



In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Thirty First Sunday in OT (year A)

4th / 5th November 2023

No. 1358

Dear Parishioners

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

This month of November is a traditional time to remember and pray for the faithful departed. The second of November is the day when we especially remember members of our families and our friends who have passed away. Some of you may have experienced the quite elaborate customs practised this day in traditionally Catholic countries. I remember how in Lima, Peru, we would visit the local cemetery where we would meet members of our parish gathered by the graves of their families, often having picnics and enjoying themselves, fully united with those whom they were remembering; and we priests would pray with them, and enjoy a sandwich. Looking back, I feel it was such a positive element of their culture, expressing a vibrant faith in our doctrine of the resurrection and eternal life which, we are promised, is the inheritance offered to each of us. Here, in Anglo Saxon and post Christian Britain, our celebrations of our faith are often rather less colourful; but I hope that many of you will have been able to join us for our mass on Thursday, when we will have prayed for your departed loved ones whose names you have given us on cards, and which will remain by the altar during this month of November. Please use the prayer which you will find below.

Meanwhile, the **Synod** in Rome finished last week, after several weeks of intense listening by men and women from all over the world. A Synthesis Report has been published. You can find it online. It is entitled *A Synodal Church In Mission* <https://www.synod.va/en/news/a-synodal-church-in-mission.html> Michael Woodward has kindly produced a synopsis of this full report which you may like to request from Maria in the parish office. The synopsis is headed: *A Church that involves everyone and is close to the world's wounds*. Looking ahead to the final session of the Synod next year, he explains: *the text offers reflections and proposals on topics such as the role of women and the laity, the ministry of bishops, priesthood and the diaconate, the importance of the poor and migrants, digital mission, ecumenism, and abuse*. The report explains the concept and practice of Synodality thus: *"Synodal" and "synodality" are terms that "speak of a mode of being Church that integrates communion, mission, and participation". So, they indicate a way of living the Church, valuing differences and developing the active involvement of all.*

Valuing differences and developing the active involvement of all are ideals which will strengthen every community, and I hope that together we can promote them in our parish. I will return to the content of the Report during the course of the next twelve months. Meanwhile, please do pray for the development of a strong parish community under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

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

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 Marie Hesketh, who died recently.
Please pray for her daughter, Sara, and her two sons, Mark and Simon.
Marie's funeral will be celebrated, here, at Worth Abbey on **Monday 13th November** at 1.30pm.

Immortal God, holy Lord, Father and Protector of all You have created,
we raise our hearts to You today for those who have passed out of this mortal life.
In Your loving mercy, Father of all, be pleased to receive them in Your heavenly company,
and forgive the failings and faults they may have done from human frailty.
Your only Son, Christ, our Saviour, suffered so cruelly that He might deliver them from the second death.
By his merits may they share in the glory of His victory over sin and death.
For all the faithful who have died we pray, but in particular for those dear to us, parents,
relatives and friends; nor do we forget all who did good to us while on earth,
who helped us by their prayers, sacrifice and example.
We pray also for any who may have done us harm, and stand in special need of Your forgiveness.
May the merits and prayers of our Virgin Mother, Mary, and those of all the Angels and Saints,
speak for us and assist them now.
This we ask in Christ's name.
Amen.

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)*

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 – Francis Pollen, Walter Stanford, Bronka Bogacz, Charles Bethune,
Abbot John Chapman, Ernest Paskett, Kathleen Brockley, Bob Perry, Dom Eric Booker, Judith Wright,
Noreen Short and Bridie Ricketts.
**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in
peace. Amen.**

Daily Readings

Monday – Rom 11:29-36 Luke 14:12-14 (**Commemoration of Deceased Relatives and Benefactors of the English Benedictine Congregation**)

Tuesday – Rom 12:5-16b Luke 14:15-24

Wednesday – Rom 13:8-10 Luke 14:25-33

Thursday – Ezek 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 or 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17 John 2:13-22 (**The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**)

Friday – Rom 15:14-21 Luke 16:1-8 (**St Leo the Great**)

Saturday – Isa 61:1-3 Matt 25:31-49 (**St Martin of Tours**)

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

1st Reading – Wisdom 6:12-16 2nd Reading – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

The wise and foolish virgins

Parish Events

Dates for your Diary

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.



