



WORTH
ABBAY PARISH

Eighth Sunday in OT (year C)
26th / 27th February 2022
No: 1292



Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Dear Parishioners

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

This coming week we begin our celebration of Lent, with the distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday. We use ashes because they are a sign of our wish to repent – to undergo a change of heart. *Repent, and believe the Good News, (or Gospel)*, is the prayer which we hear as we are marked with the ashes. (Ashes are a traditional symbol of repentance in the Bible. It always comes with sackcloth, a detail which we have set aside nowadays. Perhaps this is a mercy!)

The word “Lent” refers to the lengthening of the days as we move into spring, and one emphasis in Lent is that of personal renewal, so that we may enjoy more fully the celebration of Easter, and the fruit of the Resurrection, the new life which Jesus offers us.

In other European languages the word refers to “forty” – an allusion to the forty days which Jesus spent in the desert after His baptism, in fasting and prayer, meditating on His vocation to be Son of God, and the ministry which lay ahead of Him.

In the early Church, Lent became the final moment of preparation for those who would be baptised at the Easter Vigil, when they would descend into a font of water dug into the ground, to be submerged and rise up at the other side, so symbolising their wish to die and rise with Jesus. The custom developed for the entire Church to accompany the Catechumens in their last, and most intense, stage of instruction and prayer before their entry into the Christian community.

So Lent offers us many themes for meditation. It is an especially good moment to receive the grace of the sacrament of Reconciliation, which is offered every Sunday before the 9.30 mass, and which will be available before and after the liturgy of the Passion on Good Friday. (*Be reconciled to God*, Paul begs us in his reading.) We can also think with gratitude about our adoption as sons and daughters of God, and what can help us deepen the relationship of love and trust into which God our Father invites us. We can meditate on our own baptism, and what it means to be called to share in Jesus’ ministry – as prophet, priest and king: how can we bring the presence of God and the message of His love and His Kingdom into a world which often seems to be hostile to the Gospel?

In the Gospel on Wednesday we are reminded of the three traditional practices, prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Today we are accustomed to give up some treat during Lent, and it is good to remember the CAFOD fast day on Friday, March 11th.

Perhaps we might also consider giving up some time – to visit someone in need, to spend time in prayer, or to take part in one of the discussion groups which we are offering.

Do please see below for all the various ways in which you could make Lent special this year.

I send my very best wishes to you all for a very happy and fruitful Lent.

Yours. Fr Paul



Lent

Ash Wednesday Parish Mass, with ashes, at 7.30pm on 2nd March.

Stations of the Cross will be held on Fridays during Lent, starting on Friday, 11th March at 7.15 pm. Please meet in church by the West door. You will be very welcome to stay for **Compline** after this, at 8.15. Compline is the last monastic prayer of the day. It ends at 8.30, but you are always welcome to take time in church for quiet prayer after this.

CAFOD write: “Ash Wednesday is just one week away and I would like to invite you to join us as we seek to make space and time to draw closer to God and our global family through reflection and prayer this Lent. Each day in our emails we will share a reflection on one of the readings of the day, stories of our global family, a prayer and a suggested action you might like to take as we prepare for Easter. Join us on this journey by signing up for our daily Lent emails.”

<https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Lent>

A Retreat for Lent

Daily online prayer resource through the spirituality of St Ignatius. Celebrating the 500-year centenary of the conversion of Ignatius Loyola and 400 years since his Canonisation. To sign up for daily emails register at www.onlineprayer.net There is an additional option to join with a weekly sharing group, via Zoom or in person, to reflect on the previous week's prayer. There are over 60 groups, across 8 countries; we have one in the Parish meeting in Ardingly. For further information please email Theresa Hobson-Frohock on t55mhf@gmail.com and if you'd like to hear more about it in person Theresa is holding a taster session this Sunday 27th February at 2.30pm.

LENT DISCUSSION GROUP

All are welcome to a Lent Discussion Group on the theme of Justice, using Archbishop Justin Welby's specially-commissioned book for Lent 2022.

It looks at justice in the Bible and the relevance to our lives. It is a very positive and encouraging book and it has a booklet to go alongside it.

We'll meet after Sunday Mass in the Unity Room on the following Sundays: **6th March, 20th March, 3rd April**
Feel free to come along when you can.

Each session is 'stand-alone'. If you'd like to follow along at home, let us know and we can provide you with a copy of the booklet.

For more information contact: Christina Fitzsimons E: cfitzs3287@aol.com or
George Fitzsimons E: george@fitzsimonsonline.com

Embracing Justice by Isabelle Hamley

In addition to the Sunday discussion groups, the house groups which are led by Carol Morice, Rachel Davies and Bob Eade, will be meeting during Lent. Please contact the leaders for details.
(If needed, please ask the parish office for contact details.)

Lent Resources - <https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/lent-resources/>

Prayers



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

Please pray for the continued recovery of Michael Wilson

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.

CAFOD Lent Prayer:

Generous God, we thank you and we praise you, for we are surrounded by your abundant gifts.

