

“Whenever you begin any good work you should first of all make a most pressing appeal to Christ our Lord to bring it to perfection.”
(Rule of St Benedict)



Tips for the weekend – 7th/8th October

Do you have things in your home that you no longer use?
Is it time to give them a new home?

There are several Freecycle groups in our area (www.freecycle.org). The Emmaus Community in Portslade collect furniture (www.emmaus.org.uk/brighton_hove). Charity shops are always pleased to receive donations

Enjoy clearing the clutter and helping others.

This week marks the beginning of Prisons Week. This is sponsored by all the Churches in Britain, and is a moment when we are asked to pray for prisoners and their families, and for all who work in prisons and who volunteer to support prisoners and their families.

There are over eighty six thousand prisoners in the UK today, and more than ninety eight thousand children have one parent in gaol. The number of prisoners has risen over the past few years, while numbers of staff working in prisons have fallen, creating a dangerous environment for them all.

A high proportion of prisoners suffer from mental health issues. Our church leaders ask us to hold them all in our prayers. *“That victims, prisoners, staff and families, may know that they are not walking this road alone, but that God, who loves them, is ready to walk with them. In Prison Week, we stand in prayer with all who carry on in hope, that they would know they are loved by God and have the faith and courage to press on towards new life”.*

The Catholic organisation, PACT, (Prison Advice and Care Trust), has for its patron Cardinal Vincent Nicols. He writes to us today, reminding us that everyone is loved by God, no matter what they may have done. *“Prisoners may find themselves on the fringes of society, but the Gospel reminds us of our duties towards them. “I was naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me”... I pray that we may never forget that all people, whoever they are and whatever they may have done, are loved by God and called to share in his Kingdom”. He continues : “Prisoners’ families, prisoners and people with previous convictions often find themselves on the margins of society due to the social stigma associated with imprisonment. They are often forgotten or come lower down on the list of causes to ‘hold a hand out to’. But the gospel reminds us of our duties towards them. Pact’s work embodies the Christian value of mercy and belief in the innate dignity of every human being. Through this campaign we ask you to engage with a core element of Catholic social teaching and put our faith into action”.*

Please look at the work which is being done by PACT on their web site (available via the parish website), and take a copy of the prayer leaflet which has been produced for the week. We offer below one of their prayers.

The Prisons Week Prayer - Lord, you offer freedom to all people. We pray for those in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist. Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care for them. Heal those who have been wounded by the actions of others, especially the victims of crime. Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day. Amen.

Anniversaries - Please pray for the souls of Glen Robertson, Mary Mason, Jack Harwood-Davis, Archbishop Cyril Cowderoy, Arthur Maynard

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

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

This weekend we present 2 families whose children will be baptised soon: Erin Lehane and Amaia Bernadette Ewen, with their parents Jerry and Sandra and Darren and Fay. We offer them our congratulations. Please pray for them and welcome them.

ECUMENICAL HARVEST SONGS OF PRAISE: THIS WEEKEND, 8th October at St Leonards Church in Turners Hill at 3:00 pm. **Please add your name and contact details to the list on the noticeboard in the Narthex if you will be attending.** Please also note what item of food you would like to bring, e.g. cakes/scones/sandwiches. Anyone able to help form a choir would be very welcome. Please contact Fr Paul.

OUR LADY OF WORTH: Thursday, 12th October — 4.45pm Conventual Mass with Abbot Luke

PARISH WALK: Sunday 15th October. Meet at 11.30am at The Gallipot Pub which is on B2110, just about a mile before you go down to Hartfield, on the left hand side coming from Forest Row. We walk to Pooh Bridge and up onto the Forest towards Gills' Lap and then back for lunch at 1.30pm. Length of walk is 4 miles. Anyone for lunch only, is very welcome too.

Please contact Trishiasol@aol.com or cfitzs3287@aol.com if you are able to come.

