



# In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Fourth Sunday of Easter (year A)

29<sup>th</sup> / 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023

No: 1336

Dear Parishioners

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

I hope that you are enjoying the blessings of Easter, with the joy and the hope which our feast inspires. I should like to share with you some lines from the address by Pope Francis at Easter, in which he prays for the Church and all nations around the world.

*Dear brothers and sisters, Christ is risen! May this Easter be for each of you, dear brothers and sisters, and in particular for the sick and the poor, the elderly and those experiencing moments of trial and weariness, a passage from affliction to consolation. We are not alone: Jesus, the Living One, is with us, forever. Let the Church and the world rejoice, for today our hopes no longer come up against the wall of death, for the Lord has built us a bridge to life. Yes, brothers and sisters, at Easter the destiny of the world was changed, and on this day, we can rejoice to celebrate, by pure grace, the most important and beautiful day of history... Humanity now sees the goal of its journey, sees the meaning of its destiny, Jesus Christ, and is called to make haste to meet him, who is the hope of the world.*

*May we too make haste to progress on a journey of reciprocal trust: trust among individuals, peoples and nations. May we allow ourselves to experience amazement at the joyful proclamation of Easter, at the light that illumines the darkness and the gloom in which, all too often, our world finds itself enveloped.*

Pope Francis appeals to us to exercise the trust which Jesus' Resurrection inspires, and to overcome conflict: *Let us make haste to surmount our conflicts and divisions, and to open our hearts to those in greatest need. Let us hasten to pursue paths of peace and fraternity. Let us rejoice at the concrete signs of hope that reach us from so many countries, beginning with those that offer assistance and welcome to all fleeing from war and poverty. He turns to prayer for those in greatest need: Comfort refugees, deportees, political prisoners and migrants, especially those who are most vulnerable, as well as the victims of hunger, poverty and the dire effects of the drug trade, human trafficking and all other forms of slavery. Lord, inspire the leaders of nations to ensure that no man or woman may encounter discrimination and be violated in his or her dignity; that in full respect for human rights and democracy*

*these social wounds may be healed; that the common good of the citizenry may be pursued always and solely; and that security and the conditions needed for dialogue and peaceful coexistence may be guaranteed. He appeals to us to allow God to renew our lives: Brothers, sisters, may we rediscover the enjoyment of the journey, quicken the heartbeat of hope and experience a foretaste of the beauty of heaven! Peace be with you!*

Meanwhile, this weekend we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday, when we pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Please see the Pastoral Letter from Bishop Richard, <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/pastoral-letters/4th-sunday-of-eastertide> and please see material relating to this theme on our website.

<https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/vocations-sunday-30th-april-2023/>

#### **Anniversaries**

**Please pray for the Souls of** – Edwin Ryan, Barbara Geary, Althea Harris, Coral Botting, Matthew Dawson, Sheila White, Veira Flanagan, Patricia Blake, Margaret Albert, Dom Bede Hill, 'Pop' Yaldren, Joan Moody and James Mackey.

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

#### **Daily Readings**

Monday – Acts 11:1-18 Matt 13:54-58

Tuesday – Acts 11:19-26 John 10:22-30 **(St Athanasius)**

Wednesday – 1 Cor 15:1-8 John 14:6-14 **(SS Philip and James)**

Thursday – Acts 13:13-25 John 13:16-20 **(All Martyrs of England and Wales)**

Friday – Acts 13:26-33 John 14:1-6

Saturday – Acts 13:44-52 John 14:7-14

Next Sunday's Readings: **Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year A)**

1st Reading – Acts 6:1-7 2nd Reading – 1 Peter 2:4-9

**Gospel: John 14:1-12**

**I am the way, the Truth and the Life**



## Prayers

Please pray for Eric Corke, who died this week, and for his widow Margaret and their family.

Please pray for John Albert who died on 11<sup>th</sup> April, and for Anne, his widow, and for their family.

John's funeral will take place, here in the Abbey at 2pm on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May.

There will be a reception after the mass in the Narthex and the family would welcome all.

Please pray for Michael Grech, who died on 12<sup>th</sup> April, and for his widow, Mavis, and for their family.

Details of the funeral will be announced as soon as we know them.

*May they rest in peace.*

Please pray for the children who have been preparing for their First Holy Communion which takes place on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May during the 09.30am mass. Our prayers are **with Caterina Lightbound, Catherine Callan,**

**Margot Coyne, Emilio Grossmann, Adam Kaszycki, Noah Dorfer, Anna Russell** and their families.

Please continue to pray for our parishioners Peter and Antee Greene,  
Fred Green, Hugh Hurdman, Severina and Norbert D'Souza and Laura Rawlinson.

