



In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Third Sunday of Lent (year A)

11th / 12th March 2023

No: 1331

Dear Parishioners

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

As we continue our celebration of Lent our RCIA group enter the time of Scrutinies. These fall on the next three Sundays during mass. It takes the form of a moment of prayer for the candidates who are asking for baptism and initiation (Pamela Bagwell) and for reception into the Catholic Church (Edward Dean and Mark Bearman). It comes after the homily, and begins with an opportunity for each of us to take a moment of silent prayer for them, followed by two formal prayers. The commentary on the rite tells us: *The scrutinies are meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good. For the scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life. These rites, therefore, should complete the conversion of the elect and deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out their decision to love God above all... The elect must have the intention of achieving an intimate knowledge of Christ and his Church, and they are expected particularly to progress in genuine self-knowledge through serious examination of their lives and true repentance.* Reading these words, it is clear that they apply equally to each one of us. Their time of preparation and purification is also ours. This is the meaning of Lent, which began as the accompaniment of candidates by the whole Church as we travel together towards Easter - *achieving an intimate knowledge of Christ and his Church.* Do please pray for them and make them welcome in our community; and please remember that each one of us is responsible through the example of our way of life for their formation, as equally for one another's spiritual wellbeing. Please consider if you, or someone whom you know, might benefit from the RCIA course. We expect to start a new course after Easter. Do please get in touch.

Meanwhile, as I write today we celebrate **International Women's Day**. Life organisation have written a message for this day explaining their own perspective: *This International Women's Day, we think of equity in terms of parenthood and adoption. We want to make sure that, for every pregnancy, parenthood or adoption are at least as viable an option as an abortion is. When we create that equitable world – which requires journeying with women, in radical solidarity – we'll find that the demand for abortion reduces, and more women will freely choose motherhood or adoption. And that's a world worth striving for.* Do please see the report on their excellent work on our website, and consider how you might be able to support them, either personally in one of their houses, or financially.

I send my very best wishes to you all. Fr Paul



Prayers

Please pray for Christopher Innes who died recently. Please pray for his family.

Please pray for Charles Peile who died recently. Please pray for his widow, Lana, and his family.
The funeral will be held here, at Worth, on Thursday 16th March at 11.30am

Please say some special prayers for Mervyn Thomas, RIP, and for his family.
Mervyn has left the Parish a generous donation.

Please continue to pray for our parishioners Peter and Antee Greene,
Fred Green and Laura Rawlinson.

Lenten Prayer

*Plant in us, Lord, seeds of solidarity, so that, rejoicing in your gifts,
we may cherish your presence in each other and all creation.*

Root us, Lord, in compassion and justice.

Pour your Spirit down like gentle rain, softening our hearts, washing away division and selfishness.

Cultivate in us, Lord, attentiveness to your call.

Give us hope to dream of a better world and strength to play our part to make it a reality.

*Grow in us, Lord, your ways of peace and courage, so that in this time of Lent,
we may bear witness to your love, revealed to us in Jesus.*

Amen.

A prayer for Peace and Justice in Ukraine

*God of peace and justice, who change the hardened heart and break the power of violence,
we entrust the people of Ukraine to you.*

Protect them in this time of peril; let them know, not death, but life, not slavery, but freedom

You are Father of all; we are brothers and sisters

*Give us the strength to live that truth in love, choosing peace, not war
Amen*

Please continue to pray for the success of the Synod

Lord, you have gathered all your People in Synod.

We give you thanks for the joy experienced by those who decided to set out to

listen to God and to their brothers and sisters during this year,

with an attitude of welcome, humility, hospitality and siblinghood.

*Help us to enter these pages as on "holy ground." Come Holy Spirit:
may you be the guide of our journey together.*

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of – Kitty Cahill, John Burge, Roy Groombridge, Terry Fallon, Julie Vincent, Bishop David Cashman, Anne Innes, Mary Jarvis, Mary Devlin, Patricia Minnis and Ann Wallace.

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

Daily Readings

Monday – 2 Kgs 5:1-15b Luke 4:24-30

Tuesday – Dan 3:25, 34-43 Matt 18:21-35

Wednesday – Deut 4:1, 5-9 Matt 5:17-19

Thursday – Jer 7:23-28 Luke 11:14-23

Friday – Hos:2-10 Mark 12:28b-34 **(St Patrick)**

Saturday – Hos 6:1-6 Luke 18:9-14

Next Sunday's Readings: Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year A)

1st Reading – 1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13 2nd Reading – Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel: John 9:1-41

The blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored

Parish Events

Dates for your Diary

Every Monday throughout Lent – Coffee for CAFOD. Lenten coffee continues from 11am-12.30pm at Cinderhill House, on Cinderhill, near West Hoathly, RH17 7BD.

Every Friday throughout Lent - Stations of the Cross will be celebrated each Friday at 7.15pm. (after vespers).

Friday 10th March – Family Stations of the Cross at 7.15pm. Please contact the parish office asap if you would like to join for the fish and chips.

This Sunday 12th March – Parish Brunch in Compass House from 11am.

