

First Holy Communion

Today we extend our sincere congratulations to the children of our parish who are making their First Holy Communion: Zacarias Aldridge, Louis Bosshard, Jacob Harper, Jack Haworth, Max Haworth, Ciara Shaw, and Hector Sweeting. Please pray for them and for their families. Parents and children have met and studied together over the last nine months under the expert and dedicated guidance of our catechist, Rachel Davies. Rachel has faithfully performed this service for the children and parents of our parish over many years, and we offer her our very grateful thanks for all she does for the life of our community.

As we share the joy of these families, it is good to ponder what we can do to receive them into our parish community. The sacrament of communion is the symbol, and the means of constructing, the Christian community, by God's grace. Each time we come to receive the sacrament we are joined to Jesus, and also to one another. *Become what you receive* is an expression of the sacrament which is often used by the early Church. As we receive communion, we hear the words, *The Body of Christ*, to which we respond, *Amen*, expressing our assent: We both receive the Body of Christ, and we wish to become The Body of Christ.

When St Paul writes to the Corinthians about the Eucharist, he says: *The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.* (1 Co.10.16f) Paul writes at some length to this congregation in Corinth about this theme precisely because he perceives that there are divisions and rivalries among them which threaten the life of the community. From writing about the Eucharist, when he establishes the theology of the sacrament and its expression of the community, he passes to the theme of the community itself. In cp12 he reflects on how each member is given a particular gift by God to exercise for the benefit of the community, a gift of the Spirit which no one else is given in quite the same way, so that each one has something unique to offer to ensure the growth of the community. He draws a conclusion by comparing the Christian community to a human body: *For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.* (1 Co.12.12f) He expresses the ideal that we should be so sensitive to one another such that, *If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.*

As we celebrate with the children and their families it is good to reflect on the gifts which the Spirit has given to each of us to build up the Body of Christ, and how we can help to draw new members into our community.

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of – Sam Bryant, Stan Bogacz, Pamela Kennedy, Wendy Horton, Mrs Neve, Anita Weston-Burt and Charles Wilson.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.



Prayers

Please pray for all those children; Zacarias Aldridge, Louis Bosshard, Jacob Harper, Jack Haworth, Max Haworth, Ciara Shaw and Hector Sweeting, who will all be making their First Holy Communion on **Sunday 12th May** at 11.30am.

Please do come and welcome them.

Please pray for those children; Edward Klapczynski, Owen Moyle, Isabella Rawlinson and Fletcher Tobin who will all be Baptised on **Sunday 19th May** at 11am. We pray for their parents and families. Please do come and welcome them to the Parish.

Parish News



Cut your car use!

Walk, cycle, take the bus or car share whenever you can.

If you need to drive, don't speed. Every 10mph increase in speed reduces your fuel economy by 4mpg. And check your tyre pressure is correct!

Eucharistic Healing Service this coming Wednesday
15th May 7.15pm (Unity Room). All Welcome.

Gift Aid statements for 18/19 can be provided
by contacting the Parish office. Thank you.

Plate Collection

Gift Aided – **£310.50**

Non Gift Aided – **£428.36**

**This weekend there will be a Second Collection
for the Education of Future Priests.**

London to Brighton Bike Ride

Please be aware that the next British Heart
Foundation bike ride, will be on **Sunday 16th
June**. This will affect traffic through Turners Hill

Formation as a Missionary Parish

What does Divine Renovation look like in a
parish? Come and be our guest at one of two
parishes that have been receiving Divine
Renovation leadership coaching for over a year.

They will share their mistakes and learnings in
their effort to be a parish that makes a difference.

Come for the day of keynotes and workshops
designed to inspire your parish on

Saturday 22nd June from 9.30am-4.30pm.

Choose one of two locations: Parish of Our Lady
of Walsingham, Royal Docks, East London or St
Elizabeth of Portugal Parish, Richmond, West
London.

Tickets at £20 and include Lunch.

Each parish has a limited number of places so
book soon by emailing uk@divinerenovation.net

Next parish walk
Sunday 16th June at 11.15am. Meet at Ardingly Inn
where there is a car park opposite the pub. The walk
is circa 31/2 miles long with lovely views and gentle
gradients - and not many of those. On our return to
the car park we drive along to the Gardner's Arms for
lunch circa 1.30ish which is just along past the
showground with easy parking. All welcome for
either walk and lunch or just lunch. Please let me
know whether you are coming on 01892 770942 or
trishiasol@aol.com. Look forward to seeing everyone
for a wonderful summer walk.

PEG Event – Oklahoma

Some tickets are still available for the trip to the
Chichester Theatre on **15th August**. Please contact
Sara directly, sbh0369@yahoo.com
Tel: 01444 461236.

Creative Prayer Weekend

Do you find it hard to go on retreat? Worried it will be too intellectual? Maybe you have physical or learning disabilities that make it difficult to participate?

Or perhaps you're looking for a retreat suitable for the whole family?

Emily Westlake is organising an accessible creative weekend retreat in St Bruno's on **21st-23rd June**. The theme is 'Multi-sensory prayer' - looking at how we can use all of our senses and our whole body in prayer; activities will include flag-making, painting & drawing, and reflection. Suitable for all ages and abilities. You can book for just the Saturday or the whole weekend, residential or non-residential.

