

The Abbey Parish Newsletter

27th December, 2020 Feast of the Holy Family

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	Holy Innocents
Tuesday	St. Thomas Becket
Wednesday	Christmas Octave
Thursday	Christmas Octave
Friday	Mary, Mother of God
Saturday	Ss. Basil & Gregory

"Oremus pro invicem"

Please pray for those who are sick:
 Geraldine Thompson Pat Hedges
 Margaret McAvoy Fred Cooke
 John Goulden

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

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

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

Last weekend's collections	Gift Aided	
Buckfastleigh 5 p.m. Sat	£7.00	£15.00
Abbey 9 a.m.	£36.00	£17.31
Abbey 10:30 a.m.	£65.00	£601.37
Ashburton 10:30am	£99.00	£6.92
South Brent 9 a.m.	£5.00	£34.62
Added value through gift aid		£165.06

Phone line for prayer: call 01364 72768

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

Marriage Matters: Reflections on the Sunday readings. Give way and love gently

When Mary and Joseph had done everything that the Law required, they went back home. Little is said about them as a couple. Did Mary 'give way to her husband, as you should in the Lord'? Did Joseph 'love his wife and treat her with gentleness'? Did they choose daily to love each other over and above everything else? Do we?

Hee, hee!

What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus? Claustrophobic

I bought my son a fridge for Christmas. – I can't wait to see his face light up when he opens it.

Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time:

Mary Keating; Amelia Munday; Catherine Shillabeer; Gerald Vaughan-Williams; Fred Morris; Ethel Cross; Clara Sampson; Josephine Bellairs Walker; William Langram; Kathleen Vinden; Mary Harvey; Agnes Walder; John Kenny; Mary Pinney; Agnes Jones; Br Columban Wanner; Horace Stephens; Dom Martin Griffin; Rowena Caunter; Fr. Joseph Williams; Frank Gibbon; Helen Kenny; Margaret Barrack; Canon Kenneth Meiklem;

May they rest in peace

Christmas Offerings	Gift Aided	Online
Ashburton 9:30 p.m.	£0.00	£25.00
Abbey Midnight	£124.64	£0.00
South Brent 9 a.m.	£0.00	£40.00
Buckfastleigh 9:30 a.m.	£26.00	£50.00
Abbey 9 a.m.	£93.50	£10.00
Abbey 10:30 a.m.	£197.30	£70.00
Total extra through gift aid	£30.00	£18.75

Thank you once again for these generous offerings.

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

At the end the summer term, the children in school wrote to their friends who had not been able to return due to the Covid restrictions. At the end of this term, the older children wrote to Fr Christopher, our School Chaplain, to let him know that he had been missed. You can tell they consider him to be an old friend as well!

"How are you? If you are wondering about school, we are all fine. We are hoping you are fine because in Wales coronavirus has been high in that place. We hope Covid will go away so we will have more liturgy with you."

"I bet you wouldn't believe this but I'm Year 6 finally so I have to be much more mature. You are a big part of our lives and our school and you have given so much for us so we just want to say a big thank you! I miss it when we have our liturgy and we all sing and you just listen and enjoy it. I can't wait to make more school memories with you."

"I am a pupil chaplain. We miss you at liturgy. Due to coronavirus, we cannot do it anyway. Is it fun in Wales?"

"Everyone has been talking about Christmas and we wish on the last week of term you could come and spend time with us! You stand out to us like the star of Bethlehem."

The children also wrote to another "old friend" of the school to say thank you for the difference he has made to St Mary's, Jonathan Deacon. Mr Deacon is standing down after more than twenty years as a School Governor. With the support of Fr Francis and the Abbey Community, he has overseen many projects to transform St Mary's from a small three classroom Victorian building with a second-hand mobile classroom and no hall to a beautiful, full-size school with its own magnificent hall and far-reaching grounds. He has helped recruit five headteachers and numerous teachers and been a staunch supporter in good, and not so good, times. He leaves the school in great shape with the capacity to grow and share the joy of learning at St Mary's School with more and more children. People often say someone will leave a hole when they move on but with Mr Deacon it will be more like a Cornish mineshaft!