



In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Sixth Sunday of Easter (year A)

13th / 14th May 2023

No: 1338

Dear Parishioners

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

After the excitement of the celebration of the Coronation of King Charles, we have the joy of celebrating the First Holy Communion of some children of our parish: Caterina Lightbound, Catherine Callan, Margot Coyne, Emilio Grossmann, Adam Kaszycki, Noah Dorfer, and Anna Russell. Please pray for them and for their families. The celebration takes place during our Sunday mass. (It will be slightly different from normal, to make it more accessible to the children.) Please make a special effort to make them and their guests welcome on Sunday morning, and to greet them as they arrive. Indeed, this is itself a part of our celebration of the Eucharist, the celebration of the gathering of God's people in His presence, to remember with thanksgiving all that Jesus has done for us, in calling us to be members of His Church. On Sunday the children will take another step of entering into the Christian community, both the universal, and our own, local, Church. Please make it a moment of joy for them and for their families and friends.

We all owe a huge debt of gratitude to our First Communion Catechist, Rachel Davies, who has guided the children of our parish, together with their families, in their preparation for the sacraments over the past twenty-five years. This has been a most generous act of service on her part, and a shining example of personal commitment to our Christian community. She has also given many years of service to the task of safeguarding, a job which is often unrewarding and generally goes unseen. She also oversees the work of Junior Church, in which she has been actively engaged for many years. This year Rachel has decided to step back from her parish commitments, and I encourage us all to say a special word of thanks to her for so much generous service.

As we move forward in the future the shape of catechesis will be somewhat different. Instead of having groups at a particular age to prepare children for a specific sacrament, we will launch groups which will explore our faith in a way which will be appropriate to each age, and which will be continuous throughout childhood and into maturity. We will also have groups for parents running in parallel, and, in this way, offer a catechesis which will provide for all ages. This is the proposal of our Diocese in their Pastoral Plan, *The Word Who Is Life*, 2022. In n 7, *A Renewed Vision of Catechesis*, they write: *Recognising Formation in Faith as a life-long journey, beginning with Baptism, will lift us away from the periodic moments of catechesis that mark our present pattern of formation. Rather than a concentration on preparation for particular Sacraments, Formation in Faith can then be seen as a continuum from the beginning to the natural end of life. Preparation for First Reconciliation and Holy Communion, as well as preparation for Confirmation, can then be seen as part of a continuing journey.* We hope to present this new vision of catechesis in our parish in the coming months, and eventually to make it available to everyone to support you in your personal faith. Meanwhile, please see the document: [Pastoral Plan](#)

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



Prayers

We are asked to pray for vocations over this month, leading up to Pentecost.

6th Sunday of Easter – Read about the spirit of sacrifice needed to follow Christ (1 Peter 4:13-16) and pray for a greater generosity for men to follow Him and celebrate his life, death and resurrection.

Please pray for survivors of abuse

God of Love, I hold in my heart and place into your hands, those who have experienced abuse, especially those whose abuse was associated with the Church that should have cared and nurtured them. I pray for those for whom the abuse is current, for those for whom it is a memory that still brings fear and shame, for those looking ahead to a more hopeful future.

I pray also for their families who may not have known or realised the extent and effect of the abuse on their loved one and who are left feeling betrayed and helpless.

For more resources, please see

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/02/Intercessions.pdf>

Please pray for the Christian Churches of the East. For full resources please see below.

Heavenly Father, we pray today for peace in the world, especially in the Middle East.

By your heavenly grace, strengthen the faith and hope of Eastern Christians.

May they be blessed with peace and prosperity in their lands.

*And may we be inspired by their devotion and witness to the Gospel,
by their love and compassion for all in their communities,*

and by their courage, endurance and self-sacrifice against oppression.

Through their charity, tolerance and friendship,

bring peace and reconciliation to those troubled lands, where Christianity was born and first spread.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

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

John's funeral will take place here in the Abbey at 2pm on **Wednesday 17th 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 12th April, and for his widow, Mavis, and for their family.

Michael's funeral will take place at The Friary in Crawley at 12.15pm on **Friday 19th May**.

May they rest in peace.

Please pray for the children who have been preparing for their First Holy Communion which takes place this Sunday, 14th May during the 09.30am mass. Our prayers are **with Caterina Lighthound, 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.

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

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of – Mrs Neve, Anita Weston-Burt, Charles Wilson, Emma Brackpool, Russell Brailey and Brian Groombridge.
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.

