



In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Seventh Sunday of Easter (year A)

20th / 21st May 2023

No: 1339

Dear Parishioners

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

This weekend we are asked to observe the World Day of Social Communications. There will be a second collection for the Bishops' work in this field.

In a culture which is increasingly marked by violent discourse in public life we are in great need of Christian orientation to guide our speech and writing; and the growing disregard for truth, manifest in the concept of “fake news”, and the idea of “my truth” as opposed to “your truth”, undermines the very possibility of communication at all. Pope Francis offers us a reflection for this day which opens with an assertion that we must always begin our discourse not by speaking, but by listening. (The word *listen* is the first word of the Rule of St Benedict, and also plays a very significant part in his vision of monastic life.) He opens: *After having reflected in past years on the verbs “to go and see” and “to listen” as conditions for good communication, I would like to focus on “speaking with the heart”. It is the heart that spurred us to go, to see and to listen, and it is the heart that moves us towards an open and welcoming way of communicating. Once we have practised listening, which demands waiting and patience, as well as foregoing the assertion of our point of view in a prejudicial way, we can enter into the dynamic of dialogue and sharing, which is precisely that of communicating in a cordial way. After listening to the other with a pure heart, we will also be able to speak following the truth in love (cf. Eph 4:15). We should not be afraid of proclaiming the truth, even if it is at times uncomfortable, but of doing so without charity, without heart. Because “the Christian’s programme” — as Benedict XVI wrote — “is ‘a heart which sees’”. A heart that reveals the truth of our being with its beat and that, for this reason, should be listened to. This leads those who listen to attune themselves to the same wave length, to the point of being able to hear within their heart also the heartbeat of the other. Then the miracle of encounter can take place, which makes us look at one another with compassion, welcoming our mutual frailties with respect rather than judging by hearsay and sowing discord and division.* He continues by reminding us that we need a pure heart: *The call to speak with the heart radically challenges the times in which we are living, which are so inclined towards indifference and indignation, at times even on the basis of disinformation which falsifies and exploits the truth.*

I commend to you this document of Pope Francis which contains much wisdom for our times.

[LVII World Communications Day, 2023 - Speaking with the heart. “The truth in love” \(Eph 4:15\)](#)

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



Prayers

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

7th Sunday of Easter – Read about the forgiveness of sins (John 20:19-23), and pray for more priests who will celebrate the sacraments of healing with the living and the dying.

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 he rest in peace.

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 – Dick Wheeler, Jacque Dickenson, Abbot Victor Farwell, Kathleen Maddock, Patricia Napier-Munn, Brian Fenn, John Cooper and Tina Bryant.

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

Daily Readings

Monday – Acts 19:1-8 John 16:29-33

Tuesday – Acts 20:17-27 John 17:1-11a

Wednesday – Acts 20:28-38 John 17:11b-19

Thursday – 1 Cor 2:10b-14 Matt 7:21-29 or Sir 39:6-10 Matt 5:13-16 (**St Bede the Venerable**)

Friday – Acts 25:13b-21 John 21:15-19

Saturday – Gen 11:1-9 or Exod 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ezek 37:1-14 or Joel 3:1-5 Rom 8:22-27 John 7:37-39 (**St Augustine of Canterbury**)

Next Sunday's Readings: **Pentecost (Year A)**

1st Reading – Acts 2:1-11 2nd Reading – 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

Gospel: John 20:19-23

As the Father sent me, so am I sending you: receive the Holy Spirit

Parish Events

Holy Communion under the species of bread alone.

After consultation, we have decided that at Worth Abbey we shall for the time being continue to offer Holy Communion under the species of bread alone.

See, Catechism of the Catholic Church (1377) '*Christ is present whole and entire in each of the species and whole and entire in each of their parts*'.

And (CCC 1390) '*Since Christ is sacramentally present under each of the species, communion under the species of bread alone makes it possible to receive all the fruit of Eucharistic grace.*

For pastoral reasons this manner of receiving communion has been legitimately established as the most common form in the Latin rite'.

We shall continue to monitor the advice offered by Public Health England, and the guidance offered by our Bishops, as well as local practice in the Diocese.

The reception of Holy Communion on the tongue

During the pandemic, the practice of receiving holy communion on the tongue was discontinued. As we return to normal, we shall now adopt the practice of restoring this option at communion during mass.

