



# In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Corpus Christi (year A)  
10<sup>th</sup> / 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023  
No: 1342

Dear Parishioners

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

This week sees various events which remind us of our Christian duty to protect our environment. This is at the heart of both Christian and Jewish spirituality. At the very beginning of the book of Genesis we read that, as God reflected on His work of Creation, He “saw that it was very good”. The beauty and goodness of our material world reflect the beauty and goodness of the Creator. Creation is a sacrament of God, through which we can come to know God Himself. At the end of the first chapter, we read that God made man and woman in His own image and likeness, giving us the command to rule His Creation. This command does not give us licence simply to exploit the world, but we rule as His “vice-regents”, His representatives, to fulfil His purposes for Creation as its King and Creator. We are stewards in His place, to care for His Creation. This is expressed again in the following chapter, when God places man and woman in the Garden “to cultivate and care for it”. In his encyclical, *Laudato Si, On Care for Our Common Home*, Pope Francis writes: *The entire material universe speaks of God’s love, his boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God.* (#84)

Next week we begin **The Great Big Green Week**. The organisers write: *The Great Big Green Week is the UK’s biggest ever celebration of community action to tackle climate change and protect nature. Every year, people come together to unleash a wave of support for action to protect the planet. Tens of thousands of people in every corner of the country celebrate the heartfelt, brave, everyday actions being taken to stand up for nature and fight climate change.* Do look at their website to find activities which are taking place near you.  
<https://greatbiggreenweek.com/about/>

Meanwhile on Monday of this week we observed **World Environment Day**. Pope Francis, commenting on this, writes: *We are all part of this gift of creation. We are a part of nature, not separated from it. This is what the Bible tells us. The current environmental situation calls us to act now with urgency to become ever more responsible stewards of creation and to restore the nature that we have been damaging and exploiting for too long. Otherwise, we risk destroying the very basis on which we depend. We risk floods, and hunger and severe consequences for ourselves and for future generations. This is what many scientists tell us. We need to take care of each other, and of the weakest among us. Continuing down this path of exploitation and destruction – of humans, and of nature – is unjust and unwise. This is what a responsible conscience would tell us.*

Please see his message - [https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/pont-messages/2021/documents/papa-francesco\\_20210604\\_messaggio-ecosistema.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/pont-messages/2021/documents/papa-francesco_20210604_messaggio-ecosistema.html)

Please also see the newsletter of Sussex Green Living:

[https://mailchi.mp/sussexgreenliving/june23\\_sgl-13650134?e=792ed87ee0](https://mailchi.mp/sussexgreenliving/june23_sgl-13650134?e=792ed87ee0)

Please pray for all those involved in protecting our environment and please consider how we may all become defenders of our common home.

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



### **Prayers**

Please pray for our parishioner, Bennett Horner, and for other young people of our deanery, who will be confirmed by Bishop Richard on Sunday in the cathedral at Arundel.

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

#### **A prayer of Pope Francis for our world**

*God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love  
for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.  
Enlighten those who possess power and money that they may avoid the sin of indifference,  
that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live.  
The poor and the earth are crying out.  
O Lord, seize us with your power and light, help us to protect all life,  
to prepare for a better future, for the coming of your Kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty.  
Praise be to you!  
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*

### **Anniversaries**

**Please pray for the Souls of** – Lynne Hedgecock, Betty Clegg, John Paris, Bernadette Marchant, Pauline Godfrey, Beryl Paris, Daniel McNaboe, Doris Moody, Julian Millest, Jack Gould, Tony Curtis and Eileen Ortiger.

