



The Worth Pro Earth Newsletter, September 2026



Living Water

Season of Creation 2026

IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER

Ezekiel 47:9, 12

The Laudato Si theme for this year's Season of Creation is Living Water. And how apt that theme is for many people in the world this year. We have experienced months of extreme heat and wildfires all over Europe, a stark reminder that Europe is warming at 4 times the average rate of other continents. In Sussex we have a hosepipe ban, and 70% of our country is in drought. As we go to press the Guardian reports that the Government is about to issue an official warning that we should stock up on bottled water and tinned food. In tandem with this there are warnings of food shortages because of anticipated poor harvests for some staple crops.

It's difficult to be witness to these events and warnings but let us derive hope and strength from the message from Pope Leo. He encourages us to embrace the journey 'from the desert to the garden, from division to communion and from violence to peace'.

Worth Pro Earth is organising several activities during the Season on Creation (September 1st to October 4th), in addition to those taking place in our local communities or running nationwide. We hope you will find something of interest to help Care for Our Common Home.

Events at Worth to Care for Our Common Home this Season of Creation

Throughout the Season of Creation in the Narthex: Laudato Si display

Please take a moment to read and reflect on the themes of the display.

Sunday September 27th 9:30am, Worth Abbey: Harvest Mass

You are kindly asked to donate, if you can, a piece of home grown or locally sourced fruit or vegetables, which will be offered at the altar by the children in the parish during mass. These perishable items will be collected that weekend only. You are also encouraged to donate non-perishable items in the usual bins provided. See below.

Sunday September 27th after 9:30am mass, on the Piazza, Worth Abbey:

Tree seed collection

Join members of WPE is gathering and identifying suitable trees for collection by the Piazza. Then take them home to plant and care for your seedling.

Saturday October 3rd, at 3:30pm – 4:30pm in the Unity Room, Worth Abbey:

Screening of the People's Emergency Briefing short film

People's Emergency Briefing is an eye-opening film on the climate crisis bringing together nine leading UK scientists and experts with the latest evidence and why it matters for things like extreme weather, food security, health and the cost of living. The film is based on the National Emergency Briefing in Westminster ([National Emergency Briefing](#)) featured by ITV, Channel 4 and The Times) with appearances from Chris Packham, Deborah Meaden among others. [Watch the trailer](#)

WPE will be screening the People's Emergency Briefing on Saturday 3rd October starting at 3:30pm in the Unity Room. This will conclude in time for attendees to join the 5pm vigil Mass, after which refreshments will be served. Please RSVP here [People's Emergency Briefing screening - the Unity Room, Worth Abbey. Saturday October 3rd – Fill in form](#)

21 September - 4 October 2026: Fairtrade Fortnight

Monday 21st September marks the commencement of Fairtrade Fortnight. Over three decades of collaboration have established the Fairtrade mark as a leader in creating life-changing impacts for farmers and workers globally. Are you aware that cocoa, bananas and coffee may soon become significantly harder to find on our shelves? Climate change is increasingly making the cultivation of these crops more challenging. Coupled with profoundly unjust trade practices, the communities that produce these crops are being driven to the edge.

The Worth Abbey Fairtrade stall offers an extensive range of Divine chocolate. Divine is the sole chocolate company worldwide that is 100% 'Fairtrade' and owned by cocoa farmers. While 'Fairtrade' guarantees that farmers receive a fairer price for their cocoa and additional income to reinvest in their communities, ownership of the company allows farmers to share in Divine's profits and have a more substantial voice in the cocoa industry. This Fairtrade Fortnight and beyond, opt for 'Fairtrade'; choose to advocate for climate justice, support farmers who are at the forefront of climate change, protect our planet, and safeguard the future for generations to come.

Food banks

Food bank donations provide emergency relief for people facing severe financial hardship, reduce local hunger, and support community resilience. Local food banks urgently need non-perishable food to help vulnerable individuals facing hardship. Worth Abbey has collection bins at the entrance to the Abbey Church where you can leave your donations.

Strengthening the Community

- Local support: Giving locally helps neighbours through sudden crises, job loss, or unexpected bills.
- Reducing waste: Donating surplus goods helps keep edible, safe food out of landfills and puts it to good use.

What to Give

- Long-life foods: Tinned meat, fish, vegetables, fruit, pasta sauces, UHT milk, and long-life juice.
- Dry goods: Rice, pasta, oats, and breakfast cereal.
- Non-food items: Toilet paper, soap, shampoo, toothpaste (note: infant formula is generally not accepted)
- Non-perishable food items, tinned goods, and essential toiletries.

Where to Donate

- Worth Abbey has collection bins at the entrance to the Abbey Church where you can leave your donations.

Local and National events to help You care for Our Common Home this month

Thursday 10 September 6:30pm | Online Everyday Plastic Book Club: Change Everything with Natalie Bennett

Join Everyday Plastic for their next virtual Book Club webinar as they welcome former Green Party leader Baroness Natalie Bennett to discuss her inspiring book, [Change Everything](#). Together, they'll explore how bold ideas, collective action and political change can help build a fairer, healthier future for people and planet.

