

In Touch

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
27th /28th September 2025
No. 1440



Dear Parishioners,

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

On Saturday of this week we celebrate the feast of St Vincent de Paul. He was born in 1581 in a village near Dax, in south west France, in a poor family of peasant farmers. Today he is known and loved as the saint who most especially dedicated himself to the service of the poor, and is the inspiration of the Society of St Vincent de Paul, started in 1833, and which is active in many countries around the world. (Your contributions to the food bank through the bins by the church doors are given to the Crawley SVP, among others, and are needed today more than ever.) He started his life working in the fields, but at the age of fourteen he began to study for the priesthood, completing his studies with brilliant success in Toulouse. He was ordained at the age of nineteen. Some events suggest that initially he used the priesthood as a means of escaping poverty; but, a few years after ordination, he was captured by pirates and sold into slavery, which perhaps was a moment of conversion for him. He escaped from slavery in Tunisia, crossing the Mediterranean in a rowing boat. He then began working with the poor in various locations in France, and founded several organisations for lay people to join him in his work. They worked in hospitals, with foundlings and orphans, in prisons, with the old and those injured in war. He died in 1660, having “changed the face of the Church”, as was declared in his funeral oration. He was named by Pope Leo XIII the universal patron of all works of mercy. May he pray for us that we may be inspired to follow his example.

You might like to use the Jubilee prayer of P Francis, remembering St Vincent :

Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

I send all of you my prayers and my very best wishes, **Fr Paul**

MASS TIMES at Worth Abbey:

Sundays- 9.30am (family Mass, with choir)

Mondays to Fridays- 5.30 pm

Saturdays: 5pm (First Mass of Sunday),

Feast Days 5.30pm Days of Obligation, *see website*

We will be having a second collection next weekend,

4/5 October for CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day on 3 October.

Inside this week's **In Touch**...

- ✓ **New!** *Holy Angels and Saints*, page 2
- ✓ Worth Parish Community Billboard, pages 3 - 5
- ✓ Parish Activities and Announcements, pages 5 to 6
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MASS READINGS: (28 September – 5 October)

Sunday, 28 September - 1st Reading – Amos 6:1a,4-7 2nd Reading - 1 Timothy 6:11-16 Gospel – Luke 16:19-31

Mon – Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; John 1:47-51

Thu – Nehemiah 8:1-4a,4-6,7b-12; Luke 10:1-12

Tue – Zechariah 8:20-23; Luke 9:51-56

Fri – Baruch 1:15-22; Luke 10:13-16

Wed – Ezra 9:5-9; Luke 9:1-6

Sat – Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29; Luke 10:17-24

Sunday, 5 October: 1st Reading – Habakkuk 1:2-3,2:2-4; 2nd Reading – 2 Timothy 1:6-8,13-14 Gospel – Luke 17:5-10

Prayers

Please pray for the sick of our parish: Catherine Elia, Patrick Cambridge, Barry Wingrove, Elfriede Huckstep, Severina D'Souza, Rowena Leaney, Beryl McNulty, Lin Eade, Jelly Labto, Sheila Charman, Hal Clarke, Gillian Maher, Krysia Smith, Pamela Bagwell, Terry and Susan Scoble, Sue Pearson, John and Sue Rutherford, Demelza Waring, Liz Hicklin, Jill Carter, Laura Rawlinson, Fr. Kevin Taggart. And, also please pray for the healing of our Diocese Youth Adviser Lizzie Wakeling.

Please continue praying for the soul of *Pope Francis*, and the souls of Nellie Tester, Terence Crannigan, Dom Joseph Marshall, Archbishop Peter Amigo, Dom Richard Davey, Kathleen Wheatley, James Hearnerty, Peter Constable, Fred Billings, Iris Higgins, Anne Albert, Jo Dobson, Denis McCrory, Elvira Castro, Fr. Robert (founder of Crawley Down Monastery), David Whiting and Deire Powlett, whose anniversaries are this week. ***Eternal rest grant unto them, oh Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.***

Holy Angels and Saints, pray for us. As summer turns to autumn and we move closer to All Saints' Day, we remember some beloved saints and angels whose feast days are celebrated in the next few days: 27 Sept. - St. Vincent de Paul, 29 Sept. - St. Michael the Archangel, 1 Oct. – St Therese the Little Flower, 2 Oct. Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels.