Daily Readings

Monday – Acts 16:11-15 John 15:26 – 16:4a (**St Pachomius**)
Tuesday – Acts 16:22-34 John 16:5-11
Wednesday – Acts 17:15, 22 – 18:1 John 16:12-15
Thursday – Acts 1:1-11 Eph 1:17-23 Matt 28:16-20 (**The Ascension of the Lord**)
Friday – Acts 18:9-18 John 16:20-23
Saturday – Acts 18:23-28 John 16:23b-28

Next Sunday's Readings: **Seventh Sunday of Easter (Year A)**
1st Reading – Acts 1:12-14 2nd Reading – 1 Peter 4:13-16
Gospel: John 17:1-11
Father, it is time for you to glorify me

Parish Events

This weekend there will be a Second Collection for
"The Missionary Endeavour of the Diocese" (Gift Aid) – Diocese of Chulucanas

Next weekend there will be a Second Collection for
"World Communications Sunday" – The theme this year, chosen by Pope
Francis is *Speaking with the Heart*

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 14th May – First Holy Communion Mass at 9.30am.

Sunday 14th May – Parish Brunch after the FHC mass in Compass House.

Thursday 18th 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 27th May – There will be no morning mass.

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

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

Sunday 2nd July – Parish Picnic, after mass.

House groups

- Compass House at Worth on **Wednesdays at 2pm.** Please contact Jenny to confirm. All welcome.
Jenny email – jenny_chapman@sky.com
- Mark and Charlie Tibble will host another house group gathering on **Friday 26th May from 7.30pm.**
All welcome, cheese and biscuits and a chance to get to know your Worth parish.
Text or phone Charlie on 07845956243 to confirm.

Worth Abbey Event

Time Out: Individual self-guided retreats – 15th -18th May, 26-30 June, 1st -6th 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 or W: worth.co.uk

Benedictine Spirituality for Daily Life



You are invited to an afternoon of events exploring the richness of Benedictine Spirituality on Saturday 24th 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

Green Extravaganza

King Edward Hall, Lindfield on **Saturday 13th May** from 10am to 4pm

Don't miss Fairer World Lindfield's *Green Extravaganza* showcasing lots of great ideas to support our environment, including:

- Nature and wildlife photographs
 - A working wormery which turns kitchen scraps into super-rich compost
 - Solar panels and e-bike conversion
 - Systems for saving water and collecting rainwater
 - Rewilding an urban garden with author *Dr Gerry Maguire Thompson*
 - Presentation from soil expert *David Purdy*
 - Ideas of household products with green credentials
 - Nature and wildlife photographs
-AND MUCH MORE!

CAFOD

Did you know that Church teaching says that we should not only support those in poverty but also tackle the root causes of poverty? Pope Benedict XVI said that "Love — caritas — is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace."

For decades CAFOD has spoken out against injustice. To find out more and get involved in tackling the root causes of poverty, please go to cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns

TheASCENT for young people (15-18)

Online information evening, **23rd May** at 7.30pm. This brilliant programme for teens includes regular retreats at Worth Abbey, with opportunities for young people to make Catholic friends to provide mutual support, as they strive to live out their faith.

To find out more and join our May meeting [email the diocesan Youth Adviser Lizzie](mailto:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk).

Mental Health Champions

Our Parish communities should be places of comfort and solace for the troubled and weary, and in today's society, one of the great struggles people face is mental ill health.

Would you like to support mental wellbeing in your Parish, ensuring that it reaches out to those in need? Contact lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk to find out more about the upcoming Mental Health Champion training days.

Lay Community of St Benedict (LCSB) Creative Prayer Retreat **'Shine your Light'**

Worth Abbey **2nd – 4th June** (Cost £40-190).

A retreat for everyone. We will use a variety of different methods of prayer to reflect on our theme, including movement, music, dance, and art. Register before 14 May [here](#).

Non-Parish Events

International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians

This Sunday is the annual "International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians", which is promoted each year by FACE, Fellowship and Aid to the Christians of the East, with the support of the Catholic Bishop's Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW).

FACE is the only Catholic charity in the UK which devotes itself exclusively to serving and supporting the 23 *sui iuris* Eastern Catholic Churches in union with the Bishop of Rome, promoting peace and harmony, ecumenical and interreligious endeavour, and lending significant help to rebuild those communities and their infrastructure in the Middle East, Horn of Africa and India, especially through education, healthcare and pastoral support.

FACE's unique apostolate, under the patronage of Cardinal Fitzgerald, was recognized by the CBCEW at its plenary session last month when it passed a Resolution giving its support to FACE's mission and to the annual International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians and announcing that the bishops resolve to pray for FACE's work and to encourage the Catholic community in England and Wales to do the same.