This special conversation will also shine a spotlight on the Nature's Rights Bill - a Bill championed by Natalie in the House of Lords that seeks to recognise that nature has inherent rights to exist, thrive and regenerate. As the climate, nature and plastic crises become ever more urgent, we'll discuss what this could mean in practice, why it matters, and how each of us can help drive meaningful change.

Whether you've read *Change Everything* cover to cover, are just getting started, or are simply curious about how we can create a better future together, everyone is welcome! Expect an engaging conversation full of fresh ideas, practical hope and the chance to put your questions directly to Natalie. [Register Now](#)

Until Sunday 27 September: Environment and Climate Change consultation

West Sussex County Council have produced two draft action plans which focus on the things they believe need to be addressed locally in the coming years. They focus on:

- Climate change mitigation - reducing the amount of carbon produced and released into the atmosphere, e.g. from transport, homes, and businesses

- Climate change adaptation - preparing for the impacts of an increasingly changing climate - such as longer and more frequent heatwaves and more severe flooding.

The consultation summary document gives an overview of both plans and explains why climate change mitigation and adaptation are both equally important. The consultation will gather views on the draft plans and help them make sure they are the right fit for local communities. Proposed actions include supporting energy efficiency improvements to buildings, enabling people to switch to greener travel options such as electric vehicles, encouraging community solar energy projects, and increasing the use of sustainable drainage systems. The You can read the plans and share your views by visiting the engagement hub via the following link:

<https://yourvoice.westsussex.gov.uk/climatesurvey>

18 - 21 September: Great UK Waterblitz by Earthwatch

Water companies have dumped hundreds of thousands of tonnes of untreated sewage into England's rivers and, along with toxic chemicals and waste washing off farms, it's polluting our rivers, lakes, and streams so badly that they're making people sick. A new Clean Water Bill is heading to Parliament. But before it becomes law, polluters will do everything they can to weaken it. That's why thousands of us are testing our local rivers, lakes, and streams. Together, we will gather the evidence politicians can't ignore, making the case for a law that finally protects our waters. Are you concerned about water pollution? So are we. Will you test your local waterway? Get your free testing kit and let's help protect our waters! This summer, Avaaz, together with Earthwatch, is hosting thousands of people across the UK to test the health of our rivers, lakes, and streams. More information on the website:

Earthwatch

Here is how:

1. Order your FREE testing kit: Thanks to donations from Avaaz members, your kit is free.
2. Earthwatch will post it straight to your door. It has everything you need!
3. You test your local river, stream, or lake - anytime between 18–21 September. It's fast and easy, and you'll have a dedicated WhatsApp community to answer questions.
4. You upload your test results to a secure online form.
5. Together, we'll turn our findings into headlines and take them straight to politicians.

Repair Cafes

Repair cafes aim to reduce waste by encouraging a repair culture in the community. A repair can save time, money and waste. If you have something that needs fixing, just pop into your local repair cafe, check out their website before you visit, as you may need to book a slot.

This month's cafes are:

Lindfield - Saturday 5th September from 10am-1pm

United Reformed Church, 50 High Street, Lindfield, RH16 2HL

[Lindfield Repair Cafe](#)

Horley - Saturday 12th September from 1130am-230pm

St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Horley Row, Horley RH6 8DF

[Horley Repair Cafe](#)

Forest Row - Saturday 19th September from 10am-1pm

Forest Community Centre, Hartfield Road, Forest Row, RH18 5DZ

[Forest Row Repair Cafe](#)

Handcross - Saturday 19th September from 10am-12pm

High Street, Handcross, Haywards Heath RH17 6BL

[Handcross Hardware & Craft](#)

Crawley Down & Turners Hill - Saturday 26th September 10am-12pm

The Glebe Centre, Crawley Down

[Crawley Down Village - The Crawley Down & Turners Hill Repair Cafe](#)

Horsham - Saturday 26th July 10am-230pm

United Reform Church, 45 Springfield Road, Horsham, RH12 2RG

[Horsham Repair Cafe](#)

Season of Creation 2026 Prayer

Living Water

Holy God, whose Spirit hovered over the waters at the beginning, we gather as part of your community of all creation, thirsty for your grace. We give thanks for the gift of water, the veins of our common home, that sustains the cedar and the whale, the pasture and the city. We are grateful for the local waters that nourish our homelands and our fellow creatures. We give thanks that in your well-watered garden, every drop is a sacred testament to your love.

Yet, we confess that we have treated this gift as a mere commodity. We have choked the seas with our waste and watched the warming tides rise in judgment. We lament the cracked earth of the drought-stricken and the salty tears of the climate refugee. Melt our frozen hearts, O God, and let the waters of repentance flow.

Lord of all Life, you promised that wherever the river flows, everything shall live. Stir in us a calling to care for the waters — to protect the watershed, defend the rights of water, and honor the dignity of the thirsty. May your Word be a spring within us, gushing forth for the healing of the nations.

May God our Father who brought water from the rock sustain us in the desert. May Christ our Lord who is Living Water refresh us for the work of restoration. And may the Holy Spirit carry us on currents of grace until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amen.

Do give us 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**](#)

Join us

WPE welcomes new members. We meet once a month in St Benedict's, the next meeting is [Tuesday 22nd September at 2pm](#). Please get in touch if you would like to attend at parish@worth.org.uk