

The Abbey Parish Messenger

31st May, 2026 Most Holy Trinity Year A H & S p. 332 CTS p. 818

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.



Liturgical Calendar:

Monday	St. Justin
Tuesday	Feria
Wednesday	St. Charles Lwanga & Comp.
Thursday	Feria
Friday	St. Boniface
Saturday	Our Lady on Saturday



Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time:

Evelyn Jones; Wiseman Grisbrook; Jack Lewis; Concetta Collinge; Br. Ignatius Birk; Gabrielle Myhill; Stephan Kwidzinski; Thomas Stuart; Vera Hubbard; Ernest Minns; Dom Aloysius Coles; Dom Ernest Graf; Mary Lock; Margaret Ballenden;

May they rest in peace

“Oremus pro invicem”

Please pray for those who are sick:

Kathy Smith	Pauline Roberts
Brigid Woodhead	

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

Young Adults' Retreat (18 – 30 yrs).
Schlerder Abbey. 19th – 21st June

The theme of the retreat will be to reflect on our calling to be stewards of the earth, underpinned by the scripture Genesis 2:15. There will be times of prayer, reflection and discussion led by Fr Jude. Young people are being asked to make a contribution of £40 each.

Sign up here: [Schlerder Retreat \(18-30\) - Stewards of the earth – Fill in form](#) There will be transport from Liskeard Station to Schlerder both on the Friday night and Saturday morning.



Catholicism

Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the parish meeting room at the Abbey. (contact Fr. Francis for directions)

A series of discussions on the blessings of being Catholic. All welcome.

Last weekend's collections

	Gift Aided	S.O.	Card Reader
Abbey 9 a.m.	£89.40		£73.00
Abbey 11 a.m.	£544.33	£70.00	£147.00
Buckfastleigh Saturday 5 p.m.	£10.00	£40.00	£38.85
Ashburton 10:30am	£19.17	£40.00	£6.92
South Brent 9 a.m.	£33.00	£25.00	£5.77
	£43.75	£14.90	£55.00

Added value through gift aid

Plymouth Diocese Summer Camp

For children between the ages of 9 and 12. Buckfast Abbey, 27th -31st July Exploring the Pope's encyclical 'Dilexi Te,' the words of the Lord in Revelation 3:9, 'I have loved you.'

A time of fun, friendship and faith. £150 per person. Help with the cost available from the parish (apply to Fr. Francis)

More information: summercamps@prcdtr.org.uk

Thursday 15 October, 18.00

Catholic Union Webinar for Young Catholics. [The Desert and the Polis: Loneliness as Spiritual Crisis and Political Failure.](#) **Young Catholics**

wishing to attend this webinar at 6.00pm on Thursday 15 October with Father John Church OP and Professor Anna Rowlands should register by emailing info@catholicunion.org.uk to reserve their place. The event will be moderated by Tong Wu, member of the Catholic Union, and chaired by Dr Karen Singarayer, Vice Chair of the Catholic Union. The webinar is aimed primarily at students, graduates, and young professionals. The Catholic Union wants to offer participants the opportunity to have a conversation that takes loneliness seriously as both a spiritual condition and a structural one. You can read more about the event here:

https://catholicunion.org.uk/2026/04/the-desert-and-the-polis-loneliness-as-spiritual-crisis-and-political-failure/?mc_cid=f2624353f9&mc_eid=81274d7270

Marriage Matters

Reflections on the Sunday readings:

Be united and live in peace

In today's readings, God is revealed as full of compassion, tenderness and love for His people. Through the sacrament of marriage, we are called to reflect these qualities through our relationship with each other. When we are irritated and react angrily, it is important that we look at ourselves together, trying to recognise why, and seek to correct the causes..

Forthcoming concerts in the Abbey:

- **Livre du Saint-Sacrement** Saturday 6th June, 19:30 (tickets: <https://bit.ly/4dqulgs>) Messiaen's profound sequence of meditations on the Eucharist. The performance will be interwoven with scripture readings given by Fr Francis.
- **Venetian Splendour** Saturday 20th June, 19:30 (tickets: <https://bit.ly/4nxKWZM>) Immerse yourself in the radiant sound of Renaissance Venice with a celebration of music by Gabrieli, Monteverdi and Croce, performed by the Abbey Choir with period instruments.

Thy Kingdom Come, a global ecumenical prayer movement, has released a new [interview with Bishop Nicholas Hudson](#) in which he reflects on the extraordinary life of Saint Carlo Acutis. In his own words, Bishop Hudson shares the following: Saint Carlo “died very young – he wasn’t quite 16 when he died. He was diagnosed almost overnight with a very, very serious leukemia. And as soon as he was told of the diagnosis, he said, ‘I’m going to offer this for Jesus, for the Church.’ He was known in Milan “as the boy with the wonderful smile, whisking up old ladies’ shopping and rushing ahead to their flats and leaving their stuff outside the door.” He could sometimes be seen “in the supermarket, just getting a few euros out of his pocket to help somebody who didn’t quite have enough.” He “was a real friend of the poor” – forever coming in from school saying, “Mum, do you know I saw an old man looking really cold on the way back from school, do you think we might be able to give him that old coat that dad isn’t using anymore?”

