

IN TOUCH

Parish Website: www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk

17th/18th June 2017

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (A)

No: 1098

Live by God's commandments every day (Rule of St Benedict 4: 63)

LIVE SIMPLY: Why not go wild in your garden? Do you have space in your garden for wildlife? If not, you are missing out on some wonderful sights. A small part of a border could be given over to wildflowers (seeds readily available and they grow very quickly at this time of the year). A small part of your lawn could easily be converted into a wild flower meadow (plant plugs and seeds available). Nettles are essential food plants for the caterpillars of many butterfly species and you could grow them in a big pot to avoid them spreading. A small woodpile makes a home for many creepy crawlies which are beneficial to our gardens. Lots more ideas are available on the RSPB website and they produce a little booklet, 'Welcome wildlife into your garden'

www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/bird-and-wildlife-guides/welcome-wildlife-to-your-garden/

Fr Paul writes:-

Today we begin Refugee week. It is a moment when we can reflect on the gifts which refugees offer us, as well as our own part in making them welcome. We can also pray for them.

Among famous refugees we might think of Albert Einstein and Sigmund Freud, of Michael Marks (of M & S), or of Thomas Mann and Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, the writers, or of Jelena Dokic, the tennis player from Serbia. And, indeed, we might think of Jesus, whose infancy was spent as a refugee, as Matthew relates for us.

We could also ponder the strong tradition of hospitality in the Bible, which started at the very beginning of Israel's history with the culture of the desert, where hospitality offered or refused meant the difference between life and death. As the story of Abraham and his three mysterious visitors shows, in Gn 18, the stranger is revealed to be none other than God Himself when he is welcomed; and the stranger leaves a gift – God promises Abraham the son for whom he longs in his old age. This story is the inspiration for Rublev's famous icon of the Holy Trinity, where the strangers, now Abraham's guests, are shown seated around Abraham's dining table, and so the icon is known as the icon of hospitality – *philoxenia* – or, literally, *love of the stranger*. This story in the book of Genesis almost certainly influenced Luke's story of the road to Emmaus, (cp 24), when the two disciples invite the unknown stranger to eat with them, and he is recognised as the risen Jesus, who leaves them with his sacramental presence in the Eucharist, the breaking of bread. So strongly was this tradition of hospitality embedded in Israel's culture that the identity of Israel, and of their God, becomes that of a people of strangers and a God who protects strangers. *Do not oppress a stranger; you yourselves know how it feels to be strangers, because you were strangers in Egypt.* (Ex 23.9) *Do not molest the stranger...I shall hear their cry.* (Ex 22.20) Perhaps most striking of all are God's words about land : *The land is mine and you are but strangers and my guests* (Lev.25.23) - a declaration which condemns the construction of barriers to exclude refugees. And, in that stark image of the Judgement, Mt 25, The Sheep and the Goats, Jesus identifies himself with the stranger – *I was a stranger and you invited me in.*

The modern tradition of Catholic Social Teaching reinforces this demand for generous hospitality as the refugee crisis worsens, with more than 60 million people now displaced by war and disasters. In our own area we have groups committed to helping those in need – Refugees Welcome-Crawley, and The Gatwick Visitors Group, who support immigration detainees. Do please look at their web sites to see how you might help – available via the parish website:

- www.refugees-welcome.org.uk/refugeeswelcome-groups-training-action/
- www.facebook.com/Refugees-Welcome-Crawley-551085788373533/
- www.gdwg.org.uk/

and please consider if you could support our parish celebration of Refugee Week next Saturday, in prayer, and in contact with the refugees who will be visiting us for the occasion. Please see Kir's article of last week*, and the note below. And please pray for refugees around the world.

Bless all those who are,
through no fault of their own,
forced to flee their homes
and take, along with family,
only that which they can carry
and seek a safer place to live.
Remind us of our Saviour,
who, as a child, was also a refugee,
finding shelter in a foreign land,
and give us hearts and hands
willing to reach out and help
these, our distant relatives
within your worldwide family.

Amen

Meditative Walk, Saturday, 24th June, during Refugee Week, around the grounds of Worth Abbey, with prayer, and with the Lampedusa Cross. 3 pm from the Narthex, followed by Mass at 5 pm, with prayers for refugees, then supper. Please join us for any or all of these activities (the format will be very relaxed) or to simply spend a silent moment with the Cross.

Fr Paul would greatly appreciate an idea of numbers for supper. RSVP please to parish@worth.org.uk. There is no charge to participate but any funds raised will be donated to Refugee Welcome Crawley & CAFOD's refugee support initiatives.

