

Dear Parishioners

I hope that you and your families are well. I send you all my prayers and very best wishes.

You will know that the **Synod** was officially opened in Rome by Pope Francis two weeks ago, and in our Diocese last Sunday by Bishop Richard. Our own preparation began on Saturday when we hosted a talk by Austen Ivereigh. (The book which he wrote with Pope Francis, *Let Us Dream*, is available in the bookshop in the narthex, and you might like to see an article which he wrote, which you can see on our website : <https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/parish-life/synodal-church/>)

The speaker reminded us that this Synod (which means *journeying together*) must be the widest consultation ever undertaken in history: the questions go to the universal Church, to every diocese and every parish in every land. He told us that *participation* is the key word, that leadership is to be exercised as a team work, so rejecting a culture of clerical domination. (In an aside, he suggested that this is one response by Pope Francis to clerical abuse, which was permitted to happen because of clericalism.) He closed by saying that this Synod is the most significant event in the life of the Church since Vatican II, certainly an inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and a means to bring the theology of that Council to a deeper fruition. Do please look out for ways in which we can all be involved. I hope to be able to write about this more fully quite soon. The parish process will begin in Advent.

Meanwhile, we look forward to the opening of another event of worldwide importance this weekend – **COP26**, the international summit in Glasgow concerning climate change. We know that Pope Francis will not be able to attend in person, but that he has written a message for the meeting, and we know that it is an issue about which he cares very deeply, and which he expects to be at the heart of the Church's concern, most especially for the poor who suffer more than most because of climate change. He begins by stressing our interdependence – both as human beings among ourselves and between humanity the rest of God's Creation. He calls for *an attitude of openness to interdependence and sharing. We cannot act alone, for each of us is fundamentally responsible to care for others and for the environment... The human person is sanctified more to the extent that he or she enters into relationships, going out from themselves to live in communion with God, with others and with all creatures... This commitment must constantly be driven by the dynamism of love...* It is, he says, *a call to respect: respect for creation, respect for our neighbour, respect for ourselves and for the Creator...* He asks us to enter into *a mutual dialogue for the sake of protecting nature, defending the poor, and building networks of respect and fraternity*. Please pray for the success of this vital meeting. Please see our website for more information:

<https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/un-climate-change-conference-cop26-glasgow-31st-october-12th-november-2021/>

Liturgy Times

You are welcome to all offices and masses.
On weekdays mass is celebrated at 5.30 pm, and on Saturdays at 9 am.
Confessions take place on Sundays from 9 am till 9.30 am, and generally there is opportunity on Thursdays at 2 pm.

Sunday mass is celebrated at 5 pm Saturday evening (Vigil mass)
and at 9.30 am on Sundays.

Cake Sale

Saturday 30th **October** after mass, Tristan Van Assche will be running a cake sale to raise money for his school's charities, Kangaroos, a charity which supports disabled children in Sussex (see <https://www.kangaroos.org.uk/A>) And the Black Mamba Anti-Poaching Unit (see <https://www.blackmambas.org/>).

Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

Bishop Richard writes: In 2021, the UK government assumed the presidency of COP26. This provides a unique opportunity for the UK government to present its vision of a "Global Britain" and lead the way in International efforts to tackle the climate crisis.

As a Catholic community we have been given a very clear steer from Pope Francis about the importance of caring for our common home. In his 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si'*, His Holiness made it clear that to "harm the environment was to harm human beings". Furthermore, it asks us the key questions, "What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?"

The Conference of Parties (COP26) is the 26th United Nations Climate Conference, that is set to meet in Glasgow in November 2021. It will be attended by leaders from over 200 countries to discuss climate change and how to tackle global ecological crisis. The conference follows from a series of summits including the Paris climate talks in 2015, where countries pledged to work together to keep the global temperature rise below 1.5 degrees Centigrade.

If we exceed this threshold, millions of the most vulnerable people in our communities at home and abroad will be at risk of the devastating effects of climate change. In this respect, Pope Francis also makes the link that our current environmental crisis represents a sociological crisis as well, with the effects of climate change disproportionately affecting the world's poorest communities.

In the run up to the COP26 and specifically on the last Sunday in October, we are asking people to pray that the leaders meeting in Glasgow work together for positive outcomes for people and the planet. To assist with this the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, in partnership with CAFOD have produced a prayer resource, for use in both the parish and the home, which is available in the Narthex.

