

Dear Parishioners

I hope that you all continue in good health, with your families and friends. I send you all my prayers, and the monastic community here remember you frequently. In these days of anxiety and uncertainty I believe that prayer is more important than ever, so I would encourage you all to make time for prayer at home whenever you are able. Do please look at the resources on our website – see <https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/worship/daily-reflections/>

And do consider the diocesan Lenten Retreat - <https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/parish-life/parish-news/>

Meanwhile, on Wednesday of next week we celebrate **Holocaust Memorial Day**. January 27th is the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, when we remember and pray for the victims of the Nazi persecution of the Jews, and the many other people who were murdered by them. The Trust which organises this day write: *The Holocaust threatened the fabric of civilisation, and genocide must still be resisted every day. Our world often feels fragile and vulnerable and we cannot be complacent. Even in the UK, prejudice and the language of hatred must be challenged by us all.... Together we bear witness for those who endured genocide, and honour the survivors and all those whose lives were changed beyond recognition.* It is important to recognise that we all have a part to play in overcoming hatred. The Trust draws attention to subsequent occasions of genocide – in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. And there are others we might remember too – the Rohingya in Burma, for example. The title for this year's Memorial is *Be The Light In The Darkness*. One holocaust survivor, Gena Turgel, said: *We will continue to do our bit for as long as we can, secure in the knowledge that others will continue to light a candle long after us.* The organisers write : *This theme, Light In The Darkness, asks us to consider different kinds of 'darkness', for example, identity-based persecution, misinformation, denial of justice; and different ways of 'being the light', for example, resistance, acts of solidarity, rescue and illuminating mistruths. Increasing levels of denial, division and misinformation in today's world mean we must remain vigilant against hatred and identity-based hostility. Rapid technological developments, a turbulent political climate, and world events beyond our control can leave us feeling helpless and insignificant. They conclude, we can all stand in solidarity. We can choose to be the light in the darkness.*

Do please look at their website - <https://www.hmd.org.uk/what-is-holocaust-memorial-day/>

And you might also care to see that of Christian Solidarity Worldwide. To mark Holocaust Memorial Day they are holding an on-line event on Monday, 25th to reflect on the suffering of the Uyghur people in China. The Bishop of Truro writes, *"I speak out for the Uyghur*

people because God loves everyone indiscriminately so there is no one we shouldn't care for, especially those suffering such terrible injustice and discrimination." Do consider joining their event, at 6.30 pm, and enrol here: [sign up for this event now on Eventbrite](#)
One of their speakers is Lord Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury.

Mass will be celebrated on Saturdays at 5pm, on Sundays at 9.30 am,
and will be celebrated as usual on Tuesdays at 10am.

*5pm mass can be streamed at <https://vimeo.com/event/597192>

The church will be open for private prayer on Thursdays at 2 pm with the opportunity for confession.

(Please note that in future we will open only the East door of the church (on the lower level) for prayer on Thursdays. This will avoid the need for a steward in the narthex).

Confession will be available in the Unity Room from 9am on Sundays before mass.

Please note that the monastic community will be engaged in discussions on Monday and Tuesday, **15th and 16th February**. The following day will be Ash Wednesday, so we propose celebrating mass on Wednesday of this week, instead of Tuesday, at the normal time of 10 am. There will also be a mass at 7.30 pm.

Lent with the Diocese

The diocese is proposing an **on-line mission** for us all. They write:

God loves you. He has great plans for you. He wants to accompany you through all the highs and lows of your life. There will soon be an opportunity for you to explore all this and more as we journey together as a Diocese through a season of mission.

It will begin in Lent of this year. (Lent begins on Wednesday, 17th February, Ash Wednesday, and runs till Sunday, 4th April, Easter Sunday.) This will be a source of encouragement especially for those who are unable to come to mass at present. It will be presented over the course of the next five years, for a limited number of weeks, at different moments during the year.

They plan to offer two sessions each week:

a talk on Monday evenings, and on Thursday evenings an opportunity to take part in a small group with discussion of the theme of the talk, and a look at the readings of the coming Sunday.

For more detail please see the Diocesan website:

[Encounter the beauty of our faith this Lent | Arundel & Brighton Catholic Diocese \(abdiocese.org.uk\)](#)

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children

SPUC (The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children) write asking us all to take part in a campaign to stop the practice of "DIY" abortions being made permanent. This follows from the Church's belief that human life is sacred, and that it may not be deliberately cut short. They write:

Respond to Department of Health consultation to stop home abortions!