A Call to Prayer and Public Witness for Peace in the Holy Land

We are witnessing the devastating escalation of violence in Gaza and the West Bank with Israel's latest decision to mount a new offensive in Gaza City threatening hundreds of thousands with further forced displacement. The cries of Palestinian church leaders for peace and solidarity have echoed across the global Church, urging us to respond with clarity, compassion, and conviction.

We continue to call on you to pray for peace, coinciding with our world leaders gathering in New York for the UN General Assembly's annual high level session, where among many crises, they will be discussing the genocide in Gaza. Let us pray for peace in Gaza, Israel and Palestine.

Your prayers might focus on one or more of the issues below:

- An immediate ceasefire in Gaza
- Unfettered access to humanitarian relief.
- An end to violence in Israel and Palestine.
- The release of Israeli hostages and Palestinian detainees.
- A meaningful peace process

We ask that in your own time, you would please take a moment to pray for peace in the Holy Land and the whole world.

A Prayer for the Holy Land

*Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven
to be the true bread which gives life to the world:*

*In your mercy, provide for all those in Gaza and beyond, who suffer from hunger and starvation,
that they may be given both physical bread to nourish their bodies and heavenly bread to sustain their souls.*

*By the power of your Spirit, bring a speedy end to this cruel war,
the release of all captives, care for the sick and wounded, comfort for those who have lost loved-ones,
and the opening of a pathway for a just and lasting peace here in the very homeland
where your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ministered during his earthly life;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.*

- The Most Reverend Dr. Hosam E. Naoum, Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem, August 2025

Worth Parish Community Billboard

Tapestry of Faith: 60 Years, 60 Faces, One Parish Community

Marking Worth's 60 years, we're featuring members whose stories are threads in the rich tapestry of our shared journey. We hope you've been enjoying getting to know some of your fellow parishioners.

We are doing an **open call to parishioners who would be happy to also put themselves forward and share their story**. You might not know it yet, but your journey of faith will inspire your fellow parishioners, and give glory to God. Please get in touch with us via worthabbeyparish@gmail.com and we'll send you the list of questions to help us write your testimony.

This week, all three of our parishioners have written their personal testimonies! Well-done for offering to write your stories! Please do say a warm "hello" to these lovely fellow parishioners when you see them this Sunday!



#36 Sue Rutherford

I was born in 1955 to a devout, Catholic couple living in a village about six miles from Dublin. I was educated at the local convent school and later on, University College Dublin.

I met and married John, a Scots Presbyterian, in 1975 and moved to Edinburgh with a tiny baby in 1977. In 1980 we moved to Copthorne with two small children. I then attended Mass at the Copthorne Convent chapel.

Following John's redundancy in 1983, we started a company from our spare bedroom, writing software for payroll systems.

In 1990, our son joined the Junior House at Worth School and that was when I started attending Mass regularly at Worth Abbey.

In 2006 when we sold our company, I went to Fr James and told him I now had a lot more free time and how could I get more involved with the parish. He asked me to become editor of In Touch which I did for six years. I was also commissioned as a Eucharistic Minister, taking Holy Communion to the sick. At this time, I also became a regular helper at the Turners Hill Day Centre which was based in Compass House. John and I also became regular helpers at the A & B Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes - which was Faith

enhancing.

In 2024, John and I were involved in a nasty road accident when a van mounted the pavement and knocked us both down. We spent a long time in hospital in Brighton. Fr Aidan was a regular visitor and a great source of strength and when I was moved to Crawley Hospital for rehab, Fr Paul was a regular visitor and a great comfort. My faith was definitely an enormous help at this difficult time.