PARISH EVENTS GROUP: Autumn Walk with Sunday Lunch - 22nd October. By kind permission of the Abbot, a rare opportunity to join a guided walk with Mark Tibble, Assistant Head Forester for the Balcombe Estate, exploring the nature, magnificent trees and natural beauty of the 500 acre Worth Estate. With time for a cup of coffee after Mass, we will set off at 11:00 am from the Piazza, before returning soon after midday for a traditional Sunday lunch in the historic Whitehead Room. Cost £10 per head or £8 for children under 12. Water provided, but bring your own wine. The walk is unsuitable for pushchairs and no dogs are permitted. Please bring suitable footwear. Places are limited, so please book early by emailing names and your contact details to: Sara at sbh0369@yahoo.com. Please make payment by cash or by cheque payable to Worth Abbey Parish, and post to: Sara Barclay Hudson, Harvey's Farm, Warninglid, West Sussex, RH17 5TQ or drop into the Parish office in an envelope clearly marked: AUTUMN WALK.

SATURDAY 28TH OCTOBER: Mass will be celebrated especially for Irundu. This will be animated, as in previous years, by the Uganda Choir. It will be followed by a party in Compass House. Everyone welcome

SUSY BROUARD: who leads the CAFOD Livesimply team, will be speaking about this programme, on Saturday, November 18th (a.m.) ending with lunch

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND: There will be a second collection for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day. **Please complete the gift aid details if you are using the envelopes. (If you have not brought your envelope today, please bring it next week)**

OTHER EVENTS

Turners Hill Parish Newsletter: There are some new October editions of the Turners Hill Parish Newsletter in the Narthex for those who would like.

Diverse Crawley: 14th October at Civic Hall from 3pm-6pm – You are invited to our main Diverse Crawley event, Celebrating black history events, Festival of Lights (Diwali). Please wear traditional outfits and bring your flags (if possible). This is a FREE family event for ALL.

Facing Depression Together Awareness Day: an opportunity to learn about depression and how to support those living with it. Free event. Saturday, 14th October, 10:00 am–3:30 pm, at The Holiday Inn, Egerton Road, Guildford. Lunch provided. Booking essential. www.peertalk.org.uk/index.php/events or contact admin@peertalk.org.uk

An afternoon concert by the Slinfold Concert Band: Sunday 15th October at 2.30pm at Crawley United Reformed Church. You will be treated to a selection of musical favourites. Tickets £5.00. Children under 18 £2.50 from the church office and on the door. For more information see – www.crawleyurc.org.uk

South East England Faiths Forum (SEEFF) Annual Conference & AGM: at Worth Abbey: *Chaplaincy in a Plural Society*. Tuesday 17th October, 9:30 am–5:00 pm in the Performing Arts Centre (Building Opposite the Church). £12 (lunch included) www.se-faithforum.net. Email: contact@se-faithforum.net

Retreat Weekend for young adults (20's and 30's): 20th-22nd October in London. The theme of the weekend will be Prayer and Discernment. This weekend is organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). There will be input, prayer, reflection and discussion with other young adults. You are welcome to attend for the day or to stay for the weekend. Cost is £35. For more information please contact – Sr Lynne Fcj at lynnefcj@hotmail.com.

The Church in the World (Reconciliation and renewal): Wednesday 25th October at 7.30pm at Crawley United Reformed Church. Hear a speaker from Jews for Jesus. All are welcome. Free Entrance. Come and ask, Is Faith shaping the world today?

Fund Raising Palestinian Coffee Morning: Saturday 28th October at 11am. Please join me for a slice of Arabic cake and coffee. I'm raising money for the Ahil Hospital in Gaza and MAP. These 2 British charities want to raise money to help provide treatment and care for women who have breast cancer. For more information and for the address of the venue, please call Shirley on 01294 406617.