*Risen Lord,  
shed your light on those who live in the shadow of death  
and warm the hearts of those who have lost hope,  
that they who daily bear the cross of hunger may find your Promised Land,  
and move from slavery to freedom.  
As we proclaim your Easter song help us to die to greed and rise to justice,  
to abandon apathy and take up action,  
that rich and poor together may travel the road to freedom,  
and be restored to your resurrection life.  
Amen.*

### **A prayer for Pope Francis**

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.*

### **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.*

## *Parish Events*

### A note about our church...

You may have noticed that we have begun the process of repairing the benches. We hope to repair them all eventually. We also hope that all the scaffolding will be removed early next month.

If anyone has any spare time they would like to donate to the Parish, we would really appreciate help with the mowing of the Parish Office gardens. Please do let us know if you can help. Thank you.

This weekend there is a Second Collection for  
*"World Day of Prayer for Vocations: The Education of Future Priests".*  
This can be Gift Aided.

### **Parish Finance Update**

We would like to thank parishioners very much indeed for their generosity in responding to last Autumn's appeal for an increase in donations. About a quarter of our regular donors increased their giving, in some cases significantly.

The final 2022 result (income less expenditure) was more or less break-even (a surplus of £353). We have received two generous legacies in 2023, totalling £7,000, which should mean that this year is less of a concern, but without the legacies our income would still be expected to be below costs, which is of course a matter to consider for 2024.

The Parish finances, which are part of Arundel & Brighton Diocese, are completely independent from Worth Abbey (though the Parish pays sums to the Abbey for the services of our Parish Priest and for use of the Abbey Church and other facilities).

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to speak to George Fitzsimons or Mark Bearman or contact them by email ([george@fitzsimonsonline.com](mailto:george@fitzsimonsonline.com) and [mark.bearman@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mark.bearman@yahoo.co.uk)).

Fr David has kindly agreed to give us four talks about the Eucharist.

The first is this Sunday, at 11 am, in the Unity Room.

Please see the *"dates for your diary"* for future dates.

### **Dates for your Diary**

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April** – *Gathering together – for what?* 11am in the Unity Room with Fr David.

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May** – *Liturgy of the Word – an event!* 11am in the Unity Room with Fr David.

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May** – First Holy Communion Mass at 9.30am. (there will be no parish brunch this day)

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May – Ascension Thursday.** Mass will be celebrated with the school at 4.30pm.

There will be no mass at 5.30pm.

There will be a Parish mass at 7.30pm

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May** – There will be no morning mass.

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May** – *Offertory & Eucharistic Prayer – the church exists to pray it.* 11am in the Unity Room with Fr David

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June** – *Eucharistic Communion – sharers in Christ's divinity – for the world.* 11am in the Unity Room with Fr David.

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

## **Coronation Mass**

You are warmly invited to attend the **5.30pm mass** in the Abbey Church on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May**, the evening before the coronation of King Charles III. This will be a special liturgy to pray for the new reign. All staff and friends are warmly invited to attend and to pray for the King and Queen.

This date has been set by the Bishops of England and Wales, and this special mass will be celebrated in all Catholic Churches in the country.

I look forward to welcoming you and your friends to this special celebration.

*Good wishes, Abbot Mark*

### **House groups**

- Compass House at Worth on **Wednesdays at 2pm**. Please contact Jenny if you would like this group to continue email – [jenny\\_chapman@sky.com](mailto:jenny_chapman@sky.com)

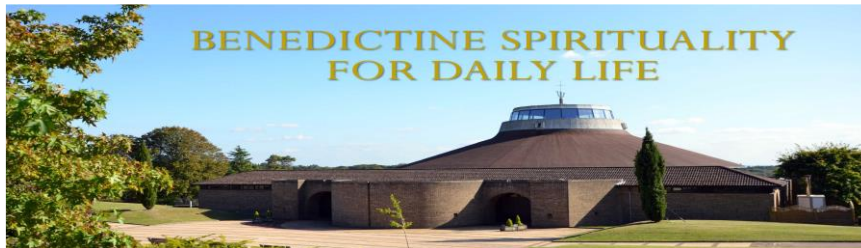
Mark and Charlie Tibble will host another house group gathering on **Friday 28th April from 7.30**.

All welcome, cheese and biscuits and a chance to get to know your Worth parish.

Text or phone Charlie on 07845956243 to confirm.

Everyone is welcome to join any of the groups.

### **Benedictine Spirituality for Daily Life**



**You are invited to an afternoon of events exploring the richness of Benedictine Spirituality on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 1-4 pm at Worth Abbey.**

The afternoon starts with Midday Prayer at 1 pm followed by a welcome talk by Abbot Mark and ends with Benediction at 3.30 pm.

There will be several sessions including silent prayer, Lectio Divina (both led by members of the monastic community), talks by lay people and the opportunity to take a guided walk to the Quiet Garden.

Families are welcome – there will be activities for children. Complimentary refreshments.

