

“There is nothing better to display the truth in an excellent light, than a clear and simple statement of facts”

(Rule of St Benedict)



Tips for the weekend – 4th / 5th November

Thoughtful Gifts

The Traidcraft stall is selling a range of Gifts for Life, which can make a real difference to the lives of people in some of the poorest countries in the world.

For instance, the gifts can help smallholder families to send their children to school, feed their families and access health care.

From Maintenance to Mission – Divine Renovation in Your Parish.

Last week Theresa Hobson Frohock, the leader of our Evangelisation Team, wrote about this conference which she and I attended. You will remember that it was given by Fr James Mallon and his partners from the parish of St Benedict, Halifax, in Canada. They told us of the urgency to transform the Church in the West, telling us how in their country mass attendance had fallen by 50% in ten years, and that in the U.K. some 60% of Catholics never come to church.

Fr James began by talking about the importance of a vision which can inspire us – a vision of the future which produces passion in the present. He warned that passion is stifled by maintenance, but is sustained by the same compassion which empowered Jesus' own mission. It is something which we must all feel and share, and it is at the heart of the vocation of all the baptised. (Our own Re-Lit programme is helping us to re-discover our passion for the Gospel and our mission.)

So what is our vision? Pope Francis offers us a clear lead here in his document *The Joy of The Gospel – Evangelii Gaudium*.

He writes (#48) *“If the whole Church takes up this missionary impulse, she has to go forth to everyone without exception. But to whom should she go first? When we read the Gospel we find a clear indication: not so much our friends and wealthy neighbours, but above all the poor and the sick, those who are usually despised and overlooked, those who cannot repay you (Lk 14:14). There can be no room for doubt or for explanations which weaken so clear a message. Today and always, the poor are the privileged recipients of the Gospel and the fact that it is freely preached to them is a sign of the kingdom that Jesus came to establish.”*

These words should offer a challenge to each one of us. Pope Francis continues, *“ We have to state, without mincing words, that there is an inseparable bond between our faith and the*

poor. May we never abandon them. This is his vision for the universal Church. He urges us : Let us go forth to offer everyone the life of Jesus Christ...I prefer a Church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets, rather than a Church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security. (#49)".

Can we make this our own vision? Can we become a community of missionary disciples who reach out to those in need? Please pray that we be filled by God's Holy Spirit to fulfil our vocation.

At the end of November we have a meeting of all involved in Re-Lit to assess our progress to date, and look forward to being in touch with you about this again.

Anniversaries - Please pray for the souls of - Francis Pollen, Walter Stanford, Bronka Bogacz, Charles Bethune, Abbot John Chapman - Founder-Abbot of Worth, Ernest Paskett, Kathleen Brockley, Bob Perry, Dom Eric Booker, Judith Wright, Noreen Short (formerly Fieldwick), Bridie Ricketts, John Hicklin, Michael Keating, Christine Genders
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

***Please pray for the family of Erin Lehane, who is being baptised this Saturday, 4th November.
Please do welcome the family.***

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

Volunteering: The Gatwick Visitors Group, which visits immigration detainees held at the airport; Refugees Welcome Crawley, who befriend and help refugee families who live locally; the Crawley SVP Group, who assist families in need in the Crawley area; Life, which supports a house in Crawley and another in Haywards Heath, for single mothers; helping prepare and serve meals in the Friary Hall in Crawley on Sundays at lunch time. Please look at the web site, on the volunteering page, or get in touch with the office for more information.

Irundu Mass: Last Saturday we had a very joyful celebration at the Irundu mass, followed by a wonderful celebration afterwards. The leader of the choir wrote these lines to us. "As noted in my farewell speech, it is always an honour and privilege to come in the name of our brothers and sisters back in Irundu. We had a great time which appears to increase time after time. We pray for God's grace to keep the momentum going. The choir were as usual immensely joyed by the parishioners at the reception. I wish you continued good health until we meet again".

If anyone else would like to make a Standing Order in favour of the Health Centre, please ask for a form or contact Paul Ambridge - pambridge@worth.org.uk

Thank you: We would like to say a very big Thank You to Jenny Harrison for her wonderful homemade jams and chutneys. So far Jenny has raised £361 in one weekend for Irundu. She will be back with more lovely jams and chutneys after mass on 3rd and 10th December.

2nd Collection this weekend: There will be a second collection for the Retired Priests Fund.