HOPE 2017 - FESTIVAL DAY FOR 11-14s, WITH RISE THEATRE: On Sunday November 19th (2pm to 5.30pm) the diocese is running a festival day for young people aged 11-14 at Arundel Cathedral. The day coincides with the first World Day for the Poor, and will challenge us to think about how we are living Christ's call to serve those in need. The day will include Mass with Bishop Richard, as well as drama from RISE Theatre, and input from CAFOD and others. Spaces are limited, so booking is essential. Contact Jack.Regan@dabnet.org for more information, or to book. We are expecting those attending to be part of organised groups. Young people wanting to attend without accompanying adults must contact Jack Regan for a consent form.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje:

7 night pilgrimage departing on 6th May on a half board basis, in a 4* hotel. Flights from Heathrow. Early bird offer of £575 available until 01/12/2017. To find out more, visit: aglowpilgrimages.com/medjugorje-pilgrimages or call 0800 689 4792.

SAVE THE DATE MUSIC EVENTS

Sunday 5th November - Faure's Requiem in the Abbey Church @ 7.30pm, in aid of the Sisters of Grace and Compassion.

Sunday 12th November - Worth Choral Society in the Abbey Church @ 7.30pm. Programme includes "Miserere" by Jans Zelenka, in aid of Worth Irundu Friendship.

Sunday 3rd December - Christmas Music from Handel's Messiah in the Abbey Church @ 7.30pm, in aid of Worth Irundu Friendship.

Tuesday 12th December - Joint Carol Concert for the Circle Club and the local Nursing Homes (Worth Schola and Ardingly College Schola) in the Abbey Church @ 11.30am

REGULAR EVENTS IN THE PARISH

Adoration: Friday evenings 7.00- 8.00pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Reflection, music and silence. **Confessions (Sacrament of Reconciliation)** Sundays 9.10-9.30am before Mass. **Marian Prayer Group** - 2nd/4th Monday, 7.30pm, Lady Chapel. **Lectio Divina** - Tuesdays 8.20pm, for 30 mins, Parlour 3 (entry from the Narthex) then Compline. **Mass with Prayers for Healing** (1st Wednesday) 7.15pm Blessed Sacrament Chapel. **Christian Meditation Group**, Blessed Sacrament Chapel 7.45pm for 8pm start to 8.45pm followed by Compline. Next dates 11th and 25th October. Contact Gabrielle 01342 326118/Caterina 01243 554001. **Vigil for Vocations** (1st Friday) 9.00pm to midnight in the Abbey Church. Next date 6th October. **Children's Liturgy** (1st Saturday) Next date 7th October (Our Lady of the Rosary). **Sunday Prayers for Healing** Monthly half hour Service of Prayers for Healing in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel after 9.30 am Sunday Mass. Next date 1st October. **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; marian.imhasly@gmail.com. **Mothers Prayer Group** in Balcombe every Tuesday 12pm. Call Marie 07860 845658. All faiths and none are most welcome.

Parish Priest: Fr Paul Fleetwood

Parish Office Email: parish@worth.org.uk **Parish Office Tel:** 01342 710313 **Parish Website:**
www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk **Secretary:** Maria Stribbling (Hours: 9.30am-1.30pm)

Safeguarding: Rachel Davies (07801 696354) and Maria Stribbling (01342 710313) **Car Share:** Jill Carter: 07836 316525

In Touch: If you would like anything to appear in 'In Touch', please email: worthintouch@hotmail.co.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.

Next Sunday's Readings: Sunday 28 **First Reading - Isa 25:6-10** **Second Reading – Phil 4:12-14, 19-20**

Gospel - Matthew 22:1-14 - The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son." He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.'

But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. He asked, 'How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?' The man was speechless.

Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie his hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are invited, but few are chosen.'

Daily Readings

Monday – Jonah 1:1-2:1,11 Luke 10:25-37

Tuesday – Jonah 3:1-10 Luke 10:38-42

Wednesday – Jonah 4:1-11 Luke 11:1-4

Thursday – Malachi 3:13-20 Luke 11:5-13

Friday – Joel 1:13-15, 2:1-2 Luke 11:15-26

Saturday – Joel 4:12-21 Luke 11:27-28

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