

The Abbey Parish Messenger

28th June, 2026 Solemnity of Ss. Peter & Paul Year A H & S p. 1044 CTS p. 1155

5th July, 2026 Fourteenth Ordinary Sunday Year A H & S p. 361 CTS p. 738

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 29 th	Feria
Tuesday	Feria
Wednesday	Feria
Thursday	Feria
Friday	St. Thomas, Apostle
Saturday	Chideock Martyrs
Monday 6 th -Friday	Feria
Saturday	St. Benedict, Patron of Europe

"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

On 27th/28th June there is a **second collection** for Peter's Pence, which supports the Pope's charitable works. Find out more here:

<https://www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html>



The following regular services are **cancelled**:

Monday 29 th June to Friday 3 rd July	1205 p.m. Mass in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel
Wednesday 1 st July	10.15 a.m. Mass in Ashburton
Saturday 4 th July	5 p.m. Mass in Buckfastleigh
Sunday 5 th July	9 a.m. Mass in South Brent. 10.30 a.m. Mass in Ashburton
Monday 6 th to Friday 10 th July	1205 p.m. Mass in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel
Wednesday 8 th July	10.15 a.m. Mass in Ashburton

The Masses in the Abbey at 5 p.m. Monday to Friday, 12.05 p.m. on Saturday, and 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Sunday will take place as usual.



From all my ter-rors the Lord set me free

Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time:

Ethel Ward-Smith; Olive Davidson; Rev. Edward Theed; Maria Fitch; Dom Augustine Keniry; Annie Smith; Dom Stanislaus Kenley; Aldyth Perse; Gertrude Reavey; Gwendoline Laity; Charles Eugster; Ethel Desmond; John Roberts; Annie Lowe; Mary Parnell; Olive Parr; Stephen Hunt; Nora Mack; Dom John Baptist Archer; Jennifer Baker; Charles Hale; Shirley Fidock; Mary Halle; Paul Devany; T. Bergess; Louisa Patterson; Mildred Hendry; John Beard; Nellie Board; Dorothy Eugster; Frances Fox; Dom Nicholas Marsh; Dom Boniface Pedrick; Henrietta Stanton; Reginald Whately; Gertrude Wills; Dom Maurus Massé; Lilian Henle; Hilda Hext; Hermione Fothergill; Penny Messer; Br. Athanasius Haveron; Louisa Carus; Dr. Noel Delaney; Selina Dent; Arthur Carus; Abbot Leo Smith; William Turner; Garren Hensman; Irene Rowe; Dom Edward Beane; Maureen Purtell;

May they rest in peace

Last weekend's collections

Abbey 9 a.m.
Abbey 11 a.m.
Buckfastleigh Saturday 5 p.m.
Ashburton 10:30am
South Brent 9 a.m.

Added value through gift aid

	Gift Aided	S.O.	Card Reader
Abbey 9 a.m.	£79.55		£51.00
Abbey 11 a.m.	£376.20	£40.00	£8.08
Buckfastleigh Sat 5 p.m.	£5.00	£30.00	£38.85
Ashburton 10:30am	£17.60	£30.00	£6.92
South Brent 9 a.m.	£51.26	£30.00	£5.77
Total	£32.50	£14.90	£38.25

Mrs. Lesley Clark, Chair of Governors of our parish school, writes:

St Marys Catholic Primary School, Buckfast is looking for another Governor to join our Governing body. We meet twice a term and support whole school activities and consider the effectiveness of the school curriculum. You do not need to have been a teacher to become a governor, just have an interest in securing the best for our pupils and support our Catholic ethos.

If you are interested, please contact me via email lclark@buckfast.org.uk

2nd Collection: Day for Life

Abbey 9 a.m.	£14.85
Abbey 11 a.m.	£31.00
Buckfastleigh Sat 5 p.m.	£24.36
Ashburton 10:30 a.m.	£24.50
South Brent	£42.00
Total	£136.71

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

The English Benedictine Congregation, of which Buckfast Abbey is a part, traces its origins back to the Fourth Lateran Council in 1215 AD and looks beyond that to the monasteries restored by the great Anglo Saxon saints, Dunstan, Ethelwold and Oswald.