The Department of Health is holding a public consultation on whether to continue the practice of allowing abortion providers to send abortion pills to women so that they can perform their own abortion at home. We need as many pro-life people as possible to complete the Department of Health's questionnaire in order to help stop dangerous DIY abortions becoming permanent. SPUC has prepared a briefing which gives a step by step guide to completing the consultation questionnaire. Please go to -

<https://www.spuc.org.uk/Get-Involved/Campaigns/England-DIY-Abortion-Consultation>

The consultation ends on 26 February 2021.

Message from Fr Kevin

"I thank all of you who sent me emails, messages and gifts for my 90th birthday.

I wish I could reply to each of you personally. Please know that I am deeply touched by your kindness.

Fr Kevin Taggart"

CIFN - CRAWLEY INTERFAITH NETWORK

Zoom Meeting - "How we worshiped and managed during The lockdown" with Najma Osman. To be held on Thursday 21st January at 7.30 pm. To Join the Zoom Meeting:
Meeting ID: 385 254 5345
Passcode: AS

Deepening prayer in our ordinary life

An Open Cloister Online Weekend **29th-31st January**, to explore how we can pray more contemplatively at home.

You will just need a smart phone, tablet or computer, with access to a Zoom account.

Bookings via TOC@worth.org.uk

Further Information - Michael Woodward shotwithspirit@gmail.com
with David Clayton & Michael Woodward

Wilding Verges

The local council invite us to become involved in a project to help promote wildlife.

Are you and your neighbours interested in making your road verges more accessible and friendly to wildlife and pollinators? If yes, then the Local Highways Operations (West Sussex County Council) is keen to support you to make this possible.

What next?

- Firstly, check with the County Council that they own the verges. Note, the verges must be on a road of 30mph or less for safety reasons.
- Secondly, discuss with your community about why the verges might change, highlighting the benefits. The Council provides downloadable resources to support informing and promoting this activity within a community.
- Thirdly, agree with your community which wilding option you want to go with:
 - Option 1- Collect grass cuttings on the verge once or twice a year.
 - Option 2- Collect the grass cuttings as above and plant native wildflower plug plants or seeds that can be sewn alongside grass.
- Fourth, a simple agreement is signed.
- Fifth, your verge management changes will be relayed to our grass contractors to ensure their cutting regime is adapted.

As the County Council cannot work with all groups at once, therefore any requests are filed and progressed as soon as possible. For further information please contact Jess Macey, Stakeholder and Partnerships Officer, Local Highways Operations, Highways, Transport and Planning

West Sussex County Council

Email: jessica.macey@westsussex.gov.uk | Web: www.westsussex.gov.uk

WSSCC will be hosting 'Who Loves a Pollinator? 2021', **18th February** at 7pm.

This will be an extended webinar event including live music from Richard Durrant and a Q&A session with our expert panel. Dave Goulson will also be speaking to us about the importance of pollinators and what we can all do to help, while WSSCC's Sustainability and Highways teams will be mentioning some of the things the county is doing to become more pollinator friendly.

Here's the link to sign up:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/who-loves-a-pollinator-2021-tickets-133703957135>

For regular items, please see the website:

For readings for the coming week, see Universalis:
<http://www.universalis.com/Europe.England.Arundel/mass.html>

For children and young people's prayer, see CAFOD's material:
<http://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/coronavirus-resources-for-children-young-people-and-their-families/>

For prayers and anniversaries see:
<http://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/in-touch-newsletters/>

Our new Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/Worth-Abbey-Parish-104966314630759/?view_public_for=104966314630759

Children's Junior Church liturgy:
<https://www.facebook.com/colourandshapeonline/>

Diocesan Family Materials:
<https://abliturgy.wordpress.com/family-materials/>

Parish Giving:
<https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/about-us/parish-giving/>

For D'Arcy's music, please visit our website homepage under Organ voluntaries:
<https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/>

Parish Priest: Fr Paul Fleetwood

Mobile: 07764 260216

Parish Office Email: parish@worth.org.uk **Parish Office Tel:** 01342 710313
(Parish office is currently closed please email and we will be in touch)

Parish Website: www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk

Secretary: Maria Stribbling (currently working from home 9am-1pm Tuesday/Wednesday))

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 Maria Stribbling at parish@worth.org.uk
(by Wednesday 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.

