

World Day of The Sick

You received without payment; give without payment.

On Monday the Church celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. The annual pilgrimage to Lourdes is an important event in the life of the Diocese, and a group from Worth, which includes both monks and parishioners, always takes part in the pilgrimage. This expresses the insight that sick and elderly people have a special gift to offer the Christian community, by providing an opportunity of service to their brothers and sisters, and an example of being open to being dependent on others. (St Benedict in his Rule speaks about this, saying that they bring the presence of Jesus to us.)

Pope Francis has written a message for this celebration. This year he takes as his theme the concept of gift, emphasising especially that life itself is God's gift. His title reminds us that each disciple is called to offer gifts.

He continues: Amid today's culture of waste and indifference, I would point out that "gift" is the category best suited to challenging today's individualism and social fragmentation, while at the same time promoting new relationships and means of cooperation between peoples and cultures... "Gift" means more than simply giving presents: it involves the giving of oneself, and not simply a transfer of property or objects. "Gift" differs from gift-giving because it entails the free gift of self and the desire to build a relationship. It is the acknowledgement of others, which is the basis of society. "Gift" is a reflection of God's love, which culminates in the incarnation of the Son and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

He adds that we all must recognise our need of each other: Each of us is poor, needy and destitute... at every stage of life we remain in some way dependent on the help of others. We will always be conscious of our limitations, as "creatures", before other individuals and situations. A frank acknowledgement of this truth keeps us humble and spurs us to practice solidarity as an essential virtue in life. We should not fear, then, to acknowledge those limitations, for God himself, in Jesus, has humbly stooped down to us (cf. Phil 2:8) and continues to do so; in our poverty, he comes to our aid and grants us gifts beyond our imagining.

Please pray for all those who care for the sick, and for those who suffer illness, especially those whom we know in our parish. Please ask Our Lady to pray for them.

Anniversaries

**Please pray for the Souls of - Anne Powys-Lybbe, Peggy Bonner, Peter Whelpton, Alison Rawlins, Tigs Nott (Wheeler), Eamon Michael Litten and Martin Harewood.
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 Soul of Kenneth Huggins who died on 17th January.

Please pray for his wife Anne and his family.

Kenneth's funeral will be held in the Abbey on **Wednesday 13th February** at 11.30am.

All are welcome.

We also pray for Marty Vaughan who is suffering from ill health.

Parish News



Concerts

1st March – 7.30pm in the Colburt Room. Piano Showcase. All are welcome.

10th March – 7.30pm in the Abbey. D'Arcy Trinkwon Organ Recital.

17th March – 7.30pm in the Abbey. Choral Society & Orchestra Concert.

24th March – 7.30pm in the Abbey. Sequence of music and readings for Lent.

Parish Finances –Can you help?

A Message from the Parish Finance Committee

At the end of the year 2018, parish accounts show a deficit of £11,000. The reason for the deficit is twofold: costs have risen (inflation, compliance with additional legislation, a substantial increase in Diocesan levies, etc.) while income has decreased due largely to a gradual fall in parish membership, mass attendance, etc.

The cost of running the Parish now amounts to over £100,000 per year and while every attempt is taken to minimise costs, an increase in income is more difficult to achieve. As matters stand, the deficit is forecast to rise to £27,000 by the end of 2019. Clearly the current rate of decline in contributions is not sustainable and a considerable increase in income is crucial.

At present about 100 households/individuals make regular contributions to the Parish through standing order payments and the cash envelope scheme, both of which can attract additional income through gift aid. This generous and vital support is greatly appreciated but is there a chance to give more? For example, an extra contribution of say £5 per month per family could boost the annual income by £12,000 which, with careful financial oversight, would help reduce the deficit over the next few years.

Please give the matter serious consideration with a view to increasing your standing order or adding another pound or two to your weekly envelope.

We thank you all for your generous contributions.

Plate Collection

Gift Aided - £632.15
Non Gift Aided - £373.11

This weekend there will be a Second collection for the Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund

Charity Fun Day

Free event for ladies and children only. **Saturday 16th February** from 12-5pm. Food and clothes stalls, children's activities, face painting, henna and much more. Langley Green Community Centre, RH11 7TF



Parish Library

We have a selection of books in the Parish office for those who would like to deepen their faith. Everyone is welcome to borrow these books during office hours. (9.15am-1.15pm). Please call first to check. The list of books available, can be found on our parish website.



PEG Event

The Parish Events Group (PEG) is back in harness again after the Christmas break with a great selection of events for 2019, starting with a trip to Bletchley Park on **27th March**.