A prayer, saint, or bible verse that inspires you? <i>'Be still and know that I am God.'</i>	What activities do you enjoy? Bridge, Theatre and looking after my Wire Fox Terrier puppy Polly who is almost 3 months old and is a full-time job!	What plate of food brings the best memories? My mother's apple sponge & ice cream
A cherished memory of being part of this parish? The baptism of my eldest grandchild, Miriam, by Fr. Stephen Ortiger in July 2008.	What are your hopes and prayers for the future of our parish? I hope that the parish will be thriving in 50 years time.	



#37 CATHERINE ELIA

I was born in a good Irish Catholic family, fifth of six siblings. I received most of my education at a private school run by Dominican nuns. When I finished school, my main interest was to see the world and to learn languages. I started with French in Paris, followed by Italian in Florence, then German in Munich and Salzburg. Soon I found employment in various industries in England, then in Switzerland, Canada, USA, China where I was representing a German steel company.

Everywhere I went I always made sure that I could find a Catholic Church nearby. While in San Francisco I used to visit church almost every day before going to work. During Lent I wanted to do something special and somebody suggested that I attended a Charismatic prayer group. That was the beginning of an everlasting adventure, a totally new life with the Holy Spirit. Jesus became so real to me, my close friend and confidant.

After some time spent in Hong Kong I decided to go back to London and settle there. The first thing I did was to look for a Catholic Charismatic prayer group, where I met Giancarlo. I was in the process of buying a flat and somebody directed me to him who had just bought one and settled in the same area.

To my surprise a week later he asked me to marry him and I said yes. That Sunday we were at Mass together and the Gospel reading was Luke 10, when Jesus sent the disciples two by two. We looked at each other and we knew that it was for us.

One fundamental way I live my faith is to share the gospel at all opportunities. God gave me the grace to be able to speak to strangers, to pray for them, often for healing with remarkable results.

We had a large dog of an unusual breed and that was the attraction for many when I took him for walks. It was my opportunity to share the gospel while they were petting my dog.

Eventually Giancarlo resigned from his partnership and we started an itinerant ministry that took us to many different countries, even to places never visited by foreigners. We also ministered at various events all around Europe and North America, but the best part was to be with the poor, the neglected, the prisoners. Wherever we went we always shared the daily lives of the people we ministered to, staying in their houses, mud huts with straw roofs, shacks on stilts, often sleeping on the floor, washing in the river, travelling in the jungle on the back of motorbikes.

The adventure lasted 26 years but then I was hospitalised, first in Siberia with pneumonia and then in Sweden with an elusive autoimmune disease, and we stopped travelling.

I trust God for my complete healing. I believe in divine healing because I have seen miracles of all kinds. Now is the time for me to receive my own miracle. Wait for the news!

Although Giancarlo and I ministers to a great varieties of churches across the denominations, I never left the Catholic Church, that I always loved and cherished.

My first contact with Worth Abbey was three years ago, when Fr Rod, whom I never met before, came specifically to see me in hospital and prayed for me, powerfully and beautifully. After years of continuous misdiagnosis that same day finally the doctors found that I had bone tuberculosis. Eventually, in April this year we started attending Mass at Worth, where we feel welcome and loved.

At the moment my lack of mobility limits my availability for service. However, I do hope that soon I will be able to pray personally for the healing of the sick, to comfort the bereaved, the downcast, the lonely and doubtful.

<p>A prayer, saint, or bible verse that inspires you? Psalm 23 always gives me the reassurance that not only I am loved and cared for, but that the Lord will never let me go and will always be at my side wherever I will be.</p>	<p>What activities do you enjoy? I cannot do much at the moment but I can read, listen to classic music, talk to friends and family.</p>	<p>What plate of food brings the best memories? The Lord gave me a missionary stomach and often I had no idea what I was eating in some part of East Africa, or in Borneo, or in Nepal or wherever. I remember once in Uganda we stayed with very poor people, who practically had nothing but whose generosity was overwhelming. They prepared matoke and beans and watched me eating it. The best meal I have ever had</p>
<p>A cherished memory of being part of this parish? I am too new to the parish to be able to share a memory. However, I feel I have already received so much and I am grateful to everyone.</p>		<p>What are your hopes and prayers for the future of our parish? I do pray that the parish will continue to attract many newcomers, especially young people, and that we will see a huge growth in the spiritual life of everyone.</p>



#38 GIANCARLO ELIA

I was blessed by wonderful, loving parents and an older sister, but there was not too much spiritual life in my family, respect for religion yes, but very sporadic practice. As most Italians of my generation I received a secular education, but culturally I was inevitably immersed in a Catholic environment.

