



In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Easter Sunday (year B)

30th / 31st March 2024

No. 1378

Dear Parishioners

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

I hope that you are enjoying a fruitful celebration of Holy Week, and that you will be able to take part in the services which we have here at Worth. (Please see below for the timetable.)

As an aid to your meditation, we offer an anonymous homily for Holy Saturday about Jesus' descent into the underworld to bring humanity back to life in the Kingdom of God.

Something strange is happening – there is a great silence on earth today, a great silence and stillness. The whole earth keeps silence because the King is asleep. The earth trembled and is still because God has fallen asleep in the flesh and he has raised up all who have slept ever since the world began. God has died in the flesh and hell trembles with fear.

He has gone to search for our first parent, as for a lost sheep. Greatly desiring to visit those who live in darkness and in the shadow of death, he has gone to free from sorrow the captives Adam and Eve, he who is both God and the son of Eve. The Lord approached them bearing the cross, the weapon that had won him the victory. At the sight of him Adam, the first man he had created, struck his breast in terror and cried out to everyone: "My Lord be with you all." Christ answered him: "And with your spirit." He took him by the hand and raised him up, saying: "Awake, O sleeper, and rise from the dead, and Christ will give you light."

I am your God, who for your sake have become your son. Out of love for you and for your descendants I now by my own authority command all who are held in bondage to come forth, all who are in darkness to be enlightened, all who are sleeping to arise. I order you, O sleeper, to awake. I did not create you to be held a prisoner in hell. Rise from the dead, for I am the life of the dead. Rise up, work of my hands, you who were created in my image. Rise, let us leave this place, for you are in me and I am in you; together we form only one person and we cannot be separated. For your sake I, your God, became your son; I, the Lord, took the form of a slave; I, whose home is above the heavens, descended to the earth and beneath the earth. For your sake, for the sake of man, I became like a man without help, free among the dead. For the sake of you, who left a garden, I was betrayed to the Jews in a garden, and I was crucified in a garden.

See on my face the spittle I received in order to restore to you the life I once breathed into you. See there the marks of the blows I received in order to refashion your warped nature in my image. On my back see the marks of the scourging I endured to remove the burden of sin that weighs upon your back. See my hands, nailed firmly to a tree, for you who once wickedly stretched out your hand to a tree.

I slept on the cross and a sword pierced my side for you who slept in paradise and brought forth Eve from your side. My side has healed the pain in yours. My sleep will rouse you from your sleep in hell. The sword that pierced me has sheathed the sword that was turned against you.

Rise, let us leave this place. The enemy led you out of the earthly paradise. I will not restore you to that paradise, but I will enthrone you in heaven. I forbade you the tree that was only a symbol of life, but see, I who am life itself am now one with you. I appointed cherubim to guard you as slaves

are guarded, but now I make them worship you as God. The throne formed by cherubim awaits you, its bearers swift and eager. The bridal chamber is adorned, the banquet is ready, the eternal dwelling places are prepared, the treasure houses of all good things lie open. The kingdom of heaven has been prepared for you from all eternity.

I send you my very best wishes. I hope you have a very happy Easter. Fr Paul

Prayers

Please pray for our RCIA group: Mark Rann, Nick Brown and Paddy Scott, who will be received at the Vigil; and Emily Pugh, who will be received on Easter morning.

Please join our celebration with them after the morning mass and greet and congratulate them.

Please make them and their families welcome, and please pray that we may be worthy to receive new members.

Please pray for Robin Williamson, who died in hospital, on Tuesday. May he rest in Peace.

Please pray also for his wife Priscilla and for his sons and grandchildren.

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

In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year "Pilgrims of Hope", 2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer by Pope Francis.

"Prayer unites us; it makes us brothers and sisters.

It is in prayer that our hearts find the strength not to be cold and insensitive in the face of injustice.

In prayer, God keeps calling us, opening our hearts to charity." (Pope Francis)

God of peace may your kingdom come. May fear strike no longer, let pain fade away, may earthly power be challenged, when it plunders the poor, and tramples on hope.

God of peace may your kingdom come. Help us put away the weapons of war, help us destroy the tools of destruction, let earthly power be challenged, when it plunders the poor, and tramples on hope.

