

**“If you notice something good in yourself, give credit to God, not to yourself, but be certain that the evil you commit is always your own”**

(St Benedict)



## Tips for the weekend – 25<sup>th</sup> / 26<sup>th</sup> November

Every day in the UK we throw away around 5.8m potatoes. Potatoes can still be used if they have sprouts or green patches - just cut these out Surplus potatoes can be par boiled and frozen ready to make into roast potatoes at a later date

## Today we celebrate the feast of Christ the King.

Although this feast was instituted only very recently, it celebrates themes which are at the heart of Easter and the Ascension – the triumph of Jesus over everything which diminishes human life and love. The opening prayer appeals to God *whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of the universe*. This builds on today’s reading from St Paul, where he speaks of Jesus who, in his humanity, draws all the human race into God, through suffering death and being raised to life. *Having been raised from the dead, Jesus is the first fruits of all who have fallen asleep*. Because in his humanity Jesus shared in everything which is ours, we may share in what is his, most especially his life with God the Father.

In his reflection for the World Day of the Poor, which we observed last weekend, Pope Francis wrote: *The kingship of Christ is most evident on Golgotha, when the Innocent One, nailed to the cross, poor, naked and stripped of everything, incarnates and reveals the fullness of God’s love. Jesus’ complete abandonment to the Father expresses his utter poverty and reveals the power of the Love that awakens him to new life on the day of the Resurrection*. By sharing in humanity’s deepest experience of loss, Jesus draws all human life to the Father for healing; and in those with whom Jesus shows most solidarity, we can recognise and meet him most clearly. In our gospel reading today, Matthew speaks of the hungry, the homeless, prisoners and strangers, as those who can bring us the presence of Jesus in a privileged way.

Through our baptism we are invited to share in Jesus’ work: *All lay men and women must cooperate in spreading and in building up the Kingdom of Christ* (Lumen Gentium, #35) – and we do this in every aspect of our lives, *so that the world may attain its destiny in justice, love and peace*. Our Bishops reminded us that *working for justice is a constitutive element of preaching the gospel*, and urge us to work for *a more just distribution of the world’s goods...to adopt a simpler and more just life style...and to be aware of our responsibility for the whole of our environment*. (Easter People, 1980, #166)

Do please consider how you can respond to this call to serve God’s Kingdom. Please visit the volunteer’s page on the parish website and please pray that our parish may become effective servants of the Gospel.

**Prayers:** Please pray for the improved health of Helen Sweetman and Mr Karindi

**Anniversaries - Please pray for the souls of** – Anne Carter, Mrs Malton, Dr Ivor Haire, Susan Law, Andy Girdwood, William Avery Wright, Cynthia O’Neil,  
**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.**

## PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

### *Special Events for your Calendar*

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December:** Christmas Music from Handel's Messiah in the Abbey Church @ 7.30pm, in aid of Worth Irundu Friendship. Jenny will be selling her wonderful jams and chutney's after the mass and at the concert, all in aid of Irundu.

**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

**An evening of Advent reflection:** On 17<sup>th</sup> December, we are pleased to offer a meditative moment of prayer and quiet to help you prepare for Christmas. We will begin with the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel at 5.30pm. This will be followed by Monastic Vespers to which everyone is most welcome. After Vespers there will be mince pies and mulled wine in the Narthex. At 7.30pm D'Arcy Trinkwon will perform Olivier Messiaen's "La Nativite du Seigneur" (The birth of the Lord)

**RISE Theatre group performance:** 13<sup>th</sup> January, the "RISE Theatre" will give a performance of their highly acclaimed play "Romero". This will take place in the PAC at 7pm. There will be refreshments beforehand and the play will last about 1 hour. Cost for tickets is £10 per adult and £5 for children. **To reserve a ticket, please contact the office.**

**Church Unity Celebration:** Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> January, at 3 pm. This will be in the Abbey church, followed by refreshments. Everyone is welcome, and all the Churches in the local villages. The team from Crawley Down will offer "messy church" in the Unity Room for any child who would like this.



### **PEG EVENT 2018**

Saturday 27 January 2018 - our great New Year event! Luxury coach to Greenwich to explore the Cutty Sark, Queen's House and Maritime Museum, the famous Greenwich indoor market, wonderful street food, guided tour of almshouses and more! Tickets NOW £29  
Contact Sara Barclay-Hudson (01444 461236) [sbh0369@yahoo.com](mailto:sbh0369@yahoo.com)

**'Waiting in Wonder' Retreat:** 'Waiting in Wonder' is a retreat for young adults (aged 18-35) being held 1st-3rd December here at Worth Abbey. It is an opportunity to enter more deeply into the themes of Advent in preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas, offering the chance of encounter with Christ in prayer through the Benedictine monastic tradition, talks from the monks and members of the Wellspring Community, space for reflection, participation in the rhythm of prayer with the monastic community (The Divine Office), Lectio Divina, walks in the beautiful Sussex countryside, and time for building community and friendships (plus mulled wine and mince pies!)  
The cost is £62 for students/unwaged, £102 waged, and includes meals and accommodation. To book, or for more info, please email Katrina at [TOC@worthabbey.net](mailto:TOC@worthabbey.net)

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

**Christmas tree Lights:** Beryl Crowhust invites us to bring decorations for the Christmas tree in St Leonards, Turners Hill, on Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, from 10 am. Lights need to be battery powered.