The table you have laid is piled high, and yet too many people are turned away from the feast.

Work through us so that, as the tiny acorn becomes the mighty Oak, our small acts of love may grow, Bringing hope of a world transformed, where all may eat their fill.

Amen.

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of – Josephine Burridge, Audrey Lane, Kitty Adams, Karen Rozum, Roy Hemming, Anthony Francis Rowland, Albert Mason, Peter Reeve, Rose Fleetwood, Bert Rayson, Lina Talbot, Mary Renouf, Maurice Geal, Aaron Martin, David Rutherford, Alex Leaney and Barry Penn.

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

Daily Readings

Monday – 1 Pet 1:3-9 Mark 10:17-27

Tuesday – 1 Pet 1:10-16 Mark 10:28-31 **(St David)**

Wednesday – Joel 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20 – 6:2 Matt 6:1-6, 16-18 **(ASH WEDNESDAY)**

Thursday – Deut 30:15-20 Luke 9:22-25

Friday – Isa 58:1-9a Matt 9:14-15

Saturday – Isa 58:9b-14 Luke 5:27-32

Next Sunday's Readings: **First Sunday of Lent (Year C)**

1st Reading – Deuteronomy 26:4-10

2nd Reading – Romans 10:8-14

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

The temptation in the wilderness

Dates for the Diary



Wednesday 2nd March – 4.30pm Mass - Ash Wednesday
(Parish Mass, with ashes, at 7.30pm)

Wednesday 9th March – 4.30pm Mass - Benediction

Monday 21st March – 4.30pm Mass – St Benedict Mass

27th June – 8th July – Approximate date for church closure for roof repairs

What is God Saying to the Church?

A live online conversation with Fr James Mallon, Bishop Robert Barron & Revd. Nicky Gumbel, **Tuesday 1st March** at 6pm. March 2022 marks two years since the pandemic hit much of the world. What is God saying to the Church in the last two years? [Click here](#) to visit the Divine Renovation website and book your free place. See our website for more information [What-is-god-saying-to-the-church](#)

A webinar with Bishop Richard Synod 2021-2023

Wednesday 9th March at 7.30pm. A two-year synodal process is taking place across the Catholic Church. Join Bishop Richard for a webinar highlighting the Synod feedback received from people and groups across our Diocese.

To register your place [Click Here](#)

Time Out – Individual self-led retreat

4th – 6th March, Cost: £90 pp per night (min 2 nights),

Concession rate for shared occupancy and bursary assistance available. Spend some quality time at Worth Abbey - time to process, to reflect and to pray. This is a week set aside from the normal retreat programme to offer time for a bit of sanctuary so you can do whatever you need to do, with plenty of time in between.

Book online: www.worth.co.uk/retreats E: retreats@worth.org.uk or T: 01342 710318

Lent Retreat led by Fr Peter Williams OSB

29th – 31st March, Cost: £220 pp. Take time out during Lent to review your life and ask where God is calling you to change; to simplify things.

Exploring the desert father tradition and the writings of John Cassian to examine thoughts and feelings and to see how it talks to us in the 21st century.

To find out more: www.worth.co.uk/retreats E: retreats@worth.org.uk or T: 01342 710318



WORTH PILGRIMS

Easter Sunday, April 17th

There are some exciting activities for parishioners after Mass on Easter Sunday.
N.B Mass will start at 10am

Father David is leading a contemplative **Resurrection Walk** to the Quiet Garden. He will be stopping for reflections on the way. The walk is gentle and suitable for all ages.

There will be an **Easter Egg hunt** with lots of eggs to find! We would love to see lots of children and adults enjoying the fun!

In addition, there will be a **walk on the Worth estate** taking in some of the best sights. Father Patrick will lead us through the Worth estate. Walking shoes or hiking boots recommended.

The Worth coffee van will be serving refreshments and Italian Easter cake after these activities to tempt you!

We would love to have some volunteers! We need people to hide Easter eggs before Mass and to help the younger children find them! We need walkers to help Father Patrick and people to help guide everyone to their activity of choice.

If you'd like to get involved, please contact:

Christina Fitzsimons E: cfitzs3287@aol.com T: 01444 415557
Sara Barclay-Hudson E: sbh0369@yahoo.com T: 01444 461236

Worth Pilgrims: <https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/parish-life/worth-pilgrims/>

Welcome to the parish brunch!

Come and meet other parishioners and make new friends. All families are especially welcome. We start at 11am after coffee in Compass House. (Please ask for directions if needed.) This will take place on the second Sunday of each month. Next date – **13th March.**

Parish Walk

Do join us for a walk with Father Paul starting from Worth Abbey on **Sunday 28th March** lasting for about an hour and a half, with lunch at The Cowdray Arms post walk.

We will make a circular route down to the very beautiful tenth century Worth church.

Further details of the walk to follow from Father Paul.

Contact either Father Paul or Trishia on 01892 770942 or trishiasol@aol.com.