Tuesday 21st March – Mass with the school at 4.30pm. There will be no 5.30pm mass this day.

Palm Sunday 2nd April – Fr David will give a talk in the Unity Room after mass about Easter Services.

Monday 3rd April – Parish Reconciliation Service at 7.30pm.

Sunday 2nd July – Parish Picnic, after mass.



Easter Triduum at Worth Abbey

Thursday 6th April 2023, Maundy Thursday

06:15 – 06:50 Matins

07:30 – 08:00 Lauds

13:00 – 13:10 Midday Prayer (*No Vespers*)

20:30 – 21:30 **Community Concelebrated Mass of the Lord's Supper**

followed by **Watching at the Altar of Repose** (in the Unity Room) until midnight.

Friday 7th April 2023, Good Friday

06:15 – 06:50 Matins

07:30 – 08:00 Lauds

13:00 – 13:10 Midday Prayer

15:00 – 16:00 **Good Friday Service of the Lord's Passion**

20:15 – 20:30 Compline (*No Vespers*)

Saturday 8th April 2023, Holy Saturday

06:15 – 06:50 Matins

07:30 – 08:00 Lauds

13:00 – 13:10 Midday Prayer

18:45 – 19:15 Vespers

21:00 – 22.30 **Easter Vigil Mass of the Lord's Resurrection in the Holy Night**

followed by refreshments in the Narthex.

Sunday 9th April 2023, Easter Sunday

08:00 – 08:30 Lauds

10:00 – 11:00 **Parish Easter Morning Mass**

followed by the Worth Abbey Pilgrims event.

13:00 – 13:10 Midday Prayer

18:00 – 18:30 Pontifical Vespers

House groups

- Compass House at Worth on **Wednesdays at 2pm.**
Please contact the parish office via email – parish@worth.org.uk
- **Thursdays at 7.15pm.** Please contact:
Marian or Christopher Killick - email – marian.imhasly@gmail.com or cdk.hariton69@gmail.com
- A group in Cuckfield. Please contact Christina Fitzsimons via email – cfitzs3287@aol.com
- A group in Crawley Down. Please contact Carol Morice via email – carolmorice251@btinternet.com
- An informal group in Balcombe on Friday evenings beginning on **Friday 17th March** from 7.30pm. A chance to chat informally about everyday life and how we approach that as Christians over a glass of wine and cheese and biscuits. Please contact Charlie Tibble on 07845 956243.

Everyone is welcome to join any of the groups.

Easter Eggs

The Fairtrade stall have a selection of Easter Eggs, which include The Real Easter Egg, with a 24-page Easter Story/Activity Book and Divine Easter Eggs. We are ready to take your orders and look forward to seeing you.

Congratulations to everyone who baked, bought and ate cakes last weekend.

You raised over **£300** for the CAFOD earthquake fund.

Thank you everyone.

And very special thanks to Abby Chapman and her team who organised this for us.

Thank you everyone who generously uses the Dona machines to make donations. May I remind you that the machine in the narthex accepts donations under various headings, including both Parish and Abbey. Please note that our finances are quite separate. If you wish to donate to the Parish, please ensure that you tap the correct label on the machine.
Thank you very much.

Some of you will remember our parishioner Hugh Hurdman, who for the last eight years has very faithfully looked after the parish garden, mowing the lawns and cutting the edges.

Hugh is now receiving medical treatment which prevents him from coming to Worth.

Please pray for him while he undergoes his treatment.

Meanwhile, could anyone offer to take his place?

Or can you suggest anyone who loves gardens who might help us?

Easter Sunday at Worth

The Pilgrims invite you to the blessing and unveiling of the Icon Cross in the Quiet Garden after Mass on Easter Sunday.

There will also be festive refreshments and chocolate after Mass!

Families are especially welcome and Rachel and her team will be putting on a special Junior Church for children. More details to follow.



PEG Theatre Trip 2023

"Tickets for Chichester Festival Theatre's summer production of The Sound of Music are selling like hot strudel! Regular PEG supporters know a good day out when they see one and our theatre trip is always a sell-out. This year (after a Covid-gap of 3 years) is no different.

There are just a few tickets left for the PEG Theatre Trip on 20th July - ticket price includes coffee / tea (a drink with jam and bread...) and pastries (a few of my favourite things...) on departure from the Abbey by coach, matinee performance in the Festival Theatre, followed by more goodies and fizz on the way home as we climb every [Sussex] mountain - all for just £44/ticket.

Don't be a Lonely Goatherd - grab your tickets now! So long, farewell.....Sara Barclay-Hudson"

sbh0369@yahoo.com

From the Laudato Si Movement

Lent is a special time for reflection and action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Each year, God reminds us of his infinite love and compassion for us and all of creation. This Lent, we invite you to take another step in your journey of ecological conversion. Through a [Lent Calendar](#), we will invite you to reflect and act on issues related to our social and ecological sins each week. As we reflect on the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us "become painfully aware" (LS 19) of all that must die within us in order to truly commit ourselves to a more just and sustainable world.

Worth Abbey Parish - How can the Parish Community help to deepen our Faith?

