



In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Thirtieth Sunday in OT (year A)

28th / 29th October 2023

No. 1357

Dear Parishioners

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

The Synod in Rome has just ended, and the participants have sent us a letter which they entitle ***The Church must listen to everyone***. They tell how they were conscious of all of us who played our part in the preliminary stages: *We lived this blessed time in profound communion with all of you. We were supported by your prayers, bearing with you your expectations, your questions, as well as your fears. As Pope Francis requested two years ago, a long process of listening and discernment was initiated, open to all the People of God, no one being excluded, to “journey together” under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, missionary disciples engaged in the following of Jesus Christ... We have listened intensely to the Word of God and the experience of others. Using the conversation in the Spirit method, we have humbly shared the wealth and poverty of our communities from every continent, seeking to discern what the Holy Spirit wants to say to the Church today. They emphasise the contributions of those of other Churches, and they tell how they have been especially aware of the wounds and scandalous inequalities which violence and poverty are creating in so many countries, and of those who have been forced to become migrants. We assured our solidarity and commitment alongside the women and men all over the world who are working to build justice and peace.*

In the light of Jesus' cross and resurrection, they say: *We entrusted to Him our common home where the cries of the earth and the poor are becoming increasingly urgent. They dwell on the Church's need of conversion, for the Church's vocation is to proclaim the Gospel not by focusing on itself, but by placing itself at the service of the infinite love with which God loved the world... To progress in its discernment, the Church absolutely needs to listen to everyone, starting with the poorest... It means listening to those who have been denied the right to speak in society or who feel excluded, even by the Church; listening to people who are victims of racism in all its forms—in particular in some regions to indigenous peoples whose cultures have been scorned. Above all, the Church of our time has the duty to listen, in a spirit of conversion, to those who have been victims of abuse committed by members of the ecclesial body, and to commit herself concretely and structurally to ensuring that this does not happen again. They also speak of listening to all laypeople, all called to holiness by virtue of their baptismal vocation – they mention catechists, children and young people, families, and all who wish to participate in discernment and decision-making structures.*

Please see our website for the full text of this most encouraging document. Please help us in our parish to put these aspirations into practice, and please pray that we will form a community which can reflect something of the Kingdom of God.

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

Prayers

Please pray for Marie Hesketh, RIP, who died on Sunday 22nd October.
Please pray for her daughter, Sara, and her two sons, Mark and Simon.

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

Please pray for the people of Israel and Palestine.

*God of peace, who are peace itself
and whom a spirit of discord cannot grasp, nor a violent mind receive,
grant that those who are one in heart may persevere in what is good
and that those in conflict may forget evil and so be healed.*

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

(Prayer: Roman Missal, p.1361)

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*

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of – Martin MacDonnell, Trevor Botting, Margaret Mary Hull, Ruth Cross,
Norman Smith, Catherine Castle, Derek Kirby-Turner, Winefrid Osborne, Kathy Maynard, Will Gardner,
Mary Loftus, Patsy Willson and Andrew Smith Paterson.

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

Daily Readings

Monday – Rom 8:12-17 Luke 13:10-17

Tuesday – Rom 8:18-25 Luke 13:18-21

Wednesday – Rev 7:2-4, 9-14 John 3:1-3 Matt 5:1-12a **(All Saints)**

Thursday – Isa 25:6-9 Rom 5:5-11 Matt 25:30 **(All Souls)**

Friday – Rom 9:1-5 Luke 14:1-6

Saturday – Rom 11:1-2a, 11-2, 25-29 Luke 14:1, 7-11

Next Sunday's Readings: **Thirty First Sunday in OT (Year A)**
1st Reading – Malachi 1:14-2:2, 8-10 2nd Reading – 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13
Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12
They do not practise what they preach

Parish Events

Next weekend there
will be a Second
Collection for
Retired Priests Fund

Fair Trade Stall

We have a selection of Christmas cards and Advent calendars available for sale at the Fair-Trade stall in the Narthex after Mass on Sundays.

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

Dates for your Diary

1st November – 4.30pm - Mass with the School. (there will be no 5.30pm mass)

1st November – 7.30pm – Parish Mass.

11th November – There will be refreshments after the 5pm mass in the Unity Room.

12th November – Parish Brunch after mass in Compass House

19th November – Family Catechism sessions. (All Saints and Inspired)

26th November – There will be a Parish Walk after mass.

24th December – A Christmas mass for Children at 3pm.



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.

Faure Requiem

The school will be performing Faure's Requiem on **Thursday, 2nd November** at 7.15pm on the same evening as the Mass for All Souls.

If you would like to go to both there is the option to have a light supper after Vespers and before the Faure.

Please see <https://worthabbey.net/mission/pilgrims/> to book your supper. The cost is £5/head.

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'.

N.B. You can now buy a copy of Laudate Deum from our excellent bookshop or you can read it online

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)

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.

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

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



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

Non-Parish Events

Christian Leadership Formation programme

Are you currently in Lower Sixth/Year 12/S5? Are you considering a public-facing career? Do you want to help build a Christian society?

The Christian Leadership Formation programme uniquely offers a combination of stimulating and high-quality intellectual content, spiritual nourishment, personal development, inter-personal skills, team-building and socials in a tightly-knit community experience, with expert academics and professionals. Open to any student who is motivated by their faith and their studies, with bursaries available as needed.

More information and applications via our new website www.christianleadershipformation.com

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.

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 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](#).

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 Date – **29th November**.

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

Bible Study Group – 11am on Mondays in St Benedicts (Parish Office). Please contact Jenny Chapman.
Please note new time and place.

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