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

### **Daily Readings**

Monday – 2 Cor 1:1-7 Matt 5:1-12

Tuesday – 2 Cor 1:18-22 Matt 5:13-16

Wednesday – 2 Cor 3:4-11 Matt 5:17-19

Thursday – 2 Cor 3:15 – 4:1 Matt 5:20-26

Friday – Deut 7:6-11 1 John 4:7-16 Matt 11:25-30 **(The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus)**

Saturday – 2 Cor 5:14-21 Luke 2:41-51 **(The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary)**

Next Sunday's Readings: **Eleventh Sunday in OT (Year A)**

1st Reading – Exodus 19:2-6 2nd Reading – Romans 5:6-11

**Gospel:** Matthew 9:36 – 10:8

**The harvest is rich but the labourers are few**

## *Parish Events*

### Dates for your Diary

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June** – Parish Brunch, after mass in Compass House

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

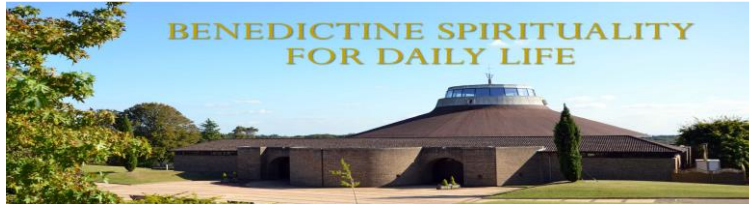
Next Weekend there will be a Second Collection for “Day for Life”

Day for Life is the day in the Church's year dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition.

### House groups

- The Wednesday small group will be meeting for 4 weeks in **June, 14th, 21st and 28th**, in St. Benedict's at 2pm. We will be taking a look at the practice of Lectio Divina, the What, Why, Who and the How. If anyone would like to join us please contact Jenny Chapman at [jenny\\_chapman@sky.com](mailto:jenny_chapman@sky.com), or Fr. Paul at the Parish office.
- Mark and Charlie Tibble will host another house group gathering on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 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.

### 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 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](mailto:pilgrims@worth.org.uk)

### CALLING ALL BAKERS!

If you enjoy baking, we would be very grateful for donations of cakes for the St Benedict afternoon on **Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup>**.

We wish to offer a warm welcome and our Benedictine hospitality.

Please contact: Christina Fitzsimons, [cfitzs3287@aol.com](mailto:cfitzs3287@aol.com), 01444 415557.

### Worth Abbey Event

**Time Out: Individual self-guided retreats –26<sup>th</sup>–30<sup>th</sup> June and 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)

Please explore these resources from CAFOD to help you pray with your children.

[Family Prayers](#)

### **Diocesan Catechists' Day**

**23<sup>rd</sup> September, 10.30am - 4pm at Worth School.**

A day of formation, prayer and conversation for existing catechists (Children's Liturgy, Baptism, First Holy Communion and Reconciliation, Confirmation, Marriage and RCIA) or those interested in exploring this vocation. [Click here](#) to register your free place. For more information, please [contact our Formation Adviser Jon Harman](#)

### **Catechesis Group 2023-2024 (RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)**

In September we are starting a new **RCIA group** for those planning to be received into the Catholic Church. The aim of the group is to give an overview of Church teaching, some in-depth exploration of doctrine, and formation in the basic aspects of Christian living. The group will be led by Geoff Chapman, and will follow a course called *Sycamore*, a very helpful series of high-quality videos that give a good balance between input and group discussion. Each session is 60 to 90 minutes long, and the course will run weekly, during school term time, from September through to Easter. The group is informal and discussion based and is a great way to get to know people in the Parish better.

In previous years, we have also found that the course is very suitable for anyone who is exploring the Catholic faith, even if they are not sure about becoming Catholic, as well as Catholics who wish to grow in their understanding. This extra participation is also very helpful for those who are in RCIA, so we would encourage to come along to support them if you have the time.

If you are interested in joining, whether for RCIA or just to explore the Catholic faith more deeply, please contact Geoff by email at [gchapman@worth.org.uk](mailto:gchapman@worth.org.uk), or by phone on 01342 710273, or [meet him after mass in the narthex](#).

### *Non-Parish Events*

#### **Engaged Couples mass**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June** at 7pm at Arundel Cathedral. Are you engaged and on the journey towards Marriage? If so, please do come and celebrate this wonderful time of preparation with a special Mass celebrated by Bishop Richard. He will be delighted to meet you and to bless you as you prepare for this wonderful moment in your lives. Join us afterwards for a small drinks reception in the Cathedral Centre.

