

# The Abbey Parish Messenger

13<sup>th</sup> April, 2025 Palm Sunday Year C H & S p.161 CTS p. 245

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

**Confessions: Blessed Sacrament Chapel: See below for this week**

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



## Liturgical Calendar:

Monday	Holy Week
Tuesday	Holy Week
Wednesday	Holy Week
Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper 6 p.m.
<b>Good Friday</b>	Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3 p.m.
<b>Holy Saturday</b>	Easter Vigil 9 p.m.

There will not be Mass in Ashburton on Wednesday this week as Fr. Francis will be attending the Chrism Mass in the Cathedral

## "Oremus pro invicem"

Please pray for those who are sick:

Kathy Smith	Keith Halle	Wendy Williams
Bridget Woodhead	Pauline Roberts	

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

## Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

It is customary to stop celebrating the Sacraments during the Paschal Triduum, so there will not be confessions next Saturday.

To make up for this, there will be two opportunities for confession during the week:

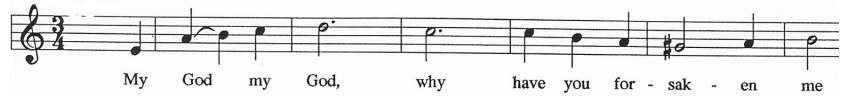
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	5.45 – 6.20 p.m.
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	5.45 – 6.20 p.m.



The last **time of prayer and reflection** on the themes chosen by Pope Francis for this Jubilee Year in which we are called to be Pilgrims of Hope will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April. The theme is "Rest and Worship". In the Parish Meeting Room at Buckfast Abbey. Each meeting will last about half an hour and end with refreshments.

Contact [parish@buckfast.org.uk](mailto:parish@buckfast.org.uk) for information and directions

Thank you for your continuing generosity to the local foodbanks by placing items in the boxes in each of our churches in the parish. Cash donations (just put them in an envelope marked 'Foodbank and place them in the collection) have **so far totalled £130**. Thank you!



**Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time:**

*Gertrude Donald; Mary Nicholls; Hilda Hull; Anna Kermigle; Roberta Cumming; Francis Hext; Dom Joseph Buguet; June Tarasiuk; Sheila O'Sullivan; Maud Emmett; Vida Morris; Dom Dunstan Goetz; Edward Causton; Alan Thiede; Henry O'Brien; Fredrick Northcote; Dom Celestine Byrne; Louise Mann; Grace Gillespie;*

**May they rest in peace**

## Last weekend's collections

	Gift Aided	Standing orders	Digital Reader
Abbey 9 a.m.	£65.05	£8.08	£44.00
Abbey 11 a.m.	£342.13	£38.85	£86.00
Buckfastleigh Sat 5 p.m.	£10.00	£14.00	
Ashburton 10:30am	£11.50	£40.00	£6.92
South Brent 9 a.m.	£77.40	£25.00	£5.77
Added value through gift aid	£39.75	£14.90	£32.50

Easter Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> April at 6:30 p.m.

In the Catholic church in Ashburton

An ecumenical prayer service with Taize chant



*This is a monthly event to which all are welcome.*

Parish Priest: Fr. Francis Straw;  
01364 645526;  
[parish@buckfast.org.uk](mailto:parish@buckfast.org.uk)

Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth)

Wills Week, commencing Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April

Would you think of including a legacy for us in your Will? Any amount, large or small, will play an important part in the continuing work of our charity. Tozers Solicitors are once again offering to assist with writing of changing your will. For more information, see the poster in church or call us on 01364 645420

On Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April, Easter Sunday, Knights and Dames of the Western Section of The Equestrian Order of The Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem (a religious Pontifical Order of Knighthood) will form an escort to Abbot David Charlesworth OSB., KCHS and the monastic community. Father Abbot is a Knight Commander of the order.

For information on the Order and its considerable charitable work in the Holy Land, visit their website: <https://eohsj.org.uk/>

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children is holding its annual Pro-life Prayer Chain by the **Blue Bridge on the A385 Ashburton Road, Totnes from 11.00am to 12.00noon on Saturday 26th April.**

Please come and join us. We stand and pray in silence holding placards towards oncoming traffic.

It is a powerful witness that we are against the killing of unborn babies. Please make this a priority and come along for as long as you wish, to show your support.

Thank you.

Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst offers *FOR SIXTH FORM STUDENTS...*

**2025 Leadership programme: applications from LIV / Y12**

An inspirational course for those who will shape tomorrow's society, this programme is for students who want to deepen their faith and who want to engage in the public discourse around the common good.

The programme offers first class philosophical and theological input from Catholic academics and professionals, workshops in media skills, team building activities, spiritual and personal development, a strong liturgical framework and the opportunity to meet like-minded peers and public figures in a close-knit, fun atmosphere.

