

Querida Amazonia – Beloved Amazonia

This is the title of the recent document of Pope Francis which he wrote in response to the conclusions of the synod which he called in October of last year concerning the region of the Amazon. It is a document which concerns us all, and is addressed to *The People of God and to All people of good will*. The title expresses his affection and concern for the peoples of the Amazon basin, whose very livelihood is now, more than ever, under threat from the policies of the extreme right wing government of Brazil, led by President Jair Bolsonaro, who wishes to exploit the area for commercial profit through the extraction of timber and oil and minerals, and through the cultivation of livestock and crops. This activity destroys the habitat of the indigenous tribes who live there, people who for centuries have cared for the rain forests using their inherited wisdom, but who are now subject to massacre and displacement to cities where they suffer poverty and the total loss of their heritage and identity.

We know that the whole universe also suffers very serious loss as the Amazon is degraded, as the rain forest absorbs carbon dioxide, the principal agent of global warming. So Pope Francis writes: *I am addressing the present Exhortation to the whole world. I am doing so to help awaken their affection and concern for that land which is also “ours”, and to invite them to value it and acknowledge it as a sacred mystery*. He states that the issues which are present in the Amazon shed light on *other important issues that can assist other areas of our world in confronting their own challenges*.

In his first “dream” – *A Social Dream* – he writes, *It also has to be made clear that “a true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor”.... We need to feel outrage, as Moses did (cf. Ex 11:8), as Jesus did (cf. Mk 3:5), as God does in the face of injustice (cf. Am 2:4-8; 5:7-12; Ps 106:40)*. He speaks of the culture of the indigenous peoples and what they have to teach us: *The original peoples of the Amazon region have a strong sense of community. It permeates “their work, their rest, their relationships, their rites and celebrations. Everything is shared; private areas – typical of modernity – are minimal. Life is a communal journey where tasks and responsibilities are apportioned and shared on the basis of the common good. There is no room for the notion of an individual detached from the community or from the land”...Daily existence is always cosmic*.

This entire document has much to teach us here in the west, and much to inspire our own work for the preservation of our world. I invite you to read it, available in our wonderful bookshop, and also on the Vatican website and through our own excellent parish website. Do please also think about joining the ecology spirituality group which meets each Tuesday morning in Lent. (Please see the information below.) And please pray for the indigenous peoples of the earth, and for all those who work for the protection of our environment.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Precautions

Because of the coronavirus, Bishop Richard has recommended, as an act of caring for others –

- **Sanitise your hands** with gel provided as you enter Church.
- **The sign of Peace** will be given without physical contact, (a polite bow would be appropriate).
- **Holy Communion** will be under one kind, and in the hand only.

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of – Merryel Barnwell, Mother Mary Garson, Tony Corio, Stan Geal, Daniel Harrison, Rev Canon Richard Incedon, Terry Smith, John Surtees, Nancy Wilson Stuart, Kitty Cahill, John Burge and Terry Fallon.
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.

Worth Abbey Parish

We welcome young families to our liturgies at Worth, and we hope that you feel welcome. We would like to remind parents that we offer Junior Church in two groups: pre-school children in the Unity Room, and children of school age in the choir vestry. There is also an area near the parlours upstairs (entry from the narthex, past the gents toilets) which you can use if necessary, and from which you can see and hear everything. In addition to the Sunday mass at Worth there is also a less formal mass on Saturday at 5 pm and on Sunday in the much smaller and informal setting of St Dunstan's chapel, in North Lane, West Hoathly, at 11.30 am.

Collections

Gift Aid – **£387.70** Non Gift Aid – **£334.48**

This weekend there is a Second Collection for CAFOD Lenten Fast Day.

Stations of the Cross

Each Friday in Lent at 7.15pm.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 10th March. - 7pm for 7.30pm. As part of the relaunch of the Worth-Uganda Friendship Parish Charity, we will be holding a 4-course fundraising dinner with raffle at the excellent Java and Jazz in Forest Row. At a cost of £32.50 per head, tickets will be available from Maria in the Parish Office, payable in advance or at Java and Jazz. Monks will be in attendance.

Request for raffle prizes to be collected at the Parish Office if you are able to donate please ASAP.

Saturday 14th March – Tristan and Gabriel Van Assche will be selling home-made biscuits and cupcakes after mass. This will be in aid of Chestnut Tree House children's hospice.

Sunday 15th March – Worth Choral Society & The Kidbrooke Singers and WS Symphony Orchestra. In the Abbey Church at 7.30pm. Programme includes Mozart's Requiem (Choral) and Marquez's Danzon No 2 (Orchestra).

Sunday 22nd March – Tenebrae in the Abbey Church at 7.30pm

The Worth Pro-Earth

Journey to 2030 group invite you to join a Prayer, Share/ Reflection Group during Lent in this Year of the Word; focusing on our need of "inner conversion to halt and redress our abusive exploitation of this planet".

Please join us for one hour sessions and coffee, each **Tuesday morning in Lent- at 10.30am** in St. Benedict's Parish Office.

If this is not a convenient time for you we could arrange another group on another day or at a different time.

Please leave a message at the parish office if you have other suggestions.

Further enquiries to Fr. Paul at the parish office or Sr. Jo Threlfall – jo.threlfall@btinternet.com or 07949289902

Youth Mass

Next Saturday, 14th March at 5pm, we are having a Youth Mass. The theme will be the Environment.