Traidcraft

We are pleased to announce that the Traidcraft stall has re-opened on Sundays after mass. Our grateful thanks are due to Beryl McNulty and her team, who have run it with great dedication for several years. Beryl has now retired, and her place has been taken by Caroline Howells, and our thanks go to her and the new team. Do please show your appreciation by buying lots of delicious goods!

We are also very pleased to announce that we will begin serving tea and coffee again after Sunday mass, beginning on 31st. Our very grateful thanks go to Christina Fitzsimons who led the team for many years, and to all her team. We now have a new team in place, which will be coordinated by Jenny Chapman. Our grateful thanks to Jenny and all the team.

Traidcraft Christmas cards

We have received a selection of Christmas cards available to order. Please visit the Traidcraft stall to complete an order form or there are photocopies of the cards available if you wish to take them with you to decide at home.

Our Common Home – Week Two



HOW DO I REDUCE CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS

Watch the 5-minute video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TWo0iX7rZyE>

How we live in our homes: turn off unnecessary lights, don't leave power sockets on standby, turn heating down to 20 and put on a layer, get rid of draughts, use heat reflecting panels, keep windows and door closed. Install renewable energy

The food we buy: Cows and sheep = methane, don't waste food

How we travel: walk, cycle, public transport. Holidays: stay local and avoid air flights

By telling decision makers how we feel: write to Government, sign online petitions

Learn more: listen to and follow local groups like Worth Pro Earth, follow global and national news on important developments like COP 26 in Glasgow Nov 2021

HOW CAN WE EACH HELP MAKE A CHANGE

Shop Local: <https://www.sussexgreenliving.co.uk/shop-smart-shop-local/>

Love your clothes: <https://www.sussexgreenliving.co.uk/love-your-clothes/>

Love your garden: <https://www.sussexgreenliving.co.uk/love-your-garden/>

Save water: <https://watersworthsavings.org.uk/top-tips/indoors/>

Recycle smartly: <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/land-waste-and-housing/waste-and-recycling/recycling-and-waste-prevention-in-west-sussex/a-to-z-of-recycling/>

Terracycle: <https://www.terracycle.com/en-GB/brigades>

EXAMPLE OF WHAT CAN BE RECYCLED VIA TERRACYCLE AT THE DROP OFF POINT –

“THE STAND-UP INN” LINDFIELD

Any baby food pouches, and Ella's snack packets

Any brand crisps

Confectionery packaging

Nuts, pretzels and popcorn packets

All wet food pouches, all dry food and treat flexible plastic packaging

Oral care products

Staff Needed

Duckylys Farm Centre is looking for FUN and ENTHUSIASTIC people to come join our team supporting 9 adults in our residential home! No experience is required, but a love for being outside to help on our farm!

Any hours available.

Please contact Karen Tolton on 01342 811111 / 07488335639 / karen.tolton@duckyls.co.uk.'

Volunteers Needed

We are very pleased to be able to offer tea and coffee once more after Sunday mass, and our grateful thanks go to the new team which is led by Jenny Chapman. This is an important part of **offering welcome and hospitality** to everyone who comes, hoping that everyone will feel at home here. Hospitality is the essence of a Christian community, and should be evident to people as soon as they enter the door. However, we need more volunteers to help us do this. This ministry involves welcoming people as they arrive and giving them their order of service and, for those who may be visiting for the first time, showing them the way from the narthex into the church. After mass the team will serve tea and coffee and also engage socially with visitors and those who are new to the parish. If you feel you can help in this very important ministry, please get in touch. All parish activities depend entirely on volunteers, so please don't be shy about offering your help! It will all make our parish a more attractive, and more God-centred, community. Thank you.

We will be using the white plastic cups. Please be re-assured that these **can be re-cycled**, so please return your cups rather than putting them in a bin, which would go to land fill. Thank you.

Worth Retreat

“Be still and know that I am God” *Psalm 46:10*

A hybrid retreat where you are invited to come to Worth or join the retreat online. A section of the retreat is silent. FINDING STILLNESS. The Open Cloister @ Worth Abbey

Mon 8th-Thurs 11th November 2021

Mon 13th-Thurs 16th December 2021

For further information or to book a place online go to: worth.co.uk/retreat-programme
Enquiries: retreats@worth.org.uk

Climate Justice

We want to say thank you for raising your voice this year and calling for Boris Johnson to make sure those hardest hit by the climate crisis are at the heart of the COP26 talks.

Last week, a group of faith leaders visited Downing Street to deliver a message on behalf of the thousands of CAFOD supporters who've signed our petition to the Prime Minister, as well thousands of others from faith communities across the country who've demanded action ahead of the Glasgow summit.