In common with many parishes across the diocese **we ask that those who wish to receive holy communion on the tongue come forward at the end of the communion procession.**

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

Please be reassured that, although Rachel Davies has retired from First Holy Communion and Safeguarding, she continues her generous service with Junior Church. Apologies for any confusion!

Dates for your Diary

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 11th June – Parish Brunch, after mass in Compass House

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.

Altar Servers Needed

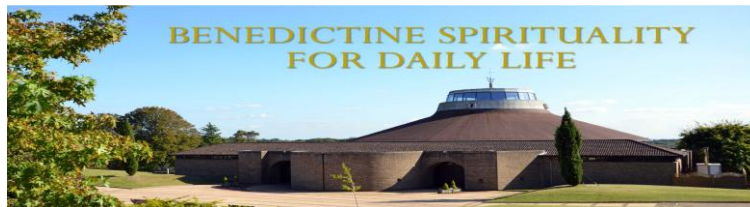
Parishioners aged 8 – 80 are invited to join the Worth Abbey altar serving team. Please contact Michael Weston-Burt at paul.michael.westonburt@btinternet.com

CAFOD Spring Clean

Thank you all for your donations to the Parish/School collaboration for the CAFOD Spring Clean. CAFOD is now sorting through the donations and will work with their partner to value them. This will take some time, but we will update you as soon as there are any results.



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 talk by Abbot Mark and ends with Benediction at 3.30 pm. There will be several sessions including silent prayer (led by Father Luke), Lectio Divina (led by Father Martin) and a talk by Katie Grey on how the teachings of St Benedict have influenced her life. There is also an opportunity to go on a guided walk with Father David to the Quiet Garden.

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

There is a charge of **£5** to cover expenses, including excellent tea and cake!

To reserve your place: <https://worthconnecting.org.uk/events/stbenedict>

For more information please contact Kelly O'Hara: pilgrims@worth.org.uk

Sunday 25th June

We are hosting at Worth a visit by members of Refugees Welcome Crawley, and families who they support. We would like some volunteers to help to welcome them, and perhaps help organise games with the children, etc. The day will be very informal, starting at 12 noon, and will include a picnic.

If you can help, please get in touch.

Thank you.

Worth Abbey Event

Time Out: Individual self-guided retreats –26th–30th June and 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

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@dioceseofexeter.org.uk).

Non-Parish Events

May, the month of Mary

“I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the rosary at home in the month of May.”

With these words of Pope Francis from a few years ago in our minds, we invite you to join us in praying the rosary with our special reflections on the joyful, luminous and sorrowful mysteries. We also have resources to help you share the rosary with your children.

[Pray the rosary](#)

Latest from Sudan conflict

Families are running out of food and thousands of people have fled their homes following the outbreak of violence last month. The head of CAFOD’s work in Africa describes how you can help.

[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](#).

Formation Social

Do join us for the next Formation Social which will take place on **Thursday 8th June** at 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall of St John the Evangelist, Horsham. This month we will continue working through the series "Living the Christian Way", an EWTN Production which examines today's hot button issues including the LGBTQ movement, the male priesthood and gender equality, and other topics through the perspective of the Catholic Faith. There will be refreshments, discussion, and an opportunity to meet other parishioners and form friendships. This will be our last session before the summer break in July and August. We will resume in September. Parking available.

Please contact Paul Knytl (pknysl@gmail.com) or Rahul Chacko (rahulchurch@outlook.com) for further details.

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.

Refugee Tales

The organisers of Refugee Tales write: "**Can you make cakes? Will you help?**"

We are looking for people to make cakes for our hungry walkers in July. We need cakes/biscuits for the end of each walking day and also wrapped flapjacks, cake or biscuits to put in packed lunches. If you like gluten free or vegan baking, we'd love gluten free batches and vegan too... We have 120 walkers each day, but even if you can make bakes for a fraction of the walkers, it means we have less to find elsewhere. Thanks so much if you can help. Do you know anyone who'd love to show solidarity and can't walk with us but who does love baking? Please ask them to be in touch with Frances who is co-ordinating the cakes we're receiving

frances@gdwg.org.uk THANK YOU in advance for your help.

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.

May Newsletter about Ecological Issues – [West Sussex Climate Action](#)

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)

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.