
Pentecost

Today we celebrate the birth of the Church. This is the gift of the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus sends from Heaven, where he shares the authority of the Father, “sitting at God’s right hand”, as the readings expressed it at the feast of the Ascension. In some Christian traditions the Holy Spirit is conceived as “God the Mother”. This image is facilitated by the Semitic words for Spirit, which are feminine, and is found especially in the writings of the Fathers of the Eastern Churches, Aphrahat and Ephrem. The first occasion where we find this in the Bible indeed is the first chapter of Genesis, where we read that God’s Spirit “hovered over the water”, (v.2) at the beginning of Creation. This image was understood by some of the early Christian commentators as the Holy Spirit under the image of a mother bird, and is heard often in the Psalms – “Let me hide in the shelter of your wings”. (Ps 61.4)

The Holy Spirit always brings unity and builds up the Body of Christ. St Paul, in our second reading, emphasises that we are each given gifts by the Spirit so that we can use them to serve our community. *4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities... 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.* (1 Co.12) For Paul, *gifts* and *services* are synonymous; and he continues with the image of the Body – each part has its function, or service, for the good of the whole. These words must inspire us to offer our God-given talents and resources for the good of our communities – both our parish and the secular communities to which we belong, perhaps remembering especially the gift of our time and energies. I remain most grateful to those who volunteer for many activities in our parish – though there are still opportunities to be taken! Perhaps you will feel moved to support our ecumenical service on Sunday, offering hospitality and helping to build unity in the Church.

I close with some lines from St Basil, which might serve as a meditation for today’s feast:

*Through the Holy Spirit comes
Our restoration to paradise,
Our ascension into the Kingdom of Heaven,
Our return to the status of adopted sons and daughters,
Our liberty to call God “Our Father”, (and Mother)
Our being made partakers of the grace of Christ,
Our being called children of light,
Our sharing in eternal glory.*

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of – Hugh Pointer, Lynne Hedgecock, Betty Clegg , John Paris, Bernadette Marchant, Pauline Godfrey, Beryl Paris, Daniel McNaboe and Doris Moody.

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



Prayers

Please pray for Laura Rawlinson who is in Intensive Care.
Please pray for her family.



Dates for your Diary

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.

CAFOD

CAFOD would like to let us know about the progress of the projects in Zimbabwe that your donations enabled last Lent, which were matched by the UK government. Livision, from their Zimbabwe office, sent CAFOD the following update:

"1403 people have been taught how to adapt their farming methods to a changing climate, 17 sites have been identified for new community vegetable gardens, 233 fruit trees have been planted in schools and 27 nurses and community health workers have been trained to spot malnutrition. So far, we've reached a total of 4293 people in Zimbabwe. We're on track to reach 239,000 people across Zimbabwe, Eritrea and Zambia by the end of 2021, thank you so much".

It is always wonderful to see the transformation and joy in communities overseas that is made possible by efforts of the Catholic community at home.

Plate Collection

Gift Aided – **£383.04**

Non Gift Aided – **£496.02**

2nd Collection – **£187.67**

Next weekend there will be a second collection for "Day for Life".

Day for Life is the day in the Church's year dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death.

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.

First Holy Communion

Our next course will start in September for those children who will be 8 years old by May 2020. Please contact the Parish office if your child would like to join the course.

Confirmation

Our next course will start in September for those in years 10-13. Please contact the Parish office if you would like to join this course.

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

CAFOD Lobby of Parliament

Climate change affects our health, our homes and our beautiful landscapes and things are getting urgent now. It's time to tell our leaders that enough is enough. This is not the legacy that we want to leave for our grandchildren; this is not the future we want.

As people of faith, we're determined to speak up for our common home, and on **Wednesday 26 June** we'll come together with over 100 like-minded organisations – members of The Climate Coalition – to speak to our politicians and make our voices heard.

We'll be gathering at Westminster to connect the poor to the powerful by sharing our concerns on climate change and the environment with leaders who can make a difference. Politicians will only increase their ambition if they see that we care. They will act if their constituents tell them that they want change. It is good to register, please see the parish website for more information.

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).

Arundel Cathedral Festival

Arundel Cathedral Festival of Corpus Christi and Carpet of Flowers

Free Entry. All welcome!

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.

Refugee Tales Walk - Brighton - Hastings

This year's Refugee Tales Walk, will take place between **5th-10th July**.

Refugee Tales is an outreach project of Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group inspired by the experiences of people held in immigration detention at Gatwick and the work of the Group in over 20 years of visiting. Participants are walking from Brighton to Hastings calling for the practice of indefinite immigration detention to end. Please support them by cheering them on-route

National Grandparents Pilgrimage

This is a day of Faith and Fun at the Shrine of Our Lady in Walsingham on **Sunday 21st July 2019**. The chief Celebrant will be Bishop Peter Doyle of Northampton diocese. There will be Reconciliation, Mass, a children's costume pageant telling the Walsingham story and Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. For more information please go to www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org.

Welcoming the Stranger - let a home to a Refugee Family

Millions of refugees are Syrian families forced to flee during eight years of war. The Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS) enables the most vulnerable families to be relocated from refugee camps in the Middle East to a safe country where they rebuild their lives. West Sussex CC are part of the UK Government's commitment to the UNHCR scheme with ring fenced financial help. Are you someone who could offer a two or three bedroom house, or flat, in Crawley, or East Grinstead (preferably with a garden), available for 12 months minimum, near good public service and transport links, and available now or in the near future? The rent for the house/ flat offered would be to rent at local housing benefit rates.

Please contact Cathy Merry, Refugees Welcome - Crawley Group. Tel: 07968 688380 or email: merrycat1@gmail.com

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 Wednesday at 7.15pm: **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 dates are **7th July, 4th August,**

NO SEPTEMBER.

Christian Meditation Group - Blessed Sacrament Chapel 7.45pm for 8pm start to 8.45pm followed by Compline. Contact Caterina 01243 554001. Next dates are **12th and 26th June** in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Vigil for Vocations - (1st Friday) 9.00pm to midnight in the Abbey Church. **Next date 5th July.**

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.

“These good people fear the Lord, and do not become elated over their good deeds, they judge it is the Lord's power, not their own, that brings about the good in them”
(St Benedict)

Next Sunday's Readings: **The Most Holy Trinity**

1st Reading – Proverbs 8:22-31 2nd Reading – Romans 5:1-5

Gospel: John 16:12-15

I still have many things to say to you.

Daily Readings

Monday – Acts 1:12-14 or Gen 3:9-15, 20 John 19:25-34 (**Mary, mother of the Church**)

Tuesday – Acts 11:21b-26, 13:1-3 Matt 5:13-16

Wednesday – 2 Cor 3:4-11 Matt 5:17-19

Thursday – 2 Cor 3:15-4:1 Matt 5:20-26 (**St Anthony of Padua**)

Friday – 2 Cor 4:7-15 Matt 5:27-32

Saturday – 2 Cor 5:14-21 Matt 5:33-37

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.