

Worth Abbey Parish Open Day

The original Worth Priory was founded in 1933 when 500 acres were acquired from the Paddockhurst Estate and 17 Benedictine monks took residence. In 1957, a school was founded and, in 1965, the priory was raised to the status of an Abbey.

Today, nearly 80 years later, there is a community of 25 monks, 550 pupils attend the prestigious Worth School, whilst Worth Abbey Parish attracts 800 parishioners from the local community! As well as the work of the Parish and the numerous other activities centred on Worth, it manages a retreat programme "Open Cloister" which, every year, attracts 6,000 visitors to St. Bruno's, its Retreat House in the Abbey grounds. The present Abbot, Father Kevin Taggart, was elected in 2010.

For some time, it has been recognised that members of the local community in Sussex were largely unaware of what Worth Abbey was all about, and so it was decided to arrange an Open Day enabling them to learn about the work of the Parish as well as the extent to which the Abbey is involved in local life.

Asked about the event, the Parish Priest, Father James Cutts said, "I am absolutely thrilled that people will have the opportunity to come and visit us, to learn about Worth Abbey and to experience its atmosphere." He added, "It seems to have become a well kept secret for far too long."



Sunday 4th September 2pm

Enjoy a visit to your wonderful, local, Benedictine Abbey

In its beautiful surroundings, experience the peace, the warmth of its welcome, and what it is that draws so many people here from all over the UK.

See the newly refurbished Abbey Church; hear about its history; listen to the music; join guided tours; learn about the life of the Parish and its work in local communities. There will be plenty more to interest you, including an opportunity to ask questions and find out about the work which goes on here every day.

The Benedictine monks will be involved in the day and you can join them at Vespers in the Abbey Church at the end of the afternoon. We'll make it a very enjoyable event - and you'll be very welcome.

