

## The Word Who Is Life

This is the title of the new pastoral plan which Bishop Richard with his advisors has created for us over the past year, after visiting all the deaneries in the diocese to listen to the people. It is of course a quotation from the First Letter of St John - *The Word who is life – this is our subject* - Jesus himself. We are reminded that the purpose of the Church, the reason why we exist as a Church, is to be missionaries, to offer the message of the Gospel to those who do not believe. (It has been remarked that the Church is the only community which exists for the sake of those who are not members.)

Bishop Richard highlights three elements in the diocesan plan: Prayer, Formation and Mission, to which last the first two must lead. He writes :

*Prayer is imperative. Without prayer, all will come to nothing. Life without prayer is no life at all – and our Diocese is about Life, the Life that is Christ.* Prayer is our life line to God, and I take this opportunity to remind you especially of the time of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament which takes place each Sunday in St Dunstan’s in West Hoathly, from 5 pm till 7 pm, for the missionary development of our parish. Bishop Richard then writes about the formation which we all need in order to carry forward the mission of the diocese.

*Formation in the Christian Life, at an ever-deepening level and at every age, is necessary. This is so because we are not members of the Church for ourselves alone. We are Christ’s instruments in a society that is in need of Evangelisation. This is the Mission of the Church – the “New Evangelisation” to which Pope St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict and Pope Francis have called us. There is so much good work already being done...but we must look to the future with renewed resolution and energy, growing from ever-deepening prayer and aided by continuing growth in understanding.*

Bishop Richard reminds us that we live in a new and very different context today – sometimes called *post-Christian* or *post religious*. He comments, *While these challenges are great, this a moment of seeking and great thirst for so many.* He quotes Pope Francis : *All the baptised, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are agents of evangelisation;* and Bishop Richard comments, *It is necessary for everyone in the Diocese to reflect on the context in which we find ourselves and to embrace the call to be instruments of evangelisation.*

Please pray that our parish may embrace this vocation, and please come to our workshop on Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> after mass, to think about how together we can all carry this forward.

*Lord, the Word who is Life.*

*May all the people of our Diocese grow in openness to the power of the Holy Spirit, so that through a growth in understanding and courage and truly open to your call, we may bear powerful witness to all around us, for you are Lord for ever and ever.*

*Amen*

### Celebrating parish history

**Parish Workshop 25th November:** The purpose of our workshop is to celebrate the '*Evolution*' of Worth Parish from its creation to the present as we look towards the future. The focus will be how we evolve to become a Missionary Parish, within the context of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan and the Worth Discipleship Centre. At the workshop you will see some of our progress with Alpha, and hear from the project Leads on how the Discipleship centre is developing. Most importantly we want to hear from you - what is great about our Parish already and what could make it even better for the future as we move from maintenance to Missionary Discipleship.

**There will be no mass at St Dunstan's in West Hoathly this day to allow for all to come.**

### ANECDOTES AND PHOTOS WANTED

As part of the 'Parish Evolution' Workshop (see note above) there will be a display of photos and anecdotes to give a taste of the rich history that our parish has. Please send any offerings (long hand or typed, scanned or hard copy) to either Marie-Clare McMenemy [mcmcmenemy@hotmail.com](mailto:mcmcmenemy@hotmail.com), Charlie Tibble or via Fr Paul or Maria Stribbling in the Parish office. If you are lending photos please make sure they are clearly labelled with your name and telephone number so I can return them to you. Many thanks, Marie-Clare



If you have let your food go that little bit too far past its 'best by' then you need to be sure to compost it rather than putting it in the bin. Not only will this help create a natural fertiliser and keep your garden green, it'll also reduce the amount of waste going to landfill - and as it won't break down anaerobically, there will not be a build-up of methane gas.

### Anniversaries

**Please pray for the souls of -** Mary Loftus, Patsy Willson, Andrew Smith Paterson, Francis Pollen, Walter Stanford, Bronka Bogacz, Charles Bethune, Abbot John Chapman, Ernest Paskett, Kathleen Brockley and Bob Perry. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.**

### Prayers

Please pray for the nation and people of Cameroon, pray for the Government and both the civilian and military population.

Please pray for the people of Brazil that their new government will make changes for the better.



### Dates for your diary

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November** 7.30pm - Faure's Requiem 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the Abbey.

