



# In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Fifth Sunday of Lent (year A)

25<sup>th</sup> / 26<sup>th</sup> March 2023

No: 1333

Dear Parishioners

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

You will remember that last week we drew attention to the Bishops' comments on the proposed **Illegal Immigrants Bill**. Please write to your MP about this. The Bishops have followed their statement with a new document, **Love The Stranger**. I would like to commend this also to your attention. (You will find both of these on our website -

<https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/illegal-migration-bill-march-2023/>) This document represents the Bishops' response to the urgent need of so many asylum seekers around the world who are compelled to leave their homes because of violence or poverty or climate change. They encourage us to consider what must be our own response in the light of Catholic Social Teaching. In the introduction they write: *Scripture tells us: "Love the stranger then, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt" (Deuteronomy 10:19). The word 'stranger' is variously translated as 'foreigner', 'immigrant', 'sojourner' or 'alien'. However, the message remains consistent: those arriving from other parts of the world are our sisters and brothers. We are called to see Christ in them, for all people are created in His image. And we are called to see ourselves in them, for we all share this common humanity. In 2023, people making dangerous journeys across the Channel to reach the UK are also called by various names: 'refugees', 'asylum seekers', 'migrants', and often by more derogatory terms. This publication by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales Department for International Affairs is shaped by, and articulates, our Christian duty to look beyond such labels and see the person who has left their homeland in search of a better life... We should not reduce people to statistics or to a political problem to be solved. Nor can we allow recognition of people's dignity to be dependent upon where they come from or how they reach our shores. The call to love in Deuteronomy is unequivocal and indiscriminate... Pope Francis reminds us that loving as Christ does means actively putting ourselves at the service of others...and not only helping those who come here, but also to facilitate and rejoice in their service to our society. Some of you are already engaged in a personal way with our local organisations, and I particularly commend to you The Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group and Refugees Welcome Crawley. Please find out more about how you can help - <https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/social-action/refugees/>*

Meanwhile last week marked the tenth anniversary of the beginning of the Pontificate of Pope Francis. CAFOD have presented a tribute to his work for our Church. They write: *Whether it's the witness he's shown to the Gospel in his encounters with the most marginalised members of our global family, or his words of wisdom for young people and world leaders alike, Pope Francis has inspired countless people to work for a better world.* Please see their tribute to his achievements: [Celebrate 10 years of Pope Francis](#) And please pray that he will have the strength to complete the task which God asks of him.



## **Prayers**

Please pray for Hilary Moore who died recently. Please pray for her family.

Please pray for Christopher Innes who died recently. Please pray for his family.  
His funeral will be held, here at Worth, on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 11.30am.

Please pray for Severina D'Souza, who has been unwell for several weeks, and for her husband,  
Norbert.

Please pray for Michael Grech, who is unwell, and for his wife, Mavis.

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

Please pray for Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, in thanksgiving for all he has done for our Church, and  
that he may have the strength and courage to complete the task which God has given him.

*Almighty God, look kindly on your servant Pope Francis.  
You invited him to shepherd your flock. Guide and protect him in his daily work.  
Inspire him in your ways to embrace Church unity.*

## **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 –** Charles Carlos, John Marsh, Maureen Ponsford, Mgr John Vance, Tom Shann  
and Evelyn Ticehurst.  
**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in  
peace. Amen.**

### Daily Readings

Monday – Dan 13:41c-62 John 8:1-11

Tuesday – Num 21:4-9 John 8:21-30

Wednesday – Dan 3:14-20, 91-92 John 8:31-42

Thursday – Gen 17:3-9 John 8:51-59

Friday – Jer 20:10-13 John 10:31-42

Saturday – Ezek 37:21-28 John 11:45-46

### Next Sunday's Readings: **Palm Sunday (Year A)**

1st Reading – Isaiah 50:4-7 2nd Reading – Philippians 2:6-11

**Gospel: Matthew 26:14-27:66**

**The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ**

### *Parish Events*

#### **Dates for your Diary**

**This Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> March** - Talk by Fr David about Holy Week at 11 am in the Unity Room. **Please note the change of date.**

**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).

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** – Parish Reconciliation Service at 7.30pm.

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April** - Lectio on the gospel of the day, in Compass House at 7.30pm.

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April** - 10am – 12 noon - a short circular “cross walk”, around Worth church. 2pm - Lectio on one of the readings of the day, in Compass House.

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April.** 8 pm –Lectio on the gospel of the Easter Vigil, in Compass House.

