturdays in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Facebook page: search for Buckfast Abbey Parish

Liturgical Calendar:

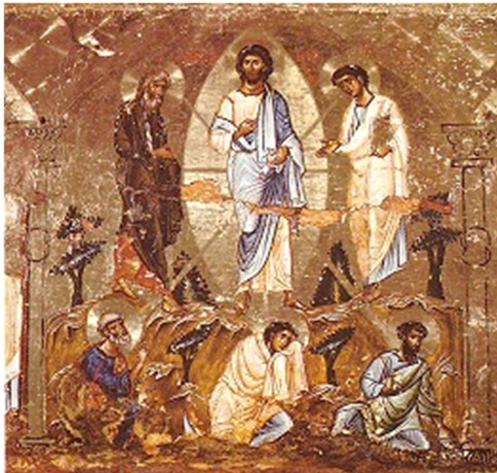
Monday	Feria
Tuesday	St. John Vianney
Wednesday	Feria
Thursday	Transfiguration of the Lord
Friday	Feria
Saturday	St. Dominic

"Oremus pro invicem"

Please pray for those who are sick:

Geraldine Thompson Pat Hedges
Margaret McAvoy Fred Cooke
Bob Beard

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



Face Coverings at Mass

You have probably heard the Government announcement last Friday that, from 8th August, the wearing of face coverings will be compulsory in places of worship.

The current guidance states that, even if face coverings must be worn by the congregation, the Mass celebrant does not need to wear a face covering if they are sufficiently distant from the congregation. We are awaiting further guidance from the Bishops as to whether that is still the case.

Live-streaming of daily Mass and the Divine Office continues. 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

Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time:

*Sybil Combe; Josephine Nott; William Stuart; Br. Peter Schrode; Mary Concannon;
Abbot Boniface Natter; Mark Whileblood; Vikki Scott-Maddocks; Georgina Raby;
Lucy Voisey; Clare Joy; Edward Beresford; Stefan Derda; Clifford Grute;*

May they rest in peace

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

Attending Holy Mass

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.

A message from CAFOD:

Coronavirus is not only creating a health emergency in poor countries but it is also causing great financial hardship due to the global economic slowdown. CAFOD is supporting [#CancelTheDebt](#) campaign as this is the best way to keep money in developing countries so they have a safe, sustainable way of recovering from Covid-19. Add your voice now on

<https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Latest-campaigns/Time-to-cancel-the-debt>

During the "school holidays" CAFOD is encouraging all families, young and old, to take part in a [Summer Of Hope](#). Recycle all those sports days, summer fares etc that you are missing and raise funds for CAFOD. Lots of ideas. <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/School-fundraising/Summer-of-Hope> There is a family quiz Friday 7th August 6.30 - 8pm. Suggested donation £5 per adult. Register at

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7577422229936972815>

We all know what wonderful work members of the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** do, quietly, in many parishes throughout the country. If anyone felt inspired to start a group in this parish, I'd be very keen to support them. In the meantime, SVP Young Vincentians have written to tell us of the resources and activities they provide on their website for youngsters in each of three age-groups:

Mini Vinnies (7-11 year olds) <https://www.svp.org.uk/mini-vinnies>

Youth SVP (11-14 year olds) <https://www.svp.org.uk/youth-svp>

B-Attitude (14-18 year olds) <https://www.svp.org.uk/b-attitude>

They've also just launched an Instagram account with the aim of accompanying young people in their spiritual journey and in their acts of charity carried out within their local communities and further afield.

<https://www.instagram.com/svpyoungvincentians/>

Buckfast Abbey Parish Lottery

The July draw took place on 31st July and the lucky winners are:

1st Prize (£25) 77 Ms. H Saunders

2nd Prize (£15) 9 Mrs. M Coates

3rd Prize (£10) 17 Mrs. A. Bowen

4th Prize (£8) 20 Mr. J. Goulden

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

News from our Parish School (Courtesy of Mitzi)

