



In Touch

3rd Week of Easter (A)
18th April / 19th April 2026
No. 1466

Praying for the Protection of Life - Sunday 19th April

On Sunday, 19th April the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales will hold a Holy Hour to pray for the promotion of a culture of life in our lands.

The Bishops Conference are asking the parishes and Catholic communities of our two nations to unite and hold a Holy Hour on the same day as the Bishops.

This is to present a unified, prayerful front to offer this petition to Our Lord for the dignity of life from conception to natural end and to pray that assisted suicide will not become law.

In a Lenten statement, the Archbishop of Liverpool, the Most Reverend John Sherrington, reaffirmed the Church's principled objection to the Terminally Ill (Adults) End of Life Bill, and urged Catholics to pray for parliamentarians debating the Private Members' Bill in the House of Lords. Archbishop Sherrington, the Lead Bishop for Life Issues for the Bishops' Conference, asked for a special prayerful focus on those who are suffering near the end of their lives and those who care for them.

Reflection: Embrace and uphold a culture of life 'We offer our prayers for the dignity of human life. In particular, our focus is on the end of life and praying together in front of the Blessed Sacrament that assisted suicide will not become law in our lands. This would greatly diminish the importance and innate value of every human person, akin to saying that our life is not a gift of God. Instead, we would be asserting that life is our own possession to do with as we choose. But we are far more important than that. We are a gift of God - a gift that is freely given. Then, when God is ready, we are called back to Him. We pray that many minds and hearts will be open to this beautiful and great truth about the value, importance, and beauty of every human person'. Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

In response to this request from our Bishops, parishioners are warmly invited to join members of the monastic community for a time of silent Adoration between 6.30pm and 7pm this Sunday 19th April.

You would also be most welcome to come to Evening Prayer starting at 6pm.

With every blessing

Fr Rod

Mass Times at Worth Abbey:

Sundays - 9.30am (Family Mass, with choir)

Mondays to Fridays - 5.30 pm

Saturdays - 9am & 5pm (First Mass of Sunday), Feast Days 5.30pm

Days of Obligation - *see website*

Second Collection - NEXT WEEK (25th/26th) - World Day of Prayer for Vocations – The Education of Future Priests

Inside this week's In Touch...

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✓ **New!** Holy Week at Worth Abbey Photo Essay, pages 2-6

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Mass Readings: (19 April – 26 April)

Sun 19 April: 1st Reading - Acts 2:14, 22-33 2nd Reading - 1 Peter 1:17-21 Gospel - Luke 24:13-35
Mon – Acts 6:8-15; John 6:22-29 **Thu** – Acts 8:26-40; John 6:44-51
Tue – Acts 7:51-8:1a; John 6:30-35 **Fri** – Acts 9:1-20; John 6:52-59
Wed – Acts 8:1b-8; John 6:35-40 **Sat** – 1 Peter 5:5b-14; Mark 16:15-20
Sunday 26 April: 1st Reading - Acts 2:14a,36-41 2nd Reading – 1 Peter 2:20b-25 Gospel - John 10:1-10

Prayers

Seven Baptisms!

Congratulations to the babies and children baptised during last Sunday's Mass! Please do remember them, together with their parents and godparents, in your prayers. Many thanks to our Catechists, Paul and Jackie Mallinder for preparing the parents for the baptism of their children.

Please pray for the sick of our parish: Michael Wall, Krysia Smith, John Maher, Elfriede Huckstep, John Mulhall, Sandra Flexman, Margaret Ogden, Anne Wise, Mandy Horton, Patricia Horsman, Stella Higham, Jim Tierney, Krysia Smith, Catherine Elia, Patrick Cambridge, Barry Wingrove, Rowena Leaney, Beryl McNulty, Lin Eade, Jelly Labto, Sheila Charman, Gillian Maher, Pamela Bagwell, Terry and Susan Scoble, Sue Pearson, John and Sue Rutherford, Demelza Waring, Liz Hicklin, Mike and Jill Carter and Laura Rawlinson. And please pray for the healing of our Diocese Youth Adviser Lizzie Wakeling.

