



In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Twenty Eighth Sunday in OT (year A)

14th / 15th October 2023

No. 1355

Dear Parishioners

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

Our minds just now are filled with the horrifying news and images of the violence in Israel and Palestine, and our hearts moved with compassion for the countless innocent civilians who are suffering there. The Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem issued a statement about the violence last Saturday:

“The cycle of violence that has killed numerous Palestinians and Israelis in the past months has exploded this morning, Saturday, 7th October 2023. We witnessed to a sudden explosion of violence that is very concerning due to its extension and intensity. The operation launched from Gaza and the reaction of the Israeli army are bringing us back to the worst periods of our recent history. The too many casualties and tragedies, which both Palestinians and Israeli families have to deal with, will create more hatred and division, and will destroy more and more any perspective of stability.

The continuing bloodshed and declarations of war remind us once again of the urgent need to find a lasting and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian – Israeli conflict in this land, which is called to be a land of justice, peace and reconciliation among peoples. We ask God to inspire world leaders in their intervention for the implementation of peace and concord so that Jerusalem may be a house of prayer for all peoples.”

The images on our screens can easily leave us feeling helpless in the face of such horror, but faith assures us that our prayers, an expression of love, can make a difference by God's grace. Please use the prayer below, which comes from Embrace the Middle East
<https://embraceme.org/our-prayers/israel-palestine-urgent-prayer-for-peace>

Please pray especially for the Christian Churches there who are already facing great hardship, and for all those who are suffering because of the violence.

On a happier note, our prayers are also needed for the Synod in Rome. This meets until 29th October, having started on the Feast of St Francis, October 4th; and will be concluded during October next year. Commentators suggest that Synodality will be seen as the most important legacy of Pope Francis, with its emphasis on the whole People of God listening to one another, guided by the Holy Spirit. Pope Francis writes: *From the beginning of my ministry as Bishop of Rome, I sought to enhance the Synod, which is one of the most precious legacies of the Second Vatican Council... it is precisely this path of Synodality which God expects of the Church in the third millennium.* The image of the Church as the Pilgrim People of God,

walking together, knowing that we have not yet arrived, and that each member's gifts are needed for the perfection of all, is at the heart of the vision of Church enshrined in the Second Vatican Council, and the vision which Pope Francis wishes to restore and promote.

Please see the excellent material on our website:

<https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/parish-life/synodal-church/>

You will find here the retreat given to the participants by Fr Timothy Radcliffe, OP, and talks by participants, Fr Jan Nowotnik and Professor Anna Rowlands. Fr Jan wrote: *I think, that in the mind of Pope Francis, the Synod is about drawing all the members of the Church – and those beyond the Church – into a deeper relationship with God and a deeper relationship with each other. The Church exists to proclaim the message of Jesus Christ, and to bring his healing mercy to the Church.*”.

Please pray for the success of the Synod and for the Church of the future which it can bequeath to us.

I send my best wishes to you all. Fr Paul

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of – Jenny Frost, Timothy Robin Martin, Mary Hume, Tom Wheeler, Maria Beardsall, Sister Law SRN, Beryl Green, Elizabeth Leksinska, Patricia Stanford, Audrey Mary Davies, Jim Farmer and Elizabeth Montgomery.

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

Daily Readings

Monday – Rom 1:1-7 Luke 11:29-32

Tuesday – Rom 1:16-25 Luke 11:37-41 **(St Ignatius of Antioch)**

Wednesday – 2 Tim 4:10-17b Luke 10:1-9 **(St Luke)**

Thursday – Rom 3:21-30 Luke 11:47-54

Friday – Rom 4:1-8 Luke 12:1-7

Saturday – Rom 4:13, 16-18 Luke 12:8-12

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

1st Reading – Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 2nd Reading – 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21

Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar

Prayers

Please pray for Anne Albert who died recently. Please pray for her family.
Anne's funeral will be celebrated, here, at Worth Abbey on **Saturday 4th November** at 2pm.

Please pray for Hugo Savoy who will be Baptised here on Sunday.
Please pray for his parents Luke and Melody.

Please pray for Marie Hesketh, who is still seriously ill in hospital.

Please continue to pray for our parishioners Mary Baker, Jill Carter, Laura Rawlinson
Peter and Antee Greene, Fred Green and Hugh Hurdman.

Please pray for the people of Israel and Palestine.