Booking is necessary as places are limited:

<https://worthconnecting.org.uk/events/stbenedict>

For more information please contact Kelly O'Hara: [pilgrims@worth.org.uk](mailto:pilgrims@worth.org.uk)

### **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Adult Formation Course**

**Level 1 - part A.** 6<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> May, 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> August and 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> September at Worth Abbey.

The CGS Level 1 formation course prepares adults to offer the catechesis to children age 3-6 and is also the foundation course to build on for those called to serve children age 6-9 in Level 2 and children age 9-12 in Level 3.

The complete Level 1 formation course requires a minimum of 90 hours which includes lectures, presentations on how to demonstrate the use of the materials to children, material making and practicum. The three weekends this May, August and September will cover part A, the first half of the formation (i.e. 45 hours)

A further 3 weekends will be needed to complete the course and receive certification.

We are able to accept 20 participants onto this course.

The cost of the course is dependent on the number of participants. (tbc)

For more information about this course and to register, please contact **Lara** on the hosting team at:

[laramerk@gmail.com](mailto:laramerk@gmail.com)

To discover more about this method, go to: [www.cgsuk.org](http://www.cgsuk.org) or [www.cgsusa.org](http://www.cgsusa.org)



### **Worth Abbey Event**

**Time Out: Individual self-guided retreats – 15<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> May, 26-30 June, 1<sup>st</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> August.**

Cost: £90 per person, per night, minimum booking 2 nights.

Spend time at Worth Abbey enjoying the rhythm of the monastic prayer and liturgy, time in reflection and the peace of the Sussex countryside. There is no set programme other than the monastic liturgy, to which you are warmly invited and an optional daily Lectio Divina session. There is also opportunity meet with a monk for reconciliation or a chat.

Places are limited for all retreats, so book your place early to avoid disappointment.

For further information please contact T:01342 710318, E:[retreats@worth.org.uk](mailto:retreats@worth.org.uk) or W: [worth.co.uk](http://worth.co.uk)

### **Request for Pilgrimage Helpers, Nurses and HCA's**

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](#).

Applications from pilgrims requiring assistance to journey with the Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes this summer are back to pre-Covid numbers – which is wonderful news, but it does mean we now need lots of helpers, nurses and HCA's to apply to make sure we have enough people to care for them in Lourdes.

"Being a helper is an act of service that many of us do not get to offer during our day to day lives. Giving our time and care for a week in Lourdes can make such a positive impact on the life and wellbeing of the people we help, and ourselves. There are many ways that you can help someone, the first step is to apply!"

Further information and a link to the application is available on the [Lourdes Pilgrimage \(abdiocese.org.uk\)](http://abdiocese.org.uk) website.

The cost for Helpers and Clinicians is £680 (subsidised) or £850 full price.

There are further subsidies which may be available.

### **A CAFOD word of thanks**

Shukla is a mum in Bangladesh who has been very worried about her children's nutrition.

After joining a community project in Bangladesh, which is supported by CAFOD, Shukla has a productive garden and can grow food for her son. Shukla says, *"worry has completely disappeared now."*

People support us in so many ways – giving in church, giving to us by direct debit, or leaving us a gift in their will. This generosity and compassion reaches hard-working mothers like Shukla. Thank you.

To read Shukla's story, go to [cafod.org.uk/GiftInWill](http://cafod.org.uk/GiftInWill)

### **CAFOD – Fix our broken food system**

CAFOD's [campaign to fix our broken food system](#) is deeply rooted in our Catholic faith and its teachings. The proverb "One sows and another reaps" (John 4:37) touches on our basic sense of what is and isn't fair. When one person does all the work and another benefits, injustice reigns. By contrast, everyone enjoying the work of their own hands epitomises justice and balance: "They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. No longer will they build houses for others to inhabit, nor plant for others to eat" (Isaiah 65:21).

Half of the world's seeds are now owned by large private businesses [with an ongoing] struggle over who owns this precious resource, which provides the source for the food we eat. Jony (pictured), is the director of [UBINIG, Policy Research for Development Alternative](#) one of CAFOD's partners in Bangladesh, he explains the control that seed companies have: "If a company wants to introduce a [seed] variety, even if it has been bred from varieties that used to be native to Bangladesh, they introduce it by their own name and under their own patent. So, the farmers don't have any claim."

Seed companies reap profits, but small-scale farmers are locked into a [cycle of] dependence. Without control over the seeds, or the ability to save and share them, if a flood strikes and wipes out the harvest, there is no fall-back. CAFOD's 'Fix the Food System' campaign hopes to change this, to find out more visit CAFOD's blog [here](#)

### **CAFOD spring clean fundraiser**

Dear Parish, A grateful thank you for your participation in CAFOD's Lenten Fast Day fundraising at Worth which resulted in £1200 collected. Your online and regular donations also add to this total in a tremendously impactful way. Additionally, your enthusiastic support of our special events of Lenten Monday Coffee Mornings for CAFOD at Cinderhill and the Family Stations of the Cross and Fish & Chips supper, which raised additional funds of £550 and £70 respectively, was particularly heartening. In conclusion, £1820 of funds flowed from Worth to CAFOD this Lent, not considering additional online activity. Bravo to our Parish's care and ACTION.

