

# The Abbey Parish Newsletter

27<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 26<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: 11 a.m. on Saturdays in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel**

**Facebook page: search for Buckfast Abbey Parish**

Liturgical Calendar:

Monday	Feria
Tuesday	<b>Ss. Michael, Gabriel, Raphael &amp; All Angels</b>
Wednesday	St. Jerome
Thursday	St. Therese of Lisieux
Friday	Feria
Saturday	Feria

**“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

**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:**

*Tony Turner; Mary Yates; S. M. Bolsoni; Abigail Walsh; Herbert Robinson; Charles Hitchcock; Maude Barry; Edith Phillips; Sr. Alice McConville; Don Reynolds; Sr. Mary Bridget OSs; Martin Gompertz; Mary Knapp; Abbess Placidus Watson; Dom Denys Matthieu; Kevin Daly; Maggie Wolff-Ingham; Ellen Rose; Mary Duggan; Francejek Piotrowski; Dom Benedict Hauff; Mary Burke;*

**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)

**Last weekend's collections**

	Gift Aided	Online
Abbey 9 a.m.	£73.00	
Abbey 10:30 a.m.	£95.90	£20.00
Buckfastleigh Sat 5 p.m.	£2.00	£50.00
Ashburton 10:30am	£16.00	£5.00
South Brent 9 a.m.	£13.00	£15.00
<i>Added value through gift aid</i>	£25.00	£22.50

Live-streaming of daily Mass and the Divine Office continues. You can view online in any of these places: [www.buckfast.org.uk/live](http://www.buckfast.org.uk/live) Youtube.com/c/BuckfastAbbey Facebook @buckfastabbeyofficialsite

## CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2020

Each year, we are asked to give thanks to God for the abundance of his harvest by eating less for one day and sending a donation to CAFOD for the benefit of those less fortunate than ourselves. This year, because of the COVID restrictions, there will not be a cash collection in the parish, but everyone is encouraged to participate in the extra online events which CAFOD is organising.

Please visit <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Family-Fast-Day>

to see the CAFOD appeal film, listen to a live talk on CAFOD's response to the needs around the world made more urgent by coronavirus, join the Global Family Food event and have fun with the 'Harvest Like No Other' quiz. You can also view a livestreamed Mass on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

To donate to CAFOD, please visit <https://cafod.org.uk/Give>



News from our Parish School (Courtesy of Mitzi)

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

As you know, for the newsletter, I try to provide a little flavour of St Mary's daily life each week. Today, I am sitting pondering the right words to describe the effect these unusual times are having on the school

I looked up "surreal" but that strictly relates to surrealism and, to be fair, we are not quite at the point where I have to report the "irrational juxtaposition of images" or any sudden "release of the potential of the unconscious mind" (mine or anyone else's) so that doesn't fit. I then looked up "weird". Interestingly, this does come close in so far as an archaic meaning is "connected with fate" and in Middle English "wyrð" meant "having the power to control destiny" so, with the far-reaching and world changing impact the pandemic is having, I think "weird", it is.

However, put more simply, school life at present is hard work! The school is providing everything for the children that it has in the past but, to do so, we are having to think quite carefully about how things are done. For example, the little ones still have playdough but they now each have their own little bag of it; tag rugby is off but bat and ball games are on; children are having a cooked meal but are sitting in sanitised rows in classrooms to eat their lunch which comes in a cardboard box; casual chats with parents face to face are rare now parents do not come on to the site, so this week, the teachers have tried to ring every parent just to have a quick catch up about how things are going; quick messages from parents to the office are adding to an avalanche of emails coming in; each classroom has to keep its own paperwork for registers and first aid and so on, records which the office would have held and maintained in the past.

So, life is a bit more tricky but, by no means, impossible - what a "lucky" coincidence that our prayer for the week, which comes from the The Wednesday Word, which, in turn, is based on the Gospel reading for the week, reminds us how to manage!

**Dear Lord Jesus**

**Grant me the courage to change what can be changed, the peace to accept the things that cannot be changed, and the wisdom to know the difference.**

**Amen**



As part of our work to encourage men to ask themselves whether God is calling them to join the monastic community of Buckfast Abbey, we have a page dedicated to vocations on our website. Fr. Benet and Fr. Francis have been working with Michael Davies on a film explaining something about why we became monks. The film is now available on the vocations page. If you'd like to have a look, just visit <https://www.buckfast.org.uk/vocations> and scroll down. Do help us to spread the word by telling others about it.

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

*More famous last words:*

"Who wants to hear actors talk?" (H.M. Warner, Warner Brothers, 1927) ... "I'm just glad it'll be Clark Gable who's falling on his face and not Gary Cooper." (Gary Cooper on his decision not to take the leading role in "Gone With The Wind.") ... "We don't like their sound, and guitar music is on the way out." (Decca Recording Co. rejecting the Beatles, 1962.) ... "Drill for oil? You mean drill into the ground to try and find oil? You're crazy." (Drillers who Edwin L. Drake tried to enlist to his project to drill for oil in 1859) ... "Stocks have reached what looks like a permanently high plateau." (Irving Fisher, Professor of Economics, Yale University, 1929) ... "Everything that can be invented has been invented." (Charles H. Duell, Commissioner, U.S. Office of Patents, 1899.) ... "Louis Pasteur's theory of germs is ridiculous fiction." (Pierre Pachet, Professor of Physiology at Toulouse, 1872) ... "The abdomen, the chest, and the brain will forever be shut from the intrusion of the wise and humane surgeon." (Sir John Eric Ericksen, appointed Surgeon-Extraordinary to Queen Victoria 1873)

**Marriage Matters:**

*Reflections on the Sunday readings.*

Maintain a common purpose

Remember our courting days and the long, thrilling conversations we had about our future together. They were part of our falling in love and of establishing a common purpose in married life. St Paul reminds us of the mark of a Christian: "Be united in your convictions and your love, with a common purpose and a common mind."