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November** 7.30pm - Worth Choral Society in the Abbey. Programme includes Vivaldi "Magnificat", Mozart "Sancta Maria" and Cecilia McDowall "Ave Maria Stella"

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December** 7.30pm - Handel's Messiah in the Abbey.

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December** 7.30pm - Organ concert with D'Arcy Trinkwon.

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December** 7.45pm - Parish Reconciliation Service in the Abbey.

**During Advent** - The launch campaign of Alpha for all.

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December** 4.00pm - Carol Service - In the Abbey for our Parish, friends, families and neighbours.



### Annual Jam and Chutney Sale

This will be for medical expenses in Irundu and will take place after the Worth Abbey Mass on **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November** and then again on **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November** at West Hoathly.

Anyone wishing to contribute to this sale is asked to make contact via email to [jenny.harrison@btconnect.com](mailto:jenny.harrison@btconnect.com) stating what they will be providing.

Thank you.

### Diocesan Pastoral Plan

The presentation by Bishop Richard for this deanery will be in the Friary Hall on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December** at 7.00pm. The meeting will be fully open

### Plate Collection

Gift Aided - **£303**

Non Gift Aided - **£165**

**This Weekend, there will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for Retired Priests Fund (Gift Aid)**

### Retired Priests' Collection - Sunday 4th November 2018

Every year at least £200,000 is needed for the support of our retired priests.

The amounts incurred are likely to increase in coming years as more priests reach retirement age. This support ensures that priests do not face financial hardship when their parish ministry comes to an end. While in active parish ministry, priests' accommodation and domestic needs are met by the parish and a modest personal income is usually provided from offerings at Christmas, Easter and from baptisms, weddings and funerals.

There is no charge to the parish for pension contributions to fund the future needs for their priest. The Retired Priests' Fund supplies these needs, whether the priest is able to live independently or whether more care is required.

In recent years, this collection has contributed only a fraction of the amount needed.

Please give generously so that we can express our concern and gratitude towards those who have served us so loyally over the years.

### TRAIDCRAFT

We have now received a selection of Christmas cards and are ready to take your orders. Do please visit the stall to complete an order form or take away a photocopy of the cards available if you wish to make your decision at home. We expect an announcement from Traidcraft in the next couple of weeks regarding their future. If they cease trading, we hope to find another wholesaler and continue to sell Fair Trade products. Meanwhile, we would ask you, please, to support Traidcraft by continuing to buy their chocolate, tea, coffee, biscuits, Christmas cards and Advent calendars from our stall over the next few months.

### THE BIG ENCOUNTER 2018 - FESTIVAL FOR 16-35s

Our annual festival for 16-35 year olds is happening at Worth Abbey (Performing Arts Centre) on **Saturday November 10<sup>th</sup>** at 6.30pm. It's open to anybody in that age group, and we've got an amazing line-up.

The Youth 2000 Worship Band will be leading the music, and Bryony Wells will be our keynote speaker.

Bishop Richard will also be with us.

This is the second annual BIG ENCOUNTER, and we're expecting a few hundred people, so spread the word.

Entry is free, and you don't need to book. For more info: [Jack.Regan@dabnet.org](mailto:Jack.Regan@dabnet.org)

### Chilworth Abbey Study Day

You are warmly invited to a presentation of the third episode of 'Catholicism - a journey to the heart of the faith', by the acclaimed author and speaker Bishop Barron, on **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November** at St Augustine's Abbey, Sample Oak Lane, Chilworth, Surrey, GU4 8QR

This is a Chilworth Abbey Study Day given by Fr John Seddon OSB, who will contextualise the episode and then teach and lead discussion about its subject matter. The day begins with Mass at 9.00 am, followed by coffee. The third film investigates *'The Ineffable Mystery of God'* and will be shown, chapter by chapter followed by teaching and discussion. Midday prayer and lunch will divide the day and concludes at 4.00 pm. Come to part, or all of the day, as it suits you. Bring a packed lunch and a friend. Tea and coffee is provided.

More information at [chilworthbenedictines.com](http://chilworthbenedictines.com)

### Red Wednesday

Christians around the world are being persecuted because of their faith.

Will you show your support for the Suffering Church?

Aid to the Church in Need are being joined by Christian Solidarity Worldwide for this campaign, but we need your help. Join us on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November** - #RedWednesday, and stand in solidarity with persecuted Christians and faith minorities who suffer unjustly for their peacefully-held beliefs.