After university and two years in the Italian Navy, I faced the real world and whatever veneer of religion was left simply disappeared. I was unattached, with high earnings, travelling internationally, but my private life was not particularly honourable. I worked as in-house legal counsel for two multinationals, in Rome, New York and Milan and then I joined a large law firm in Rome. In 1977 the firm decided to open an office in London. Being the only single and youngest partner I was sent to London, with the idea of staying two, maximum three years. God had different plans.

One after the other, I came across various committed Christians. I did not understand them but I was curious. One Sunday morning my next door neighbour told me that I needed a church. Since I was Italian he assumed that I was Catholic and he took me to Mass, but I could not connect, everything was unfamiliar. A new friend invited me to her non-denominational group and that was even less familiar, but for the first time in my life I heard that God loved me. That really shook me. I tried different ways to connect to that mysterious God of love, but to no avail.

Eventually I was told that I had to repent but I had no idea how. I was told that Psalm 51 could help me. I bought a Bible. I never had one, but from the moment I opened that book I could not put it down. For a month I just read it for hours and hours and I discovered that the only way to reconnect with God was through Jesus—God who made Himself a man like me to die for my salvation. I simply said “*Jesus take my life, I do not know what to do with it*”.

There was no trumpet from Heaven, no singing angels, but everything started changing dramatically. I suddenly sensed an urge to go to church and I went to the only one I knew, the one where my neighbour took me. I saw a poster advertising a Catholic Charismatic prayer group and I went. It was the strangest group I ever saw but they were kind and loving. The parish priest and a few elderly ladies laid their hands on me and I had a sensation of fire going through my body, I started bubbling in an unknown language and I had an open eye vision. The God of love I was searching for suddenly became real to me. I continued to attend that group and step by step I learned what Christianity is all about, who Jesus is, how the Holy Spirit could transform me.

One evening a young blond girl joined the group and butterflies entered my stomach. The following week I saw her

again, I asked her to marry me and she said yes. We married after two and a half months. We will celebrate our 45th wedding anniversary in October. Catherine, who had been a good Catholic all her life and was a much more mature Christian than I, gave me the happiness and security that I had long lost. Together we got involved in all sorts of Christian and charitable works, while I continued to practise law, quite successfully.

Eventually I sensed that God wanted me to leave everything, to make an empty space so that He could fill it. I resisted that call for a while but ultimately it became too strong. Catherine and I left everything without any idea of what to do next. Out of nowhere we started to receive invitations to minister in various parts of the world. We started from the United States, then Sweden, then Germany. The very first real missionary assignment was in Uganda and then Tanzania. We never planned anything, simply invitations kept coming from different ministries, churches, groups. For more than 26 years we travelled non stop to more than 40 different countries, preaching, teaching, planting churches, often in very remote areas like Siberia, Nepal, Borneo, preaching the gospel to Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists. That was an extraordinary journey of faith and at each step the Lord taught me something new.

I understood the power of redemption while ministering in a prison in Argentina. I felt the life-giving love of God while hugging a desperate woman on the brink of suicide. I experienced that compassion is the vehicle used by God to perform miracles, when I saw the sudden healing of incurable diseases. I witnessed the power of the gospel, shared in its absolute simplicity and immediacy, while preaching to Muslims in Pakistan. Being often on a platform inevitably attracted opposition, jealousy and envy. That was painful, but the Lord used it to teach me that it is impossible to humiliate a humble man. While ministering to underground churches in Vietnam, I learned that under persecution all we need can be reduced to three words "Jesus is Lord". Ministering to churches of various denominations gave me hope for unity among Christians, based on acceptance rather than uniformity.