Please continue praying for the souls of Pope Francis; and for Fr. Kevin Taggart and parishioners Gerry Loney, Rory Clarke, Tony Hicklin and Peter Annabring, who died recently. Please pray for the souls of Paula Bateman, Michael Grech, Marisol Burrige, Helene Stoppani, Fr Alban Brooks, Peta Orr, Salvo Xerri, Mildred Young, Fr Anthony Porterfield, Abbot Dominic Gaisford, Elizabeth de Saventham, Nicholas Burrige, John Willson, Dom Kevin Seasoltz, Sheila Wheeler, Edward Lighburn, Maureen Royds-Jones, Jim Rochford, Eric Corke, Don Cooper and John Nott whose anniversaries fell over the Easter period. **Eternal rest grant unto them, oh Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.**

Worth Parish Community Billboard



WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!

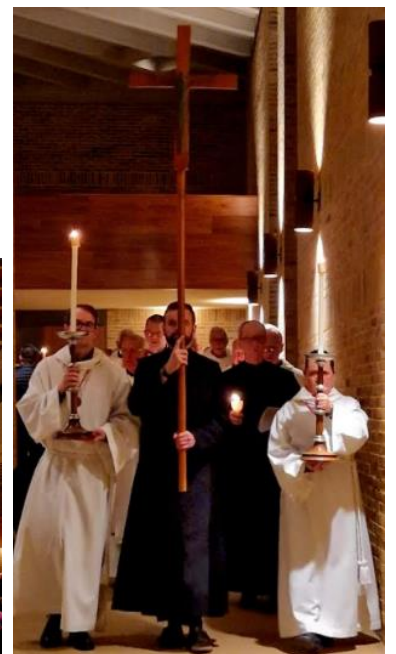
Do you have a spare 5 minutes? We would love to get some feedback on whether you have interacted with Worth Pro Earth. Please follow the link below and tell us your thoughts!

[Worth Pro Earth feedback form – Fill in form](#)

Holy Week 2026 Photo Essay

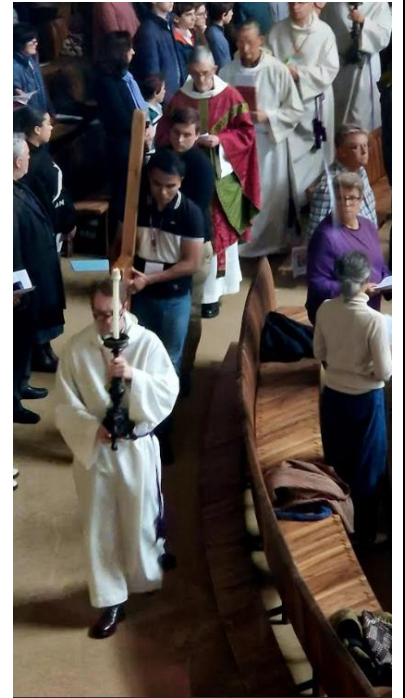
Please see below a selection of pictures from the beautiful Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter masses celebrated at Worth Abbey 2026 (photos courtesy of Hazel GF and Lisa L)

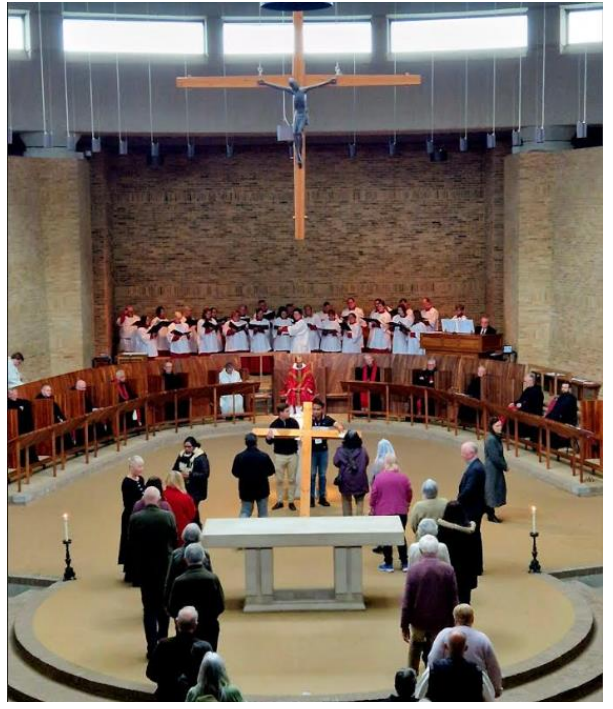
Maundy Thursday (2nd April)