Christmas Timetable



Saturday 25th November and 2nd December – Worth Engaging Advent talks at 10.30am.

“Approaching Advent as a season of anticipatory waiting” will be the theme of the talks.

To register go to <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/worthabbey>

Sunday 17th December – Advent Carol Service at 3.30pm. Come and join the monks at Worth Abbey for the ever-popular traditional Carol Service in the compelling and peaceful surrounds of Worth Abbey Church. Experience an hour of carols, readings and wonderful music.

An opportunity to reflect on the real meaning of Christmas. Festive refreshments afterwards.

Bring you family and friends. Children are most welcome.

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

Sunday 24th December – Midnight mass starting at 10.30pm for Carols and Organ music to prepare for mass at 11pm. Mass will be followed by Refreshments in the Narthex

Monday 25th December – Christmas Day Mass at 10am

Tuesday 26th December – Friday 29th December – Mass at 5.30pm

Saturday 30th December – Parish Vigil mass at 5pm (Holy Family)

Sunday 31st December – Sunday Mass (Holy Family). Followed by refreshments.

Monday 1st January – Mother of God. Mass at 5.30pm

This weekend there is 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: **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

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, Kempton, 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

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)

Non-Parish Events

Crawley Campaign Against Racism

You are warmly invited to the 2023 CCAR
Museum Exhibition. EVERYBODY
WELCOME!

Crawley Museum, The Tree, 103 High Street,
RH10 1DD (at traffic lights)

Until 25th November – Thursdays to
Saturdays 10.30am-4pm

Handel's Messiah

You are all invited to a performance of Handel's Messiah
by Exultate Choir & Orchestra, directed by
Richard Stafford, on **Saturday 16th December @ 4pm**
in Ardingly College Chapel, in aid of Help Musicians and
St Catherine's Hospice

Tickets are available on ticketsource.co.uk/exultatechoir
(Adults £12/Under 18s £5, refreshments included)

Contact: Mandy Horton (mhorton220812@gmail.com)

Mental Health Awareness Course

4th November, 10am-2.30pm at St Michael's Worthing BN13 3AL.

This course is for anyone involved in ministry in their parish.

Attendees will learn what mental health is and how to challenge stigma, gaining basic knowledge of some
common mental health issues and learning how to support someone in distress.

The course is accredited by MHFA England. Contact [Simon South](#) to sign up.

Christians in Health and Social Care

Ethics and Practice, online, **4th November**, 10am-3pm. St Mary's University, Twickenham, and the Christian
Medical Fellowship invite you to their Medical Ethics Conference.

Speakers will cover topics such as freedom of conscience, caring for ourselves and our relationship with
God, and our vocation to care. The event will be via Zoom and is free of charge.

[Click here](#) to find out more and register.

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](#).

Diocesan Advent Retreat

It has been fantastic to see so many people responding to our latest season of Invited by signing up to follow the programme at home, or as part of a parish or diocesan group. The first of our Invited films will launch on our website and social channels on Monday 27 November, accompanied by a range of spiritually enriching, thought-provoking resources.

To sign up to receive Invited films emailed directly to your inbox [click here](#).

To join an online diocesan Invited group [click here](#).

Invited has been designed so that people across our community of faith can take part.

EVERYONE, regardless of age, depth of faith, or involvement in parish life is warmly welcome to join in.

To find out more about Season III [click here](#) and visit our website.

Our Formation Team can't wait to welcome new and existing Invited family members to this year's Invited programme!

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.

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 in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

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