God of light and salvation, our refuge and our strength,

We pray for the people of Israel and Palestine amid the escalating violence.

We pray for those killed and injured by rockets from Gaza in southern Israel. May your rod and staff comfort them. We pray for those who are grieving. May they know your ever-present help.

We pray for the protection of those who have been taken hostage by Hamas.

As they walk through this dark valley, may they fear no evil.

We pray for the civilians of Gaza. May they know that their help comes from the Maker of heaven and earth.

We especially remember all of those who have been killed and wounded in Gaza today - may you comfort and heal those who are in pain and those who have lost loved ones.

And we pray for those in leadership in Gaza and Israel. May you guide them along the right paths.

We ask all this in union with Christ and trusting in the power of your Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer of the Synod

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, for ever and ever. 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

Parish Events

Next weekend there will be a Second Collection for World Mission Sunday (MISSIO)

Family Catechism

This begins this Sunday after mass at **11am**.

The Inspired Group meets in the Unity Room.

The All Saints Group will meet in Compass House, together with the parents of both groups.

Please pray for the success of the Catechesis.

House Group Gathering

All welcome! We have a very informal house group gathering in Balcombe on the last Friday of each month. All Worth parishioners are very welcome to come, socialise, relax, have a drink and some snacks and get to know your community better.

Upcoming dates are: **27th October**, 24th November and 29th December.

We gather from 7.30pm.

Please let Charlie Tibble know on 07845956243 if you intend to come the week before and she will send you directions

Brunch



Many of you have attended and enjoyed these, as have I!

They take place on the second Sunday of each month, from about 11am, till about 12.30, in Compass House.

They were started by Abby Chapman, who has most generously prepared and served these for over a year.

Abby would like some help with this, and wonders if anyone would offer to take a turn occasionally.

Training will be given on the job! Do please get in touch if you can help. Email - abby@abbychapman.com

Abby will be delighted to hear from you, as will I. Thank you for your generous response.



WORTH ABBEY
PILGRIMS

ALL SOULS DAY

5.30pm, Thursday November 2nd



Mass for the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

Just as Jesus died and has risen again,
so through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep;
and as in Adam all die, so also in Christ will all be brought to life

(Cf. 1 Thes 4: 14; 1 Cor 15: 22)

You are warmly invited to join the monks of Worth Abbey in the Abbey Church
at 5.30pm, Thursday 2nd November, to pray for loved ones,
family and friends, who have now departed this life.

Worth Pro Earth

On the 4th October, we celebrated the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of Pope Francis, from whom he draws inspiration for his work for ecology.

We remember in particular his encyclical, *Laudato Si, On the Care of Our Common Home*, which he wrote in 2015. To mark the close of the *Season of Creation* he gives us another document to encourage us to renew our work for the preservation of our planet, *Laudate Deum, Praise God*.

In this piece he renews his call to the whole world to heed the warning signs which we see around us which herald the collapse of our ecosystems. He writes: *Eight years have passed since I published the Encyclical Letter Laudato Si', when I wanted to share with all of you, my brothers and sisters of our suffering planet, my heartfelt concerns about the care of our common home. Yet, with the passage of time, I have realized that our responses have not been adequate, while the world in which we live is collapsing and may be nearing the breaking point". (LD #2)*

Commentators for the Laudato Si Movement write: In his just over 20 pages, the Pope reviews the scientific data and the undeniable evidence of the climate crisis while appealing to "all people of good will" to act urgently because, *there are no lasting changes without cultural changes, without a maturing of lifestyles and convictions within societies, and there are no cultural changes without personal changes. (LD #70)*

Do please see the document - www.laudatedeum.online.

I ask everyone to accompany this pilgrimage of reconciliation with the world that is our home and to help make it more beautiful" the Pope tells us (LD #69).

"The world sings of an infinite Love: how can we fail to care for it?" (LD #65)

Please see a presentation of the document : [Youtube Link](#)

Please also see : [watch the movie The Letter](#) as a summary of the encyclical Laudato Si'.

