

Peace as a Journey of Hope

Today we are asked to pray for peace. Recent events have shown us how much we need to do this, and how easily we can be dragged into violent conflict. Pope Francis, in his message to us today, asks us all to work for peace in any way we can. His theme is entitled: *Peace as a Journey of Hope: Dialogue, Reconciliation and Ecological Conversion*. We offer below a brief summary of Pope Francis' message. Do please look at the full document on our parish website.

“Hope” is again at the heart of Pope Francis' latest World Day of Peace message, which opens with the statement: “Peace is a great and precious value, the object of our hope and the aspiration of the entire human family”. Hope, writes the Pope, is “the virtue that inspires us and keeps us moving forward, even when obstacles seem insurmountable”.

Pope Francis acknowledges how “the terrible trials of internal and international conflicts, often aggravated by ruthless acts of violence, have an enduring effect on the body and soul of humanity”. “Mistrust and fear weaken relationships and increase the risk of violence, creating a vicious circle that can never lead to a relationship of peace”.

On the other hand, writes Pope Francis, “Peace emerges from the depths of the human heart and political will must always be renewed, so that new ways can be found to reconcile and unite individuals and communities”. That journey of reconciliation “calls for patience and trust”, says the Pope. “Peace will not be obtained unless it is hoped for”.

The world does not need empty words, continues Pope Francis, “but convinced witnesses, peacemakers who are open to a dialogue that rejects exclusion or manipulation”. Peace is a process that requires enduring commitment, he adds. “It is a patient effort to seek truth and justice, to honour the memory of victims and to open the way, step by step, to a shared hope stronger than the desire for vengeance”.

Finally, Pope Francis refers to the recent Synod on the Pan-Amazon Region. “Faced with the consequences of our hostility towards others, our lack of respect for our common home or our abusive exploitation of natural resources, we are in need of an ecological conversion”, he writes, one that will “lead us to a new way of looking at life”.

The Pope concludes with a renewed call “for a peaceful relationship between communities and the land, between present and past, between experience...and hope”.

This call for “ecological conversion” is one which we are trying to address in our new eco-conversion group. If you would like to join us, please get in touch.

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of – Joan Leslie, Hannah Philipps, Mgr Canon David Donnelly, Althea Davis, Joseph Clarke, Fred Enscoe, Sir Martin Wilkinson, Dom Peter Beazley, Josephine Wright, Irene Mitchell, Betty Jones and Michael Stimpson.

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 healing of Laura Rawlinson. Please pray for her family.

Please pray for the soul of Marguerite Pointer who died on 9th January and please pray for her family. Her funeral will be held at St Leonard's Church, Turners Hill on Wednesday 22nd January at 10am

Please pray for Pastor Wang Yi from China, for his strength and commitment to Christ. Pray that he is released from prison quickly and for all charges to be dropped.

Please pray for peace and pray for the work of Pax Christi

Christian Unity Prayer

We will not be lost. God of mercy. When we are lost or discouraged, we turn to you. Give us your gift of hope. May we, as Christians, be people of hope and work for the unity for which your Son, Jesus, prayed "may they be one". Amen

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 19th January – An Ecumenical Worship Service, reflecting on St Paul's time on Malta. Worth Abbey at 4pm. There will be tea/coffee in the Narthex after. Please do let us know in the office if you can help prepare and serve the tea and coffee, and we ask all to bring a contribution for a finger buffet.

Friday 24th January – Curry and Quiz – with a Twist! Please see below for details.

Wednesday 26th February – Ash Wednesday mass, at 7,30pm.

Curry & Quiz with a Twist!

Why not start the new decade with a fun evening quizzing and tucking into a delicious curry on 24 January 2020? It promises to be a light-hearted event, good food (incl veggie option), convivial company and a great raffle in aid of the A&B Lourdes pilgrimage fund. And there will even be a non-curry dish for those who love quizzes not curries!

Teams can be formed in advance or on the night, meeting in Compass House around 1815, with an 1830 kick off. Feel free to invite friends and neighbours to join your teams and remember to bring your own wine, beer and refreshments for the evening...a great time guaranteed for all!! Plus, prizes for the winning (and losing) teams!

Only £6 per head - I do hope parishioners will support this fun event with as much gusto as in the past!

To reserve your place, please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to come.

Contact Sara Barclay-Hudson sbh0369@yahoo.com 01444 461236

RCIA

Would anyone like to join the new RCIA group to become a member of the Catholic Church? The group starts this coming **Monday, 20th, at 2pm** in the Parish Office. Please get in touch straight away if you would like to come by emailing parish@worth.org.uk or calling 01342 710313. Thank you

Justice & Peace Assembly:

'Still No Room at the Inn?' How can we respond to the homelessness crisis today? **Sat. 25th January**, at the St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley (DABCEC). Doors open 9.30 am. Ends 4 pm. Free event.

Introduced by Bishop Richard, with Speakers from Turning Tides, Homelink, Crawley Open House, Life Housing, Caritas Portsmouth, and more. Stalls and stands. Bring a Packed lunch and your own cup/mug- drinks provided. . Bookings at Rosie.Read@abdiocese.org.uk

The application process for the 2020 Lourdes Pilgrimage is now open.

