



WORTH
ABBAY PARISH

Baptism of the Lord (year C)
8th / 9th January 2022
No: 1285



Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Dear Parishioners

I hope that you and your families continue well, and that you all enjoyed a good celebration of Christmas and a happy New Year, despite all the restrictions which infection may have imposed on you and on your families and friends. I send my prayers for you all, and most especially for any who are suffering from Covid at the moment. May the Lord protect us all, and heal all those in need of healing.

I very much hope that the groups which were formed before Christmas to respond to the questions which Pope Francis sent us will be able to meet again soon. Sr Jo has kindly offered to meet anyone who would like to talk about the Synod after the Saturday Vigil mass. (This begins at 5 pm and ends at 6 pm.) She writes:

Synod Participants and interested Parishioners

After the 5pm Mass on Saturday evening Sr. Jo would be happy to meet any parishioners who have already started the programme and will also provide materials for anyone who would still be interested. Any other enquiries, please contact Sr. Jo by phone or text on 07949289902.

Meanwhile, George and Christina Fitzsimons intend to hold the next session of their group after Sunday mass on 16th, with a third meeting on 23rd. The group will probably meet in the Unity Room, to allow for better ventilation.

Pope Francis has written about his hopes for the Synod in *Let Us Dream* (p 93), in these words: *In walking together, reading the signs of the times, open to the new things of the Spirit, we might take some lessons from this ancient church experience of synodality which I have sought to revive.*

First: We need a respectful, mutual listening, free of ideology and predetermined agendas. The aim is not to reach agreement by means of a contest between opposing positions, but to journey together to seek God's will, allowing differences to harmonize. Most important of all is the synodal spirit: to meet each other with respect and trust, to believe in our shared unity, and to receive the new thing that the Spirit wishes to reveal to us.

Second: Sometimes this new thing means resolving disputed questions through overflow. (The sudden action of the Holy Spirit.) Breakthroughs happen, often at the last minute,

leading to a meeting of the minds that allows us to move forward. But the overflow might equally mean an invitation to change our way of thinking and our lenses, to shed our rigidity and our agendas, and look in places we never noticed before. Ours is a God of Surprises, who is always ahead of us.

Third: This is a patient process, which does not come easily to our impatient age. But perhaps, in lockdown, we have learned better how to approach it.

I pray that the Spirit will be with all of you in your groups to guide your discussions. Pope Francis closes this section with these words: *Time belongs to the Lord. Trusting in Him, we move forward with courage, building unity through discernment, to discover and implement God's dream for us, and the paths of action ahead.*

My thanks to all of you who generously give your time to take part in a group. My hope is that this will bear much fruit for our parish as well as for the universal Church. Fr Paul

Junior Church

Resumes this Sunday 9th January 2022



Prayers

Please pray for the repose of the soul of our brother, Fr Ian Condon, 1934-2021, who died peacefully on Monday, 20th December, among his brethren who had just started their Community Retreat. He had been in poor health for many years, and was nursed here at Worth by devoted care staff and his brethren. He will be greatly missed by his monastic community and his many friends.

Fr Ian's Funeral will take place on **Friday 21st January at 14:30** in the Abbey Church, followed by burial in the monastery cemetery.

His body will be received into the Abbey Church on **Thursday 20th January at 16:00.**

Please pray for our parishioners Fred Green, Michael Grech and Laura Rawlinson.

Please pray for Aung Sang Suu Kyi, the democratically elected leader of Burma, and for the people of Burma. Daw Suu has just been convicted by a court on false charges and faces another long prison sentence.

As we begin the new year, we offer these lines from the prayer of Pope Francis in Laudato Si, asking God's help as we work to preserve His Creation.

God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.

Enlighten those who possess power and money that they may avoid the sin of indifference, that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live.

The poor and the earth are crying out. O Lord, seize us with your power and light, help us to protect all life, to prepare for a better future, for the coming of your Kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty.

Praise be to you! Amen.

Next Sunday, 16th, is Peace Sunday.

There will be a retiring collection for the work of Pax Christi, the Catholic organisation which works to promote education for peace.

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of – Eve Dodwell, John Edward Clarke, Faith Shine, Mrs Duncan, Hugh Vredenburgh, May Lane, Revd George Church, Paul Rubridge, Donald Nicolson, Muriel Price, Marie Rogue, Patricia Langridge, Fr Richard Wilson, Frances Mary Webb, Mrs W G Wallis, Albert Laithwaite, Henry Hyslop, Emmie Walford, Basil Hull, Vivian Trowbridge, Alistair Stone, Elizabeth Figg, Josette Previtt, Joseph Loftus, Tom Harrison, Reginald Ball, Ken Cooper, Julia Herrick, Mary Needham, Marguerite Pointer, David Gesden, Philip Curran, Philip McNulty, Paul Bonner, Max Morris, Geoffrey Seager-Berry, Adolphe Morice, Lilian Cottrell, Jimmy Law, Margaret Harrison, Leo Leroux and Nazarine Chaplin.
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.