Please contact Emily for more information or to book emcat76@hotmail.com Tel: 07947103781).

Damien

The story of Father Damien de Veuster, the leper priest of Molokai and patron saint of outcasts. In this passionate, one man show, actor Daniel Finlay channels the powerful stories of the challenges that Damien experienced while serving the community of exiled lepers on a remote Hawaiian island in the 1870's until his own life was taken by the affliction on April 15, 1889. He announced he was a leper in 1885 and continued to build hospitals, clinics, and churches, and some six hundred coffins. The Story will be told in The Lantern Theatre is located at ACT Brighton 8-10 Rock Place Brighton BN2 1PF on the following dates. Wednesday 29th May @ 7pm, Thursday 30th May @ 7pm, Friday 31st May @ 7pm Tickets £12.50 (£10.00 Cons)

Vocations Weekend for young women

Discernment and Vocation on **24th-26th May** in Liverpool

The weekend is organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). There is nothing quite like religious life – it's an extraordinary adventure into a deep relationship with God. If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them. For more information contact Sr Lynne fcj at lynnecfj@hotmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org

Big Aftar Crawley

It is also a month of charity and goodwill by sharing food and belief with others. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Assoc. Crawley are delighted to invite you Noor Mosque and anyone you wish to bring with you to "Breaking the Fast at the Big Aftar" on **Saturday 25th May** at 7:45pm. We would be delighted to have you as our guest and share breaking the fast with you. Please RSVP via phone or email asap and let me know how many will attend with you. Ahsan Ahmedi - aahmedi.ahmadiyya@gmail.com - 07888669338

Illuminate Teenage Retreat

17th-19th May at Worth Abbey for those in Year 7-9. A fantastic weekend of games, crafts, worship, fun and learning more about our faith. We'd love you to join us! For more information or to book email admin@wellspringbrighton.org.uk or kdoran@worth.org.uk

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who has donated clothing for the Gatwick Detainee Centre. Thanks to your generosity, they have no more room to store clothing. Until further notice, please do not leave any clothing at the Parish Office. Thank you.

Worth Irundu Friendship

With the departure of Father Stephen Mudoola to a new parish, our relationship with Irundu is changing.

We're holding a meeting after mass on **Sunday 2nd June** from 11:00 to 12:00 in the Unity Room to let you know our plans for the future.

We will also have a presentation by Worth old boy Julian Gabriel on his charity, Running Well. Julian helped install water wells in Irundu and has just returned from Uganda, where he is now working with Father Stephen in his new parish.

The Worth Irundu Friendship Committee

Dates for your Diary

- 18 year old Worth parishioner, Freddie Ingles, will be giving a charity song recital on **Saturday 8th June** at 7pm in the Worth School theatre. The concert is in aid of The Dagoretti Child Protection and Development Centre, Nairobi, which rehabilitates street children, and will feature music by Schubert, Vaughan Williams, Jerome Kern and Tom Lehrer. Please come along and support him.
- On Pentecost Sunday, **9th June**, there will be an ecumenical celebration in the Abbey Church at 4pm.
- Junior Church Social - Worth Parish Junior Church would like to invite families to enjoy some fun time together with food and drink on **Sunday 16th June** 10:45am - 1:00pm in the Abbey Unity Room. All children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents welcome. We would ask everyone to bring and share.
- To mark Refugee Week (June 17th to 23rd) there will be a picnic and short walk on **Sunday, 23rd June**. Meet at 11 am in the narthex. Bring vegetarian food to share. Everyone is welcome. We will be hosting some local refugee families.

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 – Now Meeting 1st / 3rd Wednesday at 7:30pm, Lady Chapel.

Eucharistic Healing Services - will be celebrated on the following Wednesdays at 7.15pm: **15th May, 12th June and 3rd July**. All welcome. Please contact Fr Rod on 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 date will be **2nd June**. (5th May cancelled due to Confirmations).

Christian Meditation Group - Blessed Sacrament Chapel 7.45pm for 8pm start to 8.45pm followed by Compline. Contact Caterina 01243 554001. Next date is **29th May** (This one session will be held in the Unity Room).

Vigil for Vocations - (1st Friday) 9.00pm to midnight in the Abbey Church. **Next date 7th June**.

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

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.

*“You are not to act in anger or nurse a grudge. Rid your heart of all deceit”
(St Benedict)*

Next Sunday's Readings: **Fifth Sunday of Easter (yr. C)**

1st Reading – Acts 14:21-27 2nd Reading – Apocalypse 21:1-5

Gospel: John 13:31-35
The New Commandment

Daily Readings

Monday – Acts 11:1-8 John 10:1-10

Tuesday – Acts 1:15-17, 20-26 John 15:9-17 (**St Matthias**)

Wednesday – Acts 12:24 – 13:5a John 12:44-50 (**St Pachomius**)

Thursday – Acts 13:13-25 John 13:16-20

Friday – Acts 13:26-33 John 14:1-6

Saturday – Acts 13:44-52 John 14:7-14

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

Any 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.