

Whenever you begin any good work, you should first of all make a most pressing appeal to Christ our Lord to bring it to perfection
(Rule of St Benedict)



Tips for the weekend – 14th / 15th October

The Traidcraft stall is taking orders for Christmas Cards, decorations and gifts.

You can see the range of cards, decorations and gifts at

www.traidcraftshop.co.uk

Traidcraft is the leading fair trade organisation. Its aim is to fight poverty through trade.

Please support our parish Traidcraft stall.

Last Saturday we were privileged to receive a visit from Dr Austen Ivereigh, who came to speak to the parish about Pope Francis.

Stephanie Thornton kindly offers this summary of his talks.

(Please see the parish website for copies of the various texts, which he quoted to illustrate his talks.)

POPE FRANCIS' VISION FOR OUR CHURCH

Austen Ivereigh talk October 7th

Austen gave a masterly analysis of our Pope's vision for our Church, drawing on the complex and lengthy documents *Evangelii Gaudium* and *Laudato Si'*. The short version is this:

Pope Francis is not challenging the traditional doctrines of our Church, as some critics fear. Rather, he is calling us to live the teachings of Jesus more vividly, to be Christ to one another more actively, and so to heal our world and renew our Church.

Francis sees a broken world where human connections of friendship, family, **and** community are altered and weakened by the way we live, the way we use technology; a world in which we have become exploiters of the earth rather than stewards, where the rich profit by that exploitation and the poor suffer. He sees a world where the lifestyles of the rich are only sustainable by maintaining that divide between rich and poor: we can't all live as the rich do now, there are not enough resources to go around for that. The lifestyles of the rich maintain poverty and dispossession for the majority.

So, Francis sees the ecological and economic concerns of our time not as mere political or practical issues, but as moral and spiritual ones. His vision is of a Church taking the lead in healing our world: rebuilding strong human connections, truly loving our neighbour as Jesus calls us to - and meeting others in the concrete practical situations of their lives: a deeper connection to those around us; more actively welcoming the stranger, supporting the homeless, the hungry, the sick and those who are afraid. And in **our world today**, that concern for others must mean living our daily lives differently:

reconnecting to nature, using the earth and its resources differently - becoming stewards and not exploiters, aware of the impact of our actions on others as we make decisions; protecting and sharing the resources of our planet.

Pope Francis' vision is inspiring, but challenging. Can we as individuals, as a parish, as a diocese, a Church rise to this challenge? If we can, the personal gains will be immense: a way of living, a way of being more firmly rooted in spiritual values, in Christ, and in the joy that such spiritual fulfilment can bring.

More than this: by actively engaging the world [through this spirituality of service](#) our Church becomes more directly relevant in that world: not the inward looking, defensive and shrinking institution so many critics see, but a potent and relevant force for good in people's lives - all people, not just ourselves. By working more actively to bring about the kingdom of God on this earth we take our spirituality out into the world in a powerful way: the very best form of evangelisation there could be.

Are we up for this challenge?

How can we possibly refuse what is so obviously what Jesus would command us to do? Contact Fr Paul with your ideas on how to take this forward at Worth, how to build on what we do already to better fulfil this inspiring vision.

Anniversaries - Please pray for the souls of Jenny Frost, Timothy Robin Martin (Age 12), Mary Hume, Tom Wheeler, Maria Beardsall, Sister Law SRN, Beryl Green, Elizabeth Leksinska, Patricia Stanford, Jim Farmer, Elizabeth Montgomery

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

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Please pray for the family of Amaia Bernadette Ewen, who will be baptised this Sunday, 15th October.

If you would like to come and welcome the family, baptism will be held at 11am

Re-Lit: Sessions will be held each Tuesday @ 7.30pm, Wednesday @ 7.45pm and Thursday @ 11am. All sessions will be held in the parish office.

PARISH WALK: Sunday 15th October. Meet at 11.30am at The Gallipot Pub which is on B2110, just about a mile before you go down to Hartfield, on the left hand side coming from Forest Row. We walk to Pooh Bridge and up onto the Forest towards Gills' Lap and then back for lunch at 1.30pm. Length of walk is 4 miles. Anyone for lunch only, is very welcome too.

