

The Abbey Parish Messenger

9th February, 2025 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C H & S p. 796. CTS p. 983
 16th February, 2025 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C H & S p. 800. CTS p. 987
 23rd February, 2025 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C H & S p. 804. CTS p. 991

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

Confessions: Blessed Sacrament Chapel Saturdays 11 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Facebook page: search for Buckfast Abbey Parish

Liturgical Calendar:

Monday 10 th	St. Scholastica
Tuesday	St. Benedict of Aniane
Wednesday	Feria
Thursday	Feria
Friday	Ss. Cyril & Methodius
Saturday	Our Lady on Saturday
Monday 17 th	Feria
Tuesday	Feria
Wednesday	Feria
Thursday	Feria
Friday	St. Peter Damian
Saturday	See of Peter
Monday 24 th	Feria
Tuesday	St. Walburga
Wednesday	Feria
Thursday	Feria
Friday	Feria
Saturday	St. David

"Oremus pro invicem"

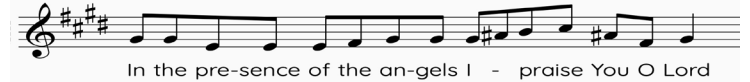
Please pray for those who are sick:

Kathy Smith Keith Halle
 Bridget Woodhead Pauline Roberts
 Wendy Williams

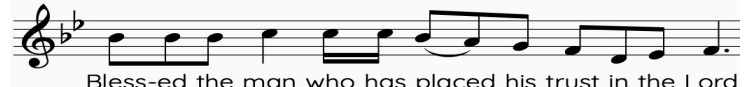
If you or someone you know would like to be included here, please contact Fr. Francis

This parish newsletter covers the next two weekends as well as this one.

5th Ordinary



6th Ordinary



7th Ordinary



Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time:

Albert Ghewy; Pauline Hornsey; Guy Wetherall; Annie Boyce;
 Andrew Straw; Mary Sandys; Gertrude Henle; Dom William Henle;
 Verity Rowe; Joseph Hawkins; Olive Elliott; Jan Tarasiuk;
 Florence Colborne; Bessie Highmore; Dom Boniface Bush;
 Francis Craig-McFeely; Elsie Lee; Muriel Taylor; Helen Wetherall;
 Emily O'Shea; Barbara Scarrett; Frances Shorland; Moira Kerse;
 Winifred McKenzie; Jean Elton; Muriel Sass; William Crook; William Baker;
 Adela Carter; Angela Simpson; Rev. Edward Damen; William Spiller;
 Mother Mary Angela; Br. Bernard Seymour; Karl Pole; Mary Knowles;
 Mildred Gray; Isabel Hodge; Leonard Bragg; Anne Morin;
 Mgr. David Barry; Patricia Blake; John Billington; Bessie Stuart;
 Hilda Robertson; Dom Raphael Stones; Lucy Kaylor; Brian Cross;
 Elizabeth Nicholls; May Sanders; Rev. Edwin Russell; Mary Davies;
 Charles Messer; Kathleen Davies; Jenny Gornall;
 Charles Norton; Rosina Barber;

May they rest in peace

News and Events in the Diocese:

11th February OUR LADY OF LOURDES FEAST DAY MASS, Our Lady Of Assumption, Torquay, 6pm. Followed by refreshments and a short talk on the cause for canonisation of Br Michael Strode, the founder of HCPT.

13th February MODERN SLAVERY AND LABOUR ABUSE awareness event. Holy Family Parish Hall, Plymouth PL2 3JR (including light lunch). Registration Essential. Contact caritas@prcdtr.org.uk for details.

27 February-2 March Retrouvaille Marriage Care has helped thousands of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about the next programme, which will be presented on Zoom ...27 February to 2 March 2025 Email: info@retrouvaille.org.uk Call or text 0788 7296983 www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Last weekend's collections

	Gift Aided	Standing orders	Digital Reader
Abbey 9 a.m.	£45.70	£20.00	£8.08
Abbey 11 a.m.	£304.82	£70.00	£38.85
Buckfastleigh Sat 5 p.m.	£12.00	£25.00	
Ashburton 10:30am	£17.10	£36.00	£6.92
South Brent 9 a.m.	£28.80	£25.00	£5.77
Added value through gift aid		£44.00	£14.90
			£43.75

Renewed thanks for the generous donations to the Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) at the crib in the Abbey over the Christmas period. Now that all funds have been counted, they amount to £751.38. Magnificent!

Mardi Gras!

Tuesday 4th March, 7 to 9.30 p.m
 in the Grange Restaurant

Tickets for over 18s £8 each. Those aged 18 or under go FREE, but must have a ticket and be accompanied by someone over 18.

Tickets entitle you to drink on arrival, main course and dessert.