A Refugee Crisis Newsletter for Summer 2017 is available at the back of the church detailing how, as a diocese, under the guidance of Bishop Richard, we are responding to the ever growing challenge of the global refugee crisis.

The newsletter includes the latest information available to us and highlights some tremendous work that is ongoing by the partners we are choosing to work with. Please take a copy and share it with family and friends. Anyone who wants to learn more about how to get involved should contact our Coordinator (details on page 11). Refugee Week takes place between 19th and 25th June, this provides an important opportunity for asylum seekers and refugees across the UK to be seen, listened to and valued.

The newsletter will shortly be available online at www.abdiocese.org/ Further hard copies via Rosie Read, Pastoral Team Secretary, at DABCEC on 01293 651161/ rosie.read@dabnet.org

* Back issues of In Touch are available on the parish website www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/communications

Thursday, 22nd June, St John Fisher & St Thomas More: Mass at 5.30 pm

Second Collection this weekend for Day for Life; second collection next weekend for Peter's Pence.

Please remember in your prayers – John Cooper, RIP (and widow Jane); Yolanda Harton, RIP, and her son Laurie; Paul Hobson Frohock; those injured or killed in the West London tower block fire; refugees all over the world

We pray for Aung San Suu Kyi who will be 72 on Monday, 19th June and for the suffering people of Burma. We pray that the Government of Burma will bring peace, justice, democracy and freedom to its people particularly to the Ethnic minority groups and the persecuted Rohingya Muslims. We pray that your Holy Spirit will change hearts and bring them to a knowledge of Your Love for all people, bringing them freedom and peace.

We pray for her two sons, Alexander and Kim and her grandchildren.

Day for Life 2017 - Prayer to Mary, Mother of Life Within

O Mary, Mother of Life Within, all life we entrust to you;

The life of every expectant mother and the child within her womb;

The life of every human body, the life of every human soul;

The life of every newborn child and the life of all grown old.

You held the Lord to your own heart and drew Him so close in.

So draw us now in all our needs,

O Mother of Life Within.

Amen.

Day for Life is the day in the Church's year dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death. www.dayforlife.org

Anniversaries - Please pray for the souls of Chris Whitman; Kathleen Southwood; Bernadette Brailey; Amy Noyce; Ian Gibson; Ted Spice; Dora Bridger; Nigel Daniels; Alan Harris; Colette H  l  ne Rowland. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.

PARISH DIARY DATES

We welcome a new parish secretary, Mrs Maria Stribbling, who will begin work in St Benedict's on June 20th. Her normal hours will be from 10 am till 2 pm, Monday to Friday. Please help her to feel at home here.

Confirmation Mass: 25th June. Please pray for the candidates, their families and sponsors: Evelyn Champain, Max Fitzgerald, Jessie Gallagher, Abigail Horton, Rosa McKeachie, Poppy Owers, Jason Holton, Chloe Roberts, Harriet Record, Marco Fernandes

First Holy Communion 2017/18: Classes begin Sept 2017, for children who will turn 8 years old by May 2018 and older. ****Register please before the end of July**** Contact Rachel Davies on 07801-696354 .

Volunteers needed to support our First Holy Communion candidates and their families. A variety of roles available, related to welcoming and hospitality. We would also love to hear from you if you are interested in joining the catechists. Please contact Fr Paul.

1967 and all that...Golden Jubilee Invitation: On Saturday, 19th August, Fr Stephen will be celebrating his Golden Jubilee of priestly ordination. The true date is 16th December but our custom is to celebrate Jubilees, whatever the actual date, in the summer. There will be a Mass at 11am, followed by drinks and nibbles. Fr Stephen advises that the weather will, of course, be fabulous!

OTHER EVENTS:

CAFOD New Campaign: Power to Be. Please ask the World Bank to support local, renewable energy that benefits poor communities, so that everyone can achieve their potential. By signing the petition, you can help more children break free from poverty and get access to the energy they need. www.e-activist.com/page/7676/petition/

Refugee Week (19th-25th June) www.refugeetales.org; refugeeweek.org.uk/refugee-week-2017/ **Events** include:

- "I Welcome", an exhibition of refugee photos by Magnum, 17th-24th June, Horsham Library, Lr. Tanbridge Way.
- "Asylum Monologues" at the Hawth, Tuesday, 20th June, 7.30pm
- "Refugee Tales, walking with refugees along Thames, hearing their stories during the evening, 1st-5th July
- A&B diocese, partnered with the charity Voices in Exile, is helping refugees in various ways. £21K is needed just for foodbanks. If you can support them, please send your cheque (payable to DABCEC) to Aidan Cantwell at DABCEC, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley RH10 6RP

Living from our Fullness: The Role of Prayer and Meditation. Led by Br. John Martin Sahajananda, presiding monk at

Shanthivanam Ashram, Tamilnadu and leading exponent of HinduChristian dialogue, and the meeting of East and West. Wednesday, 21st June, 7-9.30 pm, The Quaker Meeting House, 8-15 Friars Walk, Lewes, BN7 2LE. Contact: Fr. David Broad 01273 478847. Donations welcome to cover Br. Martin's travel costs.

