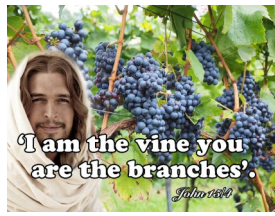


OUR LADY, STAR OF THE SEA
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St. JOHN THE BAPTIST
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MASS TIMES

28th April 2024 - 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER - B

BRIXHAM:

Sunday: 10.00am: Roy Thurston (P. Thurston)
Monday: 10.00am: **NO MASS**
Tuesday: 10.00am: In honour of Sr. Faustina (G. Lobo)
Wednesday: 10.00am: Holy Souls
Friday: 10.00am: Sr. Annunciata RIP
Saturday: 10.00am: For Vocations
Sunday: 10.00am: For the People of the Parish

BAPTISMS: With Prior Appointment
WEDDINGS: Six Months notice.

DARTMOUTH:

Saturday: 5.00pm: Holy Souls
Thursday: 10.30am: John & Margaret Hennessy RIP (FM)
Saturday: 5.00pm: Andre & Anita Verniquet RIP (FM)

CONFESSIONS:

BRIXHAM: Saturdays: 10.30 - 11.00 am
DARTMOUTH: By Appointment

ADORATION: **Brixham:** Every Friday from 9.30 am - 10.00 am. **Dartmouth:** Thursdays at 10.00am.

PRIEST TRAINING FUND: Please continue to support those who are training to be priests by setting aside £1 week. Thanks for your support. January to March: **Brixham** -£335; **Dartmouth** - £15.00. Thanks for your support.

FOOD BANK: Please continue to support the needy in our towns. All unperishable items are welcome.

COFFEE MORNING: All are invited to the Parish Hall in Brixham for a cup of Coffee after the Sunday Mass.

OFFERING BY STANDING ORDER: If all our Parishioners could pay by Standing Order, that would be of great help. It will save a lot of time for the Counters. **Brixham:** Bank - NatWest; Name: Brixham R C Church (*Stella Maris*) A/C No: 04115341; Sort Code: 52-10-18;

Dartmouth: Bank: NatWest; Name: Dartmouth R C Church; A/C No: 04517350; Sort Code - 52-30-20.

PRAYER REQUEST: Your prayers are requested for the Sick of our Parish, especially for those in Hospital & Residential Homes. Molly Hall, Alan Swain, John Smythe, Mary Aylett, Geraldine Osborne, Shala Cripps, Ruth Clift, Liz Urand, Neville Rebello, Pat & Fred Lay & Peter Burr in your prayers.

REPAIR OF CHURCH WALL: The work to damp-proof the outside will begin soon, including the replacement of the drains pipes. We received two quotes and these have been submitted to the diocese for approval.

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK will take place on Saturday, 4th May at 10.00am in the Parish Hall in Brixham. All baptised Catholics can receive the Sacrament of the Sick.

RACE AFTERNOON will be on Saturday, 18th May. Gates open at 2.30pm. There will be 7 filmed races with Tote Betting. There is a Donation Sales Bar. Tickets: £3 is available after Mass. **Please bring a plate of food to share.** Any queries, please contact Nigel Hickman on 01803 842156.

OTHER PARISH EVENTS: **Summer Fair** - Tuesday, 18th June. We need Cakes, Preserves and Bric-a-brac and any unused Gift Items that you don't need. **Quiz Nite** - Saturday, 19th October. There is also a proposal to start a 50/50 draw. More details later.

SCHOOL GOVERNOR: St. Margaret Clitherow School is looking for Practising Catholic Governors. If anyone willing to serve as a Governor, please let me know or call the School on 01803 851647.

MONTH OF MAY is dedicated to Mary, Mother of Jesus. Please make an effort to recite the Rosary everyday.

FEAST OF ST. RITA OF CASCIA - Wednesday, 22nd May. St. Rita's Centre, Honiton EX14 1AP. Mass at 12.00noon followed by blessing and Distribution of Roses for the Sick. 3.00pm - Benediction. For details: 01404 42635.

MEDITATION: The image of the vine was a rich imagery for the Jews since the land of Israel was covered with numerous vineyards. Isaiah spoke of the house of Israel as "the vineyard of the Lord" (Isaiah 5:7). Jeremiah said that God had planted Israel "as his choice vine" (Jeremiah 2:21). While the vine became a symbol of Israel as a nation, it also was used in the Scriptures as a sign of degeneration - a deformed state of spiritual growth and moral decline. Isaiah's prophecy spoke of Israel as a vineyard which "yielded wild grapes" (see Isaiah 5:1-7). Jeremiah said that Israel had become a "degenerate and wild vine" (Jeremiah 2:21). When Jesus calls himself the *true vine* he makes clear that no one can grow in spiritual fruitfulness and moral goodness unless they are rooted in God and in his life-giving word. Religious affiliation or association with spiritually minded people is not sufficient by itself - one must be firmly rooted in the "Tree of Life" (Revelation 22:1-2, Genesis 2:8-9) who is the eternal Father and his only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Vines characteristically have two kinds of branches - those which bear fruit and those which don't. The non-bearing branches must be carefully pruned back in order for the vine to conserve its strength for bearing good fruit. Jesus used this image to describe the kind of life he produces in those who are united with him - the fruit of "righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Romans 14:17). Jesus says there can be no fruit in our lives apart from him. The fruit he speaks of here is the fruit of the Holy Spirit (see Galatians 5:22-23).

FEAST DAYS: Monday, 29th - *St. Catherine of Siena* (Patron of Europe); Thursday, 2nd May - *St. Athanasius*; Friday, 3rd - *Sts. Philip & James* (Apostles); Saturday, 4th - *The English Martyrs*.