



# In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Fourth Sunday in OT (year B)  
27<sup>th</sup> / 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
No. 1368

Dear Parishioners

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

On Saturday we mark **Holocaust Memorial Day**, and we remember especially the six million Jews who were murdered during the Second World War. Jews and Israelis around the world are in special need of our prayers just now, together with Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. Tragically, since the War there have been many examples of genocide. The Trust which organises the Day write: *Holocaust Memorial Day 2024 marks the 30th anniversary of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda. 49 years after the Holocaust ended, 19 years after the genocide in Cambodia, the world stood by as Hutu extremists shattered the fragile freedom in Rwanda, following decades of tension and violence, culminating in the murder of over one million Tutsis in just one hundred days. This year the Trust focuses on freedom, and how the curtailment of freedom can be the prelude to genocide. They quote from the Diary of Ann Frank: 'That is when the trouble started for the Jews. Our freedom was severely restricted by a series of anti-Jewish decrees: Jews were required to wear a yellow star; Jews were required to turn in their bicycles; Jews were forbidden to use trams; Jews were forbidden to ride in cars, even their own; Jews were required to do their shopping between 3.00 and 5.00p.m.; Jews were required to frequent only Jewish-owned barbershops and beauty salons; Jews were forbidden to be out on the streets between 8.00 p.m. and 6.00 a.m.; Jews were forbidden to go to theatres, cinemas or any other forms of entertainments; Jews were forbidden to use swimming pools, tennis courts, hockey fields or any other athletic fields; Jews were forbidden to go rowing; Jews were forbidden to take part in any athletic activity in public; Jews were forbidden to sit in their gardens or those of their friends after 8.00 p.m.; Jews were forbidden to visit Christians in their homes; Jews were required to attend Jewish schools, etc. You couldn't do this and you couldn't do that, but life went on'.*

Please see the material on our website: [Holocaust Memorial Day](#)

Meanwhile on Sunday we welcome John Paul de Quay who will speak to us about *Saving our Common Home. Why should Christians care about the environment?* In recent decades this topic has become a central theme in Catholic Social Teaching, and is a very special concern of Pope Francis, who dedicated the first Papal encyclical to it in 2015. He affirms that Christians have a special part to play in protecting the environment. Writing in a section titled The Gospel of Creation, he writes: *I would like from the outset to show how faith convictions can offer Christians, and some other believers as well, ample motivation to care for nature and for the most vulnerable of their brothers and sisters.* I look forward to welcoming you to the talk on Sunday after mass in the Unity Room.

I send you all my very best wishes. Fr Paul

### **Prayers**

Please pray for Cynthia Haynes who died in hospital on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup>. R.I.P.

Please pray also for her family.

Her funeral will be celebrated here at Worth on Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> February, at 2.30 pm.

Please pray for Jean Adams, who died peacefully at home on Monday. May she rest in peace.

Please pray also for Kath, her daughter, and all her family.

We will celebrate Jean's funeral at Worth on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> February at 11 am.

Please pray for Fr Stephen in his illness.

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

### **A Prayer for Holocaust Memorial Day 2024: The Fragility of Freedom**

*Eternal God, we come before you, conscious of the fragility of freedom,  
to remember the victims of the Holocaust.*

*We lament the loss of the six million Jews who were killed in the Holocaust,  
the millions of other victims of Nazi persecution, and victims of all genocides.  
Remembering the past, help us today to use what freedom we have to stand up  
for those whose freedom is denied.*

*We pray for a day when all shall be free to live in peace, unity and love.  
Amen.*

### **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 –** Tony Brailey, Kathleen Dorrington, Patrick Board, Arthur Figg, Violet Levett, Philippa Watelin, Angela Hollins, Heather Levett, Bill Mitchell, William Hyde Hills, William Brown, Mike Brayshaw, Maurice Johnson, Mrs Rutherford, Alice Yaldren, Joseph Curran and John Hull.