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

Having written the newsletter for a couple of years now (*Ed: TEN years come November, actually! Thank you, Mitzi, for keeping the parish informed in addition to your already mammoth workload!*), I sometimes look back to a similar time of year in the past to see what was happening in school then. School life is part of a never-ending cycle and usually there is a familiarity in what is written for each step on the annual journey. This year, as always, there is some level of building maintenance being carried out in school. Although, in stark contrast to last year, the work this year is relatively minimal with some finishing off in the old convent and other classrooms being "spruced up" a little with a coat of paint and a bit of carpet cleaning. As always, when term ends, some teachers stay on and get completely prepared for the new term before taking a well-earned break. Mrs Teeder, our Foundation Stage teacher, has been in each day sorting and setting up new role play areas and activities and will not be satisfied until everything is ready in its place. To be fair, she does have two classrooms to organise so it is very sensible to be ahead of the game! Others are ready for their holiday the moment the last child leaves the building and they will return later in the holiday to organise their rooms. For my part, there is always paperwork to be done and there is a false sense of security at this point that six weeks is a long time and



Play equipment & wildlife area

lots of those "little" jobs in the office like archiving and shredding will be done in plenty of time.

This year there is the challenge hanging over us all - what are we getting prepared for? Day to day life and its certainties are again being thrown in the air and the opening of schools in September is being put into doubt, at least in the media. It is again a case of getting all the possible bases prepared and covering them as best we can. The school and its environs will be as lovely as ever for those who are allowed across the threshold to see it and the resources for the children are already sitting sorted and ready for use. The staff are well used to working in zones and we are all very good hand washers now so we are ready for the "normal" that was "new" at the end of term in July. The question is will that still be normal in September!

The Catholic Bishops responsible for Healthcare and Life issues have released a paper providing clarity and assurances on the moral issues surrounding vaccination and to encourage Catholics to commit to protecting the most vulnerable in society.

Bishop Paul Mason, Lead Bishop for Healthcare, and Bishop John Sherrington, Lead Bishop for Life Issues, stress the Catholic Church's support for vaccination to protect the most vulnerable of our society – especially those affected by immunodeficiency, pregnant women and their unborn children.

As research and trials continue in the global search for an effective vaccination to prevent COVID-19, the paper also addresses the development of future vaccines and expresses the hope that the ethical sourcing of a vaccine for COVID-19 is possible.

The bishops make it clear that the Church distinguishes between the unethical sourcing of vaccines in the present day and the use of historical cell-lines which were derived from aborted fetuses in the 1970s. They reiterate the Church's moral position in opposing the production of vaccines using such tissue and acknowledge the distress many Catholics experience when faced with a choice of not vaccinating their child or seeming to be complicit in abortion.

However, the bishops reiterate Church teaching that "the paramount importance of the health of a child and other vulnerable persons could permit parents to use a vaccine which was in the past developed using these diploid cell lines." The paper echoes a note published by the Holy See's Pontifical Academy for Life in 2017 that states "all clinically recommended vaccinations can be used with a clear conscience and that the use of such vaccines does not signify some sort of cooperation with voluntary abortion."

In terms of the development of future vaccines, Bishop John Sherrington wrote to the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Public Health and Primary Care in July 2019 urging the Government to promote the future production of vaccines using material from non-human cells or ethically sourced human cells.

The Department of Health and Social Care gave Bishop Sherrington the following assurances:

"As I am sure you will agree, the safety and efficacy of vaccines is extremely important. In cases where it can be proven that they are equally effective and as safe as the original vaccine, manufacturers have introduced alternatives to the human diploid cells. However, this has not been the case for rubella, rabies or hepatitis A vaccines. Please be assured that new human foetal tissue will not be used to make these vaccines. Moreover, the Department is not aware of any new vaccines being produced using human diploid cells."

Marriage Matters:

Reflections on the Sunday readings.

It can be hard to have compassion sometimes
It's hard to have compassion for my spouse when caught up in my own worries and stress. Jesus moved on from His own sadness to see the need of the crowds; He fed them. We witness to the Good News that nothing can come between us when we nourish each other in all ways - physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

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

As a senior citizen was driving down the motorway, his car phone rang. Answering, he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, "Herman, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on M4. Please be careful!"

"Darling," said Herman, "It's not just one car. It's hundreds of them!"