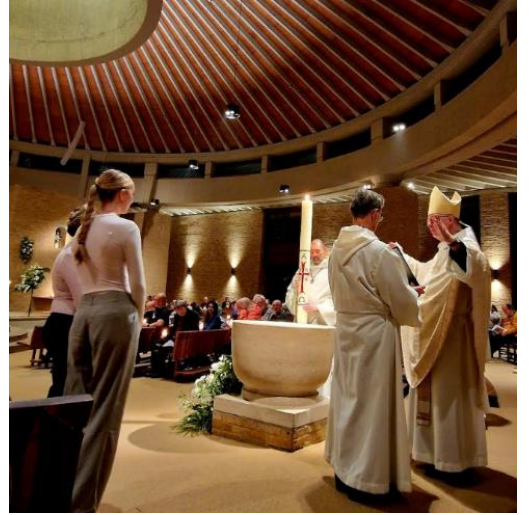
Good Friday (3rd April)





Easter Vigil (4th April)





Easter Sunday (5th April)





Parish Activities and Announcements

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES...

Saturday 9th May - Join Worth Pro Earth on a walk around Worth Estate at 10:30am

AND OUR REGULAR ACTIVITIES...

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

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)–11am

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 welcome!

Christian Meditation - Unity Room, 7-8pm, 4th Wednesday of the month

Healing Service - 4th Sunday of the month 10.45am to 11.15am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

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 - Summary of collection for March 2026

Offertory General	Standing Orders
£1550.00	£6969.00

LOST AND FOUND – Has anyone lost their phone? It was found a couple of weeks ago in the Parish Office Sitting Room. Please contact Parish Office for further information.

Car Parking on Sunday mornings:

Please do keep the parking spaces adjacent the church piazza, for less mobile parishioners. Could we also keep the parking area directly outside of Compass House free for residents and groups using the building. Many thanks.

Curious about the Catholic Church? Would you like to find out more about it!

We are inviting anyone who would like to hear more about the Catholic Church or is interested in becoming a Catholic, to join a small informal group exploring questions concerning faith: what it actually is, the implications for how we understand our lives and how it can change us! The group would meet on a weekday evening between 7.30pm and 9pm



If you know anyone who might be interested in joining the group, please do invite them!

Please speak with Fr Rod or Fr Paul or simply contact the parish office directly if you would like more information.

Family Formation Groups

We are currently looking for volunteers to support our family formation groups. These take place after mass (11am) for one hour on the third Sunday of the month. In total the commitment is ten Sundays each year.

You do not need any previous experience as you will be given resources and guidance from those already supporting groups. You are just asked to bring your interest and enthusiasm as our children develop their understanding and love of their faith.

We have four age groups 3-5, 6-8, 8-11 and 12-16, with between about 6 and 12 children in each group.

Please consider volunteering for this very important ministry. If you are able to participate, please contact Fr Rod or Fr Paul.

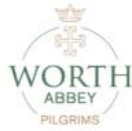


Worth Intercessory Team (WIT):

Soon, we hope to start 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. Would you like to join? Please sign up and we'll get this prayer group started.