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

### Daily Readings

Monday – 2 Sam 15:13-14, 30, 16:5-13 Mark 5:1-20

Tuesday – 2 Sam 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30 – 19:3 Mark 5:21-43

Wednesday – 2 Sam 24:2, 9-17 Mark 6:1-6 (**St John Bosco**)

Thursday – 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12 Mark 6:7-13

Friday – Mal 3:1-4 or Heb 2:14-18 Luke 2:22-40 (**The Presentation of The Lord**)

Saturday – 1 Kgs 3:4-13 Mark 6:30-34

Next Sunday's Readings: **Fifth Sunday in OT (Year B)**

1st Reading – Job 7:1-4, 6-7 2nd Reading – 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

**Gospel:** Mark 1:29-39

**He cast out devils and cured many who were suffering from disease**

### *Parish Events*

#### Dates for your Diary



**This Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> January** – Diocesan Justice and Peace Annual Meeting, 10 am till 1.30 pm, at the St Philip Howard Centre. To register for your free please [J & P Assembly](#)

**This Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> January** – Worth Pro Earth (WPE) - A talk by John Paul de Quay promoted by the Worth Pro Earth Group: *Saving our Common Home*, at 11 am in the Unity Room. (Please see separate box)

**Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February** - refreshments in the UR after 5 pm mass.

**Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> February** - brunch in Compass House at 11 am.

**Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February** – Ash Wednesday. Parish mass with ashes at 7.30pm (there will also be usual mass at 5.30pm)

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March and Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March** - Worth Abbey Pilgrims, Lent talks. The talks will follow a similar format to the popular, "Preparing for Advent", talks which were very well attended in December 2023. More details and booking information to follow but please save the dates.

We expect the Abbey church to be closed for maintenance of the lighting system between **Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> February and Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> February**. During this time the regular liturgy will be celebrated in the Unity Room. Please enter by the East door.

#### 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. Next Date: **This Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> January**. 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

#### Marriage Preparation

The next course in the parish will begin on **Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> February** and will be the only course offered by the parish for the year.

Would anyone who is planning to get married during 2024, please get in touch.



# Invited

## LENT 2024



### Our Invited Mission continues in Lent 2024

offering a programme for small groups, online conversations and individual engagement. The material will discuss '**Discipleship**' as we reflect on how we continue to conform our lives to the Lord.

The resources are designed to call us into **deeper relationship with Jesus**, and are therefore most suitable for those who have already made the decision to follow him. *If you don't feel ready for that yet, why not watch our Advent 2023 season first? It will help you understand who Jesus is and just how much he loves you.*



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF  
ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON

[www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited](http://www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited)

Registered Charity No. 252878

### WPE - Talk

Worth Pro Earth invite us to a talk by John Paul de Quay – **Saving our Common Home. Why should Christians care about the environment?** John Paul writes: *Join us as we look into what it means to be a human being, how we are connected through ecology and technology, and look at some of the issues facing our global family today including climate change, biodiversity loss, and slavery. We will then propose how we as Christians are called to tackle the root causes of these varied problems.*

Please join us this **Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> January** in the Unity Room at 11 am, after mass.

John Paul runs the Journey to 2030 project and the Ecological Conversion Group Charity. He is environmental lead for Arundel and Brighton in a voluntary capacity.

### Invited during Lent

Lent begins on **14<sup>th</sup> February, Ash Wednesday**, when there will be mass for the parish with ashes at 7.30 pm. (There will also be the usual mass at 5.30 pm.).

The Diocese is offering another series of online talks in their retreat, *Invited*.

Lizzie Wakeling writes: *"We are delighted to host a series of sessions this Lent to help everyone deepen their faith. There will be five meetings taking place".* For further information please see the Diocesan website:

[www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited](http://www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited).

Would anyone be able to host or lead a meeting? Please get in touch.

We will also be offering Stations of the Cross on Fridays, at 7.15 pm, beginning **23<sup>rd</sup> February**.



### **Worth Pro Earth – A Call to Action**

Following some rather dire predictions about global warming, in reaction to COP28, WPE proposes ten **Action Points** for January: Energy Saving Ideas

1. Turn down your thermostat by one degree
2. Switch off your heating when leaving the house for a few hours
3. Fit draught-proofing strips to windows/doors and a brush strip over your letterbox
4. Fit a hot water cylinder jacket to your water tank
5. Keep furniture and curtains away from radiators to feel warmer
6. Avoid drying clothes on radiators which will block out the heat
7. Silver foil placed down the back of a radiator will reflect the heat back in the room
8. Turn off the lights when you're not using them, change the bulbs for LED bulbs
9. Use your washing machine on a 30-degree cycle
10. Dry your clothes on racks instead of using a tumble dryer

Do let us know how you find these proposals.

