



Buckfast Abbey

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Sunday 9th May 2021

Sixth Sunday of Easter

CONTACT INFORMATION

Priest in charge: Fr Dominic May, O.S.B.

email: parish@buckfast.org.uk

tel: 01364 645 526

web: www.buckfast.org.uk

LIVE STREAMED SERVICES

Daily Conventual Mass, sung by the Monastic Community can be viewed online by visiting www.buckfast.org.uk/live or on the Abbey's Facebook page.

17:00 Mass (Monday–Friday), 12:05 Mass (Saturday),

11:00 Mass & 15:00 Vespers & Benediction (Sunday)

FROM FR DOMINIC...

On behalf of the Parish I would like to offer thanks to the following:

Mary Coats, for generously volunteering to take up the role of Sacristan at Buckfastleigh. Thanks are also due to Rachel and Kelvin, for generously giving of their time and energy in sorting out the clutter and mess at the back of St Benedict's Church.

I'm on the lookout for more genrous people to come forward and help build up the kingdom of God here in our little Parish!

MASSES FOR THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Thursday 13th May

12:05 Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Abbey

19:30 St Dunstan, South Brent

MASSES WITH CONGREGATION

MONDAY–FRIDAY	12:05 Mass in the Abbey Blessed Sacrament Chapel
SATURDAY:	12:05 Mass in the Abbey Church
SUNDAY:	17:00 Saturday Evening Vigil Mass, St Benedict's, Buckfastleigh 09:00 Mass in the Abbey Blessed Sacrament Chapel 09:00 Mass, St Dunstan's Church, South Brent 10:30 Mass, Our Lady of Lourdes, Ashburton 11:00 Conventual Mass in the Abbey Church

To comply with government Covid-Safe restrictions,
it is necessary to pre-book a seat to attend the above Masses.

Please visit the Abbey website www.buckfast.org.uk/servicetimes

CONFESSION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available between 11:00–11:45
in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of the Abbey Church.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MONDAY	Eastertide feria
TUESDAY	Ss Odo, Maieul, Odilo, Hugh, & Bl. Peter the Venerable
WEDNESDAY	Eastertide feria
THURSDAY	ASCENSION OF THE LORD
FRIDAY	St Mathias <i>Feast</i>
SATURDAY	St Pachmonius

On Tuesday we honour five holy
abbots of Cluny Abbey, France.
These men were part of the
flourishing of medieval monasticism
in Europe, inspired by our Holy
Father St Benedict and his monastic
rule.

Holy Abbots of Cluny, pray for us.

ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of:
Beatrice Lady Seaton, Patrick Jennings, Emily Cutten, Beryl Beard, Joan Mary Prescott, Mary
Channing, Lavinia Ash, Margaret Winstanley, Wingrave Tench, Dom John Kraft, Montagu
Godfrey, Charles Walmsley, Leslie Deane, Dom Charles Norris, Beatrice Bebenek, Donald
Beard, Mortimer Bullen, Blanche Brachi, Nicholas Scott Maddocks, Kathleen Sheehan,
Br. Paul Lascaraboura.

FOR THE SICK:*Let us pray for those who are sick:*

Geraldine Thompson

Margaret McAvoy

John Goulden

Pat Hedges

Fred Cooke

Maureen Purtell

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

		<i>Gift Aid</i>
Buckfastleigh	£7	£25
Abbey 9am Mass	£40	£?0
Abbey 10:30 Mass	£?82.80	£50
Ashburton	£10.45	£15
South Brent	£13	£10

Phone line for prayer:

call 01364 727 768

If you are self-isolating and need help

getting food or medicine, please give Fr Dominic a call.

FROM ST MARY'S SCHOOL (Courtesy of Mitzi)

With each passing week, school life is beginning to expand, slowly re-inflating to accommodate more enrichment activities and visitors. Each step is carefully risk assessed to reassure our community that we continue to follow the latest government guidance so that, if the need arose, we could quickly identify any groups of children who may need to self-isolate whilst demonstrating the integrity of the other 'bubbles'.

This week, we had visitors who were able, thanks to the dry weather, to meet with the children in the Well-being Garden, although for two very different reasons. On the one hand, we were visited by Demelza, from Devon County Council, who runs workshops where the children can learn about recycling, from composting to looking at rubbish as useful materials and resources. At the other end of the 'try to keep clean' scale, we were visited by the school photographer who was able to take the class photographs for the first time in two years and who used the backdrop of the garden to take some lovely photos.