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



COME AND SING AT WORTH ABBEY

Saturday 18th April 2026

Take part in an afternoon of beauty and joy as Worth Abbey Choir prepares and performs Louis Vierne's Messe solennelle, op. 16

Rehearsal (singers)	11am-12:40pm
Lunch break (singers)	12:40-1:30pm
Rehearsal (singers)	1:30-2:30pm
Pre-concert Refreshments	2:30-3pm
Concert	3-3:45pm



£10 per singer (includes free take-home score). Registration required.
Free entrance to guests attending the concluding concert.
For further information and to register, please visit
<https://worthabbey.net/our-retreats>



MONASTIC INTERNSHIPS AT WORTH ABBEY

- A two month stay with full board and lodging, provided free of charge
- Experience Monastic Life and encounter God
- Live alongside the Benedictine community
- A unique opportunity to participate in Prayer, work and study alongside the monks
- Explore the joy and beauty of the Worth Estate

Next Available Dates:
4 September - 6 November 2026 and July - August 2027



We welcome people from all spiritual traditions and backgrounds

Website: worthabbey.net/interns
Email: interns@worth.org.uk Phone: 01342 710370

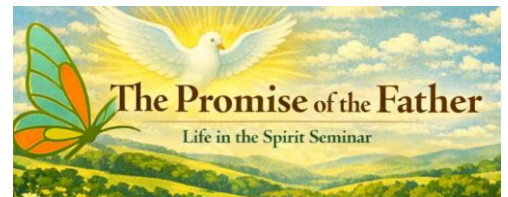
Other Activities and Announcements

Life In The Spirit Seminars - St Joseph's, Redhill, starting Tuesday 14th April – 2nd June 2026

You are warmly invited to take part in our upcoming Life in the Spirit Seminar in support of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, taking place in St Joseph's Redhill with Pentecost Vigil at Our Lady of Consolation West Grinstead.

This journey over seven sessions is an opportunity to deepen your relationship with Jesus and to experience anew the abundant power of His Holy Spirit. Each session includes inspiring teaching from excellent speakers, personal testimonies, small-group sharing and prayer.

For further information, please visit <https://www.abcharismatic.org/the-promise-of-the-father-2026/>



Grandparents' Formation Day - 23 April, 10am-4pm, St John the Evangelist, Horsham

Join us for what promises to be a wonderful, engaging and affirming day with guest speaker, David Wells. You will be able to listen to the inspirational experience of David Wells as evangelist, father and grandfather. A chance to meet with people from across the grandparent network of the diocese and those who are keen to bring the faith to the next generation. For more details on David's powerful, fun and engaging talks on our faith you might like to visit his website: davidwellslive.com

To register, go to the Events page of the Diocesan website www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events
If you have any questions about the day please contact Deacon Simon South, Diocesan Marriage & Family Life Adviser simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk



**Mental Health Awareness training – Saturday 9 May 2026 10-3pm at the St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley
- Tickets are just £40 per delegate (usual price £120)**

One of the challenges that we are experiencing in our modern world is the growing number of people, of all ages, experiencing the darkness and challenge of various mental health conditions. Thanks to the support of Mental Health England, we are able to offer this training, to explore the realities, symptoms and impact of living with these many debilitating conditions. Thanks to the support of the trainer, we are able to highly subsidise the event.

To register go to the Events page of the Diocesan website: www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events

If you have any questions about this course, do not hesitate to contact Deacon Simon South, Marriage & Family Life Adviser at: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk



Please join us on a Mary's Meals walking pilgrimage

Would you like to join a Mary's Meals walking pilgrimage this year? Details of all the pilgrimages are available here: <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/get-involved/charity-events/walk-for-hope>.

Options include the Augustine Camino from Rochester to Ramsgate via Aylesford Priory, Canterbury Cathedral and Minster Abbey from 5-11 September, and The Way of Our Lady of Consolation from West Grinstead to Storrington and onto Arundel Cathedral from 8-9 May.

You are very welcome to join us for a single day, for several days, or for a whole pilgrimage. Come on your own or as a group. To find out more or to sign up, please go to <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/get-involved/charity-events/walk-for-hope> or contact Roy Peachey from Mary's Meals at info@marysmeals.org.



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. This is our parish community newsletter, and our hope is that it offers both inspiration and a useful service.

If you have any announcements, articles, or activities you would like us to publish in In Touch we need you to send them the Friday before the intended publication date please.

Please do get in touch! worthabbeyparish@gmail.com

Parish Priests: Fr Rod Jones and Fr Paul Fleetwood. To contact both, please call the Parish Office: 01342 710313

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, please contact Fr Paul