Please see the separate box concerning the talk by JP de Quay – *Saving Our Common Home*. Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January, after mass, in the Unity Room.

Meanwhile, 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> January is **Energy Saving Week**.

Please see **Tick Zero** <https://tickzero.com/watch-the-films/> "Tick Zero is Cambridge University's climate mitigation course: 16 hours of lectures condensed into six films of 9 mins.



## ***Saving our Common Home***

### **Why should Christians care about the environment?**

A talk by John Paul de Quay, *Journey to 2030* organised by Worth Pro Earth.

The Unity Room, Worth Abbey. Sunday January 28<sup>th</sup> at 11 am

Join us as we look into what it means to be a human being, how we are connected through ecology and technology, and look at some of the issues facing our global family today including climate change, biodiversity loss, and slavery. We will then propose how we as Christians are called to tackle the root causes of these varied problems.

John Paul runs the *Journey to 2030* project and the Ecological Conversion Group Charity. He is environmental lead for Arundel and Brighton in a voluntary capacity.

*All powerful God,  
you are present in  
the universe  
and in the smallest  
of your creatures.  
You embrace with  
your tenderness all  
that exists.  
Pour out upon us  
the power of your  
love,  
that we may  
protect life and  
beauty.  
Fill us with your  
peace, that we  
may live  
as brothers and  
sisters, harming  
no one.  
O God of the poor,  
help us to rescue  
the abandoned  
and forgotten of  
this earth,  
so precious in  
your eyes.  
Amen*

### CAFOD Lent

Kir Bennet Horner, our CAFOD representative, writes:

The Lenten Season arrives early this year. We can already advise you of our Parish plans for CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day 2024, which falls on **Friday 23rd February**.

CAFOD asks that you focus your prayers this Family Fast Day towards subsistence sea fishermen in Liberia. Many die due to the lack of basic tools such as life-vests, GPS and compasses. CAFOD is addressing this problem with your support.

Rather than only giving something up this Lent, why not consider taking action. Here are some options...

#### CAFOD WORTH PARISH LENTEN EVENTS

**\*\*Pizza dinner fundraiser on Friday 23rd February 6.30pm at Java & Jazz in Forest Row for both teenage and adult parishioners, and Worth School students and faculty.\*\***

**\*\*Friday Coffee for CAFOD mornings 10.30-12.30 during Lent beginning 16th February at Cinderhill RH17 7BD\*\***

On CAFOD Family Fast Day itself, 23rd February, at 6.30pm a fund-raising pizza dinner will be held at Java & Jazz restaurant in Forest Row. This event will be hosted jointly by Worth Parish and Worth School's CAFOD Young Leaders.

We hosted a similar event only for teenagers (age 11+) in the Autumn. That event proved successful and so we will repeat it. Teenagers will have their own space in which to meet, lead and enjoy this CAFOD Lent Fast Day fundraiser event.

However, Parish and Worth School adults will now also be invited to this upcoming Lenten pizza event (we promise to keep both teens and adults well separated!!).

The Tibbles, whose February House Group meeting falls on the 23rd February, are kindly shifting their venue to Java & Jazz so that those in their group can join this CAFOD pizza fundraiser if they wish.

Logistics are as follows:

Friday 23rd February 6.30pm

Java & Jazz Restaurant, Forest Row

Pizza buffet including beverage & ice cream

£17 per person (£5.50 will go to CAFOD)

RSVP asap to [parish@worth.org.uk](mailto:parish@worth.org.uk)

We hope that you can join us. The pizza flows generously, the company is good and the CAFOD work your attendance will support is excellent. We thank Parishioner and Java & Jazz owner, John Gallagher, for his kind sponsorship.

If an evening event isn't your bag, please consider attending one of our Lenten Friday Coffee for CAFOD mornings. Parishioners of all ages are welcome. These will be held by Hal & Rory Clarke beginning on Friday 16th February from 10.30am to 12.30pm and on every Friday during Lent at Cinderhill House, West Hoathly RH17 7BD. We are very grateful for the Clarke's generous endurance in hosting what has become a Worth Parish Lenten tradition over the past 10 years. If you have yet to show them your support, this is the year to do so.