Praying with creation

"Our goal is to become painfully aware, to dare to turn what is happening to the world into our own personal suffering and thus to discover what each of us can do about it." (LS 19)

*Come, O Holy Breath of God, poured out for us. Caring God, the earth and we cry out to you
Along with the earth, we ask You to free us from greed, selfishness and indifference*

*Along with the air, the water, the land and the wind, we ask You to help us get rid of all the pollution
Along with the forest, birds and animals, give us the strength not to destroy ourselves and the
delicate webs that connect our ecosystems and all life together*

*Along with those on the edges of society, the unheard, the powerless, the struggling and the
suffering, we ask You the strength to be just, merciful and compassionate*

*Along with those in power and positions of authority, we ask for wisdom to be good stewards
of our common home*

*And finally, along with the whole of creation and peoples, we give You thanks for all the efforts to
restore our sister mother earth*

Amen.

(Bishop Allwyn D'Silva, Auxiliary Bishop of Bombay. Mumbai, India)



WORTH ABBEY
PILGRIMS

Advent Introductions to Benedictine Spirituality

Saturday 25th Nov and Saturday 2nd Dec 10.30am
Worth Abbey Church

25th November:

The Other Side of Silence –

An exploration of the Benedictine tradition of silent, personal prayer. What is it, and what does it mean for my life?
An opportunity to deepen our relationship with God in Advent through encountering the age-old monastic practice of prayerful attentiveness.

2nd December:

Spiritual Reading and the Path of Prayer –

An Advent introduction to the Benedictine practice of Spiritual Reading; a quiet, meditative encounter with the lives and witness of great Christian writers of the Church's past and present. How can reading the Christian classics deepen our encounter with God?

We will meet in the Abbey Church from 10.15am for registration and refreshments. We will then proceed to the Spencer Building, Worth School for a talk and further engagement with our theme, which will be delivered by Abbot Mark Barrett. The morning will conclude in time to attend Midday Prayer at 1pm in the Abbey Church followed by a light lunch.

To reserve your place visit www.tickettailor.com/events/worthabbey

A Place of Beauty and Joy

Monks in the City

Pray with us

Join the monks for prayers in **St John the Baptist's Church, 2 Bristol Road, Kemptown, BN2 1AP**

Lauds (Morning Prayer): Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat – 9am

Vespers (Evening Prayer): Mon, Tue, Wed – 6pm

Midday Stillness

Every Friday, 12noon to 1pm, an hour of music, prayer and reflection in St John the Baptist's Church.

Saturday Sanctuary

28th Oct, 25th Nov: 10.15am – 12.15pm

Join for a morning of fellowship, input, prayer and silence. Starts in the Fitzherbert Community Hub.

Monk Talks

A series of talks from the monks of Worth Abbey introducing monastic prayer and contemplation for today.
7.30pm – 9pm in the Fitzherbert Community Hub.

17th October – Meditation and Contemplation (Fr David OSB)

14th November – The joy of praying together (Br Anthony OSB)

12th December – Discipleship and humility – Becoming real (Abbot Stephen OSB)

Non-Parish Events

CRAWLEY INTER FAITH NETWORK (CIFN)

"Spotlight on: St Nicholas Church"

You are cordially invited to join us to a visit and learn about the Church and faith of St Nicholas Church:

On Thursday 26th October at 7.30 p.m. in person

Address: Church Road Worth, Crawley, RH10 7RT, parking is available on Street Lane

The event will be in person to visit the Church, to receive a presentation followed by questions, answers and light refreshment. If you would like to be involved with CIFN as a committee member, volunteer, contributor or observer then please contact Ashwin Soni, 07833252551, ashel@hotmail.co.uk.

Also follow us on our Facebook page and website <https://www.crawleyinter-faith.com>.

We also have a WhatsApp Group. You may join this group by contacting Ashwin.

Gatwick Detainee Welfare Group (GDWG)

The GDWG clothing store is running out of warmer clothing for their residents. If you can help with any of the below items, these can be left at the Parish Office

Jumpers - size M-L Jackets - size M-L Trainer's - size 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Trousers - size 32-34-36 T-shirts - size M-L Truck suits - all sizes.

Thank you.

Anti-Slavery Day – Slavery on Your Doorstep

Wednesday 18th October

from 6.30pm - 8pm

at the Fitzherbert Community Hub,
2 Bristol Road, Kempdown,
Brighton BN2 1AP

Come and find out how modern slavery is
very much here in our local area,
and how we can respond

For we know that things can change

Responding to the Ecological Crisis.

The Franciscan Centre, Ladywell, **20th – 22nd October, led
by Jane Mellett**, suggested offering: £180 (residential), £90
(non-residential).