Meanwhile, the Abbey Choristers took another step forward with all the children being able to meet together for their morning sessions, something they haven't been able to do since September. I am sure the increase in numbers of voices joining together is so much more motivating for the children. I know Mr Searles is very pleased to be able to have them all in one spot – albeit with their arrival in school and their places in the hall, carefully planned and choreographed to keep them socially distanced and well-ventilated for good measure!

THURSDAY 13TH MAY – THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



What does the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord mean for us? It does not mean that the Lord has departed to some place far from people and from the world. Christ's Ascension is not a journey into space toward the most remote stars; for basically, the planets, like the earth, are also made of physical elements. Christ's Ascension means that he no longer belongs to the world of corruption and death that conditions our life. It means that he belongs entirely to God. He, the Eternal Son, led our human existence into God's presence, taking with him flesh and blood in transfigured form.

The human being finds room in God; through Christ, the human being was introduced into the very life of God. And since God embraces and sustains the entire cosmos, the Ascension of the Lord means that Christ has not departed from us, but that he is now, thanks to his being with the Father, close to each one of us for ever. The Lord of us can be on intimate terms with him; each can call upon him. We can live turning our backs on him. But he always waits for us and is always close to us.

POPE BENEDICT XVI

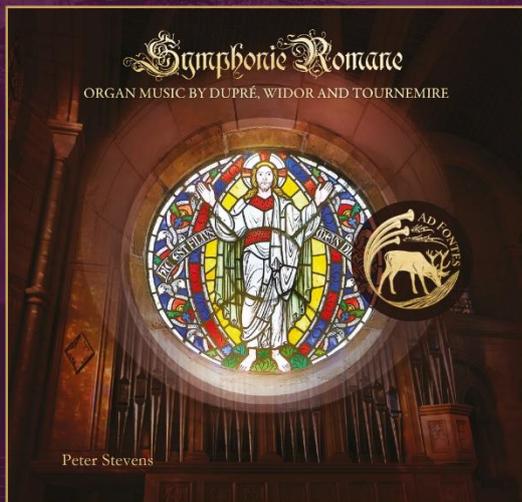
THE RETURN OF CHORAL SINGING TO THE ABBEY

With the gradual easing of Covid restrictions, we are delighted to announce that from Sunday 9th May, a schola of singers will return to the Choir stalls to sing at the Abbey 11:00 Conventual Mass. It has been over a year since the Abbey Choir has been able to contribute to our liturgy in this way. The Abbey has completed a robust risk assessment to comply with government guidance for places of worship, taking into consideration advice for the performing arts.

Also, from the 9th May, the Abbey Choir will join the Monastic Community to sing Vespers and Benediction at 15:00 on Sundays, which will also be live-streamed. We are very much looking forward to the time when we are able to welcome the congregation to join us for this service. The Second Vatican Council called upon churches to make available the services of the Divine Office to the faithful, and it is hoped that by moving the time of the service to 15:00, it can become a firm parish fixture, and an aid in our devotion to the Blessed Sacrament.

AD FONTES

The record label founded by Buckfast Abbey dedicated to presenting recordings of the finest sacred music.



Symphonie Romane: Organ music by Dupré, Widor and Tournemire (AF006)

Peter Stevens (Westminster Cathedral) plays works by three towering figures of the French organ world. Widor's *Symphonie Romane* is a meditation on the Gregorian chants of Easter Sunday, and the *Fantaisie-Choral* from Tournemire's *L'Orgue Mystique* is a deeply spiritual reflection on two of the best-known chants of Pentecost. Two contrasting pieces by Dupré bookend the programme: his *Cortège et Litanie* is probably his best-loved work, while the uninhibited confidence of the *Deuxième Symphonie* shows a different side of the composer's personality; its visceral and hard-hitting textures given electrifying voice by the Ruffatti organ of Buckfast Abbey.