Above all, Catherine and I were favoured by God because He allowed us to meet extraordinary Christians, unknown on earth but well known in Heaven, doing amazing works for His Kingdom in the most remote and forgotten parts of the world. That extraordinary adventure came to an halt ten years ago when Catherine fell seriously ill. I am now her 24 hour carer. God has not finished with me and He has been using the hardship of these last years to reshape my heart and draw me closer to Him, for which I am immensely grateful.

<p>A prayer, saint, or bible verse that inspires you? Saint Homobonus was a competent, honest merchant of Cremona, Italy. He was known for his generosity towards the poor, integrity and piety. His wife was likewise. On the 12th of November 1197 at Mass he stretched out his arms, fell on his face and died. Fourteen months later he was canonised by pope Innocent III, thus proving that we can attain sainthood by living quite ordinary lives in an extraordinary way.</p>	<p>What activities do you enjoy? I love studying the Bible daily and when I have time I love reading books of spirituality, both Christian and Jewish, and of philosophy. I used to write monthly inspirational newsletters, articles for Christian magazines and even inspirational short pieces for parish bulletins. I do not have much time for that now, but I hope I will be able to resume writing, I love it. During our holidays Catherine and I used to do mountaineering and sailing, but those activities are now long gone.</p>	<p>What plate of food brings the best memories? Applestrudle. My mother used to make it for my birthday and my sister welcomed me with applestrudle whenever I visited her. I have not had a good one for a long time. Can anyone bless me in that regard?</p>
<p>A cherished memory of being part of this parish? We started attending Mass at Worth only four months ago. Since day one we felt welcomed and sincerely loved, but still we have a long way to go to integrate into parish life.</p>	<p>What are your hopes and prayers for the future of our parish? I hope and pray that the parish will continue to grow and to inspire everyone to fall madly in love with Jesus.</p>	

Parish Activities & Announcements

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES...

27 September, Sat. – Mass for Altar Servers (12 noon, Arundel Cathedral)

4 October, Sat. - Celebrating the Vision: 50 Years of Francis Pollen's Worth Abbey Church, 10:30am at the Abbey Church

11 October, Sat. - Marriage Anniversaries Mass (11:30am, Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge KT13 8JD)

1 November, Sat. – Day of Reflection for Ministers of The Eucharist (11am-4pm, Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge)

AND OUR REGULAR ACTIVITIES...

Sacrament of Reconciliation – Sundays 08.45–09.15am in the church, or by appointment with Fr. Paul.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament – Wednesdays 2:30-3:30pm; Sundays 6.30pm after vespers, and every first Sunday of the month, 10:30am right after Mass, starting 5 October.

Rosary Group – Mondays 7:10-8pm in the church after vespers. Please contact Rachel Davies: 07801 696354.

Lectio Divina – Tuesdays at 8pm via Zoom. Please contact Jenny Chapman jenny_chapman@sky.com. All are welcome!

Christian Meditation - Unity Room, 7-8pm, 4th Wednesday of the month: 24 September, 22 October, 26 November

Vigil for Vocations – Every first Friday of the month at 8.30-9pm, after compline.

Bible Study Group – Mondays, 11am at St Benedict's (Parish Office). Please contact the Parish Office.

Family Faith Formation – Monthly, every 3rd Sunday. **New parishioners, all families welcome!**



Worth Abbey Parish

Catholic Church · Not yet rated (1 review) · 9.4 km · Paddockhurst Road, Turners Hill, Crawley · 222 followers

Worth Abbey Parish is a warm and vibrant Catholic Church community. We pray together in solemn liturgies with the Benedictine monastic community of Worth Abbey in West Sussex...