Prayers for Healing: There will be a half hour service of prayers for healing starting at 10.45am, after Sunday mass, in The Blessed Sacrament Chapel. All Welcome.

Young Adults Advent weekend at Worth Abbey: From 1st-3rd December, run by the Wellsprings Community. For further information contact toc@worthabbey.net or see our noticeboard.

Traidcraft Stall: Our Traidcraft stall will now be open every Sunday until Christmas, for Christmas cards and gifts. For any special orders for cards etc, please contact Beryl - berylmcnulty@btinternet.com

Turners Hill News: There are some copies of Turners Hill News in the narthex for those who would like a copy.

Parish Census: As mentioned last weekend, we are in great need of a Parish database update. Starting today and during the month of November we will be handing out a form for you all to fill in. You can do this at home and bring it back the following week or even fill in the "new parishioner form" on our website. We ask that all parishioners fill in this form, current and new, whether there has been any change to your details or not.

**** Please note that we will remove from the database the names of those who do not return a form****

Thank you very much for helping us in this way

OTHER EVENTS

Annual Justice & Peace Assembly: Save the date – Saturday 27th January. "Hope Overcoming Fear". The church in the modern world. Speakers Jack Valero – co founder of Catholic Voices and Dr Anthony Towey of St Mary's University. To book, contact Ruth Gerun on 01283 651164 (see our noticeboard)

Friends of Arundel Cathedral: Would you like to become a member of this group? To make an annual gift aid donation and become a member, please see www.arundelcathedralfriends.org

The Passage, a Christian Charity working with homeless people: Is holding a fundraising concert at the Royal Festival Hall on Tuesday 7 November on the theme Russian Soul with Griff Rhys Jones as presenter. The music includes pieces by Rachmaninov, Borodin, Mussorgsky and Tchaikovsky with soloists Boris Giltburg, Duncan Rock and Robert Lloyd. For more details visit <http://nutsconcert.com/> or call 020 7592 1856

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.

Catholic Singles: This is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years) meet other single Catholics, either one to one or through social events. For further information visit www.catholicsingles.org.uk or tel. 0161 941 3498

The BIG ENCOUNTER: Saturday November 11 at Newman College in Hove. The programme starts at 7pm. Doors open 6.30. And what a programme it is... The music is being led by One Hope Project, who are probably the biggest Catholic band in the country right now, and the keynote speaker is Maria Rodrigues from Premier Christian Radio. Bishop Richard will be leading the time of adoration, and an army of others will be on hand, from priests offering confession, to people from a variety of organisations providing 'mini-workshop' activities. The evening is free and it's open to anyone aged 15-30. It's the biggest festival we've held in the Diocese for some time, and we're hoping to pack the place! For more information, contact Jack.Regan@dabnet.org or search for 'Catholic Encounter' on Facebook.

Marriage Preparation Day of Reflection: We will be meeting with Bishop Richard on **Saturday, 25th November** at DABCEC from 9.45-4.00, to look at how we can support engaged couples in their faith journey. There will be opportunities for input and some sharing of good practice. For more information and to book contact Katherine Bergin on 01293 651152 or email katherine.bergin@dabnet.org

SAVE THE DATE MUSIC EVENTS

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.

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 3rd Dec, 7th Jan, 4th Feb.

Christian Meditation Group - Blessed Sacrament Chapel 7.45pm for 8pm start to 8.45pm followed by Compline. Next dates will be 8th Nov, 29th Nov, 13 Dec, Contact Gabrielle 01342 326118/Caterina 01243 554001.

Vigil for Vocations - (1st Friday) 9.00pm to midnight in the Abbey Church. Next date 3rd November.

Children's Liturgy - (1st Saturday) Next date 4th November (Our Lady of the Rosary).

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.

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 32 1st Reading - Wisdom 6:12-16 2nd Reading - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13 - We must be ready to meet the Lord when he comes

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.

When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps.

The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! There will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut.

Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Daily Readings

Monday - Rom 11:29-36 Luke 14:12-14

Tuesday - Rom 12:5-16 Luke 14:15-24

Wednesday - Rom 13:8-10 Luke 14:25-33

Thursday - Gen 28:11-18 1 Cor 3:9-13, 16-17 Luke 19:1-10

Friday - Rom 15:14-21 Luke 16:1-8

Saturday - Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27 Luke 16:9-15

