

**Listen and attend with the ear of your heart.**  
(Rule of St Benedict)



## Tips for the weekend – 21<sup>st</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> October

Traidcraft, CAFOD and other organisations have come together to try and persuade Sainsburys not to drop its Fairtrade certification from its best-selling Red Label tea. Sainsburys are wanting to downgrade it to a 'fairly traded' status which will not guarantee the same benefits for producers.

To get involved see [www.dontditchfairtrade.com](http://www.dontditchfairtrade.com) and the petition on [change.org](http://change.org).

There is a day of action on October 28th.

## Irundu - our Friendship Parish

At our vigil mass on Saturday 28th October we will be celebrating our friendship with the parish of Irundu in Uganda, when we will be joined by a Ugandan Choir and continue after the mass with refreshments in Compass House.

In 2005 we expressed a desire to understand and learn from life in a developing country, and also to find ways to help a community. In 2007 we formed a partnership with the Parish of St Matia Malumba, Irundu in eastern Uganda. The Friendship has made significant contributions to the health, educational and economic needs of the parish. These have included building a health centre and accommodation for visitors, developing vocational training courses and providing school benches and desks.

We have funded this work through the generosity of parishioners, and we are particularly grateful to Cynthia Haynes, who for many years has visited Irundu and overseen much of this development - work for which she was presented with the Benemerenti Papal Award last year.

Our parish has responded generously to two appeals over the last year. We supported a project inspired by parishioners Paul and Ali Ambridge, who chose Irundu as the charity project for Worth School Junior House.

Gaining a qualification is really important for young people in our friendship parish and under their leadership, a workshop for training car mechanics was built. The parish then raised enough money to fill the empty workshop with equipment, from welding goggles to old petrol and diesel engines.

In March we learned that the people of Irundu were suffering from hunger. Poor rains mean poor crops, and there was no money to buy seeds for planting. The severe drought had ended and the urgent need was to plant, to ensure food for the future.

We responded swiftly and raised money for seeds that went to the whole community, not just the Irundu parishioners. The rains came and we now know that a good crop has been a huge benefit to Irundu. but we are

asking for your help yet again.

Perhaps our most vital project is the *Matia Mulumba Health Centre*. This Diocesan-owned health facility is one of only six Catholic health centres in the diocese with in-patient facilities, and there are 10 qualified medical staff working full time in the Centre. It has largely been built by donors from Worth Abbey parish.

Irundu Parish has a three per cent population growth rate, but infant mortality rates are 90 per 1000 births; and average life expectancy is only forty-five, with the most frequent diseases being malaria, anaemia, urinary infections, birth complications and peptic ulcers. The latest average monthly figures show some 1,400 in-patients and 90 birth deliveries. We came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the district for service in our Health Centre. All this costs money. The Centre receives government support, but the level of service we seek to provide means a significant shortfall in funding annual costs.

Three years ago we asked our parishioners to consider committing to an annual contribution towards the Health Centre. We had a heart-warming response, but inevitably over time the Health Centre deficit has increased and the annual amount we raise has fallen. Like *Oliver Twist*, we come asking for more.

Please read the flyer in your service sheets and help us build up the annual support we give to this critically important service to the whole Irundu community.

Please pray for the people of Irundu and for the help of the Holy Spirit for us to discern how we can best deepen our friendship with them.

### **The Worth-Irundu Friendship Prayer**

God our Father,  
Our refuge in adversity,  
Our strength in weakness,  
Our comfort in sorrow,  
Be merciful to your people.

Keep the churches of Worth and Irundu in your special care.