10+ posts in the last two weeks

Following

Our parish Facebook page is back! See:

<https://www.facebook.com/theworthabbeyparish/>

We invite you to start "following" our page. You'll find updates and information relevant to our parish community, along with content to nourish your broader faith life and inspire you during the week. Because our parish is geographically dispersed in ways many others are not, we know how important it is to be creative in finding ways to stay connected. The Facebook page is

simply another way for us to keep in touch and grow together in faith. We look forward to connecting with you there!



We are All Called to Serve. Yes we are!

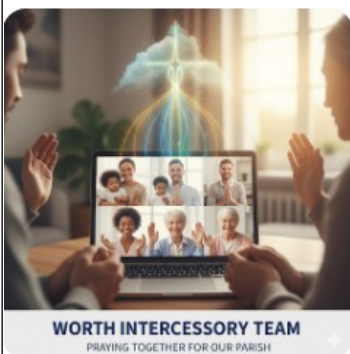
As our Parish evolves on our 60th year, we're calling for a renewal of active participation to keep the momentum. *"The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few."* (Matthew 9:37) Please say "yes!" to the call to serve God.

Our parish thrives when each parishioner shares their gifts. Whether it is proclaiming the Word, welcoming people, singing in the choir, helping with the altar, working with our children and young people, or supporting our hospitality — we have a place for you. The bible reminds us: *"Do not neglect your gift, which was given you."* (1 Timothy 4:14)

Ministry is not just about "helping out." It is **discipleship in action** — a way to live out our baptismal calling and to bring Christ's love into the heart of our parish. Here are ministries you can get involved with:

1. **Liturgy and Sacraments:** **Altar servers** (children and adults), **readers of the Word**, writers who draft the Universal Prayers, **Eucharistic Ministers**, **Abbey Choir**, **Junior Church**, **flower arrangements** group, and the **Welcome Ministry**.
2. **Family Faith Formation:** **Mustard Seed** (3-5), **All Saints** (6-8), **Faith Alive** (9-12), **Inspired** (13-15), **parents' group**. Volunteers help facilitate activities every 3rd Sunday, with the aim of helping our young families grow in faith.
3. **Hospitality and Parish Socials:** **Hosting House Group/s**, **Sunday Refreshments Team**, **Fair Trade stall**, monthly **Parish Brunch Social** team (2nd Sundays of the month, after Mass), and monthly **Parish Wine and Cheese Social** team.
4. **Prayers and Adoration:** **Bible Study Group** (Mondays), **Rosary Group** (Mondays), **Lectio Divina** (Tuesdays), **Eucharistic Adoration** (Wednesdays, Sundays), **Vigil for Vocations** (first Fridays), the new **Worth Intercessory Team**.
5. **Community and Communications:** writers and contributors for our **In Touch newsletter**, online parish interface (website and socials), the **Worth Pro-Earth**, **RCIA** and **Alpha courses**, **food bank** and **giving to charities**.

We invite you to prayerfully consider where—not whether or not—God may be calling you to serve. Let your answer be: *"Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will."* (Psalm 40:8–9). Please speak with Fr. Paul, the parish office, or email worthabbeyparish@gmail.com and we will point you to the leader of that particular ministry.



NEW Worth Intercessory Team (WIT): This October, we hope to be starting a new group of prayer warriors. We'll meet online via Microsoft Teams at 8pm on the first Wednesday of the month (45 min - 1hr), creating a welcoming space to pray together.

We hope to structure each Intercession Session with: (1) Praying the News: for world events and the people affected, (2) Praying for the Church: for the Pope and our wider faith family, (3) Prayers for the Parish: for the sick, the dead, and our parish prayers. This is a chance to grow in prayer, deepen parish connection, and make a difference—without leaving your home.

If you'd like to join please email worthabbeyparish@gmail.com. Come join us. We look forward to praying with you!

"For where two or more are gathered in my name, there I am in their midst." – Mt 18:20

Social Action Activities for Parishioners

Help CAFOD help those in dire need.

Please click on this link to watch CAFOD's message to parishes: <https://vimeo.com/1115554004/>.