ENCOUNTER (for 15-30s), Friday 23rd June, 7.30pm. St Wilfrid's, Crawley RH11 8PG. Guest speaker this month is Ben Gray from the Brighton Wellspring Community. Free entry. Search 'ENCOUNTER Crawley' on Facebook

Understanding CAFOD: Just One World Afternoon Saturday 1st July, English Martyrs' Church Hall, Horley RH6 8AR, 2:30- 4:30pm. Contact Martin or Jo: 01483 898866/ arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk

Faiths in Sussex Summer Conference: "Celebrating: Sacred Poems, Music and Dance" 1st July, 1-5 pm Langley Green Community Centre, Stagelands, Langley Green, Crawley, RH11 7PG. Contact iyadhdaoud@yahoo.co.uk

Day for Youth Leaders and Confirmation Catechists with International Speaker, Michael Marchand: Saturday 8th July at DABCEC in Crawley, 10am-3.30pm. Youth group leaders, confirmation catechists, those involved in young adult ministry, or interested in any of the above. Tickets £10 (large group discounts available) Email Rosie.Read@dabnet.org

Brighton Celebrate Weekend: A non-residential weekend for all ages. Saturday 15th/Sunday 16th July, Cardinal Newman School, Hove, BN3 6ND. Visit www.celebrateconference.org/brighton

Annual National Justice & Peace Conference: A Sabbath for the Earth and the Poor: The Challenge of Pope Francis. 21st-23rd July, Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire. Contact admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk

REGULAR EVENTS IN THE PARISH

Adoration: Friday evenings 7.00- 8.00pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Reflection, music and silence. **Confessions (Sacrament of Reconciliation)** Sundays 9.10-9.30am before Mass. **Marian Prayer Group** - 2nd/4th Monday, 7.30pm, Lady Chapel. **Lectio Divina** - Tuesdays 8.20pm, for 30 mins, Parlour 3 (entry from the Narthex) followed by Compline. **Mass with Prayers for Healing** (1st Wednesday) 7.15pm Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Next date 5th July.

Christian Meditation Group in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel 7.45pm (prompt start at 8pm) to 8.45pm followed by Compline. Next dates 28th June; 12th, 26th July. Contact Gabrielle Joyce: 01342 326118/Caterina Brown: 01243 554001.

Vigil for Vocations (1st Friday) 9.00pm to midnight in the Abbey Church. Next date 7th July. **Children's Liturgy** (1st Saturday) Next date 1st July, 5pm. **Sunday Prayers for Healing** Monthly half hour Service of Prayers for Healing in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel after 9.30 Sunday Mass. Next date 2nd July. **Bereavement Support:** Marian and Clare are available to meet you either at St Benedict's or to visit you at home. Please contact the team by telephone via the Parish Office or email clare_harper@hotmail.com; marian.imhasly@gmail.com

Parish contacts: parish@worth.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Paul Fleetwood

Safeguarding: Rachel Davies 07801 696354

In Touch: worthintouch@hotmail.co.uk

Night time emergencies only 07956 782634

01342 710313 (Mob 07764 260216)

Car Share: Jill Carter 07836 316525

Parish website: worthabbeyparish.co.uk

If you are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact Fr Paul.

Next Sunday's readings: *First reading* – Jer 20: 10-13 *Second reading* – Rom 5: 12-15

***Gospel* – Matt 10: 26-33**

So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. (NRSV)

Mon 19th: 2 Cor 6: 1-10; Matt 5: 38-42

Thurs 22nd: 2 Macc 6: 18, 21, 24-31; Matt 24: 4-13

Tues 20th: 2 Cor 8: 1-9; Matt 5: 43-48

Fri 23rd: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus - Deut 7: 6-11; 1 John 4: 7-16; Matt 11: 25-30

Weds 21st: 2 Cor 9: 6-11; Matt 6:1-6, 16-18

Sat 24th: The Nativity of St John The Baptist - Isa 49: 1-6; Acts 13: 22-26; Luke 1: 57-66, 80

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