Please keep a look out for flyers. Contact Sara Barclay-Hudson (sbh0369@yahoo.com / 01444 461236) as soon as possible as tickets are limited.

There will be coffee and croissants on the coach in the morning and delicious savouries and fizz on the way back home, with a guaranteed brilliant day out in between. Don't miss out!

Women of the Diocese

Set aside a day to grow in faith, share and discuss with Bishop Richard. "The word who is life", an opportunity to explore the role of women in our Diocese on **Saturday 23rd February** from 10am-1pm at St Philip Howard Centre (formerly DABCEC), 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley, RH10 6RP (shared site with St Francis School). Contact Sue Petritz nbcw@rcdab.onmicrosoft.com

Turners Hill Parish News

Please find copies in the Narthex

Lunches for Homeless People

Your help and support on the day would be very much appreciated in The Friary Hall, Crawley. Dates for the lunch will be **24th March, 26th May, 28th July, 22nd Sept and 24th Nov**. If you can come along please contact Ashwin Soni on 07833 252551 or Email - ashel@hotmail.co.uk

Lourdes Pilgrimage

Applications for the Youth Service Group in the A&B Lourdes Pilgrimage - AKA "The Redshirts" - have opened. Please tell anybody who might be interested. Places will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, with 60 spaces available. Apply online - **ABLourdes.org**

CCRS Course Coming to the Diocese:

In support of Bishop Richard's Pastoral Plan, the Diocese are planning the relaunch of a CCRS course, starting in September 2019.

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies has been established since 1991 and aims to provide an introduction to Catholic theology and give an understanding of the central truths of our Faith.

It will be open to teachers working in Catholic schools, Catechists, people involved in pastoral and liturgical work and other interested adults.

Full details can be found at <http://www.brs-ccrs.org.uk/index.php>.

For more information and to express an interest in attending the course, please contact Jon Harman, Adviser for Formation and Spirituality, at the St Philip Howard Centre: 01293 651157 or email jon.harman@dabnet.org.

Residential Retreat for Doctors

At Worth Abbey from **1-3 March 2019** led by Fr. Stephen Ortiger. OSB.

On the theme: Love your neighbour as yourself.

Sessions include: Who and what we are; Personal challenges we face; Drawing strength from prayer; Nurturing our healthcare vocation. There will be opportunity to join the monastic community at prayer and time for quiet contemplation with access to countryside walks. Cost £150 full board.

For all queries and to book a place email jodwyer@doctors.org.uk, putting **Doctors Retreat** in subject line.

Crawley Interfaith Network

The topic will be "Happy Science connects global religions". A talk followed by a Q&A session. All welcome, free admission and refreshments.

Thursday **28th February** from 7-9pm at The Orchard, 1-2 Gleneagles Court, Crawley, RH10 6AD

Evening of reflection with Bishop Richard for 11-18s

Centred on an experience of Lectio Divina.

There are still some spaces left. Booking is essential as spaces are limited.

The evenings will run from 7pm-8.45pm.

If you would like to take part, please email jack.regan@dabnet.org.

23rd March - St Mary's, Bexhill

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 - Mass will be celebrated, followed by prayers for healing – all welcome.

Contact Fr Rod 01342 710308 for further details. Next dates, **Sun 10th Feb 2pm, Wed 13th March 7.15pm,**

Sun 14th April 2pm.

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 **3rd March and 7th April.**

Christian Meditation Group - Blessed Sacrament Chapel 7.45pm for 8pm start to 8.45pm followed by Compline. Contact Caterina 01243 554001. Next dates **13th and 27th Feb**, then **13th and 27th March.**

Vigil for Vocations - (1st Friday) 9.00pm to midnight in the Abbey Church. **Next date 1st March.**

Children's Mass - 1st Saturday of each month at 5pm. **Next date will be 2nd March.**

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.

"In his goodness, the Lord has already counted us as his sons and daughters and therefore we should never grieve him with our evil actions"

(St Benedict)

Next Sunday's Readings: **Sixth Sunday in OT (yr. C)**

1st Reading – Jeremiah 17:5-8

2nd Reading – 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26

Blessings and Woes

Daily Readings

Monday – Gen 1:1-9 Mark 6:53-56

Tuesday – Gen 1:20-2:4a Mark 7:1-13

Wednesday – Gen 2:4b-9, 15-17 Mark 7:14-23

Thursday – Gen 2:18-25 Mark 7:24-30

Friday – Gen 3:1-8 Mark 7:31-37

Saturday – Gen 3:9-24 Mark 8:1-10

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: 9.15am-1.15pm Mon-Fri)

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.