## *Can you help?*

**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.

**Garden Space:** Does anyone have space in their garden for a group of families, directed by gardeners from Refugees Welcome Crawley, to cultivate plants and vegetables? Please get in touch with the office.

**Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group:** The Gatwick Detainee centre is in great need of jogging bottoms, hoodies, coats, trainers and rucksacks. We would be most grateful for any of these items that you may be able to donate. Anything you have can be dropped off at the parish office.

**Alzheimer Society:** We are again collecting used stamps for the Alzheimer society. There is an envelope on the noticeboard in the Narthex for you to just drop these off. Thank you for all your help with collecting these, this past year.

**PACT Christmas Gift Appeal:** Please help us by donating a Christmas present for children with loved ones in prison. Christmas is hard for the families and a Christmas present means the world to these children. If you could please donate a gift (unwrapped) for £5-£10, for a child, and drop it off at the parish office we would be so grateful. Deadline for gifts is Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Please see noticeboard in Narthex. Thank you

**CAFOD: This year we have collected over £5200  
Thank you for your generosity**

## **OTHER EVENTS**

**CIFN Christmas Party:** Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December from 6pm-9pm. Crawley Interfaith Network are holding a Christmas party, with buffet and refreshments; songs and live music by Lemon & Paice plus carol singing and more. The party is free (donations appreciated). All are welcome, please bring your friends. RSVP is essential (for catering arrangements). Please contact Ashwin Soni 07833 252551 or email – ashel@hotmail.co.uk

**Annual Justice & Peace Assembly:** Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> 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)

**Evenings of Reflection for Confirmation candidates:** Bishop Richard will once again be hosting a series of Evenings of Reflection for Confirmation candidates around the Diocese. The evenings centre on an experience of Lectio Divina, led by Bishop Richard, and have proved extremely popular in 2016 and 2017 with some great feedback being received. In fact, a stunning ninety percent of young people who returned evaluations last year indicated that the evenings were something they would recommend to somebody else! All evenings run from 7pm to 9pm and available dates are: Thursday Jan 18th, Horsham, Saturday Feb 3rd, Womersley (50 places left), Thursday Feb 8th, Epsom (30 places left), Thursday Feb 22nd, Worthing, Saturday Mar 10th, Bexhill. Booking is essential as space is limited. To book your group in, just send Jack Regan an Email- [Jack.Regan@dabnet.org](mailto:Jack.Regan@dabnet.org)

**World Meeting of Families:** Bishop Richard invites families to join him on a pilgrimage to Dublin for the World meeting of families 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> August 2018. This event includes; a three day congress exploring themes from Amoris Laetitia. Wonderful international speakers will lead sessions for adults and there are age appropriate activities for children and young people. This is followed by a concert style “Festival of Families” on the Saturday and the event concludes with Sunday Mass celebrated by Pope Francis.

For further details please contact: [wmof2018@dabnet.org](mailto:wmof2018@dabnet.org)

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec, 7<sup>th</sup> Jan, and 4<sup>th</sup> Feb.

**Christian Meditation Group** - Blessed Sacrament Chapel 7.45pm for 8pm start to 8.45pm followed by Compline. Next dates will be 29<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> December.

**Children's Liturgy** - (1st Saturday) Next date 2<sup>nd</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) or [marian.imhasly@gmail.com](mailto:marian.imhasly@gmail.com).

**Mothers Prayer Group** - in Balcombe every Tuesday 12 noon. Call Marie 07860 845658. All faiths and none are most welcome.

*Parish Priest: Fr Paul Fleetwood*

Mobile: 07764 260216

**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)

Night time emergencies only: 07956 782634

**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: First Sunday of Advent (Year B)

1st Reading – Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - 1 Cor 1:3-9

**Gospel: Mark 13|:33-37**

Jesus said to his disciples: "Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come.

It is like a man travelling abroad, he has gone from home and left his servants in charge, each with his own task and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake.

So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn, if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep.

And what I say to you, I say to all, stay awake!"

### Daily Readings

Monday – Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20 Luke 21:1-4

Tuesday – Daniel 2:31-45 Luke 21:5-11

Wednesday - Daniel 5:1-6,13-14,16-17,23-28 Luke 21:12-19

Thursday – Romans 10:9-18 Matthew 4:18-22

Friday – Daniel 7:2-14 Luke 21:29-33

Saturday – Daniel 7:15-27 Luke 21:34-36