A weekend retreat exploring what role faith communities
have to play in addressing the ecological crisis - with
a specific focus on ecological spirituality. Jane holds a
Masters in Theology from Maynooth University and works
as the Laudato Si' Officer in Trócaire. [Book here.](#)

Creating a safer environment - sessions

Please see below upcoming dates for our 'Creating a Safer Environment' training sessions
(all on Zoom).

This training is aimed at PSR's, Group Leaders, and Coordinators of activities in parishes, who also
need to know the elements of our 'Creating a Safer Environment' policy. We would be grateful if you
could spread the word to relevant individuals within your parishes and ask them to email

Safeguarding@abdiocese.org.uk to register.

☐ Thursday 26th October 2-3.30pm

☐ Tuesday 7th November 7-8.30pm

Liturgy of the Word with Children

Leaders' Training, **11th November** 10am–1pm at The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley. Explore an exciting
style for delivering the Liturgy of the Word with Children. Lucy Hall will be demonstrating a hands-on,
tactile approach to the Gospel. Whether you have been working in this ministry for a long time or are new,
come and be enthused by Lucy, and meet others who share your passion. Reserve your free place [here](#).

Crawley Open House Sleep Out

Every year Open House hold a sponsored sleep out and this year it takes place on the night of

Thursday 26th October, either in Crawley's Queen's Square or at home.

The main event will see a large group spending the night in the Square, but the option is there for people to do it in their homes or place of work if that suits them better.

Crawley Open House say *"We are well aware that these sleep outs offer only a tiny glimpse of the disorientation, tiredness and discomfort that too many have to endure EVERY night. However even one night on concrete under the stars can be an eye-opener for many. It is our largest fundraising event this year, and we hope to raise over £10,000 from peoples' combined sponsorship. We face unprecedented demand for our services currently, whilst seeing a marked drop in individual and community giving as a result of the cost-of-living crisis, so we hope this event will attract even more participants and support than usual"*

Sign up for your sponsorship at the campaign page

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/cohbigsleepout2023> Or

Please contact ian.wilkins@crawleyopenhouse.co.uk if you have any questions.

CAFOD

CAFOD would like to invite you to our online event on **Saturday 18th November, 10.30am - 2.30pm** to link up live with some of our overseas partners and discuss how, rooted in faith, we can fight for a better world. From climate change to the global food crisis, the world is currently facing numerous challenges that stand in the way of each person reaching their full potential. By putting our faith into action, and raising our voices together, we can bring actual change.

So, we need you! At this online event you can:

- Hear from CAFOD's partners in Bolivia on how Pope Francis' teaching inspires their work with indigenous communities
- Look ahead to the upcoming UN COP28 climate talks in the United Arab Emirates, and discuss what urgent outcomes we need
- Find out what happened when we took our Fix the Food System campaign to the World Bank meetings in Morocco
- Learn about our plans for working with the Catholic Community during next year's General Election
- Be inspired to be one of many CAFOD campaigners across the country!

We hope to see you then! It's fine to join for just some of the event if you can't make it all.

The National Board of Catholic Women

You are invited to a Webinar on **Saturday 25th November** from 11am-12.45pm.

The webinar is titled – Inspiring Women, Enabling Women to flourish in the Church.

Professor Tina Beattie will explore how we can express our creativity and share our gifts as women; encourage and support women's many different abilities and callings; celebrate our achievements and learn from our frustrations and failings.

Email: nbcw@abdiocese.org.uk to register your interest.

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](#)

Please use the QR code for donations to the Parish. Thank you



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

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.

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: 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, after vespers and on Wednesdays from 2pm–3pm.

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 – 25th October and 29th November.

Vigil for Vocations - (1st Friday). After Compline 8.30pm - 9.00pm.

Bible Study Group – 2pm on Mondays in Compass House. Please contact Jenny Chapman.

Worth Abbey Parish is committed to safer recruitment. Arundel and Brighton Diocese and Worth Abbey Parish are committed to safeguarding all children and vulnerable groups at risk within its community. The Diocese aims to embed a culture of safeguarding to prevent abuse and to provide support to individuals who have been hurt by abuse, taking the necessary actions to reduce the likelihood of further harm.

Our Worth Abbey Parish Safeguarding Reps are Charles and Ann McCarthy
Email: sg1.worth@abdiocese.org.uk