Together, let us pray for the work of CAFOD in supporting our neighbours who are experiencing poverty and injustice. May the grace of God inspire us all to come together to build a better world. Let us also pray for all parts of the world suffering from conflict and violence, remembering especially the people of Gaza, Sudan and Ukraine. May God turn hearts towards peace and guide world leaders to work for justice and reconciliation.

Here is a message from CAFOD on its upcoming Harvest Fast Day: *Every Family Fast Day, we highlight a story that illustrates the depth of our long-term work. This Harvest we talk about Waré, a young mother in Borana, southern Ethiopia, who walked over six hours daily to fetch water for her family as droughts became more severe through climate change. Funds raised at Fast Day enabled the building of water tanks that collect precious water closer to home; bringing relief and opportunities for earning a living. Waré and her community's resilience, the expertise of our local partner and the donations from your parish all combine to be signs of hope in this Jubilee Year.*

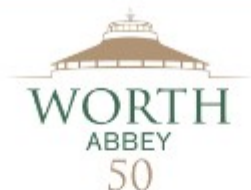
In the Holy Land, our partner Caritas Jerusalem runs medical points across Gaza. Working conditions are near unimaginable - with clinics moving constantly so that care can be provided safely. Other local partners provide food, shelter and emergency cash for displaced families despite the real and growing challenges to find adequate food and places of safety.

In Sudan, our Church partners are helping community kitchen teams where displaced people are organising themselves to share what little they have, so that no one goes without.

In Ukraine, the rise in attacks is of deep concern but our partners, Caritas and DePaul Ukraine continue to distribute food, water, fuel, hot meals, medical support and hygiene kits to women, children, older people and those with special needs.

You may have seen the news of the recent earthquake in **Afghanistan**. Our local partners are one of the few organisations based where the earthquake hit. They have been able to respond quickly. We have released £50,000 to partners to provide food, shelter and other vital supplies. This is only possible because of donations through Fast Days collections, enabled by your parish's support.

Other Announcements & Activities



Celebrating the Vision:
**50 YEARS OF FRANCIS POLLEN'S
 WORTH ABBEY CHURCH**
 Saturday, 4th October, 10.30am, Abbey Church

In the Abbey Church's 50th anniversary year, we invite you to join us for a special presentation by architect Fred Manson (Associate Director, Heatherwick Studio) in conversation with Abbot Christopher Jamison, Abbot President of the English Benedictine Congregation, who will help us explore the innovative design and historical significance of this remarkable building. Come and share in an enjoyable and engaging conversation about the Abbey Church's past and future.

The morning will start with coffee and a warm welcome at 10:30am, followed by a presentation and further engagement at 11:00am. The talk will end in time for a light lunch and an opportunity to join the Community for Midday Prayer.

Please visit the news section of our website to register your interest.
 For more details please visit: worthabbey.net/latest-news
 or scan the QR code.



Our Parish is committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable groups within its community. Safe-guarding reps are Charles and Ann McCarthy. Report safeguarding concerns to the Diocese 01293 651148 or via Email: sg1.worth@abdiocese.org.uk

At **In Touch**, we'd love to hear from you—what you've enjoyed reading, what you'd like to see more (or even less!) of, and any ideas for improvement. In Touch is our parish community newsletter, and our hope is that it offers both inspiration and a useful service. Just as importantly, we'd love your help. Could you share your time and talents—perhaps by writing an article, helping with announcements, or lending a hand behind the scenes? Every contribution is warmly welcomed!

Please do get in touch!
worthabbeyparish@gmail.com

Parish Priest: Fr. Paul Fleetwood (Mobile: 07764 260216 or 01342 710351)

Parish Office: Maria Stribbling - 01342 710313

Parish Office Email: parish@worth.org.uk

Parish Website: www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk

Nighttime emergencies only: 01342 710331

Cheques to be made payable to Worth Abbey Parish **Online banking payments** -Account 61076892 Sort Code 40-05-20

Safe Spaces: 0300 303 1056 **Web:** www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk/ **Email:** safespaces@victimsupport.org.uk

If you're unable to go to Mass and would like to receive Communion at home, or if you have prayer intentions, pls contact Fr Paul