

The Abbey Parish Messenger

9th August, 2026 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A H & S p. 381 CTS p. 757

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:

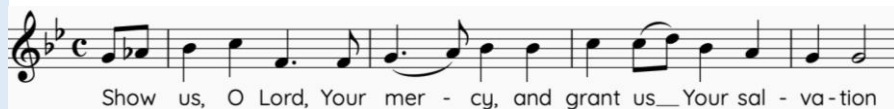
Monday	St. Laurence
Tuesday	St. Clare of Assisi
Wednesday	Feria
Thursday	Feria
Friday	St. Maximilian Kolbe
Saturday	Our Lady on Saturday

"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



Please pray for those whose anniversary occurs at this time:

Reginald Seaton; Winifred Scott; Philip Bridge; Eileen Nolan; Leonard Carroll; Jack Fidock; Christina Roberts; John Dacey; Timothy Walker; Charles Whatmough; Benet McKenzie; David Humes; Elizabeth Burt; Hilda Jeffery; Bridie Norman; William Elliott; Amy Stuart; Martin Woolacott; Abbot Benedict Garriador; Dom Hugh Zettel; Matthew Smerdon; Pat Simonds; Catherine Miller; Richard Pilsbury; Henry Trude; Cecily Hodgson; Anatole von Hugel; Horace Hosworthy; Christine Walls; Sr. Gabriel Blanchfield; Brian Baverstock;

May they rest in peace

On Wednesday 12 August

- **There will not be Mass at 12.05 p.m. in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.**
- **The 5 p.m. Mass will take place in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.**
- **The 10.15 a.m. Mass in Ashburton will take place as usual**

From Rev. Gina Radford C of E Team Rector:
We are holding a Pilgrim Walk across Dartmoor starting from St Luke's, Buckfastleigh, and walking to St Petroc's, South Brent, on August 30th. There will be a short service at 10am at St Luke's with the walk leaving at 10.45am. We aim to reach St Petroc's at 4pm for tea, followed by a short Songs of Praise. There will be stops en route for people to join or leave etc.

We ask anyone intending to join us to sign up using this QR code or calling Val on 07792 802307, so that we know numbers and for health and safety etc.



Last weekend's collections

	Gift Aided	S.O.	Card Reader
Abbey 9 a.m.	£100.40		£79.00
Abbey 11 a.m.	£360.49	£90.00	£8.08
Buckfastleigh Saturday 5 p.m.	£15.00	£10.00	£38.85
Ashburton 10:30am	£23.81	£45.00	£6.92
South Brent 9 a.m.	£94.00	£25.00	£5.77
Added value through gift aid	£42.50	£14.90	£59.50



On Sunday August 9th, Sister Premila Dias of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary will make the Annual Mission Appeal at the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Masses in the Abbey. Throughout the parish there will be a **Second Collection at all Sunday**

Masses this weekend for the Missionary Sisters of England and Wales who support the poor and marginalized throughout the world, serving the homeless, destitute, vulnerable children and adults, refugees, widows and elderly people.

On Saturday September 12th Bishop Nicholas will be celebrating a Mass for Marriage in the Cathedral at 12 noon.

All married couples, widows and widowers are invited to take part and we would very much like to celebrate those with significant anniversaries this year.



This promises to be a very positive and upbuilding experience, so please consider attending.

For more information contact Deborah.vanKroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk

Our **Community Fridge in South Brent**, one of Sustainable South Brent's projects, urgently needs a new Coordinator if it is to stay open, as the current coordinator is stepping down in August. This project saves many tonnes of good food that would otherwise go to waste and makes it available for free to the people of South Brent, thanks to a lovely team of volunteers. If you think you might be interested in helping, please contact fridge@ssb.org.uk for more information (No commitment made by asking!)

Eucharistic Congress, 10th October 2026

Fr. Chris Findlay-Wilson is organising a coach for the diocese, for anyone who would like to attend, going to London and returning the same day. It will leave Plymouth at 5 a.m. and pick up at Exeter Services.