Many thanks to Worth Parish for your loyal support to CAFOD in its many forms.

Kir Horner,  
CAFOD Volunteer Rep, Worth Parish

### **West Sussex County Council write concerning clean air and wood burning**

We're members of the [Sussex Air](#) partnership. Pressures on household finances may have tempted more people towards burning wood in the belief that it's cheaper or more environmentally friendly. But, did you know that burning wood releases more harmful carbon emissions than oil or gas?

New evidence shows that it actually:

- Harms your wallet: wood burning is almost always more expensive than other forms of heating.
- Harms your health: lighting fires in our homes is the largest source of harmful small particulate matter air pollution in the UK.
- Harms the planet: wood burning creates more harmful CO<sub>2</sub> emissions compared to other forms of heating and we cannot reproduce trees fast enough to offset the CO<sub>2</sub> emitted by burning wood.

Find out your personal air pollution footprint compared to the UK national average by using this [Clean Air Calculator](#). For details on how we're working to improve air quality across the county visit [Our website](#).

If you are thinking of purchasing a new stove, do ensure it is [Defra approved](#).

Under the Clean Air Act 1993 all Defra approved stoves have to pass tests to confirm that they are capable of burning an authorised coal or other solid fuel, but can also cleanly burn unauthorised fuels such as wood.

Surprised by what you learned? Please do share it with your friends and family to help protect your health and the planet. [Learn facts about wood burning](#)

### *Non-Parish Events*

#### **Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist**

On **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February** Bishop Richard will lead a day of reflection and formation for Ministers of the Eucharist at St Michael's, High Salvington, Worthing from 11am - 4pm.

The day will include theological and practical talks, Eucharistic Adoration and mass.

Please register using the link: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/diqacwqd>

#### **Vocations Weekend for Women (20's & 30's)**

The theme will be "Discerning God's call in your life" and will be held from **16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> February** in Liverpool. The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See' - this weekend will give the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you.

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

For more information contact Sr Lynne fcj at [fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com](mailto:fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com) or visit our website <https://www.fcjsisters.org/>

#### **Lourdes Pilgrimage**

**Applications to join our special 50th Anniversary Lourdes pilgrimage are now open!**

We take more than 700 pilgrims to Lourdes to visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes each year. Our group includes pilgrims who are sick, disabled, frail or elderly and need our help to make the journey. Our pilgrimage is 'Love in Action', we journey to Lourdes to serve each other and to renew our commitment to walk with Jesus Christ with the help of Our Lady and St Bernadette.

2024's pilgrimage will mark both the 50th Anniversary of the diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, and the 20th Anniversary of our Redshirts youth programme, both of which have helped so many people encounter God's love. Our hope for 2024 is that new and former pilgrims may hear Our Lady's invitation to 'Come to Lourdes in Procession'. The anniversary celebrations will be open to the whole diocesan family; to find out more visit our website. To make your application please click on the button below.

[50th anniversary Lourdes Pilgrimage](#)

### **Pilgrimage to Normandy**

Led by Michael Woodward, of the Lay Community of St Benedict, from **12<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2024.**  
Chaplain – Fr Ian Byrne. If you would like more information, please contact the parish office.

### **Crawley Interfaith Network (CIFN)**

CIFN and Spirit of Peace present “Tree of Life” on **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February** at Crawley Museum, 103 High Street, Crawley, RH10 1DD from 7pm – 9pm. With Refreshments.

Please contact Ashwin Soni on [ashel@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ashel@hotmail.co.uk) or 07833 252551 for more information, or see poster in the Narthex.

### **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](#)

or use our QR code



*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

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.

## **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](mailto:jenny_chapman@sky.com) If you would like to join us please contact Jenny Chapman by email or speak to her after Mass any weekend.

**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> February, 27<sup>th</sup> March, 24<sup>th</sup> April.

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

**Bible Study Group** – 11am on Mondays in St Benedict’s (Parish Office). Please contact Jenny Chapman.  
[jenny\\_chapman@sky.com](mailto:jenny_chapman@sky.com) Please contact Jenny chapman if you think you might like to join the group.



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](mailto:sg1.worth@abdiocese.org.uk)**