Please contact Trishiasol@aol.com or cfitzs3287@aol.com if you are able to come.

PARISH EVENTS GROUP: Autumn Walk with Sunday Lunch - 22nd October. By kind permission of the Abbot, a rare opportunity to join a guided walk with Mark Tibble, Assistant Head Forester for the Balcombe Estate, exploring the nature, magnificent trees and natural beauty of the 500 acre Worth Estate. With time for a cup of coffee after Mass, we will set off at 11:00 am from the Piazza, before returning soon after midday for a traditional Sunday lunch in the historic Whitehead Room. Cost £10 per head or £8 for children under 12. Water provided, but bring your own wine. The walk is unsuitable for pushchairs and no dogs are permitted. Please bring suitable footwear. Places are limited, so please book early by emailing names and your contact details to: Sara at sbh0369@yahoo.com. Please make payment by cash or by cheque payable to Worth Abbey Parish, and post to: **Sara Barclay Hudson, Harvey's Farm, Warninglid, West Sussex, RH17 5TQ** or drop into the Parish office in an envelope clearly marked: **AUTUMN WALK**.

SATURDAY 28TH OCTOBER: 5pm mass will be celebrated especially for Irundu. This will be animated, as in previous years, by the Uganda Choir. It will be followed by a party in Compass House. If you would like to provide puddings for this event, we would be very grateful as we are aware we have some amazing bakers and cooks in our parish. Please let us know. More information will be provided next weekend.

SUSY BROUARD: Unfortunately, due to lack of support, we have had to cancel Suzy's talk.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND: Next weekend there will be a second collection for MISSIO (World Mission Sunday)

Eucharistic Ministers Retreat: For those who were unable to come to be recommissioned on Sunday 17th September, we are organising another half day retreat on Saturday 4th November. For those who can, we will begin with Mass at 9am in the Abbey Church. After that we will go up to the sitting room of Compass House for coffee and begin with a time of Lectio Divina and then we will look at some aspects of the Eucharist and talk about any practical issues which we may need to consider. We will finish by going down to church for mid-day prayer at 1pm and for those who can stay, we will offer Lunch in Compass House.

OTHER EVENTS

Part-time secretary position: The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton education service is looking for a part time secretary. The position is based in Crawley. Closing date is 20th October. Please contact Ann Baldwin on 01293 511130 or ann.baldwin@dabnet.org

Red Boxes: It is time for mission holders to top up their red boxes. Empty the contents and write a cheque and send it to – APF Mill Hill, 23 Eccleston Square, London, SW1V 1NU. Our hard working Missionaries rely on our offerings and our continued support and prayers.

Haywards Heath Food Bank: They write- On behalf of the Haywards Heath Food Bank, I would like to thank you so much for your generous and very kind donations of food from your Harvest Festival. We are so grateful to you all at Worth Abbey. I am pleased to tell you that the weight of the food collected was 43.80 kgs, which is a fantastic amount. Thank you for supporting us in our work to give food to those who come upon difficult times. This year we have been giving food to an average of about 100 people each month, and 40% of them are children.

An afternoon concert by the Slinfold Concert Band: Sunday 15th October at 2.30pm at Crawley United Reformed Church. You will be treated to a selection of musical favourites. Tickets £5.00. Children under 18 £2.50 from the church office and on the door. For more information see – www.crawleyurc.org.uk

South East England Faiths Forum (SEEFF) Annual Conference & AGM: at Worth Abbey: *Chaplaincy in a Plural Society*. Tuesday 17th October, 9:30 am—5:00 pm in the Performing Arts Centre (Building Opposite the Church). £12 (lunch included) www.se-faithforum.net. Email: contact@se-faithforum.net

Retreat Weekend for young adults (20's and 30's): 20th-22nd October in London. The theme of the weekend will be Prayer and Discernment. This weekend is organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FJC). There will be input, prayer, reflection and discussion with other young adults. You are welcome to attend for the day or to stay for the weekend. Cost is £35. For more information please contact – Sr Lynne Fcj at lynnefcj@hotmail.com.