Daily Readings

Monday – 1 Sam 1:1-8 Mark 1:14-20

Tuesday – 1 Sam 1:9-20 Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday – **St Benet Biscop**

Thursday – 1 Sam 4:1-11 Mark 1:40-45

Friday – 1 Sam 8:4-7, 10-22a Mark 2:1-12

Saturday – 1 Sam 9:1-14, 17-19, 10:1a Mark 2:13-17 **(SS Maurus & Placid)**

Next Sunday's Readings: **Second Sunday in OT (Year C)**

1st Reading – Isaiah 62:1-5

2nd Reading – 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Gospel: John 2:1-11

“My hour has not come yet” – “Do whatever he tells you”

Links for our common world

[Help Reduce Food Waste](#)

[Greenpeace 101 ideas to live more sustainably](#)

Counters Needed

We need volunteers who can count the weekly collections, and bank the cash. Training will be given. Please get in touch. Thank you for offering your time and skills.

Readers Needed

We need volunteers to write and read the Universal Prayers at Sunday mass. Training will be given, and, if you prefer, someone will offer to write the prayers for you. This would not be more frequent than once every two months.
Do please get in touch if you can help.

Now Accepting Contactless Donations

You will find our new DIGITAL COLLECTION PLATE, contactless terminal in the church. Just use your contactless debit/credit card or smart phone/ device to make a donation.

Simply choose the amount you wish to donate and hold your card onto the reader.

You can also opt-in for Gift Aid to increase your donation by 25%.

If you are a UK taxpayer then donating with Gift Aid means that we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 received.

Contactless donations are simple to administer, secure and convenient.

The machine is in the lobby by the East door of the church (at the lower level).

We hope to have another machine in the narthex soon, however in the meantime please find our Parish Offertory QR code in the Narthex. Just aim your phone camera at the code and click on the mydona link. Thank you all for your generosity.



NBCW

May I introduce myself as Diocesan Link with the 'National Board of Catholic Women 'NBCW'? I would love to be able to keep in contact with the women of our parishes as part of my role as Diocesan Link and a means of engaging two-way communication between the Diocese and the NBCW. Please consider being the parish contact. Thanks. **Sue Petritz** nbcw@abdiocese.org.uk
Diocesan Link for Arundel & Brighton. *Actively promoting the presence, participation & responsibilities of Catholic Women.*

Annual Justice and Peace Assembly

Our Annual Justice & Peace Assembly will take place in person on **Saturday 15th January 2022** from 9.30am – 2pm **NOW ONLINE**. This Year's event "To a Safer Shore?" focusses on the considerable difficulties and challenges faced by individuals and families of all ages who are compelled to leave their homes and seek safety - and longed for sanctuary - in countries that can be considerable distances from their homes. Speakers this year include **Canon Rob Esdaile** who will provide insight on Pope Francis' Encyclical Fratelli Tutti, **Aidan Cantwell**, from the Jesuit Refugee Service who will explore current legislation in the UK and how best we can respond, and **John Paul de Quay**, from the Ecological Conversion Group, who will examine the links between the plight of refugees and climate crisis.
Click on the link below to secure you place - we look forward to welcoming you
<https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/8llnbi1a>

Crawley Interfaith Network (CIFN)

Happy New Year to one and all.

You are cordially invited to join our first gathering of 2022 to hear a presentation by Youth on the subject of:

"What my faith means to me"

On Thursday 27th January at 7.30 p.m. by Zoom

So far, youth speakers confirmed are: Dipu (Hindu faith), Farah (Muslim), Ziki (Bahai), Dharmista (Tamil) and Ellie and Alex (Buddhists).

We welcome more Youth to participate. Please contact Ashwin - Ashwin Soni, 07833252551, ashel@hotmail.co.uk if you wish to do so.

The event will be on Zoom followed by questions, answers and discussion.

If you would like to be involved with CIFN as a committee member, volunteer, contributor or observer then please contact Ashwin.

Also follow us on our Facebook page and website <https://www.crawleyinter-faith.com>.

We also have a WhatsApp Group. You may join this group by contacting Ashwin.

Join the Zoom Meeting: On July 27th January 7:30 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84406235024?pwd=cm5pZ3hQbWFGZ1AzNkVrekVsa3ZCQT09>

Meeting ID: 844 0623 5024 Passcode: 525663

REGULAR EVENTS IN THE PARISH

Mass Times - Saturday: 9.00 am (Concelebrated) and 5.00 pm (First Mass of Sunday),
Sunday: 9.30 am

Daily Mass: 5.30 pm (Concelebrated), Holy Days of Obligation: Vigil Mass: 7.30 pm;
Feast Day: 5.30 pm

Adoration - Friday evenings 7.00- 8.00pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Reflection, music and silence.

Confessions (Sacrament of Reconciliation) - Sundays 9.00-9.30am and Thursday 2pm. *(please check with Parish Office before coming)*

Rosary Group - Mondays 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

Lectio Divina - Resuming Tuesday 11th January at 7.40pm via Zoom. Please contact Jenny Chapman
jenny_chapman@sky.com

Christian Meditation Group - 7.00pm in the Unity Room, please contact Richard by email
rbrownd1@gmail.com **Next Meetings** - 26th January, 23rd February, 30th March and 27th April.

Vigil for Vocations - (1st Friday). After Compline 8.30pm - 9.00pm.

Bible Study Group - 11.15am on Mondays in St Benedict's (Parish Office). Please double check with the



For other 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: [My Dona 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.