The online application form for those applying as a helper, chaplain, member of the medical team or as a pilgrim who needs no assistance can be found at <https://www.my-holiday-booking.co.uk/crm/introduction/index/i/17/eid/9>

If you would like to come to Lourdes as an Assisted Pilgrim, please contact the Pilgrimage Office who will post a form to you; E: office@ablourdes.org T: 01403 740110

Faith in Politics

Faith in Politics, the Parliamentary and Public Affairs Internship run by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, has been featured on www.laityinvolved.org, a new website launched by the Holy See's Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life. *Faith in Politics* offers a foundation of Catholic faith and spiritual formation for those who believe that they may have a vocation to public service in politics or public affairs. Bishop John Arnold, Bishop for the Faith in Politics scheme, said:

'I am delighted that *Faith in Politics* has been chosen to feature as an example of worldwide best practice of formation of the laity. The scheme has prepared over one hundred Catholic graduates for a career in public life and makes real difference to the mission of the Church, to civic life in our country, and to those with whom the interns work.'

Applications for Faith in Politics 2020-21 are now open. More information be found at www.faithinpolitics.org.uk. **Applications close on 28th February 2020.**

Evening Prayer for Divorced, Remarried & Separated

Sun. 23rd February, at 3 pm: All those in our parish communities who may be divorced, remarried or simply separated, are warmly invited to come together with Bishop Richard at **St. John the Evangelist Church in Horsham** for afternoon tea, conversation and the celebration of Evening Prayer, which will conclude the afternoon. If you would like to join in, please contact Katherine.Bergin@abdiocese.org.uk Thank you.

Green Christian Conference

Walking, falling and keeping going, discovering and maintaining a radical creation-centred way of being.

Saturday 1st February,

11am – 4.30pm (tea and coffee from 10.30am) at St Aloysius Church Hall, 20 Phoenix Road, London NW1 1TA. There will be presentations and discussions.

The event is free (donations welcome on the day).

To book please email georgedow@greenchristian.org.uk

Lunch for Homeless people

Lunch will be served on **Sunday 26th January**, then 22nd March, 24th May, 26th July, 27th September and 22nd November. If you would like to help, please contact Ashwin Soni on 07833 252551

Collections

Gift Aid - **£395.32** Non Gift Aid – **£588.35**

This weekend there will be a Second Collection for Pax Christi

Pax Christi is an international Catholic Christian peace movement. The Pax Christi International website declares its mission is "to transform a world shaken by violence, terrorism, deepening inequalities, and global insecurity.

Divine Renovation

Come along to the St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley, RH10 6RP on **Thursday 30th January** from 1pm-4pm to meet others interest in, inspired by, or utilising the Divine Renovation programme in their parishes. The afternoon will provide an opportunity to network, share your best practice and explore any challenges in order to build thriving Parish communities for the future

For more information or to register, please contact Jon Harman (Spiritual and Formation Advisor) at jon.harman@abdiocese.org.uk

All are welcome. Please let us know if you have any additional needs.

A sandwich lunch will be provided

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

Compline – 8.15pm-8.30pm

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 Rosary Group – 1st/3rd Wednesday at 7.05pm-8.10pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Rosary – Saturday mornings at 9.30am in Our Lady Chapel.

Lectio Divina - Tuesdays **7.30pm**, for 30 mins, Parlour 1 (entry from the Narthex) **(Please note change of time)**

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 is **2nd February**.

Christian Meditation Group - Blessed Sacrament Chapel **7.15pm - 8pm** followed by Compline. Contact Caterina 01243 554001. **Next date – 29th January then 12th February (Please note change of time)**

Vigil for Vocations - (1st Friday) **8.15pm – 9pm** in the Abbey Church. **(Please note change of time)**

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.

Bible Study Group – Every Wednesday at 7.30pm in St Benedict's (Parish Office). Please advise the Parish Office if you wish to come.

Nazareth Youth Group – For young people in years 9-13 on a Wednesday evening in Compass House between 5.45pm-7pm. It includes pizza, games, worship and social times. Contact Veronika on vbulakova@worth.org.uk

*“The brothers are to express their opinion with all humility, and not presume to defend their own views obstinately”
(St Benedict)*

Next Sunday's Readings: **Third Sunday in OT (Year A) - Peace Sunday**

1st Reading –Isaiah 8:23-9:3 2nd Reading – 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus begins his Ministry in Galilee

Daily Readings

Monday – 1 Sam 15:16-23 Mark 2:18-22

Tuesday – 1 Sam 16:1-13 Mark 2:23-28 **(St Agnes)**

Wednesday – 1 Sam 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 Mark 3:1-6

Thursday – 1 Sam 18:6-9, 19:1-7 Mark 3:7-12

Friday – 1 Sam 24:3-21 Mark 3:13-19 **(St Francis de Sales)**

Saturday – Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22 Mark 16:15-18 **(The Conversion of St Paul)**

Worth Abbey Parish, Paddockhurst Road, Turners Hill, West Sussex, RH10 4SB

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 Tuesday)

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.