Delivered over three residential modules in Stonyhurst and in London, the programme concludes with the presentation of certificates, validated by St Mary's University, in Westminster Hall. There are no financial pre-requisites to the programme: subsidies are offered as required for successful candidates. For more information and to apply:

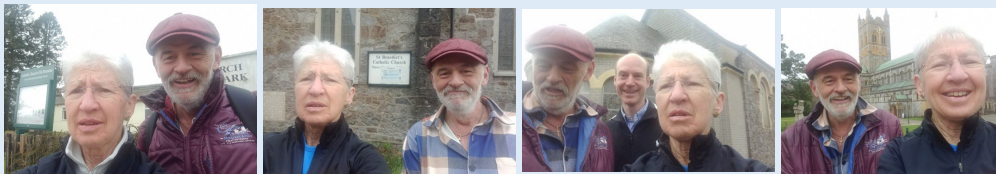
<https://www.christianleadershipformation.com> Information on other courses: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/>

On Saturday 20 March, as part of their Big Lent Walks, Geraldine Coleman & Dave Luscombe set out together to walk to each of the Churches within the Buckfast Parish. They set off at 8am from their Church of St Dunstan in South Brent and walked to St Benedict's Church Buckfastleigh before heading onwards to Our Lady & St Petroc where they were also joined by Mike Smith, before completing the first half of their walk at Buckfast Abbey.

Once lunch had been eaten they undertook the second part of their walk back to South Brent. They followed the Dartmoor Way & Abbots Way out of Buckfast over the edge of the moor to Avon Dam, descending to Shipley Bridge before arriving back in South Brent at around 5pm. A great days walk with approximately 23 miles being added to their totals. If anyone would like to donate to their efforts please click on links below

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/geraldine-coleman-big-lent-walk-2025> (Geraldine)

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/the-big-lent-walk-year-2> (Dave)



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



**Flores De Mayo & Santacruzán**

These traditional celebrations from the Philippines will be taking place in Torquay this year on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May:

3.30 p.m.	Gather in Princess Gardens Pavillion
4.15 p.m.	Crowning the statue of Our Lady
4.30 p.m.	Procession to Church of the Assumption
5.30 p.m.	Flower offering
6 p.m.	Holy Mass
7 p.m.	Filipino cultural show
7.30 p.m.	Salu-Salo (food after the celebration)

All welcome!

More information: Merlyn McGuire 07962 875223

**Marriage Matters**

*Reflections on the Sunday readings:*

The Kingdom of God is a lifestyle choice

Today's readings are deeply moving, calling us to what? Can we stand up for our marriages; make lifestyle choices, putting our marriage first? Joseph of Arimathea stood up for what he believed in, when others had run away. He lived in 'hope of seeing the Kingdom of God'. This kingdom is among us; let us choose it today – for us.

**From the archives:**

Having spent the year teaching philosophy in Rome, Dom Anscar Vonier was looking forward to his reunion with Abbot Boniface in Barcelona on 2 August 1906, before travelling together to the other side of the world. As Abbot Visitor of the Cassinese Congregation, Boniface Natter was required to carry out a canonical visitation of their monastery in Argentina; the 30-year-old Anscar Vonier was appointed to act as his assistant, or socius. It is heart-breaking to read Fr Anscar's excited letters to his older sister from just before this journey, since we know what happened next, how the *Sirio* sank near Cabo de Palos in Spain on 4 August and Abbot Boniface tragically lost his life. Just four days later, Fr Anscar informed Sr Switbert Vonier of this disaster in a deeply moving letter, reassuring her that he was safe but expressing very grave concern over the fate of his abbot. He subsequently wrote a detailed account of the shipwreck, including his final encounter with Boniface Natter, when they gave each other absolution and embraced one another as brothers. However, the final moments of Abbot Boniface's life were a terrible mystery to the young monk, for he was engaged in his own desperate fight for survival, one he very nearly lost. Abbot Anscar and the monks at Buckfast had to wait another 5½ years before they finally discovered what happened to their beloved abbot. The Annals of Buckfast Abbey for 14 February 1912 record how Miss Pollard, an old friend of the Community, chanced upon a Spanish priest who had been on board the ill-fated *Sirio*.

Next week, Father John Stéphan takes up the story. *Steve Roach*

Plymouth Diocese is seeking to recruit a Head of Caritas.

Location: St. Boniface House, Ashburton, travel throughout the Diocese. 35 hours per week; Salary £45,000 - £50,000 depending on experience.

The role involves implementing strategic priorities in response to the evolving needs of the community, especially for people in vulnerable situations in our local communities, including children, those who are older, people who are homeless or those seeking asylum or refuge. The role includes acting as the diocesan environmental lead, guiding ethical investment, and advancing the Diocese's carbon reduction goals. Further information:

[recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@prcdtr.org.uk)

Closing date for applications: Midnight on 27<sup>th</sup> April. Interviews 7<sup>th</sup> May.