



Worth Abbey Live Streaming –
<https://worthabbey.net/spiritual-resources/liturgy-live-streaming/>

Dear Parishioners

I am pleased to send you our next edition of **In Touch**. Do let us know if we can improve our communication. I will be pleased to hear from you.

This Sunday we celebrate the **Feast of the Holy Trinity**. We all remember the story about St Patrick, holding up the shamrock for his Irish converts to show them the three petals on one stem, illustrating three persons in one God. St Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons in France, in the late second century, was one of the first writers to ask how the Son and the Holy Spirit relate to the Father. He used the image of the Son, or Word, and the Spirit, being the two hands of God the Father, through whom He created and through whom He re-creates all which exists. Irenaeus writes : *God will bestow salvation upon the whole nature of man, consisting of body and soul in close union, since the Word took it upon Him, and adorned it with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, of whom our bodies are, and are termed, the temples.* I like to imagine the Father stretching out His two “hands” in a great embrace of love, for the Son and the Spirit are those who bring us close to the Father. The life of the Trinity offers us an intimacy with God, drawing us into the loving relationship between Father and Son, which is the Holy Spirit. St Paul, writing to the Romans, (cp 8) says : ¹⁴*For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.* ¹⁵*For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’* ¹⁶*it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God,* ¹⁷*and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.* It is through the Holy Trinity that we come close to God. Thomas Merton writes : *The life Jesus came to bring us is his own life as Son of God. And because of his resurrection he received the power to communicate to us all his Spirit as the principle of our life and the life of our own spirit... Christ living in me is at the same time himself and myself.*

The earliest formulation of the doctrine of the Trinity is found in the last teaching of Jesus to his disciples in Matthew’s gospel, cp 28, after the resurrection; and, the climax of the entire gospel, it is the instruction to evangelise the world : ¹⁹*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.* Recent stories from churches around the country encourage us to treat the current lockdown and closure of our buildings not as a hindrance, but as a new opportunity to evangelise. Many congregations have grown massively through on-line material, especially streaming,

and it is clearly a new way to attract people who no longer, or perhaps have never, come inside a church; but who are truly seeking for meaning in their lives in this time of suffering and confusion. I would be most grateful if you could look at the material on the Evangelisation page of our website. <http://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/sacraments-faith/evangelisation/> Look especially at the material from Divine Renovation, and at Everybody Welcome Online, produced by the Church of England. Do please make your suggestions about how we can improve our outreach. Meanwhile, our parish team are working hard to find ways of attracting people; but everyone has a part to play, so do please talk about the website to any friends who might be interested and encourage them to visit.

Some of you have already commented on the absence of visual streaming from the Abbey, and we do recognise this as a serious lack which we must overcome in order to improve our capacity to evangelise. We hope to find a professional team after lockdown is over who will be able to find the right technology to master the difficult acoustics and various focal points of our church for high quality streaming of liturgy. Meanwhile, thank you all for your patience !

On Wednesday we celebrated the feast of **St Charles Lwanga and his Companions – the Uganda Martyrs**, who suffered in the 1880s, following the first Christian missionary work some ten years earlier, and whose number includes both Anglicans and Catholics. They are now revered as the patrons of the Church in Uganda. The Catholics were canonised by Saint Pope Paul 6th in 1964, who made the first ever visit to Africa by a Pope – to the shrine of the Martyrs at Namugongo, five years later. The occasion of their feast day makes a good reminder to us to pray for the Church and people of Uganda, remembering especially Fr Stephen Mudoola, who has visited us here several times. Although we do not now support the parish of Irundu we are raising funds for the charity Running Well, administered by ex-parishioner Julian Gabriel. Julian's charity digs wells for those who lack a source of safe drinking water, and he is working at the moment in Fr Stephen's new parish. Do please see the new article on our website about our contributions. www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/parish-life/african-friendship/

I would like to take this opportunity to thank John and Ann Gallagher for so generously hosting our fundraising dinner for this cause at Java and Jazz in Forest Row. It was a most enjoyable occasion, as well as a really delicious meal, and raised £400 for the charity. Thank you also to all those who came to the dinner and helped to raise the money.

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of Joe Brown, Cmdr Aubrey David, Margaret Bishop, Hugh Pointer

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

Prayers

Please pray for Mac and Maureen Hobson Frohock, both of whom died recently. RIP. Please pray also for Theresa, their daughter, and all her family.

Please pray for Jane Allison, RIP, who died on Sunday, and for Richard, her husband, and Rachel, their daughter.

Please pray for the Church and people of Uganda, remembering especially Fr Stephen Mudoola

Please pray for the healing of Laura Rawlinson. Please pray for her family.



Please pray for all in need of healing and those who care for them.

Please pray for those who live alone, especially our own parishioners.

Please pray for all who are suffering from mental illness.

Please pray for Fr Patrick, who is now back at Worth, but receiving treatment regularly at the Marsden Hospital.

We are pleased to announce that Keith Owers is now back at home, after being in hospital. Please pray for him and Gilly. Gilly writes : *Keith is home again after two and a half months in hospital. His recovery is almost a miracle, the result of so many people's prayers. We would both like to thank everybody who has been so wonderfully supportive.*

Parish Finances

I would like to thank very much all those of you who have been generous enough to change from using Gift Aid envelopes to making a standing order in favour of the parish.

At this moment when we have no congregation in church our income has fallen by about £750 per week in the absence of the plate collection.

If anyone else could consider making a standing order I would be most grateful. Do please get in touch with the parish and we will send you the necessary forms.

Thank you very much.
Fr Paul

Next Week's Readings : Sunday – Corpus Christi

Deuteronomy 8: 2-3, 14-16. 1 Corinthians 10: 16-17. John 6: 51-58

Monday : (week 10 in Ordinary Time) : 1 Kings 17: 1-6; Matthew 5: 1-12

Tuesday : 1Kings 17: 7-16. Matthew 5:13-16

Wednesday : 1Kings 18: 20-39; Matthew 5: 17-19

Thursday : St Barnabas, Apostle Acts 11: 21-26, 13: 1-3. Matthew 5: 20-26

Friday : 1Kings 19: 9,11-16. Matthew 5: 27-32

Saturday : St Anthony of Padua : 1 Kings 19: 19-21. Matthew 5: 33-37

Please view a new prayer video by Pope Francis about the environment and those in need : [“Common Prayer for Earth and Humanity”](#)

For children and young people :

Every Sunday join [CAFOD's Virtual Children's Liturgy](#) at 10.00am.

In the light of school closures CAFOD has resources for [primary school children and young people](#).

Looking forward to Refugee Week, we recommend the following free event online, Tuesday, 9th, at 5 pm :

<https://www2.societyofauthors.org/event/home-migration-and-free-movement-refugee-tales-and-english-pen/>



SOA @ HOME FESTIVAL

SoA Live: Home, Migration and Free Movement with Neel Mukherjee and Ishiaba Kasonga - Refugee Tales & English PEN

Tuesday 9 June @ 5-5.45pm / Online

[Home, Migration and Free Movement: Refugee Tales and English PEN - The Society of Authors](#)

Exploring ideas of home, migration, the free movement of people and languages, alongside PEN's work with young refugee writers. Join us for an in-conversation event with Neel Mukherjee, David Herd and Ishiaba Kasonga who will open the event with a short reading, followed by a panel discussion chaired by Hannah Trevarthen of English PEN.

www2.societyofauthors.org

**For the foreseeable future, Maria will be working from home.
We will all be in contact through email and will pick up your telephone messages.**

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 us at parish@worth.org.uk (By Wednesday morning.)