

The Abbey Parish Newsletter

30th August, 2020 22nd 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	St. Aidan
Tuesday	Feria
Wednesday	Feria
Thursday	St. Gregory the Great
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

Reserving your place at 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".

Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time:

Harold Stanton; Philip Dawson; Frederick Fish; Emily Halkett; Mary Cory;
 Elsie Truscott; James Daw; John Beale; John Mason; Dom Adam Kebrle;
 Bishop Charles Graham; Maureen Ellis; Julia Willington; Mabel Blenkiron;
 Fr. John O'Neill; Marian Whitney; Marie Barber; Margaret Harvey;
 Florence King; Walter Greaves;
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

Last weekend's collections

	Gift Aided	Online
Abbey 9 a.m.		£4.00
Abbey 10:30 a.m.		£20.00
Buckfastleigh Sat 5 p.m.	£7.00	£15.00
Ashburton 10:30am		£12.50
South Brent 9 a.m.	£25.00	£30.00
Added value through gift aid	£11.25	£21.63

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
 Facebook @buckfastabbeyofficialsite

Putting All Children First

The annual appeal of the Catholic Children's Society takes place this weekend. Here is a message from Bishop Mark:

"This year's Catholic Children's Society Annual Appeal is being launched in a time when great economic hardship has fallen on many families due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Society has been responding to a significant increase in the number of families in our Diocese who find themselves in difficulty and who lack essential basic needs. This has meant that the Society's limited resources available to support such families have been significantly depleted.

So I appeal to your generosity to support the good work of the Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) by offering what you can. By doing so, you will enable it to continue offering assistance to those struggling families who are in most need. May God bless you for responding as generously as you can. Bishop Mark"

Because of the restrictions in place this year, please donate in one of these ways:

- By post to CCSP, St Boniface House, Ashburton, TQ13 7JL
- By BACS direct into our CCSP bank account sort code – 52-41-60 account number – 06024335
- Via our Crowdfunding page, where we receive 100% of every donation as all fees have been waived, and we acknowledge all donations as some parishioners have mentioned a reluctance to donate online. Find the link to the Crowdfunding page at www.cssplymouth.org.uk



It's really inspiring that more people are coming forward to be part of the new SVP Conference which we are starting in this parish. I'm also incredibly grateful to Miss Slack, Headteacher of our wonderful parish school, who has decided to encourage the children to participate in this initiative through the 'Mini-Vinnies' programme, <https://www.svp.org.uk/mini-vinnies>

Please consider joining in, whether or not you have any previous experience of the sort of work which members of the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** do. To be part of our introductory meeting, please let me know you're interested. It doesn't commit you to anything, and if you decide to participate it will be on your terms, both of the kind of volunteering you do and the amount of time you can give. Thank you, in hope and anticipation
 Fr. Francis

News from our Parish School (Courtesy of Mitzi)

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

We are now just a week away from what must be the most scrutinised return to school ever. Staff will be starting back on Thursday this week and we will be able to have a little time together training and planning before the children arrive on Monday 7th September. Hopefully, everyone will have had some time over the summer to relax and restore their energy levels before the challenges which will undoubtedly lie ahead. Also, hopefully, there will be no-one marooned abroad or stuck in an unplanned isolation!

This year, I am proud to report that we will have five classes which is the highest number ever for the school. As you may know, our classes are named after reservoirs on Dartmoor which nicely reflects the idea that they are pools of learning for our children. To help you follow my ramblings, I mean the news reports, in the Parish Newsletter each week, the names and ages are as follows:-

Meldon - Nursery and Reception - Three to five year olds

Avon - Year 2 - Six to seven year olds

Venford - Year 1 - Five to six year olds

Fernworthy - Years 3 and 4 - Seven to nine year olds

Burrator - Years 5 and 6 - Nine to eleven year olds

Or, as I am more likely to refer to them, "titchy, small, small-ish, medium-size and large".

I am also proud to report that one of the class teachers is a member of staff who started with us a few years ago as a teaching assistant. With the strong support of Miss Slack, our headteacher, Miss Keir spent last year working hard in the school as a teaching apprentice and will return in September as a fully qualified teacher. I am sure it will be a great moment for her, which, unfortunately, will probably also be very memorable for being in the Year of Covid-19.

You may remember that I mentioned that a wall by the infant playground would need to be taken down and re-built but we were fortunate that we found out with a few weeks to spare so that the area could be made safe before term started. Well, as you can see by the photo, when they said it had to be taken down, they really meant it! I do not envy the stone mason's job of putting that particular jigsaw back together!



Job Opportunity

Buckfast Abbey is looking to recruit an additional Steward to work in the Abbey church and the car park. The salary will be £9 per hour and the hours of work will be 5 days per week, Thursday to Monday inclusive, 32.5 hours.

The work involves welcoming visitors to the Abbey, being a source of general information and ensuring a safe environment for all who come here.

The closing date for applications is Monday 31st August, 2020. For further information, please visit www.buckfast.org.uk/careers

Marriage Matters: *Reflections on the Sunday readings.*

The 'sign' of growth is change

St Paul urges us to think of God's mercy and change the way we behave so that the will of God is visible in us. As husbands and wives we can help each other in this endeavour, so that a renewed and deeper love is revealed in our relationship and, in turn, reflected out to our family, friends and community.

Bishop Declan Lang, on behalf of the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, has offered prayers for, and solidarity with, Archbishop Robert Ndlovu of Harare and his brother Bishops in Zimbabwe.

"Christians across the globe have been inspired by the courage the Zimbabwean Church has shown in defending fundamental human dignity and rights," said Bishop Lang, Chair of the Bishops' Conference Department of International Affairs.

He also praised a pastoral letter titled The March is Not Ended released by Zimbabwe's Catholic Bishops' Conference on 14 August 2020 addressing the current situation in Zimbabwe. "The recent pastoral letter with its call for truth, justice and reconciliation is both a powerful witness to the suffering that Zimbabwe is enduring and a way forward for the country to emerge from this."

You can download the Zimbabwean Bishops' pastoral letter by visiting: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/news-and-media/news/>

Buckfast Abbey Parish Lottery

The August draw took place on 28th August and the lucky winners are:

1 st Prize (£25)	10	Mrs. S. Lethbridge
2 nd Prize (£15)	87	Ms. C. Campbell
3 rd Prize (£10)	22	Name withheld
4 th Prize (£9)	21	Name withheld

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



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

Never drive faster than your Guardian Angel can fly.

Don't think God has a sense of humour? Look at the platypus!

If you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans!