

Dear Parishioners

I hope that you and your families are all keeping well. I send my prayers and my very best wishes, as always. It is very good to see more and more of you at mass at the weekends, and I look forward to the relaxation of the restrictions which we expect at the end of July.

Meanwhile, the calendar moves towards the month of November, when COP26 begins in Glasgow, the meeting of world leaders, hosted by Britain, which will debate climate change, and, we hope, agree on measures which will help to stabilise our environment. As we approach this meeting, which is of world-wide importance, and could make a vital contribution to the survival of our planet, I receive more and more appeals for action on our part. Please do see the latest edition of *Green Christian*, the magazine of the principal British Christian organisation which works to promote ecological issues, and which asks all parishes to become involved: <https://greenchristian.org.uk/cop-26-glasgow-2021/> You will find here a full explanation of the meeting in Glasgow and why it is so important for us all to play our part, and ways in which we can make our contribution. No Christian (or Jew) should have any doubt about why this work must be an integral element of the practice of our faith. At the very beginning of our scriptures we read how God saw that His Creation was *very good*, and how the beauty of our world reflects the goodness and beauty of the Creator; and how we, humankind, are given the honour and the duty to be God's vice-regents in the world, caring for Creation according to His design. Made in *His image and likeness*, we are set in the garden to *cultivate and take care of it*.

Another well-respected organisation, Greenpeace, ask us to do something very specific, to ask the Prime Minister to show by example that he is serious about leadership in this field. Do please sign the petition which they will send to him: <https://act.gp/2S4X5Lo> They write: *The UK will host United Nations climate change talks (COP26), giving us a unique responsibility at an absolutely critical time for the planet - the decisive decade for tackling climate change. But the advisers' warning is stark: "If all we do is promise, other people will not take us seriously. It puts the whole process into jeopardy." We can't afford another round of empty promises - we need the summit to deliver global action.*

One group which is especially important for the protection of our planet is the indigenous tribes of Amazonia. It is tragic that they are being murdered by those who are destroying the rain forest, while they are the people best placed to preserve its riches for all humanity. They write: *Half the Earth's forests are now gone. 15 BILLION trees are chopped down every year, decimating our planet's rainforests, jungles, and mangroves. This environmental*

*devastation is intimately tied to the theft and destruction of ancient indigenous lands, and the horrific violence that comes with it.*

Please add your voice to the petition [I'm standing with the Earth Defenders](#) Do please pray for all those involved with this issue, that God will give them the courage to persevere.

I send you all my very best wishes, with my prayers. Fr Paul

**The next copy of In Touch will be on 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> July. During summer, In Touch will appear every two weeks.**

Please see the reflections offered by the Diocese from their retreat "Invited". You will find these on the homepage of our website [www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk](http://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk)

### **Church Opening Times**

Mass at on **Saturdays at 5pm**

Click here for live streaming: [5pm live video streaming](#).

Mass on **Sundays at 9.30am**

Mass on **Tuesdays at 10.00am**

(The Church will remain open on Tuesdays until 12 noon for private prayer).

Private prayer on **Thursdays at 2 pm**, with the opportunity for confession. (Please note only the East door of the church (on the lower level) will be open.

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

### **A date for your diary**

We are pleased to announce that the "Welcome Back" mass has now been arranged for **Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> September**. Do please set this date aside and come to celebrate our parish community.

### **Finding Stillness**

"Be still and know that I am God" Psalm 46:10. An experimental hybrid retreat where you are invited to come to Worth or join the retreat online FINDING STILLNESS The Open Cloister @ Worth Abbey on **Tuesday 24th-Thursday 26th August**.

For further information or to book your place online go to: [worth.co.uk/retreats/online-retreats](http://worth.co.uk/retreats/online-retreats)  
Enquiries: [toc@worth.org.uk](mailto:toc@worth.org.uk)

### **Day for Catechists**

You may be aware that we are holding a gathering of our Catechists, at Worth Abbey on **25<sup>th</sup> September**. If you would like to join us please click on this link [Day for Catechists \(25-Sep-2021\) · ChurchSuite Events](#) to complete our booking form, and for more information. If you have already booked, thank you. Please spread the word, and we look forward to seeing you there.

### **Online Rosary Group**



Would anyone like to join an on-line rosary group? They meet every Wednesday at 7 pm. Please get in touch with Rachel Davies: 07801 696354

### Lectio Divina

Would anyone like to join a Lectio Divina group on line? Lectio is a popular way of praying with the Scriptures, and is very simple. We use the Sunday Gospel reading. You would not need to do any preparation, and the sessions will last for only half an hour. Lectio consists in simply reading the passage slowly and letting God speak to your heart. There's no obligation to share anything, but we have the support of doing the reading with one another. We can send you some hints about lectio, if you would like this, or look on the website. Please let us know if you would like to join the group – [parish@worth.org.uk](mailto:parish@worth.org.uk)

This will take place on Saturday mornings, at 12 noon (**new time, permanent change**).

I look forward to hearing from you.

### Financial update

Giles Horner, the chair of the Parish Finance Committee writes to us all:

In March, we reported on the impact of COVID-19 on the parish's finances for 2020 and I'd like to update you on what we are seeing in 2021.

As we had expected, the resumption of services has led to higher costs than 2020 though we continue to find ways to cut back where we can. With a reduced mass count at services, our income from offertory remains lower than we had planned for and this is putting significant pressure on our finances. We now expect to have a deficit for the year of several thousand pounds.

We are very grateful for those of you who have made an inflationary increase to your giving, but I ask those of you who have not yet made that adjustment to consider making a small increase. Please can I again encourage all Parishioners who donate via cash or envelopes to consider setting up a more regular donation via standing order/direct debit and to consider completing a gift aid form allowing us to reclaim 25% tax. This also allows a clearer view of our income and facilitates better planning. This can be done by contacting the parish office by phone or email, [mstribbling@worth.org.uk](mailto:mstribbling@worth.org.uk), and is a simple process.

***I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to Giles and the committee for their work on our behalf and my thanks to all of you for your generosity to the Parish. Fr Paul.***

### First Holy Communion

Please let the parish know if your son or daughter would like to make their First Holy Communion next year. The date of the celebration will be in May, by which time your child should have completed their eighth year. The course will begin in September, and we will issue more details once the inscriptions come in and the possibilities of meeting become clearer.

### Confirmation

Would your son or daughter like to make their confirmation next year? We hope to form a group for preparation in September, and the sacrament will be celebrated in May next year. Candidates should be about fourteen or fifteen years old. Please get in touch with the parish office.

### Recruitment



Michael Weston-Burt writes:  
*Lockdown is ending (slowly). Our Abbey is opening up once again, and we have a new Abbot! Volunteers to join our altar serving team (aged 8 to 80) will be warmly welcomed.*

Please contact Michael, on:  
[Paul.Michael.Westonburt@btinternet.com](mailto:Paul.Michael.Westonburt@btinternet.com)  
01293 (Crawley) 522418

### NEW Colour and Shape website launch! Mass resources for families.

Colour and Shape developed over the pandemic providing a weekly video liturgy for families to use at home during lockdown.

This video, Connect Sunday, has now changed into a new shorter format, along with a set of accompanying resources on a brand new website.

Head over to [www.colourandshapeonline.com](http://www.colourandshapeonline.com) to check out the resources reflecting on the Sunday Gospel each week, plus links to Spotify playlists, ideas on how to pray together as a family, and information on how to join the online community supporting families.

### **CCRS - The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies**

(CCRS) is beginning again in our Diocese this September. The course is designed for teachers in Catholic schools, for Catechists and for anyone who would like to grow in understanding as they live their Catholic faith. The CCRS offers a very flexible and accessible way of learning; it includes some online content and is made up of eight modules: six core and two specialist modules. Each module involves ten hours of course time and an assignment. For more information or to register your place please [contact our Formation Adviser](#)

### **Scripture From Scratch: An introduction to the Bible**

**Seminar dates: Mondays 21<sup>st</sup> and 28 June then 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> July.**

This course will run twice on Mondays, *either* 11.30am-12.30pm or

7.00-8.00pm. Entry level - open to all, invited contribution: £65

The Bible is a great treasure of the Christian world, and source of revelation of God's word. While we may have our favourite passages, the language and the images behind those words may be foreign to us. And even if we work through the process of trying to understand a biblical book, we may not really believe that it has something to say to us today. This course introduces some key elements to understanding the Bible and explores some of the traditional preconceptions we have about the Bible itself.

You can [find out more here](#).

### **The Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group in Crawley request.**

We would be grateful to receive good quality second-hand clothes as follows:

Jeans, waist 30", 32", 33", 34"

Joggers in all sizes

T-shirts in all sizes but especially Medium

Summer jackets in all sizes

Shoes in all sizes (apart from 45)

People can bring clothes to the Crawley Office – The Orchard, 1-2 Gleneagles Court, Brighton Road, Crawley, RH10 6AD during office hours, however it is best to email Josie first to fix a time, to ensure a member of staff is available. [josie@gdwg.org.uk](mailto:josie@gdwg.org.uk)

### **The Open Cloister @ Worth Abbey**

**Julian of Norwich - Online Day Retreat led by  
Fr David Jarmy OSB**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July.** Zoom registration at 09:45 and the day ends at 4:30pm

To book your place online go to [www.worth.co.uk/retreats/online-retreats](http://www.worth.co.uk/retreats/online-retreats)

For further information email [toc@worth.org.uk](mailto:toc@worth.org.uk)

### **An Open Cloister Online Day**

**Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> July 10am – 4.30pm**

Desert Wisdom: power thoughts with David Clayton & Michael Woodward

*Evagrius (b.345) is honoured as 'one of the most important names': come & see why his teaching lives. .*

Bookings & Info via [TOC@worth.org.uk](mailto:TOC@worth.org.uk)  
[www.worth.co.uk/retreats/online-retreats](http://www.worth.co.uk/retreats/online-retreats)  
You will just need a smart phone, tablet or computer, with access to a Zoom account!

### **Step into the Gap**

Are you aged 18-30? CAFOD offers a gap year programme called Step into the Gap. As part of the 10-month programme, you will be based in either a youth retreat centre, university chaplaincy or a secondary school chaplaincy team gaining new skills, developing as a leader and gaining work experience. Accommodation and travel expenses are included. Full time placements include stipends. Find out more information including how to apply at [www.cafod.org.uk/gapyear](http://www.cafod.org.uk/gapyear)

### **Pilgrimage of Reparation and Consecration**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July** at Church of Our Lady of Consolation & St Francis West Grinstead RH13 8LT.  
12noon – 4.15pm

Click [here](#) to book your free place.

If you would like to confirm your place and book in person or would like further information, please contact: Linda C-Dominguez T: 01273 463463 M: 07944 377252

Jayne Lock M: 07816 422851 or E: [jaynelock1@gmail.com](mailto:jaynelock1@gmail.com)

Jozef Bubez T: 01444 232974

**A Pilgrimage of Mission, Healing & Renewal**

The pilgrimage dates are **23<sup>rd</sup> July – 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

Applications close 31<sup>st</sup> May. Open to Pilgrims, Families, Students from years 12 & 13 (Blueshirts) and Years 10 & 11 (Redshirts)

For further information and the Application Form link go to [2021.ablourdes.org](http://2021.ablourdes.org) or contact the Pilgrimage Office by phone on 01403 740110 or by email on [office@ablourdes.org](mailto:office@ablourdes.org)

The 2021 Pilgrimage is only open to those who do not have a condition that makes them susceptible to CV-19. Please see website for more details.

**Anniversaries**

**Please pray for the Souls of** – Charles Thompson, Roy Robinson, Stephen Ray, Jeannine Hall, William Gittins, John Mayne, Roger Talbot, Brian Hawkins, Valerie Bailey, Monica Perkins, Roger Nangle Vaughan, Daniel Heggerty, Alan Hook, Beatrice Blackaller, Tony Howes, John Fawls, Eddie Dolman, Eileen O'Dwyer, Jennie Manktelow, Lilian Baker, Bob Mabey, Lilla Bethune, William Kibble, Ben Fielder and Julia Harvey.

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

Next Sunday's Readings: **Fifteenth Sunday in OT**

1st Reading – Amos 7:12-15    2nd Reading – Ephesians 1:3-14

**Gospel:** Mark 6:7-13

**'Take nothing with you'**

**Daily Readings**

Monday – Gen 28:10-22a    Matt 9:18-26

Tuesday – Gen 32:23-33    Matt 9:32-38

Wednesday – Gen 41:55-57, 42:5-7a, 17-24a    Matt 10:1-7

Thursday – Gen 44:18-21, 23b-29, 45:1-5    Matt 10:7-15

Friday – Gen 46:1-7, 28-30    Matt 10:16-23

Saturday – Gen 49:29-32, 50:15-26a    Matt 10:24-33

*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)

(Parish office is currently closed please email and we will be in touch)

**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](mailto: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.**



## Prayers

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

Compassionate God, you know our hearts and share our sorrows.

We are hurt by the despoiling of the living Earth, which we love.

We are angry at the loss we contemplate. We long for words of comfort, yet find them hard to hear.

Turn our grief to active love

Turn our anger to energy for repair of the world

Turn our guilt to solidarity

and by your forgiveness make us whole with all creation

(Andii Bowsher)

Loving God,

You saw everything that you had made – and it was very good.

We are awed by what we see that is still good but weep for what we have spoilt.

Give us the heart and will in our living and praying to restore all creation to the very good.

So we may show our love to you, the Lord of love. Amen

(Revd. Linda Atkin)

Please continue to pray for the people of Burma. On Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> it was the birthday of Daw Suu. Her supporters write: *On her birthday, we recognise Daw Aung San Suu Kyi as a source of hope in a time of such darkness for Burma. The power of the gun is strong, but hope in an inclusive future grounded on the will of the people and the rule of law has not been forgotten.*

Please pray for those who work in defence of the value of life, and for those who are at the end of life.

We pray for those people in the final stages of life. May their fears and distress be met with a true compassion, one which finds expression in treating the dying person with love, with dignity and the appropriate palliative care.

## **For regular items, please see the website:**

For readings for the coming week, see Universalis: [Universalis](#)

For children and young people's prayer, see CAFOD's material: [Children Resources](#)

For prayers and anniversaries see our homepage: <https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/>

Our new Facebook page: [Parish Facebook](#)

Children's Junior Church liturgy: [Junior Church](#)

Diocesan Family Materials: [Family Materials](#)

Parish Giving: [Parish Giving](#)

For D'Arcy's music, please visit our website homepage under Organ voluntaries:

<https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/>