

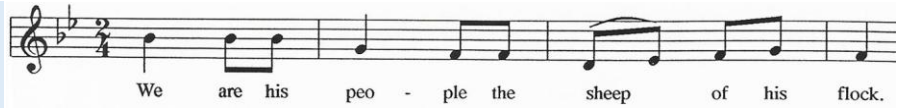
The Abbey Parish Messenger

14th June, 2026 Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A H & S p. 350 CTS p. 727

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	Feria
Tuesday	Feria
Wednesday	Feria
Thursday	Feria
Friday	St. Romuald
Saturday	St. Alban



Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time:

Olive Wordley; Carrie Portelly; Annie Deane; Beatrice Northcote; Beatrice Sasinowska; Bernard Petre; Lucy Gibson; Joseph McElroy; Dom Robert Smith; Denis Pope; John Walsh; Henry Cavalier; Mary Stones; Rosamund Carus; Grace Retallack; Francis Hasslacher; John Heurtley; Bessie Brook; Rosemary Reynolds; Frances Hale; Francis Cawley; Dorothy Modley; Maureen Grassby; Victor Ely;

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



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.

Next Sunday, 21 June, we mark *Day for Life*, the day in the Church’s calendar when we come together to celebrate the dignity of all human life from conception to natural death.

This year’s theme is ‘The Wonder of the Child in the Womb’. A child is a gift from God to be nurtured and cherished, but the theme also recognises the tragedy of babies who died before birth and the grief experienced by their parents and families.

There will be a second collection next weekend which will go toward the Day for Life Fund which distributes grants to organisations that promote respect for life from conception until natural death.

More info:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/day-for-life/>

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/day-for-life-fund/>

Last weekend’s collections

		Gift Aided	S.O.	Card Reader
Abbey 9 a.m.	£72.30			£67.00
Abbey 11 a.m.	£410.10	£40.00	£8.08	£134.00
Buckfastleigh Saturday 5 p.m.	£15.00	£12.00	£38.85	
Ashburton 10:30am	£27.00	£30.00	£6.92	
South Brent 9 a.m.	£48.86	£30.01	£5.77	
		£28.00	£14.90	£50.25

Added value through gift aid



A big thank you to Mary Shepherd who assembled this beautiful flower arrangement as our parish’s contribution to the flower festival in St. Petroc’s C of E church in South Brent. She included the following explanation of her work: **“The Healing Garden.**

Prior to the Reformation, Buckfast Abbey and the Benedictine Order would have had a large herb garden to provide medicines for the people of the Abbey, local people and passing pilgrims and visitors. There is still a beautiful herb garden in the grounds of the Abbey. The monks now support local people through the various chures across the whole parish of Buckfast, including St. Dunstan’s Church here in South Brent.

This healing garden with its herbs and medicinal plants celebrates the bygone days when the monks’ skills provided hospital care to the local population.”

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.’

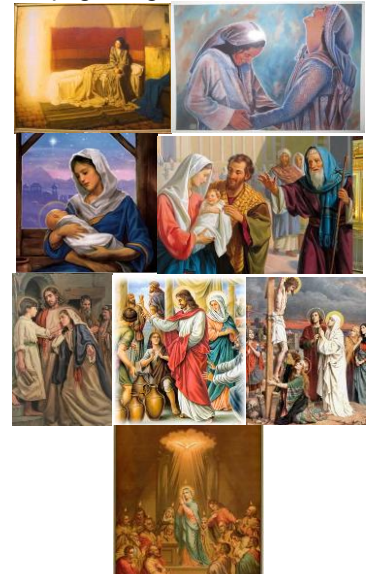
A time of fun, friendship and faith. £150 per person. Help with the cost available from the parish (apply to Fr. Francis)

More information: summercamps@prcdtr.org.uk

Forthcoming concert in the Abbey: **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.

Sophie Kerswell, Headteacher, gives us news of our parish school: Despite the rain, what has now become our annual Pilgrimage of Mary, during which we reflect on the Stations of Mary, was a wonderful celebration of faith, prayer and community. Our children gathered to honour Our Lady through prayer, reflection and the placing of flowers at Mary's feet. As always, they were a credit to St Mary's, taking part with great respect, reverence and maturity throughout the morning. We are very grateful to Father Francis and the monastic community for welcoming and supporting us in this special celebration. A particular thank you goes to Dr Gregory Lippiatt, who spent time with our Year 6 pupils sharing the history of the Our Lady Chapel. His talk helped the children to understand its significance within the Abbey and its connection to our own identity as St Mary's School, giving them important messages to take with them as they enter their final weeks at our school. Thank you also to the many families, friends and governors who joined us on such a wet morning. Your presence helped make the occasion even more meaningful. We would also like to thank Maia for helping to source the beautiful flower stems that each pilgrim placed before Our Lady during the celebration. The morning concluded with the traditional Crowning of Mary, reminding us of her special place within our faith and school community.

Images we reflected on during our pilgrimage:



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

Marriage Matters *Reflections on the Sunday readings:* Think of all the blessings Priests offer sacrifice, and are 'mediators' between God and humans. Jesus was a Priest and a 'mediator', sacrificing Himself on the Cross and pleading, "Father forgive them". Baptism made us 'sharers' in Christ's Priesthood. At Mass, as a Priestly people, we join in His sacrifice and pray for ourselves and others. So, 'serve the Lord with gladness', counting our blessings.

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

For the first time, UN experts have admitted that there are "credible reports of killings, abductions, sexual violence, forced conversion, forced marriage, abductions and acts tantamount to enforced disappearances targeting Christian and other religious minority communities in Nigeria, particularly women and girls."

UN experts on religious freedom say the reports are "deeply troubling," and explain that the "deteriorating security situation in northern Nigeria and the Middle Belt has created an environment in which armed extremist groups, including Boko Haram, Islamic State West Africa Province, and radicalized individual herdsmen involved in the 'farmer-herder' conflict continue to operate with devastating consequences for civilians, amid persistent reports of impunity, institutional failures, and inadequate protection by authorities."

In an interview with *Crux Now*, the Vicar General of the Makurdi Catholic Diocese, Father Moses Aonover Iorapuu said "this sudden admission of systematic killings of Christians in the north and middle belt regions by the UN is not only too late but grossly falls short of the reality Nigerians in these regions are experiencing."

Full article: www.cruxnow.com

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

A burglar entered the house of a Quaker and proceeded to rob it. The Quaker heard noises and took his shotgun downstairs and found the burglar. He aimed his gun and said gently: "Friend, I mean thee no harm, but thou standest where I am about to shoot."

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