



In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Palm Sunday (year A)

1st / 2nd April 2023

No: 1334

Dear Parishioners

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

This weekend we begin our celebration of Holy Week with Palm Sunday, when we commemorate the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem acclaimed by his disciples as Messiah. This moment begins his most intense denunciation of the leadership of the Jewish state, the Sadducees and Pharisees, for their oppression of the poor, from whom were drawn his disciples. As we reflect on the prophetic ministry of Jesus we might remember Bishop St Oscar Romero of El Salvador, whose feast day is marked on March 24th, the day of his assassination. Oscar Romero was chosen as Archbishop in 1977, at a time of great social upheaval in El Salvador, a tiny state in Central America, with a rich Catholic heritage. The country was ruled, and owned, by twelve families, while the rest of the population lived in misery, oppressed by the ruling families. The poor began to protest their way of life and the injustice which they suffered, and they were supported increasingly by their priests. Romero was elected at this moment because he was expected to put an end to this – an academic, and a “safe pair of hands”. But, as he witnessed the suffering of his people, he was gradually converted to become the prophet and champion of the poor, and for this reason he was assassinated on the orders of the military on 24th March, 1980, while celebrating mass. This was a tragic and also a highly symbolic moment: having shared in Jesus’ prophetic ministry during his life, he then shared in his death. *This cup is the new covenant in my blood which will be poured out for you.*

Romero was recognised immediately by his people as a martyr and a saint, and was beatified by Pope Francis in May, 2015. His life and death show us clearly what it means to be a prophet – *To do justice for the poor and oppressed, this is truly to know God*, he said. He became “the voice of the voiceless”, and a model and inspiration for the prophetic vocation of the Church. He declared, *A Church that does not join the poor in order to speak out on behalf of the poor and against the injustices committed against them is not the true Church of Jesus Christ.*

Please pray that we may be inspired to follow his example in whatever way we can under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Meanwhile, I wish you a celebration of Holy Week which will lead us all closer to The Kingdom of God.

I send you all my best wishes. Fr Paul

Prayers



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 – Bert Rayson, Rev Guy Bowden, Ann Thomas, Edward Lightburn, Terry Black, Andrew Martin, Peter Lazarus, Marjorie Burrows, Germaine Garnaude, Julian Dare, Mr Malton, Alan Twigg, Paddy McGrath, Ellen Morice and Paula Rawlins.

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

Daily Readings

Monday – Isa 42:1-7 John 12:1-11

Tuesday – Isa 49:1-6 John 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday – Isa 50:4-9a Matt 26:14-25

Thursday – Exod 12:1-8, 11-14 1 Cor 11:23-26 John 13:1-15 **(Maunday Thursday)**

Friday – Isa 52:13-53:12 Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9 John 18:1-19:42 **(Good Friday)**

Saturday – **Holy Saturday Easter Vigil**

Next Sunday's Readings: **Easter Sunday (Year A)**
1st Reading – Acts 10:34, 37-43 2nd Reading – Colossians 3:1-4
Gospel: John 20:1-9
He must rise from the dead

Parish Events

Dates for your Diary

Monday 3rd April – Coffee for CAFOD. Lenten coffee continues from 11am-12.30pm at Cinderhill House, on Cinderhill, near West Hoathly, RH17 7BD. We extend our very sincere thanks to Hal and Rory Clarke for this opportunity to raise funds for CAFOD and provide us with a very pleasant social occasion. Please note that this Monday will be the last one this year.

Friday 31st March - Stations of the Cross will be celebrated at 7.15pm. (after vespers). This will be the last one this year.

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

Thursday 6th April - Lectio on the gospel of the day, in Compass House at 7.30pm.

Friday 7th April - 10am – 12 noon - a short circular “cross walk”, around Worth church. Please note that you will need boots.

2pm - Lectio on one of the readings of the day, in Compass House.

Saturday 8th April. 8 pm –Lectio on the gospel of the Easter Vigil, in Compass House.

Easter Sunday, after the 10am Mass. Abbot Mark and members of the monastic community invite you to join them for the unveiling and blessing of the icon cross. This will **now take place close to the church rather than in the Quiet Garden**, which is very muddy at the moment. There will be festive refreshments before and after the blessing 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.

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

Gift Aid Envelopes

For those who use and have requested gift aid envelopes, named boxes will be available to collect in the Narthex.

In Touch Holiday

Please note that next week's copy of In Touch will be the last until 29th / 30th April.

Fr Paul will be on holiday from 18th – 22nd April

On Good Friday, there will be a **Second Collection** for "The Holy Places of Palestine".

This collection helps to preserve the holy places, through many activities of solidarity such as the maintenance of pastoral, educational, welfare, health and social structures.

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 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.

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

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

'The Heart of The King'

Joel's Bar 2023 at Worth Abbey, 9th -14th 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 27th July to Friday 4th 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](#)

Gap Year Opportunity

CAFOD are offering a fantastic Gap Year opportunity **for 18-30-year olds**. *Step into the Gap* is a fully funded year of volunteering, with food, accommodation, stipend and training within a UK placement - plus a Rome and Assisi pilgrimage. [Click here](#) to visit the CAFOD website and find out more.

Sussex Jumbulance Trip to Norfolk

1st – 5th 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 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 **25th 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 28th July to 3rd August for those travelling by air, or 27th July to 4th 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), 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](#).

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

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.