Let's spread the word and use social media to make #RedWednesday 2018, a campaign that cannot be ignored. By joining us in prayer, by wearing red, lighting your church red, by organising red-themed activities or attending #RedWednesday events, you will be doing something peaceful and positive to highlight the suffering - injustices, discrimination, violence, oppression, torture and death - of so many Christians and others today which goes largely unnoticed by the world.

## REGULAR EVENTS IN THE PARISH

**Mass Times** - Saturday: 9.00 am (Concelebrated) and 5.00 pm (First Mass of Sunday),

Sunday: 9.30 am, with an 11.30am mass at St Dunstan's West Hoathly

Daily Mass: 8.00 am and 5.30 pm (Concelebrated), Holy Days of Obligation: Vigil Mass: 7.30 pm;

Feast Day: 8.00 am and 5.30 pm

**Adoration** - Friday evenings 7.00- 8.00pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Reflection, music and silence.

**Sunday Adoration** - In St Dunstan's Chapel, West Hoathly, every Sunday from 5pm-7pm to support the parish evangelisation programme. Please feel free to come for as long as you wish.

**Confessions (Sacrament of Reconciliation)** - Sundays 9.10-9.30am before Mass.

**Marian Prayer Group** - 2nd/4th Monday, 7.30pm, Lady Chapel.

**Eucharistic Healing Services: Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Nov** from 2-5pm. **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec** at 7.15pm. Contact Fr Rod 01342 710308 for further details.

**Lectio Divina** - Tuesdays 8.20pm, for 30 mins, Parlour 3 (entry from the Narthex) then Compline.

**Sunday Prayers for Healing** - Once a month, there is a half hour Service of Prayers for Healing in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel after 0930 Sunday Mass. All welcome! The next dates are **2<sup>nd</sup> December and 6<sup>th</sup> January**.

**Christian Meditation Group** - Blessed Sacrament Chapel 7.45pm for 8pm start to 8.45pm followed by Compline. Contact Gabrielle 01342 326118/Caterina 01243 554001. **Next dates are 14<sup>th</sup> Nov and 28<sup>th</sup> Nov**.

**Vigil for Vocations** - (1st Friday) 9.00pm to midnight in the Abbey Church. **Next date 30<sup>th</sup> November**.

**Children's Mass** - 1st Saturday of each month at 5pm. **Next date will be 1<sup>st</sup> December**.

**Bereavement Support** - Marian & Clare are available to meet you either at St Benedict's or to visit you at home. Contact the team via the Parish Office or email - clare\_harper@hotmail.com or marian.imhasly@gmail.com.

**Mothers Prayer Group** - in Balcombe every Tuesday 12 noon. Call Marie 07860 845658. All faiths and none are most welcome.

*"Clothed then with faith and the performance of good works, let us set out on this way with the Gospel for our guide that we may deserve to see him who has called us to his Kingdom"*  
(St Benedict)

Next Sunday's Readings: **Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading - 1 Kings 17:10-16      2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - Hebrews 9:24-28

**Gospel: Mark 12:38-44**

**This poor widow has put in more than all**

### Daily Readings

Monday - Phil 2:1-4    Luke 14:12-14

Tuesday - Phil 2:5-11    Luke 14:15-24

Wednesday - Phil 2:12-18    Luke 14:25-33

Thursday - Phil 3:3-8a    Luke 15:1-10

Friday - Ezek 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 or 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17    John 2:13-22 **(The dedication of the Lateran Basilica)**

Saturday - Phil 4:10-19    Luke 16:9-15

*Parish Priest: Fr Paul Fleetwood*

Mobile: 07764 260216

**Parish Office Email:** parish@worth.org.uk      **Parish Office Tel:** 01342 710313

**Parish Website:** www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk      **Secretary:** Maria Stribbling (Hours: 9.30am-1.30pm)

**Night time emergencies only:** 07494 484979

**Cheques to be made payable to** - Worth Abbey Parish

**Safeguarding:** Rachel Davies (07801 696354) and Maria Stribbling (01342 710313)

**In Touch:** If you would like anything to appear in 'In Touch', please contact Maria Stribbling at parish@worth.org.uk (by Thursday 10am)

**If you are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, or if you have any prayer intentions, please let Fr Paul know.**