More information: 01202 746539

<http://www.catholicparkstone.org>

In Southwark Cathedral:

1030: Presentations on Eucharistic Art and Life. Noon: Mass celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson, followed by "The Eucharist: Our sacrament of hope in dark times" by Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe OP.

3 p.m. Eucharistic Procession to Westminster Cathedral, 5 p.m. Solemn Benediction.

Summer Holiday Activities for children and families at Buckfast Abbey:

Family Crafts Each Wednesday in August **EXCEPT August 12th**.

Sessions take place in the Education Centre (next to the Lavender Garden) 10.30am-12pm and 1pm-2.30pm. Suitable for all aged 3+ (all children must be accompanied by an adult). Prices for activities range from £1 to £5

Summer Trail

Free summer trail around the grounds of Buckfast Abbey for families to enjoy. Trail sheets available from the Gift Shop throughout the summer holidays.

Prayer retreat, 12th-16th October, led by Dr Sue Price.

This retreat will explore how to jump-start your prayer life, offering practical tips and shared experience along the way. Dr Sue Price has led retreats for school staff and parishioners alike. The sessions are: Come and rest a while, The still small voice, Reconciliation, Called to serve - as prophet priests and king.

Until now, the retreat has been offered on a residential, half-board basis only. We're pleased to announce that a Day Rate is now available too, for those who'd like to attend the retreat without staying overnight or taking meals. Attend one full day £50; Attend all sessions as day rate £120 (inc. 2 half days & 3 full); Attend full retreat half board from £599. Full details can be found here:

<https://www.buckfast.org.uk/events/prayer-retreat/>

Contemplative Retreats at St. Rita's Centre Ottery Moor Lane, Honiton, EX14 1AP

www.stritascentre.org

August 18th – 27th 2026

8 Day Contemplative Retreat for those familiar with this way of praying as well as introducing the Gries Path to those for whom it is new. The team will include the current director of Haus Gries, Fr Lutz Mueller SJ as well as Margaret Castro and Paddy Rylands. For further details: Contact the retreat co-ordinator Paddy Rylands paddyrylands@gmail.com

Archbishop Bernard Longley, Archbishop of Birmingham, has reflected on the reintroduction of the *Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill*, calling it "a matter of grave concern for all of us."

Archbishop Longley said:

"The dignity of human life and the precious gift of human life is very important, and indeed the preservation of life is something which is at the heart of what we share in common as Christians, but with many other people of faith or of no faith at all."

The Archbishop instead urged deeper reflections to take place on the provision of high-quality palliative care.

"It is important that, with the encouragement of the [recent words of our Prime Minister](#), we look very carefully at the whole system of care for those people who are in need, and in particular to look to strengthening what is available via palliative care so that we give real options to those who are facing the end of their lives; real options for care and for a dignified approach to the end of their life so that they may die well."

The Archbishop encouraged Catholics to write to their Member of Parliament to oppose the bill. This link takes you to a website where that is easy to do: <https://righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote>

Minority communities in Bangladesh had a very hard time during the first half of the year, a new report shows.

The Bangladesh Hindu-Buddhist Christian Unity Council presented a detailed report on the condition of religious minorities the Muslim-majority South Asian country last week in the capital, Dhaka.

Violence has transformed from mass attacks to targeted violence, a matter of serious concern for the security of the minority community. Council leaders said 257 incidents of communal violence have occurred across the country from January 1 to June 30, including 44 people killed in 40 separate incidents, while others tortured and raped, kidnapped, or extorted. In addition, 10 people were kidnapped and 62 were attacked in places of worship. www.cruxnow.com

Marriage Matters

Reflections on the Sunday readings:

Walking on water....falling through fear

Peter got out of the boat but, with fear of sinking, he took his eyes off Jesus. Life today is like travelling in a small boat on the rough sea of secularism that mocks religion and seeks to end traditional marriage. Life's storms can change into a gentler breeze when we get out of our boat and walk with Jesus.

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

A newly married couple were entertaining friends to dinner and among the guests was a rather ill-mannered fellow.

At one point, he held up on his fork a piece of meat and joked 'Is this pig?'

"To which end of the fork do you refer?" asked a quiet-looking man at the other end of the table.

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