God of peace may your kingdom come. Teach us to follow the ways of justice, teach us to walk the paths of truth, let integrity challenge the power that plunders, when it tramples the poor and pours scorn on our hope.

God of peace may your kingdom come. Bring peace sweet as honey, bring peace like a shield, and may we be the challenge to earthly power that plunders and tramples on hope.

God of peace may your kingdom come.

Amen.

(Linda Jones/CAFOD)

Please pray for the people of Israel and Palestine and of Russia and Ukraine

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.

Please pray for the people of Gaza, especially for Christians there. Their parish priest, Fr Romanelli, writes: *"The situation continues to be extremely grave and worsens by the hour. Our Christians have faith and hope in the Essential, in Jesus Christ. Despite everything they pray for peace every day and offer their suffering and hardships for a ceasefire and the release of the hostages."*

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of – Evelyn Ticehurst, Bert Rayson, Guy Bowden, Ann Thomas, Edward Lightburn, Tom McGahan, Terry Black, Andrew Martin, Peter Lazarus, Marjorie Burrows, Germaine Garnaud, Julian Dare and Mr Malton.

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

Daily Readings – Easter Octave

Monday – Acts 2:14, 22-33 Matt 28:8-15

Tuesday – Acts 2:36-41 John 20:11-18

Wednesday – Acts 3:1-10 Luke 24:13-35

Thursday – Acts 3:11-26 Luke 24:35-48

Friday – Acts 4:1-12 John 21:1-14

Saturday – Acts 4:13-21 Mark 16:9-15

Next Sunday's Readings: **Divine Mercy Sunday - Second Sunday of Easter (Year B)**

1st Reading – Acts 4:32-35 2nd Reading – 1 John 5:1-6

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Eight days later, Jesus came again and stood among them.

Parish Events

Dates for your Diary



Saturday, 6th April – There will be refreshments after mass in the Unity Room.

Sunday, 14th April – Parish brunch after mass in Compass House.

Sunday, 21st April – Youth Ministry Catechism groups continue.

Sunday, 7th July – Parish picnic, after mass.

Saturday, 21st September - This year the Catechists' Day will be held again at Worth Abbey & School. This year we are inviting Catechists and those involved in Children's Liturgy and all forms of adult formation. The theme will be in response to the Pastoral Plan: Call to Mission - are we Equipped for Mission? More details in the summer.

Charlie Tibble's House Group Gathering

Next Date: **Friday, 26th April.** Please contact Charlie Tibble c.tibble@stwilfrids.com

Eucharistic Ministers

Would anyone kindly volunteer to become a Eucharistic Minister for the Sunday Mass? We hope to reintroduce the chalice for the congregation soon, perhaps for Corpus Christi, and we will need more Ministers. Training will be provided. Thank you.

Offertory Procession

We hope to involve members of the congregation in the offertory procession at Sunday mass. Would you like to take part? Please let us know.

Lenten CAFOD coffee morning

Our thanks to Hal and Rory Clarke for generously hosting the Lenten CAFOD coffee mornings at Cinder Hill. Thank you also, to everyone who supported them. You raised **£360**.

2024 Easter Triduum at Worth Abbey timetable

Thursday 28th March 2024, Maundy Thursday

06:15 – 06:50	Matins
07:30 – 08:00	Lauds
13:00 – 13:10	Midday Prayer <i>(No Vespers)</i>
20:00 – 20:20	<i>Confessions</i>
20:30 – 21:30	Community Concelebrated Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by <i>Watching at the Altar of Repose</i> (in the Unity Room) until midnight.

Friday 29th March 2024, Good Friday

06:15 – 06:50	Matins
07:30 – 08:00	Lauds
13:00 – 13:10	Midday Prayer
14:30 – 14:50	<i>Confessions</i>
15:00 – 16:00	Good Friday Service of the Lord's Passion
<i>End of Service for 30 min.</i>	<i>Confessions</i>
20:15 – 20:30	Compline <i>(No Vespers)</i>

Saturday 30th March 2024, Holy Saturday

06:15 – 06:50	Matins
07:30 – 08:00	Lauds
13:00 – 13:10	Midday Prayer
18:45 – 19:15	Vespers
20:30 – 20:50	<i>Confessions</i>
21:00 – 22:30	Easter Vigil Mass of the Lord's Resurrection in the Holy Night followed by refreshments in the Narthex.

