

Unlocking Your Parish

Does our parish need unlocking? Why not try this book and find out? – I recommend it highly. It's short, clear and not expensive – all qualities which are equally desirable and rare in books! The subtitle is *Making Disciples, Raising Up Leaders with Alpha*. Those of you who are engaged with our parish will know that this is just what we are trying to do, and the book explains very well why we need to do this. The authors – Ron Huntley and James Mallon – show why we need to change our parish culture, why the way we've always done things is no longer sufficient for today's world. The change which is needed is from a culture of maintenance to a culture of mission. The care for the parish community is not neglected, but the priority for our work becomes one of looking outward, to reach those who are not members. As has often been remarked, the Church is the only organisation which exists for the benefit of those who do not belong to it. The authors remind us that we live, not in an age of change, but in a change of age. While in previous generations culture supported religious practice, and a parish easily offered a sense of belonging and identity, this has now all changed, and we need a completely different approach, for our culture today is one which so strongly rejects any notion of religious faith that young people have almost disappeared from our churches. Hence the dream of Pope Francis of a *missionary option*, as he writes in *The Joy of The Gospel*. The authors recognise that this demands much of us – a kind of dying, indeed! They write that in essence we need to accept the identity of who we are called to be – sons and daughters of God, embracing the intimacy with Jesus which is the fruit of our vocation: *I have called you friends*, Jesus says. Our faith must first of all be experiential rather than intellectual or moral. They write: *A disciple is someone who has had a life-changing experience of God and made the decision to surrender and follow him; at the heart of this decision is an encounter with Christ that leads one into a personal relationship with the Father in the power of the Holy Spirit*. Alpha is designed to help us draw others into this. It begins with hospitality, and fosters a sense of belonging among people who, they note, may have beliefs and practices which are quite at variance with the Christian way of life – and for this reason belonging comes before believing or behaving. So Alpha is a beginning - as they say, *catching fish* rather than *feeding sheep*. So do please consider reading the book – it will be available in our excellent bookshop; and please consider joining our next Alpha course in September, to prepare to help with the following course.

(Unlocking Your Parish, Making Disciples, Raising Up Leaders with Alpha, by Ron Huntley and Fr James Mallon. The Word Among Us Press, 2019.

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of – Brian Fenn, John Cooper, Tina Bryant, Eloise Powell, Jo Wetz, Gareth Belcher, Liz Axbey, Patrick Wilson, Yolanda Harton, Mary Payne, Ethne Atkins and Jacques Van Heusen, **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.**



Prayer for our common home

*Open my senses, God, to understand and answer the needs of others.
Keep my ears attuned to the laughter of children, my eyes to the needs of the hidden.
Let my nose smell the beauty of flowers and transform the earth's decay to the
scent of fecundity.
May my touch be gentle in raising up those who live under a heavy burden.
May I savour the taste of your abundance and make the earth sustainable for all.
Open my senses, God.*



Dates for your Diary

There will be a vigil mass for the Ascension of Jesus on Wednesday **29th May** at 7.30pm. Other masses on Thursday will be at their usual time.

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. Please bring food to share.

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 and families 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.

Running Well Meeting

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.

Plate Collection

Gift Aided – **£399.05**
Non Gift Aided – **£304.18**

**This weekend there is a Second Collection for
The Missionary Endeavour of the Diocese.**

**Next weekend there will be a Second
Collection for
The Catholic Communications Network**

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

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.

**All those joining us for the walk please meet
outside on the piazza after 9.30 a.m. mass so that
we can arrange car share and route to Ardingly in
order to avoid London/Brighton bike ride.**

PEG Event – Oklahoma

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

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

Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group – AGM

All are welcome on **28th May** at 7pm for the GDWG AGM at the Crawley United Reformed Church, Worth Park Avenue, Pound Hill, RH10 3DF. David Herd will speak on “Refugee Tales: Five Years On”. Bring family and friends. Refreshments will be provided.

Arundel Cathedral Festival

Arundel Cathedral Festival of Corpus Christi and Carpet of Flowers
Free Entry.

9.30 am to 8 pm on **Wednesday 19th June** and

9.30 am to 5.30 pm on **Thursday 20th June**.

Solemn Mass and Procession to Castle at 5.30 pm on 20th.

Refreshments in the Cathedral Centre.

All welcome!

Request for Clothing

GDWG have advised that they are very low of the following items. Due to low space and manpower please limit donations to these items only.

Trainers, all sizes 8-10 (not dress shoes), T-shirts, Jeans 32”, 34” and 36” only, jogging bottoms M and L, Lightweight jackets, belts, small carry-on-bags/rucksacks. NO socks, scarves or button shirts at this time. Thank you.

Celebrate

Catholic Charismatic Family Weekend. At St Mary’s University, Twickenham from

Saturday 15th June – Sunday 16th June

The weekend includes something for all the family, age related children’s streams, mass and reconciliation, great teaching, connecting with others, youth ministry, renewing faith experience and much more.

For further information or a booking form please go to www.celebrateconference.org

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).

CIFN – Crawley Interfaith Network

“Peace and harmony for humankind” – sacred poems, readings, chants, music and dance. All are welcome to come and join in with free admission and refreshments at Langley Green Community Centre, Stagelands, Crawley, RH11 7PG on **Saturday 15th June** from 2.30pm-5.30pm

Grandparents’ Pilgrimage to West Grinstead

Wednesday 12th June, from 10.30 to 3 pm. Mass with Bishop Richard, opportunity to visit the Secret Chapel, Adoration, Reconciliation, Rosary, and sharing with other Grandparents. Packed lunch needed.

Cakes and drinks provided.

For More information and to book call 01293 651152 or email at Rosie.Read@abdiocese.org.uk

Free Art Exhibition: John Bateson – Paintings and Prints

Advanced notice – There will be a small free Art Exhibition in the Unity room over the first weekend in June. The Artist John Bateson will be present. He has previously exhibited at the Dulwich Art Gallery, and Chelsea Art Show. Typically he likes to use bright and vivid coloured imagery for both Religious and secular themes and he takes his inspiration from artists such as: Fra Angelico, Rembrandt, Samuel Palmer, William Blake, Henri Matisse and Vincent Van Gogh. Prints, originals and cards will be for sale. Refreshments will be served in the Unity room after weekend Masses to promote viewing.

Opening Times: Saturday 1st June 9.30am to 7pm. Sunday 2nd June 10.30am to 1pm and 3 to 6pm.

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: **5th 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.

*"We must know that God regards our purity of heart and tears of compunction,
not our many words"*

(St Benedict)

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

1st Reading - Acts 7:55-60 2nd Reading - Apocalypse 22:12-14, 16-17, 20

Gospel: John 17:20-26

I ask not only on behalf of these

Daily Readings

Monday - 1 Thess 2:2-8 Matt 9:35-37 or Luke 10:1-9 **(St Augustine of Canterbury)**

Tuesday - Acts 16:11-15 John 15:26-16:4a

Wednesday - Acts 17:15, 22 - 18:1 John 16:12-15

Thursday - Acts 18:1-8 John 16:16-20 **(The Ascension of the Lord)**

Friday - Zeph 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16 Luke 1:39-56 **(The visitation of our Lady)**

Saturday - Acts 18:23-28 John 16:23b-28

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.