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

#### **Sussex Chorus**

Mozart – Great Mass in C Minor. Clarinet Concerto in A Major. Laudate Dominum

Conductor – Stephen Anthony Brown

Soloists and Kent Sinfonia

Tickets £15 and £6 (under 16s and students)

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June** at 7.30pm in St Andrews Church, Burgess Hill, RH15 0LG

#### **Write a Prayer for tomorrow with CAFOD**

*“What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?”*

Pope Francis is challenging us to reflect on the ways we're treating our common home and recognise that what we do today will affect the lives of our sisters and brothers tomorrow.

In the run-up to **Great Big Green Week**, 10<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> June, a UK-wide the celebration of action to tackle the climate crisis, we're inviting you to answer the Pope's call. Join us and write a *Prayer for Tomorrow*, asking God to guide us in our efforts to care for our common home and leave a better world for future generations.

[Write a Prayer](#)

### **Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group**

GDWG is a small Crawley charity, helps people detained in two immigration removal centres at Gatwick Airport. Volunteers visit detained people, and the charity provides emotional and practical support. Refugee

Tales is an outreach project of the charity that raises awareness of detention through walks and four published books. Since 2015, Refugee Tales walkers have walked in solidarity with refugees and detained people. They have been met with kindness and hospitality every step of the way.

Taking Chaucer's great poem of journeying as a model - established writers and people with lived experience of detention share their tales with local communities at evening events at the end of each day of walking. They enjoy live performances from renowned musicians. From Saturday 8th - Wednesday 12th July, Refugee Tales walker's journey from Three Bridges to Worthing.

**There will be a FREE public evening event in Haywards Heath at 7pm on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July at the Hub Theatre, Haywards Heath College, Harlands Rd Haywards Heath RH16 1LT where writer Haifa Zangara will read a tale alongside a tale by a person who is an expert by experience and music by local Kora player Jali Mbye plus folk musician Greg Russell.**

Here's the link to book: [An evening with refugee tales](#) and full information is on the website: [www.refugeetales.org](http://www.refugeetales.org)

All money raised by the walk goes towards the charity, GDWG, so that support can continue for people in Gatwick Immigration Removal Centres and post-detention. This support includes weekly visits from Volunteer Visitors, phone credit to ensure detained people can contact their friends and family, clothes, referrals to lawyers and other organisations, and supermarket vouchers for people released into destitution. The funds also support the charity to continue inviting previously detained people on Refugee Tales walks and to keep working towards a future without detention.

### **Mental Health First Aid Courses**

If you feel that your pastoral work would benefit from one of these courses please get in touch: ...

The sad reality is that mental health across the nation is a growing concern and reality. Only last week we saw in the national press the truly horrible indictment that suicide is the leading cause of teenage deaths in the UK.

The idea of the Mental Health first aid course is to give delegates the skills to identify the early warning signs of a problem developing, from across the wide spectrum of mental health conditions and then to provide the direction to sign post people accordingly to the right help and support.

The half day and full day course are aimed at identifying systems and exploring appropriate routes to signpost those who are experiencing the challenge and darkness of mental health.

Planned courses are as follows (all of which can be booked via ChurchSuite)

[Events | Our Diocese \(abdiocese.org.uk\)](http://abdiocese.org.uk)

- Sat 10th June - Horsham - One day Champion Course
- Sat 15th July - Crawley - One Day Champion Course
- 12th/13th/19th/20<sup>th</sup> September - Online - Two Day Youth MHFA (4 evenings)
  - Wed 25th October - Crawley - One day bespoke Clergy Training
  - Sat 4th November - St. Michael's Worthing - Half Day MH Aware

*If you feel you need to take part in one of these courses to help you continue with your pastoral work, the Parish will consider making a financial contribution.*

#### **The course costs are (per delegate)-**

- Half day course £35
- Full day course £60
- 2 Day certified course £125 (Certified by Mental Health 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](#)      Grow Wild Newsletter – [grow wild uk news](#)

### **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** – 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.