There will be a speaker and refreshments in the Unity Room afterwards.

CAFOD Coffee Mornings

During Lent, Hal and Rory Clarke will kindly host coffees and conversation on Mondays at 10.30am at their home in aid of CAFOD. All are welcome at Cinderhill House, RH17 7BD.

CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day

Friday 6 March is the 60th anniversary of the first Family Fast Day led by our Founding Mothers and, as it has been for sixty years, is an opportunity to reach out and support highly-skilled local experts around the world who help the poorest members of our global family. Please drop your envelope into the collection this week and give whatever you can to help experts like Sister Consilia - a nun and trained pharmacist who treats people in rural Zimbabwe - continue their vital work.



A very big thank you for the kind and generous support at our cake sale at Mass on Saturday Feb 29th. You kindly raised £100 for Chestnut Tree House, Children's Hospice. If you missed this one, we will hold another cake sale at the next Children's Liturgy on **Saturday March 14th**.



GDWG 25th Birthday Auction

The Gatwick detainee welfare group is holding an auction online with over 100 lots ready to bid on. Please go to www.jumblebee.co.uk/gdwg25th to give your support.

The journey to 2030: Worth Pro-Earth

Did you know that onshore wind is the cheapest new source of electricity in the UK?

It is also extremely popular with 79% of the UK public throughout the country.

The UK is the windiest country in Europe, so new onshore wind projects offer an opportunity to reduce energy bills nationally, cut carbon and increase our energy independence.

However, in 2015 the government blocked onshore wind and solar projects from bidding into competitive auctions for low carbon electricity, and the number of new onshore wind projects has plummeted by almost 95%. It means that very soon the UK will be unable to meet our world-leading climate targets, unless the Government decides to fulfil the Prime Minister's promise to the electorate to make the UK the "cleanest, greenest" country in the World.

The forthcoming budget on the 11th March offers a key opportunity for the new government to fulfil this promise, so now is the time for us to write to our MP asking him/her to encourage the Chancellor, to include the resumption of "Contracts for Difference" auctions for onshore wind projects in the budget.

We can find more information on this, with a template letter if required,

At: 1010org.cp.bsd.net

England to be rededicated as Mary's Dowry with personal consecration to the Blessed mother

All Catholics, and anyone else who wants to join in, will be invited to begin a personal 33 day consecration to Jesus through Mary. The booklet can be obtained from Walsingham shrine, on request.

www.shop.walsingham.org.uk/33-days-to-morning-glory.

25th March - The Feast of the Annunciation

26th - 28th March - A three-day triduum of prayer in which all will be invited to recite the litany of Saints and Martyrs of England, pray the Rosary and go to Confession in preparation for the rededication.

29th March - Dedication of England as the Dowry of Mary. This will take place in Westminster, Walsingham, every Cathedral, every parish, and as many homes as possible. People will be invited to pray The Angelus following the guidelines in the book 'The Angelus Promise' which can also be obtained from the Shrine. (www.behold2020.com)

The Passion of Jesus

Easter Saturday, 11th April, Guildford High Street, 12pm and 2.30pm. Join us for two free performances of The Passion of Jesus in Guildford. These extremely moving performances contain a realistic interpretation of the crucifixion, with parental guidance advised.

ROMERO'S MARTYRDOM

Archbishop John Wilson will be celebrating a mass for the Feast of St. Oscar Romero on **Saturday 21st March** at 12.30pm at St George's Cathedral, Southwark. **Tuesday 24th March 2020**, will be the 40th Anniversary of St. Oscar Romero's martyrdom.

Laudato Si - Fr Eduardo Scarel

Wednesday 6th May, 10.30am - 11.30am at St George's College, Addlestone, KT15 2QS 2020 sees the fifth anniversary of the landmark letter on climate change published by Pope Francis. Laudato Si' is widely acknowledged as the most astonishing and perhaps most ambitious papal document of the past century that speaks to all people worldwide regardless of nationality or religion.

We are therefore delighted and honoured to announce that we will be marking this special anniversary by hosting a unique lecture given by Dr Eduardo Scarel, the 'Pope's Climatologist', who was a key contributor to this important document.

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 dates are **5th April and 3rd May**.

Christian Meditation Group - Blessed Sacrament Chapel **7.15pm - 8pm** followed by Compline. Contact Caterina 01243 554001. **Next dates –18th March, 1st April and 15th April (in PARLOUR ROOM 1)**

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

*“Prayer ought to be short and pure, unless it be prolonged by the inspiration of Divine Grace”
(St Benedict)*

Next Sunday's Readings: **Third Sunday of Lent (Year A)**

1st Reading –Exodus 17:3-7 2nd Reading – Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel: John 4:5-42

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar

Daily Readings

Monday – Dan 9:4b-10 Luke 6:36-38

Tuesday – Isa 1:10, 16-20 Matt 23:1-12

Wednesday – Jer 18:18-20 Matt 20:17-28

Thursday – 2 Cor 4:1-2, 5-7 Luke 22:24-30 or 1 Thess 2:2-8 Matt 16:13-19

Friday – Gen 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a Matt 21:33-43, 45-46 (Anniversary of the election of Pope Francis) (2013)

Saturday – Mic 7:14-15, 18-20 Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

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.