Parish Leadership Team

Introduction

The Parish Leadership Team met on Monday 21st February and welcomed three visiting speakers. Alda Andreotti & Christina Fitzsimons had been invited to update the team on the Worth Pilgrims group and their forthcoming plans. Their presentation was followed by a visit from the Diocesan Inclusion Adviser, Margaret Fraher who came to provide advice on the Welcome ministry. The team also formally received a report following the Synod feedback meeting.

Worth Pilgrims

The aim of Worth Pilgrims is to bring together constituent parts of the Worth Community. This initiative is to encounter God, strengthen faith and maintain friendship in a way that is meaningful and joyful.

The principles of Worth Pilgrims are supported by four pillars:

- Spiritual renewal/sanctuary;
- Friendship, fellowship, connections;
- Formation, learning, action;
- Outreach – people, support.

Welcome Ministry

This presentation explored the importance of Welcome and a Welcoming Parish. Welcome is about accompanying people on a journey. The ministry of Welcome is a ministry shared by all members of the Worth Community.

As a part of our development of specific roles within a Welcoming ministry we should identify the charisms of each parishioner, notice their gifts and explore them. It is suggested that we invite individuals to use these charisms in a suitable ministry and train them to make best use of their skills. Some examples of Welcome ministries include those involved in sacramental preparation, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, greeters, tea and coffee teams and those leading groups or other activities.

Parish Response to Synod Feedback

We were pleased to note that many of the requests relating to Synod feedback have been actioned.

1. Small Groups – There are now more small groups running in the Parish, particularly through Lent. To make these more visible we are asking leaders of small groups to provide information through In Touch, Parish Website and the Get Involved quarterly publication.
2. Inclusivity – The reintroduction of Sunday walks, refreshments after mass and discussion groups provides a wider range of opportunities for people to feel involved in Parish Life. The Worth Pilgrims initiative will contribute to greater inclusivity. A new initiative of Sunday Brunch in Compass House on the second Sunday of the month aims to bring more parishioners together in a friendly informal environment. Families are especially welcome.
3. Welcome – This was addressed during the meeting as this is an ongoing commitment. The parish has committed to the principles of Divine Renovation and will continue to learn and grow with this ethos.
4. Communication – We are asking everyone involved in any parish activity to make sure this is shared and communicated effectively so that all parishioners know what is happening in the parish and feel included. The Parish Leadership Team information has now been published on the website and in the newsletter. The next issue of Get Involved will be handed out before mass during Lent and will be sent with In Touch via email. More information has been shared in the Narthex using presentation boards. Parishioners asked that we consider several points for the future. We are currently focusing on the first of these points – formation. We are reviewing the nature of formation now and strategies for the future.

Further information will be shared as this develops.

Please see our website for full details - [Parish Leadership](#)

Altar serving

New altar servers welcome. Boys and girls, aged 8 – 80. Contact: Paul.Michael.Westonburt@btinternet.com

Finding Stillness

14th -17th March, Cost: £330 per person

Come away to a quiet place to find stillness and God's presence. Discover in the Benedictine tradition how stillness and stability can offer ways of opening up to God and living life at a deeper level.

Book online: www.worth.co.uk/retreats E: retreats@worth.org.uk or T: 01342 710318

Message from The Lourdes Pilgrimage Office

"We are receiving several applications from Pilgrims who will require assistance to join this year's Lourdes Pilgrimage, but at this point we are short of Helpers, Nurses and Doctors to assist with their Pilgrimage. If you would like to help, we would like to encourage Helpers, Nurses and Doctors to apply. The Pilgrimage Office is happy to answer any questions anyone has prior to applying."

The application form they should use is available on the website: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home>

Links for Our Common Home

[Help Reduce Food Waste](#)

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

[Help Reduce Plastic Waste](#)

[Fairer World](#)

[Laudato Si' Movement](#)

[WSCC Environment and Climate Change Newsletter](#)

[Nature on your doorstep](#)

Focusing on food waste

More than **35%** of global CO2 greenhouse gases come from the production and distribution of food. By preventing unnecessary food waste, we can greatly reduce the impact our eating habits are having on climate change.

In West Sussex, food waste makes up a staggering 40% of the average household general waste bin.

However, up to 70% of that waste can actually be avoided!

With **[Food Waste Action Week](#)** taking place from 7th - 13th March, now is an excellent time to forge new habits by wasting less while also reducing food bills.

The West Sussex Waste Partnership is tackling food waste through various trials and initiatives. It is also undertaking trials of separate food waste collections to further reduce the amount of waste we send to landfill.

If you have excess or leftover food you can find details on ways to share it and avoid your food going to waste by visiting **[Food Rescue campaign](#)**.

For more top tips, visit the **[Love Food. Hate Waste](#)** website. It's packed with information and inspiration to help you plan meals and make delicious food.

Fans of social media? Don't forget to let others know what you're doing, use the hashtag **#WestSussexClimateAction**

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 Leadership Team: [Parish Leadership](#)

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 with Exposition.
(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 - Tuesday evenings 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 - 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 Parish Office.

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

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.