Increase our faith,  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And help us to keep learning from each other,  
Offering to each other  
And receiving from each other.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen

**Anniversaries** - Please pray for the souls of - Cecily Evans, Miss Millet, Peter Cole, Cecily Hallack, Alexander Duncan, Audrey Sherwin, Lady Dora Wilkinson, Gerry McGiven, Jean Whigham, Kathleen Rogers, Moy Steel, Albert Marchant, Hdmayoun Djavadezadeh, Ivor Francis Davies, John Elton, Deidre Sweetman, Caterina Brenninkmeyer, William Toomey, John Bonner, Mabel Grant-Collie, Peter Seamons, Martin MacDonnell, Trevor Botting, Margaret Mary Hull

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

**Prayer:** Please pray for Alli Roberts, for healing and strength in her illness.

## PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

**Re-Lit:** Sessions will be held each Tuesday @ 7.30pm, Wednesday @ 7.45pm and Thursday @ 11am. All sessions will be held in the parish office.

**Parish Events Group:** The walk and lunch on 22<sup>nd</sup> October is now full. Thank you for your interest.

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October:** 5pm mass will be celebrated especially for Irundu. This will be animated, as in previous years, by a Ugandan choir. It will be followed by a party in Compass House. If you would like to provide puddings for this event, we would be very grateful as we are aware we have some amazing bakers and cooks in our parish. Please let us know in the office. More information will be provided next weekend.

**Second collection this weekend:** This weekend there will be a second collection for MISSIO (World Mission Sunday)

**Eucharistic Ministers Retreat:** For those who were unable to come to the previous retreat, we are organising another half day retreat on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November. For those who can, we will begin with Mass at 9am in the Abbey Church. After that we will go up to the sitting room of Compass House for coffee and begin with a time of Lectio Divina and then we will look at some aspects of the Eucharist and talk about any practical issues which we may need to consider. We will finish by going down to church for mid-day prayer at 1pm and for those who can stay, we will offer Lunch in Compass House. Please let us know in the office.

## OTHER EVENTS

**Part-time secretary position:** The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton education service is looking for a part time secretary. The position is based in Crawley. Closing date is 20<sup>th</sup> October. Please contact Ann Baldwin on 01293 511130 or [ann.baldwin@dabnet.org](mailto:ann.baldwin@dabnet.org)

**Retreat Weekend for young adults (20's and 30's):** 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> October in London. The theme of the weekend will be Prayer and Discernment. This weekend is organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FJC). 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](mailto:lynnefcj@hotmail.com).

**The Church in the World (Reconciliation and renewal):** Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> 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?

**Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> October:** 8.7 Million abortions have taken place since the abortion act was passed in 1967. On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passing of the Abortion Act, please join the Good Counsel Network in praying and fasting for the end of abortion. For further information please see our website: [www.goodcounselnetwork.com](http://www.goodcounselnetwork.com)

**Fund Raising Palestinian Coffee Morning:** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October at 11am. Shirley writes - 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 19<sup>th</sup> (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](mailto: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.

## SAVE THE DATE MUSIC EVENTS

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

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

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

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> 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 date will be 25<sup>th</sup> Oct, 8<sup>th</sup> Nov, 29<sup>th</sup> Nov. Contact Gabrielle 01342 326118/Caterina 01243 554001. **Vigil for Vocations** (1st Friday) 9.00pm to midnight in the Abbey Church. Next date 3<sup>rd</sup> November. **Children's Liturgy** (1st Saturday) Next date 4<sup>th</sup> November (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 5<sup>th</sup> November and 3<sup>rd</sup> December. **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](mailto:clare_harper@hotmail.com); [marian.imhasly@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:parish@worth.org.uk) Parish Office Tel: 01342 710313 Parish Website: [www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk](http://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](mailto: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 30**

**First Reading** - Exod 22:20-26 **Second Reading** - 1 Thess 1:5-10

## Gospel

### **Matthew 22:34-40 - The Great Commandment**

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God, with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments, depend all the Law and the Prophets."

### **Daily Readings**

Monday - Rom 4:20-25 Luk 12:13-21

Tuesday - Rom 5:12,15,17-19 Luk 12:35-38

Wednesday - Rom 6:12-18 Luk 12:39-48

Thursday - Rom 6:19-23 Luk 12:49-53

Friday - Rom 7:18-25 Luk 12:54-59

Saturday - Eph 2:19-22 Luk 6:12-16

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