

The Abbey Parish Newsletter

28th March, 2021 Palm Sunday

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

Confessions: On request after 1205 Masses in Ashburton

Facebook page: search for Buckfast Abbey Parish



Liturgical Calendar:

Monday	Holy Week
Tuesday	Holy Week
Wednesday	Holy Week
Thursday	Maundy Thursday
Friday	Good Friday
Saturday	Holy Saturday

"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

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

Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time:

*Kathleen Furlong; Sr. Mary Kelly; Olive Michelmore; Walter Green;
 Audrey Harrison; Nanine Herring-Mason; Mary McElroy; Theresa Murray;
 Mgr. Canon Hall; Desmond Mutton; Brian Straw; Br. Thomas Smith;
 Br Meinrad Vornweg; Ada Grute; Naomi Sourbut;
 Margaret Murray; Frances Compton;*

May they rest in peace

Last weekend's collections

		Gift Aided	Online
Buckfastleigh 5 p.m. Sat	£10.00	£10.00	
Abbey 9 a.m.	£41.10	£22.31	
Abbey 10:30 a.m.	£42.44	£40.00	£25.00
Ashburton 10:30am	£47.70	£58.30	£15.00
South Brent 9 a.m.	£10.00	£39.62	
		£40.06	£10.00

Added value through gift aid

To donate on line, visit <https://www.buckfast.org.uk/donate> and scroll down to select which Mass you normally attend.

Services for the Paschal Triduum

The following liturgies will take place in the Abbey church:

Maundy Thursday at 6 p.m. Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

This year it is sadly not permitted to have the Washing of the Feet or a procession to the Altar of Repose.

Good Friday at 3 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion

We mark by this liturgy the moment when our Lord Jesus died to save us. The Passion of St. John is read as usual, though crowd parts should not be exclaimed by the congregation.

This year, the Cross is unveiled at the Altar Steps. The *Ecce Lignum* is said rather than sung. The Celebrant alone kisses the Cross, then holds it aloft for the Congregation to venerate in silence without leaving their places. Holy Communion is distributed as usual.

Holy Saturday at 9 p.m. The Easter Vigil

Sadly, this year, there can be no fire outside. The Paschal Candle is prepared at the foot of choir then put in place under the tower. The congregation do not have candles. The Exultet is sung. There will only be three readings before the Epistle. The baptismal water is blessed and all renew their baptismal promises, but holy water is not used to bless the congregation.

Live-streaming this week:

Palm Sunday

0645	Matins
0745	Lauds
1030	Holy Mass
1830	Vespers & Benediction
2000	Compline

Monday - Wednesday

0630	Matins
0745	Lauds
0900	Holy Mass
1830	Vespers
2000	Compline

Maundy Thursday

0630	Matins
0745	Lauds
1800	Holy Mass
2000	Watching
2015	Compline

Good Friday

0630	Matins
0745	Lauds
1500	Celebration of the Passion
2000	Compline & veneration of the True Cross

Holy Saturday

0645	Matins
0745	Lauds
1830	Vespers
2100	Paschal Vigil

Masses on Easter Sunday morning in this parish:

0900	South Brent
0900	Abbey
1030	Ashburton
1030	Abbey

Phone line for prayer: call 01364 72768

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

From Thursday this week, the only Masses are those of the Paschal Triduum (see above)

The Sacraments are not normally celebrated during the Triduum, so confessions will not be heard on Saturday, except in an emergency.

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

St. Dunstan's, South Brent will have a 2nd Collection on Palm Sunday for Easter flowers

A few years ago, we heard of something called "Prayer Spaces" which are created to allow the children the time and space to reflect on life, spirituality, faith or any big question that they face. Usually, a classroom or other room is transformed for a few days by laying out different interactive and creative activities for the children to do which are thought-provoking or inspiring, or both, and help the children to reflect on issues we all face. Sometimes an appropriate local group, for example, a group of parishioners, will prepare these spaces in school, with the permission of the headteacher, to provide an extra resource for the children. I can tell you, from experience, they are powerful rooms which combine a quiet time and space with some deep questions and thoughts. Miss Slack prepares the activities, usually about half a dozen, and a room is set aside as the prayer space for the week. The children will either visit the room as part of a lesson, or voluntarily, and choose which activities to do. Often, a special atmosphere is created in the room with twinkling lights or spaces enclosed with different materials. Unfortunately, due to Covid, the children cannot share a room across the classes and so Miss Slack has prepared some "portable" activities so that the class teachers can use them in their own time and place of their choosing. The atmosphere, this time, has been provided by using our woodland areas and well-being garden. One of the activities involved making a cross and placing it into the ground, whilst thinking about any worries the children may have and perhaps even saying a prayer. The crosses Avon class created have been placed around one of the trees in the well-being garden, which in themselves are thought-provoking for others who see them as they pass. You may not have a specially prepared prayer space to visit yourself but try to allow yourself some time out to sit and reflect on life - you may be surprised at how good a little thoughtful time to yourself can make you feel!



Dr. Rola Hallam writes: "The school was called Iqra, in the Aleppo countryside and there were 100 children in attendance that day. Many were severely injured. 11 did not survive. It is one of 1,103 schools - an estimated 40% - that have been deliberately destroyed as a brutal tactic to terrorize populations by sending a message to parents that their children will never be safe. Syria is the most dangerous country in the world for children with nearly 30,000 killed since the crisis began. A cutting edge early warning system using artificial intelligence has been developed that will give Syrian schools an average of 7-10 crucial minutes of warning before the bombs land. Please sign my petition to the Government to fund this. Visit www.change.org

An Update from the Buckfast Abbey Parish St. Vincent de Paul Group

Last weekend, our Parish SVP group met via Zoom for our monthly meeting; it will be wonderful when the easing of restrictions allows us to meet in person, although our online meetings are really lively and a great encouragement to us all.

Beginning with devotions, we then worked through our usual business before focusing on our Easter Greetings campaign. Father Francis, whilst delivering our handmade Easter cards to two of our parishioners, who now live in residential care, was delighted to discover how much our Christmas greetings had been appreciated, and this has been a real boost to us all.

We are planning to hold an SVP coffee and cake morning as soon as we are allowed to do so, and we do hope many of you will be able to come and enjoy fellowship as well as helping us to raise money for the SVP.

Anna and Rachel met with the Head Gardener at the Abbey this week to continue to discuss the possibility of an SVP Giving Garden. The Monks have kindly identified a lovely space where we might be able to do this, and plans are being prepared for Father Francis and the Monastic Community to consider. If you like to garden and think that you might enjoy being involved in this project, we would love to hear from you. You do not need to be a member of the SVP or commit to specific dates and times. We will need help if we go ahead with the Giving Garden, so please do ask us about it. If you, or someone you know might benefit from contact with an SVP member, for a phone call or help in a practical way, please do let Father Francis know.

Father Francis closed the meeting with prayer. We will be gathering again at the end of April and if you are interested in becoming involved yourself, we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch with Father Francis, Mike Lang or Kelvin and Rachel Ellacott.

Marriage Matters: *Reflections on the Sunday readings.* Today let us reflect on what is really important in our marriages. In this day and age the cost of living can create anxieties and tensions about making ends meet. So today, let's hold hands, look at each other, and celebrate our love, which joins us together as a 'sign' of God's love for everyone.

Hee, hee!

More gems from the courts, thanks to Sr. Christina:

Q. Is your appearance here this morning pursuant to a disposition notice which I sent to your attorney? A. No, this is how I dress when I go to work.

Q. All your responses must be oral, okay? What school did you go to? A. Oral.