Sunday 31st March 2024, Easter Sunday *N.B. British Summer Time Starts*

08:30 – 09:00	Lauds
10:00 – 10:20	<i>Confessions</i>
10:30 – 11:30 <i>(=09:30 GMT)</i>	Parish Easter Morning Mass followed by the Worth Abbey Pilgrims event.
13:00 – 13:10	Midday Prayer
18:00 – 18:30	Pontifical Vespers

**After Mass on Easter Sunday, you are invited to special Easter refreshments.
(including delicious Italian Easter Cake).
There will also be an Easter Egg Hunt for children and plenty of chocolate for adults!**

A note on the Parish Leadership Team

Kir Horner has stepped down from the team after giving many years of loyal service, always bringing great enthusiasm and energy to all she did. Kir has helped us especially by running events and liturgies for children, and by organising and promoting the work of CAFOD in the parish. She has generously offered to remain as our parish CAFOD representative, so we can look forward to more delicious pizza evenings!

Thank you, Kir, for all you do for our parish.

Sue Kirby has generously accepted a place on the parish team and has already shown how her insights will help us to move our pastoral work forward. Our grateful thanks to you.

After Mass on Easter Sunday there will be an opportunity to meet the parishioners received this Easter and their families. There will also be festive refreshments (including Italian Easter Cake) and an Easter Egg Hunt for children. Both are being provided by Worth Abbey Pilgrims.

Parish Events Group (PEG)



"Please (Sara) - I want some more!"

Mr Bumble may not have been happy to oblige, but PEG certainly is! I am delighted to confirm that we have 40 tickets for the matinee performance of the Chichester Festival Theatre summer musical production of **Oliver!** on **Thursday 29th August**.

The list is now open for anyone interested in booking. Ticket prices have yet to be finalised but will be no more than £45. The PEG ticket covers theatre seats, door-to-door luxury coach, and of course - Food, Glorious Food (and fizz)!

The annual PEG summer theatre trip has been running for nearly 10 years and is always a sell-out. If you haven't been before, book early as our loyal PEG regulars will definitely bag a seat!

Contact: Sara Barclay-Hudson sbh0369@yahoo.com

Easter Triduum Retreat

28th – 31st March, Franciscan Centre, Ladywell GU7 1ST (Cost: £255 suggested offering).

Join the Franciscan community as they celebrate the Easter Triduum and recall and journey with Jesus in his last days.

Experience the liturgies as part of a community and take time to reflect more deeply on these profound events.

[Click Here](#) to find out more and book.

New Role at Worth Abbey

Worth Abbey is looking to recruit a Commercial and Hospitality director to help lead and enhance our successful day and residential retreat and commercial activities across the site including at St Bruno's, Compass House, Archway, Bermondsey Huts and in the church. The successful candidate will play a crucial role in operational management, strategic development, and the promotion of retreat opportunities, all while upholding the Roman Catholic character and Benedictine ethos of the Abbey.

Full details are available [here](#)

Good Friday, there will be a Second Collection for The Holy Places of Palestine.

Every year, a Franciscan mission in Jerusalem collects the donations of the global "pro Terra Sancta" collection on Good Friday, offerings used for the maintenance of holy places and for Christians living in the Holy Land.

Gift Aid Envelopes will be available for collection this weekend.

Please collect from the Narthex.

In Touch will now take a break for Easter and Will return on the weekend of 20th / 21st April



Worth Pro Earth – A Call to Action

Our discussion at the Worth Pro-Earth meeting last week was – as usual – extremely wide-ranging in its scope. As we are now officially in Spring (which always feels like the start of the ecological year) we thought it might be helpful to highlight some local issues which we feel are of particular relevance to our Parish.