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July** – Parish Picnic, after mass.

#### **House groups**

- Compass House at Worth on **Wednesdays at 2pm.**  
Please contact the parish office via email – [parish@worth.org.uk](mailto:parish@worth.org.uk)
- **Thursdays at 7.15pm.** Please contact:  
Marian or Christopher Killick - email – [marian.imhasly@gmail.com](mailto:marian.imhasly@gmail.com) or [cdk.hariton69@gmail.com](mailto:cdk.hariton69@gmail.com)
- A group in Cuckfield. Please contact Christina Fitzsimons via email – [cfitzs3287@aol.com](mailto:cfitzs3287@aol.com)
- A group in Crawley Down. Please contact Carol Morice via email – [carolmorice251@btinternet.com](mailto:carolmorice251@btinternet.com)
- An informal group in Balcombe on **Friday evenings 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.

Please take part in the parish questionnaire. You will find the questions by the doors, with a box for your response; or please send your response by email to the parish office. Thank you.



## **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

## **Easter Celebrations at Worth**

On Easter Sunday, after the **10am Mass**, Abbot Mark and members of the monastic community invite you to join them and process to the Quiet Garden for the unveiling and blessing of the icon cross. There will be festive refreshments before and after the procession and activities and chocolate for children. Junior Church will be open during Mass and children of the parish and visiting children are warmly invited to take part.

*Abbot Mark wishes to inform the parish about these two important matters:*

### **1. Communion Arrangements**

As we approach the third anniversary of the first Covid lockdown, we are understandably asking questions about when and how to resume the reception of Holy Communion from the Chalice. Public health advice is that the covid-19 virus is still circulating in society along with other prevalent seasonal viruses and that the risk of infection still exists. In our neighbouring Catholic parishes and here at Worth it is proposed therefore to continue for the time being with the reception of Holy Communion under one kind, at least until the end of this winter season and its associated viruses. Bishop Richard, along with all the Bishops of England and Wales, asks us each to continue to be mindful of the Church's teaching that the totality of the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of the Lord is received by us in Holy Communion, whether under one or both species. As the summer approaches, we shall continue to monitor the advice we receive and will make further announcements on this important topic.

### **2. Roof Works**

We have recently received notification from Marcon, our roofing contractor, that their anticipated completion date of the end of this present month, March, will not be achieved. We understand that this is partly the result of seasonal bad weather. Naturally, we are sorry to have to announce that the deadline for completion of this major piece of work and the removal of the scaffolding and builders compound has now been extended into the Easter period, and will now not happen before the latter part of April. This will have the consequence that there will be roofing works continuing through the last weeks of Lent, Palm Sunday, Holy Week and the Paschal Triduum.

### **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.

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.

### **No More Fossil Fuels**

**April 21<sup>st</sup>:** Gathering at St John's Waterloo from 11 am for worship.

From 1 pm, pilgrimage to Parliament Square.

CAFOD write: *"Burning fossil fuels is burning our common home – yet the government is still spending billions every year propping up fossil fuel companies. This needs to stop.*

*On **Friday 21 April**, we'll be taking part in a mass day of action organised by climate campaigners from across the country.*

*CAFOD and friends from other Christian groups will gather at St John's Church, Waterloo, London. From there, we'll undertake a short 'pilgrimage to Parliament' where we'll join thousands of others calling for the government to stop supporting fossil fuels.*

*We want the government to stop granting new licences for fossil fuel projects that make the climate crisis even worse for our sisters and brothers on the frontline of the climate emergency.*

*We hope to see you there to help us declare we have no faith in fossil fuels. "*

Register to join us - [No faith in fossil fuels](#)

*With our thanks and prayers, The CAFOD Campaigns Team*

### **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.

### **Consolation Ministry**

You may know that Margaret Corke recently qualified in the Diocesan course of Consolation Ministry.

There is a subsequent course which the Diocese will offer in May and June.

Sessions will be at night to help those who work during the day. Margaret would like a companion to work with her in the parish. Do please consider if you are called to this ministry.

Please contact Deacon Simon South, who runs the courses [simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk)

And please get in touch with Margaret, through the office, if you would like to learn more. Thank you.

The diocese warns us about a new bill passing through Parliament which would prevent people from claiming asylum in Britain.