Cash bar available; Raffle in aid of CAFOD (please bring a prize)

Tickets available after Sunday Masses; please buy in advance (to help us plan catering)

Lent 2025 Devotions

6 p.m. on the following Fridays:

14 th March	Buckfastleigh
21 st March	Ashburton
28 th March	South Brent
4 th April	Buckfastleigh
11 th April	Ashburton

Stations of the Cross, the sorrowful mysteries of the rosary, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction.

Followed by refreshments.

An invitation to survivors

We have two survivor groups in the diocese that have now been running for over a year, which provide an opportunity for anyone with lived experience of abuse to share their thoughts and ideas about survivor support work in our diocese. We are grateful to all those who so generously give of their time to attend these meetings.

The diocese would welcome the opportunity to hear from others who have a lived experience of abuse, so that we can involve them in the work we are doing to support survivors. If you would like to help us with this work, or you would like to find out more, please contact: Sophie Scagell (Survivor Support Caseworker) on 01364 645436 / sophie.scagell@prcdtr.org.uk

Marriage Matters

Reflections on the Sunday readings:

Follow your dream

'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. His glory fills the whole earth.' Isaiah was sustained by his vision of God in glory; Paul by his vision of Jesus. On our wedding days we had a dream for our future together. The grace of God has sustained that vision through many struggles. Let's always seek to follow our dream.

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

"A joyful heart is good medicine" (Proverbs 17:22)

A group of children aged seven was in chapel, and a terrible storm broke during the service. Suddenly the lights failed and some of the children began to murmur. The preacher, a kindly old gentleman said, "Don't be frightened, my dears. It's only a display of God's elements."

At that a little boy turned to his companion and whispered, "He says, 'Don't be frightened, it's only a play by God's elephants.'"



Meetings for a time of prayer and reflection on the six themes chosen by Pope Francis for this Jubilee Year in which we are called to be Pilgrims of Hope:

11 th March	Care for Creation
18 th March	Food Poverty
25 th March	Modern Slavery
1 st April	Managing Debt
8 th April	Forgiveness
15 th April	Rest and Worship

7 p.m. on Tuesdays during Lent in the Parish Meeting Room at Buckfast Abbey (contact parish@buckfast.org.uk for information and directions)

From the archives: In last week's piece, I described a current project which involves contacting relatives of Buckfast monks who were born in Baden-Württemberg and came here before the First World War. It's a particular privilege and joy to be in touch with a relative of Dom Boniface Natter, Buckfast Abbey's first abbot since 1539.

My research into the history of the Abbey in general, and into the life of Abbot Anscar Vonier in particular, has brought home to me the absolutely pivotal role played by Boniface Natter in Buckfast's restoration and growth. But at a more personal level, Abbot Anscar's correspondence reveals his own deep affection for Abbot Boniface and the extent to which his tragic death in the sinking of the *Sirio* was a truly devastating loss. A recurring theme in Abbot Anscar's letters to Abbess Marie Cronier is his profound commitment to rebuild the Abbey church as a worthy memorial to his beloved predecessor. Whilst a reasonably comprehensive biography of Anscar Vonier was written in 1957, nothing remotely equivalent exists for Abbot Boniface.



We discovered last week that Anthony Natter, born on 24 April 1866, left his hometown of Moosbeuren in 1878, travelling to La Pierre-qui-Vire with his friend Augustine Schneider. They arrived at Buckfast in November 1882, having taken a somewhat circuitous route via Beauvais in France and Leopardstown in Ireland. Br Boniface was ordained a priest on 23 November 1890 and his main role at that time was to look after the Aluminate, the monastery school which housed a number of boys from his home region in Southern Germany, including a certain Martin Vonier. In the final years of the 19th century, Fr Boniface was engaged in an increasing amount of pastoral work outside the monastery, travelling to places such as Totnes, Torquay, and Plymouth. But in 1899, he was appointed to a role which took him much further afield and which led to a momentous development for his monastic home of Buckfast. On that cliffhanger, I will leave you until next time.
Steve Roach

Diocesan Lent talks on Zoom (all begin at 7 p.m.)

13 th March	Fr. James Barber	'Commitment to others.'
20 th March	Rev. Brian Bargent	'Debt Cancellation'
27 th March	Rev. Lizzi Green	'Recognizing Hope.'
3 rd April	Fr. Gerard Barry	'Peace.'
10 th April	David McLoughlin	'Pilgrimage.'

Link to follow

Prayer and the Power of the Gospel

A Diocesan Event at Buckfast Abbey Conference Centre
Saturday 15th February. 10am-3pm.

Led by Sue Walsh, National Co-ordinator of Unbound Prayer ministry UK.

In this Jubilee year where Pope Francis has asked us to be "Pilgrims of Hope." This day will offer practical guidance on the spiritual battle of life and how inner healing and deliverance can give us true freedom in Christ. There is no charge for attendance. Bookings through plymouth-crownhill@prcdtr.org.uk
Enquiries: 01752 701660