



In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Eleventh Sunday in OT (year A)

17th / 18th June 2023

No: 1343

Dear Parishioners

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

This weekend we celebrate **A Day for Life**. This is an initiative of the Bishops of England and Wales to promote the infinite value of each human life, and to reject the many ways which our society and culture can undermine its value. The Bishops introduce this year's theme: *The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death. The theme this year is 'Listen to Her' and focuses on post-abortion trauma and the impact of abortion primarily on women, but also men and others. The message this year is given by a Catholic woman who has had an abortion who shares her experiences. Often the voices of women who have had an abortion are silent in Church and in society. The hope is that this will help break this silence and offer further opportunities for healing and reconciliation.*

She writes: *I went to Catholic schools, I knew about God and morality on some level, but for me, the culture spoke louder when it came to making decisions around sexuality.*

When I was 15, I discovered I was pregnant and the fear clouded everything. I had one aim, and that was to solve the problem I had found myself in. A quick search for confidential help landed me at a clinic connected to an abortion provider. They seemed to genuinely believe that abortion was the solution to my problem and I don't remember discussing any other options. I was relieved when they determined that I was capable enough to make this decision alone, without the involvement of an adult, which is still legal to this day. That Saturday I travelled alone to the clinic. My parents were unaware, due to other difficulties in the family home that I didn't want to contribute to. I went through the degrading experience of a surgical abortion, and I thought that if I could just get through that day, I would never have to think about it again. I remember feeling conflicted as a tear rolled down my cheek, that I quickly wiped away. I believed I couldn't be sad because this was something I had chosen to do. After the initial feeling of relief, I pushed down the experience and avoided anything to do with the topic of abortion. It was difficult to be around pregnant women and I found the anniversary difficult each year.

This led to periods of deep depression and suicidal thoughts, as well as more promiscuous behaviour and numbing the pain with alcohol, food, or isolation.

This all changed when I was encouraged to go to confession. Even when I tried to justify my choice, the priest met me with the love and mercy of Jesus. The tears he shed melted my heart of stone. I began to give up my old ways of life and follow His way.

On this journey I was introduced to Rachel's Vineyard: a healing ministry that provides support for those who are suffering after abortion. I remember the kindness of the woman that I spoke to, and I knew I wouldn't be judged there.

Please see the full message: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/df123-message/>

Please support and pray for those who consider having an abortion or are suffering as a consequence of having one. Please see the parish website for information about Life, which supports those considering this choice to help them keep their child: <https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/social-action/life/>

During this coming **Refugee Week** please pray for refugees around the world, especially those who come to our own country. Please see our website for information about local action groups, The Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group and Refugees Welcome Crawley, and consider how you might help them.

<https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/social-action/refugees/>

Please note that this Sunday, 18th, the London to Brighton bike ride passes through Turners Hill. Those of you who live in that direction may not be able to reach Worth. If you are expected to perform some ministry at mass, please let us know.

Prayers

Please pray for Ann Shanahan, who died recently, and for Patrick, her husband and for her family.

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

Please pray for Peace and Justice between Israel and Palestine.

A prayer for Refugees

God of all humanity

We are one body, different parts, one family, spread throughout the world.

We feel one hurt as war and injustice force loved ones apart.

Living Christ, work through us, as we open our hearts to all those in need

So that there may be one hope, one joy, one welcome in you.

Amen.

On this Day for Life we offer this prayer for healing and consolation for those women who have undergone abortion, and for those unborn children who suffered abortion.

Prayer to St Joseph

Patron of the Unborn

O St. Joseph, after your most holy spouse, our Blessed Mother, you were the first to take into your arms and heart the baby Jesus. From the first time you gazed upon him and held him, your heart and soul were forever bonded to him. You caressed the Holy Child with fatherly love and affection, and you committed yourself always to love, protect, and care for this Son.

Look now with similar love and affection upon this child of mine, who has gone from this world. I place my child, as well as my grief and guilt, into the eternal embrace of your arms. Hold and caress my child for me with the love of my arms and sweetly kiss my child with all the tender affection of my heart.

As God the Father entrusted the care of His most precious Son into your most loving and confident hands, so too do I entrust into your fatherly care this child of mine. Please present him to the merciful hands of Our Lord, so that one day, when I too leave this world, my child may welcome me into eternal life.

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 – Revd Richard Harvey, Richard O'Connor, Phyllis Gould, Chris Whitman, Kathleen Southwood, Tony Wright, Bernadette Brailey, Amy Noyce, Ian Gibson, Ted Spice, Dora Bridger, Nigel Daniels, Alan Harris and Colette Hélène Rowland.

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 6:1-10 Matt 5:38-42 (**St Romuald**)

Tuesday – 2 Cor 8:1-9 Matt 5:43-48

Wednesday – 2 Cor 9:6-11 Matt 6:1-6, 16-18 (**St Aloysius Gonzaga**)

Thursday – 2 Cor 11:1-11 Matt 6:7-15 (**St John Fisher and St Thomas More**)

Friday – 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30 Matt 6:19-23

Saturday – Isa 49:1-6 Acts 13:22-26 Luke 1:57-66, 80 (**The Nativity of St John the Baptist**)

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

1st Reading – Jeremiah 20:10-13 2nd Reading – Romans 5:12-15

Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33

Do not be afraid of those who kill the body

Parish Events

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 2nd July

Parish Picnic, after mass.

This Weekend there is 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, 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, or Fr. Paul at the Parish office.
- Mark and Charlie Tibble will host another house group gathering on **Friday 7th 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 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

CALLING ALL BAKERS!

If you enjoy baking, we would be very grateful for donations of cakes for the St Benedict afternoon on **Saturday June 24th**. We wish to offer a warm welcome and our Benedictine hospitality.
Please contact: Christina Fitzsimons, cfitzs3287@aol.com, 01444 415557.

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 Car Wash

The Parish and Worth School's CAFOD Young Leaders are joining forces to clean your cars to aid CAFOD.
Please consider driving by the Compass House carpark for a car wash on
Thursday 22nd June 2.30-4.30pm. Minimum donation £5. Please bring cash.

Diocesan Catechists' Day

23rd 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, or by phone on 01342 710273, [or meet him after mass in the narthex.](#)

Non-Parish 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 24th June at 7.30pm in St Andrews Church, Burgess Hill, RH15 0LG

Crawley Interfaith Network (CIFN)

If you are able, you are welcome to join us for a Crawley Inter Faith Network activity which takes place at: The Friends Meeting House 5 Langley Lane Ifield Crawley RH11 0NB

on Thursday 29th June at 7.30pm.

The event will provide the opportunity to join with other community groups in gathering at the Quaker place of worship, situated in the Ifield neighbourhood of Crawley, a Seventeenth Century building, one of the oldest purpose-built Friends Meeting Houses in the World. We will share its story and savour the history and beliefs of the community that meets there regularly.

The event will conclude with a further sharing in a cup of tea, biscuits and a chat.

See the activities page: <https://www.crawleyinter-faith.com>

CIFN Facebook page (20+) Crawley Interfaith Network | Facebook and the CIFN WhatsApp group.

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 15th July - Crawley - One Day Champion Course
- 12th/13th/19th/20th 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)

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 8th 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](http://www.refugeetales.org) and full information is on the website: 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.

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

Christian Meditation Group – 7.00pm in the Unity Room, please contact Richard by email

rbrownd1@gmail.com **Next Dates** – 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.