Please see below, the CBCEW website's various links to the Day of Prayer and the charity FACE.

International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/international-day-of-prayer-for-eastern-christians/>

Pray for Eastern Christians

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/pray-for-eastern-christians/>

Fellowship and Aid to the Churches of the East (FACE)

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/face/>

FACE's own website www.facecharity.org

Removing the Splinter - an online talk for Young Adults (18-35)

15th May at 7.30pm. The next session in the series 'A Call to Holiness - Living out your Baptismal Vocation'. The talk, delivered by Fr Rod Jones OSB, will focus on the things we may need to ask Jesus to heal, in order to allow us to follow him more closely.

[Email Lizzie](mailto:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk) to find out more.

Corpus Christi Carpet of Flowers

At Arundel Cathedral **6th – 8th June**. View the famous Carpet of Flowers and witness the extraordinary procession of the Blessed Sacrament from the Cathedral to Arundel Castle.

6th June: watch the Carpet of Flowers being laid. 7th June: view the completed Carpet (9.30am-7pm).

8th June, 5.30pm: Mass with Bishop Richard followed by the procession & Benediction.

Find out more [here](#).

Let us Dream

Worthing Deanery 'Let us Dream' Activity Workshop, **10th June**, at 2pm-5pm in St Peter's Church Hall, Shoreham, BN43 5WG.

Join [Journey to 2030](#) to discuss how our communities can stop climate change, protect nature and support people. The workshop will include creative activities and action planning.

[Contact John Paul](#) to find out more.

Grandparents Pilgrimage to West Grinstead

Wednesday 14th June at 11am - 3pm.

Bishop Richard looks forward to meeting all those of a more senior generation at our annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation at West Grinstead. Please bring your friends and a picnic for what is always a wonderful day of faith, friendship and recollection. For further information and to book, please go to the Diocesan website event calendar or click on the link:

[Grandparents Pilgrimage to West Grinstead \(14-Jun-2023\)](#)
- [ChurchSuite Events](#)

Engaged Couples Mass at Arundel Cathedral

Friday 16th June at 7pm. Join Bishop Richard for a special Mass celebrating the momentous journey of discernment that is engagement towards the lifelong commitment made by couples preparing for marriage. Join us afterwards for a small drinks' reception in the Cathedral Centre. We look forward to meeting many engaged couples from across the Diocese and sharing in their joy. For further information and to book, please go to the Diocesan website event calendar or click on the link:

[Mass for Engaged Couples \(16-Jun-2023\)](#) · [ChurchSuite Events](#)

Refugee Literary Festival

'No Place Like Home'

20th June, 4pm-8.30pm at St Martin in the Fields London (Cost: £5-10.50).

[The Sanctuary Foundation](#) are running a literary festival on World Refugee Day.

Join Mel Giedroyc, Sir Jonathan Pryce, Yeva Skalietska, Lord Alf Dubs and many more, with refugee authors and advocates from around the world. Book your place [here](#).

Sycamore: an online tool for evangelisation

4th July at 7pm, online (free). The diocesan Formation team invite you to join them for a special Sycamore webinar. We will be joined on the webinar by Susan Longhurst and Claire Dancaster who will discuss how Sycamore is being used in parishes, schools and chaplaincies to connect and engage online with their local communities.

[Find out more](#) and register here.

Arundel Cathedral 150th Anniversary

Concert Series, **8th July** at 1pm. Enjoy a wonderful Saturday lunch time concert in a beautiful cathedral setting. Enjoy music for Strings and Voices featuring pieces by Bach, Elgar, and Mendelssohn.

Everyone is very welcome - booking is not required.

Arundel Cathedral Discovery Day

30th September, 12.30pm-5pm (free). With its stunning architecture, beautiful stained glass, mighty organ and renowned choir, Arundel Cathedral has much to offer. Discover how it was built, make prayer doves, and experience chorister life. Children 6+ can take part in a short concert at the end of the day.

[Click here](#) to register.

No Mow May

May is a key time of year for our pollinators and, due to the 97% loss of flower rich meadows over the last 50 years, their food is scarce. Help protect our bees and butterflies at this time of year by joining us for No Mow May. All you have to do is not mow your lawn to allow much needed flowers like dandelions to grow.

Can you encourage your school or workplace to do the same? [Plantlife-NoMowMay](#)

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

Christian Meditation Group – 7.00pm in the Unity Room, please contact Richard by email
rbrownd1@gmail.com **Next Dates** – 31st May, 28th June and 26th 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 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.