But given it's a message we can't afford for the PM to miss, we wanted to make doubly sure he saw it – so we've projected it onto Parliament!

[See the message we've sent to the PM](#)

The fight to tackle the climate emergency won't end in Glasgow. But the COP is vital for keeping temperature rises below the 1.5C level that will be catastrophic for our sisters and brothers in the most vulnerable communities around the world.

And it's a fight Pope Francis has called “the greatest leadership opportunity of all”, so our projection called for the PM to give us faith he'll show that leadership at the COP – keeping the 1.5C goal alive, working to deliver the money rich countries have pledged to countries hardest hit and stopping support for the fossil fuels which are driving the crisis.

It's a message we want other world leaders to hear during COP26 itself, so if you're available and have not already signed up, please join us on Saturday 6 November in London to take part in a global day of action and demand leaders respond to Pope Francis's call.

[Sign up to join us on 6 November](#)

Thank you once again for calling on Boris Johnson to give us faith he'll show the leadership we need to care for our common home.

Invited – October Reflection

We are delighted to announce that the Invited Autumn Series films are now available to watch at www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited

There are five films in total, three exploring the themes of Season 1 in greater depth and two offering an introduction to fundamentals of our faith: Prayer and Scripture.

We would also like to thank our speakers, Fr Tony Milner, Fr Stephen Ortiger, Pia Matthews, Fleur Dorrell and Fr Stephen Dingley, for their time and commitment to this project.

We hope that you find them interesting and stimulating, and we look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Christian Meditation Group

We meet once a month, usually the on last Wednesday of the month at Worth Abbey Church in the Unity Room. We meet at 7.00pm and have a short talk related to Christian meditation, followed by a period of silence and then time of reflective discussion. We finish by 8.00pm so that if anyone wishes to, they can go into the church for Compline. Anyone is welcome to join the group, if you wish to know more, please Contact Caterina Brown 01243 554001.

Our next meeting at Worth Abbey church will be on **Wednesday 24th November**.
(No meeting in December)

The group also meet using Zoom on the second Wednesday of each month and our next Zoom meeting will be on **10th November**. We meet online at 7.00pm and have a short talk related to Christian meditation, followed by a period of silence and then time of reflective discussion. If you would like to join the Zoom meeting you would be very welcome, please contact Richard by email, rbrownd1@gmail.com

Lectio Divina

The Lectio group meets on Tuesday evenings at 7.40pm, on Zoom for the present.
Please contact Jenny Chapman -
jenny_chapman@sky.com

Rosary Group

The Rosary Group meet in the Abbey Church after Vespers – 7:15pm until 8:15pm when Compline is due to begin;
Please get in touch with Rachel Davies: 07801 696354

Prayers



Please pray for our parishioners Michael Grech and Laura Rawlinson.

A prayer for the COP26 Climate Talks:

*Loving God, we praise your name with all you have created.
You are present in the whole universe, and in the smallest of creatures.
We acknowledge the responsibilities you have placed upon us as stewards of your creation.
May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 as they seek to embrace the changes needed to foster a more sustainable society.
Instil in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the poorest and most vulnerable, and commit their nations to the care of Our Common Home.
We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son.
Amen*

A prayer for the Synod:

*We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.
We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.
All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.
Amen.*

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of – Ruth Cross, Norman Smith, Catherine Castle, Derek Kirby-Turner, Winefrid Osborne, Kathy Maynard, Will Gardner, Mary Loftus, Patsy Willson, Andrew Smith Paterson, Francis Pollen, Walter Stanford, Bronka Bogacz and Charles Bethune.

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

Daily Readings

Monday – Rom 11:29-36 Luke 14:12-14

Tuesday – Isa 25:6-9 Rom 5:5-11 Mark 15:33-39, 16:1-6 **(All Souls Day)**

Wednesday – Rom 13:8-10 Luke 14:25-33

Thursday – Rom 14:7-12 Luke 15:1-10 **(St Charles Borromeo)**

Friday – **Commemoration of Deceased Relatives and Benefactors of the English Benedictine Congregation**

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

Next Sunday's Readings: **Thirty Second Sunday in OT**

1st Reading – 1 Kings 17:10-16 2nd Reading – Hebrews 9:24-28

Gospel: Mark 12:38-44

This poor widow has put in more than all

For regular items, please see the website:

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

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

Our 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/>

Parish Priest: Fr Paul Fleetwood

Mobile: 07764 260216

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

Secretary: Maria Stribbling, available 9.15am-1.15pm Mon-Fri

Night time emergencies only: 01342 710331

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.