**The [St Vincent de Paul Society \(SVP\)](#) has warned against government plans to introduce legislation which would detain and remove people arriving in the UK to claim asylum.**

The [Illegal Migration Bill](#), which was introduced to Parliament on 7<sup>th</sup> March, will prevent most people in need of sanctuary from claiming asylum in the UK. It also fails to provide safe routes for people seeking protection in the UK. The Bill, if passed in its current form, will allow the Government to make arrangements for the removal of vulnerable people entering the UK to claim protection from war and persecution. It will also make a provision to hold asylum seekers in immigration removal centres, including women and people who have experienced torture and sexual violence.

Following the introduction of the Bill, the SVP is urging the Government to create an asylum system which protects those seeking sanctuary and doesn't punish people for seeking a better life. You can find out more [here](#)

Please also see the excellent material on our parish website:

<https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/illegal-migrants-bill-march-2023/>



### **'The Heart of The King'**

**Joel's Bar 2023 at Worth Abbey, 9<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> April**, full board and accommodation: £250, bursaries and day rates available. Joel's Bar is the Young Adults ministry of CELEBRATE Trust, serving those aged 16-28. Experience fantastic formation, with talks from world-renowned speakers, workshops, activities and loads of time for prayer. Find out more and book [here](#).

### ***Non-Parish Events***

#### **Redshirts and Young Helpers Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes**

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August this year**, offering an unforgettable experience for young people in school years 10, 11, and 12 to journey in faith and service with people from across our Diocese.

The diocesan Pilgrimage has a rich history. Young people have been journeying in prayer to Lourdes to participate as Redshirts (Yrs 10 & 11) and Helpers (Yr 12) for many years, enabling them to be part of the main pilgrimage to Lourdes through acts of service and friendship. Redshirts and Young Helpers get to spend time with young people like themselves who may be curious about their faith, or are wondering what it means to be a young Catholic. Young Helpers support other pilgrims during the day and join together in the evenings offering an experience full of friendship, faith, fun, and learning about what really matters in life both personally, and in the lives of others. Speaking about their Redshirt experience one young person said: "[It is] the single most amazing thing I have ever done!"

To access a **Guide for Parents & Carers** [click here](#) or [visit our website](#). The cost of the Redshirts/Young Helpers pilgrimage week is £675 (with a pilgrimage subsidy) or £750 (full price) with the option to make payments in instalments. To find out more please [contact our Pilgrimage Office](#)

#### **Sussex Jumbulance Trip to Norfolk**

**1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> May, Cost: £570.** Join up to 20 people travelling by Jumbulance (accessible coach) to Norfolk. Stay in accessible, adapted accommodation and visit various Norfolk sights including the Shrine at Walsingham. This trip is suitable for those who may need a little help, or those for whom an ordinary coach holiday could be a challenge. E: [sussexjumbulance@gmail.com](mailto:sussexjumbulance@gmail.com) or T: 07889 761987 to find out more.

#### **Protect Your Vote!**

To vote in the UK's local elections in May you will need to show photo-ID. If you don't have a passport, a driving-licence or a government recognised photo-card, you won't be able to vote in person unless you apply for a free [Voter Authority Certificate](#) by **25<sup>th</sup> April 2023**. To get a VAC please [click here](#) and visit the UK Government website.

#### **Applications to this year's diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage are open.**

The pilgrimage takes place 28<sup>th</sup> July to 3<sup>rd</sup> August for those travelling by air, or 27<sup>th</sup> July to 4<sup>th</sup> August for those travelling by coach or jumbulance. You can find out more by visiting the [Lourdes section](#) of the diocesan website. To make your application please [click here](#).

#### **Arundel Cathedral 150th Anniversary Concert Series**

**Robert Sholl (organ), 1<sup>st</sup> 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, **7<sup>th</sup> 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 **24<sup>th</sup> April – 7<sup>th</sup> May** 12noon – 7pm daily.

The opening night on 23<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:hannalward@hotmail.com)

### **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](#)

[CAFOD climate crisis campaign](#)

### **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](mailto:jenny_chapman@sky.com)

**Christian Meditation Group** - 7.00pm in the Unity Room, please contact Richard by email

[rbrownd1@gmail.com](mailto:rbrownd1@gmail.com)    **Next Dates, 29<sup>th</sup> March and 26<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:parish@worth.org.uk) **Parish Office Tel:** 01342 710313 **Parish Website:** [www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:parish@worth.org.uk)  
**(by Wednesday 10am)**

**Safe Spaces:** 0300 303 1056 **Web:** [www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk/](http://www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk/) **Email:** [safespaces@victimsupport.org.uk](mailto: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.**