Balcombe – oil exploration by Angus Energy

This issue has raised its head again with the dismissal of the appeal by the Frack Free Balcombe Residents Association against further exploration by Angus Energy. Much more on their webpage –

www.frackfreebalcombe.org.uk

Gatwick Airport

The planned expansion of the airport has been opposed by Mid Sussex District Council and there are hundreds of objections to the proposal to massively increase the number of flights. The CAGNE (Campaign against Gatwick Noise and Emissions) website will tell you all you need to know about this hotly disputed subject – www.cagne.org.

River Ouse

Although its tributaries trickle across mid Sussex, it's easy to lose perspective on the big picture with regard to this important river. Love our Ouse – www.loveourouse.org aims to raise awareness through positive action. They host many fun and interesting events. (As this has gone to print, we have unfortunately just missed River Revelry in Lewes on the 23rd March, but this is an energetic and engaged group and there will be many more opportunities so please keep an eye on the website.)

Worth Pro-Earth will continue to focus on these and other local issues, as we also strive to stay abreast of developments nationally and internationally. Do join us – just once or whenever you feel like discussing the many challenges which we, as stewards of God's creation, feel moved to address. We are a friendly and inclusive group and you will be warmly welcomed.

As they used to say on some in our busy lives it is not always easy to keep abreast of developments

The Big Plastic Count

The data collected from last week's Big Plastic Count will be invaluable in showing the UK government that the plastic waste crisis is still with us - and that the only solution is a big reduction in the amount of plastic that's being produced. Find out more in this guide. [Big Plastic Count](#)

Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS)

Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) are a statutory requirement from the Environment Act 2021. Their aim is to protect the important places for nature that are left, and identify the opportunities to restore or create it, where it can have the most benefit for wildlife and people. 48 strategies are being prepared at the county level to cover the whole of England. There will be one LNRS for West Sussex and one for East Sussex covering Brighton & Hove. Residents, community groups, land managers and organisations in Sussex will be invited to create shared priorities for nature's recovery and identify the actions that can be taken to deliver them. These collaboratively produced blueprints will show where there's a need and the appetite to recover important habitats and species to target funding, investment and action! Take the public survey

here: <https://www.sussexnaturerecovery.org.uk/>

Sussex Nature Recovery is home to the two Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) being developed to cover East Sussex, Brighton & Hove and West Sussex. LNRS are blueprints for targeted action for nature that everyone in Sussex can be part of. <https://www.sussexnaturerecovery.org.uk/about>

A Parish and Town Councils webinar was held on Monday 26th February 2024r. Around 60 Parish and Town Council members attended an hour-long webinar hosted by the Sussex Nature Recovery team. Watch back here: <https://www.sussexnaturerecovery.org.uk/news/watch-the-sussex-parish-and-town-council-webinar>

Tick Zero is Cambridge University's climate mitigation course:
16 hours of lectures condensed into six films of 9 mins.

WPE welcomes new members. We meet once a month on a Wednesday at 2 pm in St Benedict's. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 17th April. Please get in touch

Creator God, we thank you for the wondrous gifts of creation. Inspire us to take only what we need, so that your people may benefit equally from the gifts you give us all. Amen

Non-Parish Events

The Ethics of Public Health Medicine and The Common Good

6th April, 9am, St Mary's University, TW1 4SX
(Cost: £25-£115).

The UK [Catholic Medical Association](#) Annual Symposium will explore how Catholic Bioethics and Social Teaching impact on public health medicine, offering the opportunity to network with a broad range of healthcare professionals and connect with members of the association. [Click Here](#) to find out more and book.

The Promise of the Father

Cathedral Centre, Arundel (and online),
10th April – 23rd May (Free). An exciting new series of talks for people across the diocese in support of *The Word Who is Life* Pastoral Plan. The series aims to help participants to live lives empowered by the Holy Spirit, with seven talks led by renowned speakers. [Click Here](#) to find out more and register.

Praying with Icons

13th April, 11am-12.30pm, online (free). The National Board of Catholic Women ([NBCW](#)) invites you to a Zoom on praying with icons. To western eyes, icons may seem too formal and abstract to be a way into prayer - this talk by Patricia Stoa will explore the history of this special way of seeing and offer reflections on icons and their significance. [Click Here](#) to find out more and obtain the Zoom link.