Synod will carry on throughout 2023/2024.

There will be leaflets in the Narthex with questions for you to fill in and return.

Please kindly send your responses to the questions to the Parish Office Email: parish@worth.org.uk or drop them into the box provided, in the Narthex after Mass (please respond by no later than **19th March**)

Thank you

Worth Horticultural Society

Spring Show and table-top sale. **Sunday 26th March** at The Ark, Turners Hill, 2-4.30 pm. Free Admission.

Non-Parish Events

LCSB Spring Talks

The Lay Community of St Benedict (LCSB) invite us to take part in their series of Lent talks on line.

Adam Simon, the coordinator of LCSB, writes:

In the coming weeks, we are going to listen to a series of talks on the theme of being Christians in today's world, each session lasting one hour.

We have invited distinguished speakers from a variety of backgrounds, to share from their own experience, insights and reflections on how to deepen our faith through prayer together with an active response to God's invitation to live out our faith in challenging circumstances.

In addition, at the invitation of the LCSB Caring for Creation group, we are delighted that Bishop Nicholas Holtam, author of "Sleepers Wake", the Archbishop of York's Advent 2022 book, has agreed to give a talk also.

Theme – Talk with the Director of CAFOD. **Thursday 9th March** at 7pm

Theme – Talk with the Head of Theology at Pembroke college in Oxford. **Thursday 30th March** at 7pm

All online. All are welcome. Register at www.lcsb.uk/talks

Mental Health Awareness Course

11th March, 10am – 2.30pm, Fitzherbert Community Hub, Brighton BN2 1AP.

An [MHFA England](#) accredited course for anyone involved in parish ministry. Ideal for catechists, ministers of bereavement and those involved in the ministry of welcome (any role that requires you to work with people). Cost: £30.

Register your place [here](#).

Baptism Catechists Day

18th March 9.30am - 1.30pm, The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley RH10 6RP. Aimed at Catechists, Sponsors, and parents this event will explore the potential that preparation for the sacrament of baptism offers.

To find out more or register your free place [please click here](#).

Arundel Cathedral 150th Anniversary Concert Series

Robert Sholl (organ),

1st April at 1pm. Robert plays Tournemire's Seven Last Words of the Cross along with other music suitable for Holy Week. Jean-Yves Daniel-Lesur: Scène de la Passion, Tournemire: Sept Chorals-poèmes d'orgue pour les sept paroles du Christ Op. 67. **Free entry with a retiring collection.**

The Passion of Jesus

Trafalgar Square in London, **7th April at 12 noon and 3.15 pm.**

Wintershall brings the [Passion of Jesus](#) to London again this year with two free performances. People across our community are invited to attend - or even join the cast with rehearsals in Guildford and London. [Find out more here.](#)

Exhibition of Icons

Icons, drawings, frescos and illuminations by the local traditional byzantine iconographer Hanna-Leena Ward at St Lawrence's Church, Caterham, Surrey.

Open from **24th April – 7th May** 12noon – 7pm daily.

The opening night on 23rd April starts with Evensong at 6pm in St Mary's church, followed by a viewing of the icons at St Lawrence's church next door from 6.45pm – 9pm.

There are daily icon painting classes from 10am-2pm at St Lawrence's church during the exhibition. £35 daily. All levels welcome. For more information contact hannalward@hotmail.com

CAFOD Links

How to tackle the climate crisis - [CAFOD climate crisis campaign](#)

You can still donate to family fast day - [Family Fast Day Lent Appeal](#)

Links for Our Common Home

[Help Reduce Food Waste](#)

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

[Help Reduce Plastic Waste](#)

[Laudato Si' Movement](#)

[WSCC Environment and Climate Change Newsletter](#)

[Nature on your doorstep](#)

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

<https://www.recyclenow.com/repeatthecycle>

[Greenpeace Big Plastic Count](#)

[West Sussex Climate Action](#)

[The Joyful Environmentalist](#)

[Greener Living](#)

For other regular items, please see the website:

For readings, see Universalis: [Universalis](#)

Parish Leadership Team: [Parish Leadership Team](#)

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 homepage under Organ voluntaries:

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

Please use the QR code for donations to the Parish. Thank you



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



Confessions (Sacrament of Reconciliation) – In the Church, Sundays 08.45am – 09.15am
(If anyone cannot come at this time, please make a special appointment with Fr Paul)

Rosary Group – Mondays in the Abbey Church after Vespers – 7:10pm until 8:00pm. Please get in touch with Rachel Davies: 07801 696354

Lectio Divina – Tuesday evenings at 8pm 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 Dates, 29th March and 26th April.

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

Bible Study Group – 11.15am on Mondays in Compass House. Please contact Jenny Chapman.

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: Charles and Ann McCarthy Email – sg1.worth@abdiocese.org.uk

In Touch: If you would like anything to appear in 'In Touch', please contact Maria Stribbling at parish@worth.org.uk
(by Wednesday 10am)

Safe Spaces: 0300 303 1056 Web: www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk/ Email: safespaces@victimsupport.org.uk

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.