“He was the life and soul of the school. They say he was very funny in class – very funny, but never cruel. He’d stick up for any of the children with learning disabilities or other disabilities. He’d stick up for anybody who was being bullied.” Yet what his friends didn’t know was that “he was also in love with the Eucharist, and that when he had time, he’d be popping in to church and going and praying to the Lord.” He used to say: “The Eucharist is our highway to heaven. The more we receive the Eucharist, the more we become like Jesus.” Gifted with technology, he “put his energy into creating a very impressive website of Eucharistic miracles.”

When asked the day before he died whether he was in pain, he said: “There are a lot of people in this world suffering a lot more pain than me.” They had his funeral in the local parish church and it was absolutely packed, not just with family and school friends, but with all the poor people of the locality.

Bishop Hudson also describes the miracle that led Pope Francis to declare Carlo Blessed – “the step before being declared a saint.” A five-year-old boy named Matheus in Brazil went to a prayer service with his grandfather where the parish priest had brought from Rome a relic of Carlo Acutis. Matheus had pancreatitis, meaning “everything that he ate and drank, he was vomiting up again – and that can kill a child.”

Walking up the aisle hand in hand with his grandfather, Matheus asked what he should pray for. His grandfather said, “Just ask Carlo to pray for you, that you may stop vomiting.” Matheus “came forward, held the relic, asked that favour of Carlo Acutis.” Walking home afterwards, he told his grandfather: “Grandpa, I feel a very warm feeling in my tummy. Do you think I’ve been cured?” When they arrived home, “Matheus rushed into the house, rushed straight into the kitchen, went up to his mother and said, ‘I want rice and chips and beans and steak.’ And he ate them all and didn’t vomit up a single morsel of it. And he has never vomited since.”

“Young people are very struck to hear of the miracles that seem to be being worked through the intercession of St. Carlo” – and, in the words of Bishop Hudson, that is perhaps the most powerful testament of all: that a boy who was “just like us” is now interceding for us from heaven.

Full article: www.cbcew.org.uk



St. Carlo Acutis,
Pray for us.

On Monday 25 May, Pope Leo XIV’s first encyclical letter, **Magnifica humanitas**, was presented in the Vatican’s Synod Hall. Professor Anna Rowlands, a theologian and Professor at Durham University, was one of the speakers at the presentation

Reflecting on how *Magnifica humanitas* can be applied in our daily lives, Professor Rowlands explained how the vision which Pope Leo expresses in the first part of the document is complemented by a focus on concrete issues in later sections. “*Magnifica humanitas* reminds us that we’ve got a landscape of principles and a narrative of what it means to be human as a created being and a redeemed being. We don’t need false idols and false accounts of other things that will save us, including AI; technologies are a part of created human life, but we keep them in place as technologies and tools; we don’t anthropomorphise them. What role do we want them to have in our families, in our churches, in our, in our schools, in our workplaces? That is a conversation where we should feel empowered to say if we will support this tech or not. If we lose that freedom to choose whether we allow this into our lives, then we’ve done something fundamental to the nature of human freedom.” <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/encyclicals/documents/20260515-magnifica-humanitas.html>

On Saturday 11th July, the Summer Gathering of the Catholic Union of Great Britain at Buckfast Abbey.

Introduction by Bishop Nicholas Hudson; Mass in the Abbey. A talk by Abbot David Charlesworth OSB and another from a Catholic member of the House of Lords. Please book by the end of May here:

https://catholicunion.org.uk/eventslist/catholic-unions-summer-gathering/?mc_cid=a6064f5457&mc_eid=81274d7270

The Catholic Union exists to address the pressing social challenges of the day and equip and protect the ability of Catholics to contribute to those debates and in wider public affairs. Membership is open to practising members of the Catholic laity in Great Britain. For more information, and to join the Union, go to <https://catholicunion.org.uk/>

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

You can tell you’re getting older when: You sit in a rocking chair and can’t get it going...After 8 p.m. you feel like you’re burning the midnight oil...You look forward to a dull evening...Your knees buckle, but your belt won’t...Your contacts list is mostly names ending in M.D...You decide to procrastinate, but never get around to it...You walk with your head held high, trying to get used to your bifocals...You sink your teeth into a steak and they stay there.

The Safeguarding Reps in this parish are:

Abbey	Lesley Clark
Buckfastleigh	Mary Coates
Ashburton	Deborah Fisher
South Brent	Mary Waterman

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

Safeguarding: Abbey: Andy Kings akings@buckfast.org.uk 01364 645577

Parish: safeguarding@prcdtr.org.uk 01364 645430

Survivor support: 0300 303 1056 SafeSpaces@Firstlight.org.uk