The Church in the World (Reconciliation and renewal): Wednesday 25th October at 7.30pm at Crawley United Reformed Church. Hear a speaker from Jews for Jesus. All are welcome. Free Entrance. Come and ask, Is Faith shaping the world today?

Fund Raising Palestinian Coffee Morning: Saturday 28th October at 11am. Shirley writes - Please join me for a slice of Arabic cake and coffee. I'm raising money for the Ahil Hospital in Gaza and MAP. These 2 British charities want to raise money to help provide treatment and care for women who have breast cancer. For more information and for the address of the venue, please call Shirley on 01294 406617.

HOPE 2017 - FESTIVAL DAY FOR 11-14s, WITH RISE THEATRE: On Sunday November 19th (2pm to 5.30pm) the diocese is running a festival day for young people aged 11-14 at Arundel Cathedral. The day coincides with the first World Day for the Poor, and will challenge us to think about how we are living Christ's call to serve those in need. The day will include Mass with Bishop Richard, as well as drama from RISE Theatre, and input from CAFOD and others. Spaces are limited, so booking is essential. Contact Jack.Regan@dabnet.org for more information, or to book. We are expecting those attending to be part of organised groups. Young people wanting to attend without accompanying adults must contact Jack Regan for a consent form.

SAVE THE DATE MUSIC EVENTS

Sunday 5th November - Faure's Requiem in the Abbey Church @ 7.30pm, in aid of the Sisters of Grace and Compassion.

Sunday 12th November - Worth Choral Society in the Abbey Church @ 7.30pm. Programme includes "Miserere" by Jans Zelenka, in aid of Worth Irundu Friendship.

Sunday 3rd December - Christmas Music from Handel's Messiah in the Abbey Church @ 7.30pm, in aid of Worth Irundu Friendship.

Tuesday 12th December - Joint Carol Concert for the Circle Club and the local Nursing Homes (Worth Schola and Ardingly College Schola) in the Abbey Church @ 11.30am

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) then Compline. **Mass with Prayers for Healing** (1st Wednesday) 7.15pm Blessed Sacrament Chapel. **Christian Meditation Group**, Blessed Sacrament Chapel 7.45pm for 8pm start to 8.45pm followed by Compline. Next date will be 25th October. Contact Gabrielle 01342 326118/Caterina 01243 554001. **Vigil for Vocations** (1st Friday) 9.00pm to midnight in the Abbey Church. Next date 6th October. **Children's Liturgy** (1st Saturday) Next date 7th October (Our Lady of the Rosary). **Sunday Prayers for Healing** Monthly half hour Service of Prayers for Healing in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel after 9.30 am Sunday Mass. Next date 1st October. **Bereavement Support:** Marian & Clare are available to meet you either at St Benedict's or to visit you at home. Contact the team via the Parish Office or email clare_harper@hotmail.com; marian.imhasly@gmail.com. **Mothers Prayer Group** in Balcombe every Tuesday 12pm. Call Marie 07860 845658. All faiths and none are most welcome.

Parish Priest: Fr Paul Fleetwood

Parish Office Email: parish@worth.org.uk **Parish Office Tel:** 01342 710313 **Parish Website:** www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk
Secretary: Maria Stribbling (Hours: 9.30am-1.30pm)

Safeguarding: Rachel Davies (07801 696354) and Maria Stribbling (01342 710313)

Car Share: Jill Carter: 07836 316525

In Touch: If you would like anything to appear in 'In Touch', please email: worthintouch@hotmail.co.uk (by Thursday 10am)

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.

Next Sunday's Readings: Sunday 29

First Reading - Isa 45:1, 4-6

Second Reading – 1 Thess 1:1-5

Gospel - Matthew 22:15-21 – The question about paying taxes

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodian's, saying, 'Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?' But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, 'Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.' And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, 'Whose head is this, and whose title?' They answered, 'The emperor's.' Then he said to them, 'Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's.'

Monday – Romans 1:1-7 Luke 11:29-32

Thursday – Romans 3:21-29 Luke 11:47-54

Tuesday – Romans 1:16-25 Luke 11:37-41

Friday – Romans 4:1-8 Luke 12:1-7

Wednesday – 2 Timothy 4:9-17 Luke 10:1-9

Saturday – Romans 4:13, 16-18 Luke 12:8-12

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