Liturgy of the Word with Children Leaders' Training

Saturday 18th May, 10am-1pm at The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley.

Following on from the success of our previous Children's liturgy training we are repeating the training. Please join us for a morning exploring an exciting style of delivering the liturgy of the word for children. Lucy Hall will be demonstrating a hands on, tactile approach to wondering about the Gospel. Whether you have been working in this ministry for a long time or if you are new, come to be enthused by Lucy and to meet others who share your passion. [Click Here](#) to sign up.

Catechists and Youth Group Leaders

The Diocesan Youth Adviser is keen to provide support to anyone who works with young people in our Church communities, and to do this she wants to hear more about what your needs are.

To enable this, she has created a very quick questionnaire that will take two minutes to complete.

You can find it here [forms](#)
or E: lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk

Big Church Festival

25th – 26th May. A Christian music festival in the heart of our Diocese. Join with 30,000 people from across the UK and beyond to worship together on the Wiston estate in West Sussex. With Mass on Sunday morning being celebrated by our very own Bishop Richard.

Save up to 52% by booking with this link <https://bigchurch.group/2024/catholics-at-big-church-festival>

Diocesan Youth Council

The Diocesan Youth Adviser is creating a new Diocesan Youth Council.

The purpose of the Youth Council is to provide the Diocesan Youth Adviser with current and relevant information about young people. Members will offer insight into the joys and challenges of practicing the Catholic faith as a young person, and work with the Youth Adviser to create innovative and effective strategies to affirm and encourage other young adults from across the Diocese.

Members must be aged 18-35. Contact E: lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk for more information.

Pilgrimage to Normandy

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

Pope Francis wants the Jubilee Year in 2025 to have a particular focus on prayer.

With the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW) offering a five-week course designed to help us deepen our understanding of the Lord's Prayer called [We Dare to Say](#)

Speaking about the Lord's Prayer, Fr Jan Nowotnik, Director of Mission CBCEW said:

"There is a line in the Our Father that is a prayer of petition, 'Give us this day our daily bread.' When I pray that line, I'm saying, 'Give me today, Lord, just what I need – just for this day.' In the midst of some of the trials and tribulations of life, but also the joys, it's about realising that I put my hope in the Lord who gives me everything that I need – the Lord whose kingdom is in heaven.

"Give us this day our daily bread.' Why? So that we can joyfully trust and hope in Him, but also so that we can forgive each other, so that we can put right some of those wrongs. Which takes us back to the major theme of a Jubilee year taken from the book of Leviticus – allowing the land to grow fallow, allowing that time of tranquilly and peace, so that we can rid each other of the debts that often occur when we don't forgive each other, when we're not kind and supportive to each other. To do that, you have to hope in the promises of the Lord – 'Give us this day our daily bread'."

You can subscribe to the 'We Dare to Say' podcast via Apple Podcasts, Amazon/Audible or Spotify

NEW LIFE
In the City

18-35 young adults

JOIN US FOR A LAY MONASTIC EXPERIENCE

This April, we'll be leading a retreat in Kemptown, Brighton, along with the Worth Abbey monks who are there on the "Monks In The City" mission.

You'll get the chance to live out the Benedictine charism of prayer and work. There will also be inputs from the monks, and plenty of social time too!

We'll be staying at an Air BnB in Kemptown. Activities will include Saturday sanctuary with the monks.

To book, please go to the eventbrite link in the description!

Dates: Friday 26th - Sunday 28th April
Cost: £120 (with meals and accommodation provided)
Subsidies and day tickets available

Info and booking link at: www.lcsb.uk/brighton
Or email: lcsbdigitalevangelist@gmail.com

The webpage is <https://www.lcsb.uk/brighton> in order to find out more.
Or if the person has any questions they can email Jerome Beards, our Discipleship Coordinator, who is running the weekend at lcsbdigitalevangelist@gmail.com

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 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 2.30pm-3.30pm in the main Church.

Rosary Group – Mondays in the Abbey Church after Vespers – 7:10pm until 8:00pm. Please contact Rachel
Davies: 07801 696354.

Lectio Divina – Tuesday evenings at 8pm via Zoom. Please contact Jenny Chapman
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

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 the Parish Office.

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