Today, the Congregation includes fifteen Abbeys, nine in England, three in the United States, one in each of Ireland, Australia and Sweden. There are also two Pories, communities in the first stages of growth, one in Peru and another in Zimbabwe.

The General Chapter of the Congregation meets every four years (there were five years between the previous two due to COVID) and the next one – which will be the One Hundredth – begins on Monday 29th June. It will take place at Kylemore Abbey in the West of Ireland.



Pax – Peace – is the motto of the Benedictine Order. The word is placed within the Crown of Thorns to symbolise the aspiration of each monastery to be a stable, faithful presence in the midst of the world's suffering, questions and hopes.

The Abbot or Abbess and one delegate from each monastery, plus the Abbot President and four officials are currently making their way there from across the globe. They will be joined by two secretaries and two facilitators who will manage proceedings with the Abbot President. The Superiors of the two Pories will attend as observers, contributing their unique perspectives to the discussions. Also present will be the Superior and delegate from Minster Abbey in Kent, which community has petitioned to join the Congregation.

While the Abbeys are autonomous, the General Chapter has a role in establishing the Constitutions which guide the application of the Rule of St. Benedict, written in the sixth century, to present day customs and conditions. In recent Chapters there has been increasing time and space given to reflection on matters of common concern and interest. During the 2026 Chapter, this will include how best to convey our love and enthusiasm for the monastic life to young people of today.

Father Abbot, Fr. Andrew and Fr. Francis will begin their journey to Kylemore on Sunday evening and expect to return to Buckfast on 10th July. They ask your prayers, that they contribute wisely and well to the Chapter's deliberations, that the monks and nuns of the monasteries of the Congregation continue to be blessed by God as they answer His call to radical living of the Good News of Jesus Christ, and that our monasteries are places of welcome and wisdom so that they attract generous followers of the Lord to join them in their noble way of life.

Pope Leo XIV said Monday that wars are being sustained more easily than people are fed, urging governments to strengthen resources to combat hunger after a severe funding shortfall by the United States and other countries.

Addressing the governing body of the U.N. World Food Program in Rome, Leo pressed governments to cut red tape and tear down obstacles that prevent assistance from reaching those in need.

He criticized political and administrative barriers that slow humanitarian aid while military spending continues unhindered.

"Whereas forms of aid and development projects are obstructed by involved and incomprehensible political decisions, skewed ideological visions and impenetrable customs barriers, weaponry is not," he said. "In effect, conflicts are 'fed' more readily than people are nourished."

The appeal comes as funding for food assistance has dropped sharply — by about 59% since 2022 — even as needs have surged, according to a recent WFP report.

There was some positive news on funding last week, with the United States pledging \$800 million to the WFP. The agency said the contribution will help more than 38 million people in at least 37 countries at a time of unprecedented global need.

Still, the WFP's more than \$10 billion appeal for 2026 remains severely underfunded.

Marriage Matters *Reflections on the*

Sunday readings: The power of love Peter, the denier, and Paul, the persecutor, both familiar with failure, were overwhelmed by the power of love and gave up their own lives. Let us rejoice in our calling to love as Jesus did, to lay down our lives for each other, willingly and gladly. Our lives might be the only Bible that some people will ever read.



Catholicism

A series of discussions on the blessings of being Catholic. All welcome. NO MEETING ON THE NEXT TWO TUESDAYS. We start again on Tuesday 14th July at 7 p.m.

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

Jesus and Satan were having an ongoing argument about who was better on his computer. They had been going at it for days, and God [the Father] was tired of hearing all of the bickering. Finally God said, "Cool it. I am going to set up a test that will run two hours and I will judge who does the better job." So down Satan and Jesus sat at the keyboards and typed away. They moused. They did spreadsheets. They did every known job. But ten minutes before their time was up, lightning suddenly flashed across the sky, the electricity went off. Satan started searching frantically, screaming "It's gone! It's all gone! I lost everything when the power went out!" Meanwhile, Jesus quietly started printing out all of his files from the past two hours. Satan observed this and became irate. "Wait! He cheated, how did he do it?" God the Father shrugged and said, "Jesus saves."

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