Spring has sprung and I ask you to consider participating in our next CAFOD fundraiser to be held in late April; a 'Spring Clean' recycling event. This event promises to serve a dual purpose. It could inspire a purge of unwanted items at your home, while also raising funds for CAFOD via a recycling program.

CAFOD is asking for donations of the following items that we no longer use, want or need...

#### **YES! please donate:**

Gold or silver jewellery, Costume jewellery, Watches  
Stamps, First day covers (a postal collectible), Bank notes and coins (any country)  
Mobile phones, Cameras, Video cameras, Sat navs, Electronic gaming devices, iPod's/MP3 players  
Tablet computers

#### **NO, thank you, CAFOD does NOT want:**

NO laptops, NO home phones, NO fax machines, NO DVD players, NO printers  
NO modems or routers, NO kitchen or home appliances, NO porcelain or glass items  
NO personal grooming items (hair dryers, razors, etc.), NO other items of any definition

In order to ensure we do not inconvenience the Worth Parish space with an influx of 'stuff' for too long, or risk Father Paul suddenly feeling like he is running a pawn brokers shop, we will keep a strict and limited collection time window as follows:

- Donated items will be collected in the **Narthex after Mass on Saturday 29th April** at 5pm and on **Sunday 30th April at 9.30am.**
- Items can also be dropped at St. Benedict's from **Monday 1st May until Friday 5th May at 11am** when our CAFOD diocesan coordinator will arrive to receive our donated items.

Many thanks for your support! Please consider if you might have any of these items that you'd like to donate...and get sorting!!

*Yours, Kir Bennett Horner, Worth Parish CAFOD Rep*

### *Non-Parish Events*

#### **Crawley Interfaith Network**

"Spiritual Care at the End of Life"

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April** from 7.30pm – 9.00pm at The Connections Centre, St Catherine's Hospice,  
Malthouse Road, Crawley, RH10 6BH

Speakers: Spiritual Care volunteers: Hannah Wilson and Annie Blampied-Radojcin.

Website: <https://www.crawleyinter-faith.com/>

Face Book: [www.facebook.com/Crawley-Interfaith-Network-527183677396243](https://www.facebook.com/Crawley-Interfaith-Network-527183677396243)

For Further Information Contact Iyad Daoud: [iyadhdaoud@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:iyadhdaoud@yahoo.co.uk),

#### **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.

### **Liturgy of the Word with children**

Free training for Liturgy Leaders on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May** 9.30am - 1pm  
at The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley.

This is an opportunity for both those who are new to this as well as the experienced.

Why do we have a Liturgy of the Word for Children? How can we best deliver it as a Liturgy at an appropriate level? What resources are there? How can we use this to help families develop their faith at home? If you are interested in any of these questions please do join us.

If you wish to discuss your engagement with this training before booking please contact Katherine Bergin, Diocesan Advisor E: [Katherine.Bergin@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:Katherine.Bergin@abdiocese.org.uk)

### **Fairer World Lindfield**

An upcoming event in Lindfield on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May**.

Green Extravaganza from 10am – 4pm at King Edward Hall, Lindfield, RH16 2HH.

FREE ADMISSION

Come and talk to people who are passionate about what they are doing to help the environment. Learn more about – recycling, keeping earthworms, encouraging wildlife into your garden, nature photography, solar panels, water management, environmentally friendly household products, Sussex wildlife trust, organic gardening and growing and much more.

For more information please email James Skillicorn: [jameskilli@yahoo.com](mailto:jameskilli@yahoo.com)

### **Mental Health Champion Training Day**

**Saturday 10 June** – 9-4pm. Cost £60 at St John the Evangelist church hall, Springfield Road, Horsham

This one-day course trains you as an MHFA Champion, giving you:

- An understanding of common mental health issues
- Knowledge and confidence to advocate for mental health awareness
  - Ability to spot signs of mental ill health
  - Skills to support positive wellbeing

It is hoped that these skills will empower you to lead on projects in your Parish to improve wellbeing in the community.

The course is accredited by MHFA England and you will receive a certificate of attendance. If you wish to discuss your engagement with this course before booking please contact Lizzie Wakeling, Diocesan Advisor E: [Lizzie.Wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:Lizzie.Wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk)

### **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 volunteers:

<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)

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** – Every Sunday at 6.30pm in the Church

**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** – 31<sup>st</sup> May, 28<sup>th</sup> June and 26<sup>th</sup> July.

**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.