visit www.adfontes.org.uk for more information

MAY IS THE MONTH OF MARY

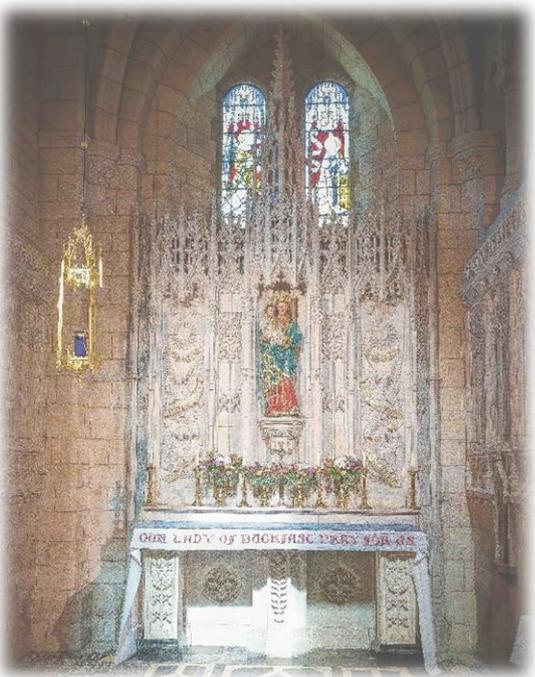
THE REGINA CÆLI PRAYER

Regina cœli, lætare, alleluia.
Quia quem meruisti
portare, alleluia.
Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.
Gaude et lætare,
Virgo Maria, alleluia.
Quia surrexit Dominus vere, alleluia.

Oremus.
Deus, qui per resurrectionem Filii
tui, Domini nostri Iesu Christi,
mundum lætificare dignatus es:
præsta, quæsumus;
ut per eius Genetricem
Virginem Mariam,
perpetuae capiamus
gaudia vitæ.
Per Christum Dominum nostrum.
Amen.

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
For He whom you did merit
to bear, alleluia.
Has risen, as he said, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.
Rejoice and be glad,
O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray.
O God, who gave joy to the world
through the resurrection of Thy Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ,
grant we beseech Thee,
that through the intercession
of the Virgin Mary, His Mother,
we may obtain the joys
of everlasting life.
Through the same Christ our Lord.
Amen.



*The statue of Our Lady of Buckfast,
in the Lady Chapel of the Abbey Church,
found in the medieval ruins of the site.*

*The restored statue was placed in its current
location with much solemnity in 1922.
Next year will be the 100th anniversary
of its translation to its current location.*

*Watch this space for news on how as an
Abbey Community we will celebrate
this important milestone!*

Our Lady of Buckfast, pray for us.



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN UNITED KINGDOM

As a Parish, we have supported Aid to the Church in Need, and in particular their work in Syria. Although, throughout the Covid crisis, we have been unable to hold our regular second collections for this, many of us have continued to give online, direct to ACNUK at <https://acnuk.org/>

A recent mailing from ACNUK contained this update from Syria telling how CAN has provided anoraks for 26,000 children this winter in Syria:

SYRIA: PLEASE DON'T FORGET US

Coronavirus is causing the West to forget the people of Syria who are still in desperate need of healing after almost a decade of conflict – according to a nun who has risked her life to provide urgent aid. “The world has begun to forget about Syria and that’s painful.” Sr Annie stressed that the combination of the civil war, the pandemic and fresh economic sanctions against the government of Syria have left many people in abject poverty.

ACN has helped Sr Annie provide anoraks for more than 26,000 children for the winter months where temperatures can dip below zero.

She said: “A father cannot buy his child an anorak because one anorak is equal to his salary, or more. Our campaign was for families who find it impossible to help their children. It’s helped thousands of children. You cannot imagine the joy in the faces and eyes of the children when they were given the anoraks. ACN funded this.”

Emphasising that the anorak campaign provided jobs, Sr Annie added: “We are trying to help the economy, 40 shops and factories made the anoraks which created jobs as well. We had two goals: creating jobs and distributing anoraks to our children in this harsh winter.”

Sr Annie finished by thanking ACN’s supporters. She said: “Even in this difficult time, the benefactors of ACN didn’t stop supporting us. I will pray for the benefactors and the workers of ACN – you are doing amazing, amazing work.”

It is wonderful to see that our continued giving makes such a difference in practical terms to the lives of those in Syria. For further details about Aid to the Church in Need, please speak to Rachel Ellacott (ACNUK Parish Rep)



Sr Annie Demerjian and children with anoraks,

© Aid to the Church in Need