



In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Twenty First Sunday in OT (year A)
26th / 27th August 2023

Dear Parishioners

I hope that you and your families are well, and that you have enjoyed a good summer break together. I send you all my prayers.

Next Friday we begin our celebration of **The Season of Creation**, which runs through the month of September until 4th October, the feast of St Anthony. It was instituted by Pope Francis to encourage the Church around the world to reflect on our responsibilities to God's Creation, His gift to us to care for it as stewards. Friday 1st September is designated as a day of special prayer for Creation. Do please use the prayer which you will find below. It is taken from the Pope's encyclical, *Laudato Si, On Care for Our Common Home*, which he wrote in 2015 towards the beginning of his pontificate, and which has been a theme to which he has returned ever since. For more materials on this subject, please see the website of the Laudato Si Movement _ <https://seasonofcreation.org/resources/#liturgical>, and for practical ways to become involved, see the websites in the box below, Links For Our Common Home, which lists local and national initiatives.

In his message for the day Pope Francis emphasises the fact that the preservation of the climate is a matter of justice, especially for those countries which are most exposed to climate change, and for all future generations in general. He begins: *Dear brothers and sisters!*

"Let Justice and Peace Flow" is the theme of this year's ecumenical Season of Creation, inspired by the words of the prophet Amos: "Let justice flow on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream" (5:24).

The evocative image used by Amos speaks to us of what God desires. God wants justice to reign; it is as essential to our life as God's children made in his likeness as water is essential for our physical survival. This justice must flow forth wherever it is needed, neither remaining hidden deep beneath the ground nor vanishing like water that evaporates before it can bring sustenance. God wants everyone to strive to be just in every situation, to live according to his laws and thus to enable life to flourish. When we "seek first the kingdom of God" (Mt 6:33), maintaining a right relationship with God, humanity and nature, then justice and peace can flow like a never-failing stream of pure water, nourishing humanity and all creatures... Let us heed our call to stand with the victims of environmental and climate injustice, and to put an end to the senseless war against creation... How can we contribute to the mighty river of justice and peace in this Season of Creation? What can we, particularly as Christian communities, do to heal our common home so that it can once again teem with life? We must do this by resolving to transform our hearts, our lifestyles, and the public policies ruling our societies.

First, let us join the mighty river by transforming our hearts. This is essential for any other transformation to occur; it is that "ecological conversion" which Saint John Paul II encouraged us to embrace: the renewal of our relationship with creation so that we no longer see it as an object to be exploited but cherish it instead as a sacred gift from our Creator.

Do please see the full text of the Pope's message on our website - <https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/>

I send you all my best wishes. Yours. Fr Paul

Prayers

Our prayers and congratulations go to Hugo Savoy, and to his parents, Luke and Melody. Hugo is their first child, and he came to church on the Feast of The Assumption, when he was one day old!

Please pray for Emilia Kaminska and Joe Charnaud, who will be married on 26th August here at Worth.

Please continue to pray for our parishioners Jill Carter, Laura Rawlinson
Peter and Antee Greene, Fred Green, Hugh Hurdman, Severina and Norbert D'Souza.

Prayer for our earth

*All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.*

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

*Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.*

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

*Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.*

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.

*Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature*

as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

Pope Francis, Laudato Si', 2015.

A prayer for Pope Francis

Please pray for Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, in thanksgiving for all he has done for our Church, and that he may have the strength and courage to complete the task which God has given him.

Almighty God, look kindly on your servant Pope Francis.

You invited him to shepherd your flock. Guide and protect him in his daily work.

Inspire him in your ways to embrace Church unity.

A prayer for Peace and Justice in Ukraine

*God of peace and justice, who change the hardened heart and break the power of violence,
we entrust the people of Ukraine to you.*

Protect them in this time of peril; let them know, not death, but life, not slavery, but freedom

You are Father of all; we are brothers and sisters

Give us the strength to live that truth in love, choosing peace, not war

Amen

Anniversaries – (For 26th / 27th August)

Please pray for the Souls of – Brian Whinney, Anne Seagar-Berry, Albert Sullivan, Veronica Tritton, Agnes Trinham, Dom Benedict Sankey, David Barwell and Peter Grace

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

Daily Readings – w/c – 28th August

Monday – 1 Thess 1:1-5, 8b-10 Matt 23:13-22 **(St Augustine of Hippo)**

Tuesday – 1 Thess 2:1-8 Mark 6:17-29 **(The Passion of St John the Baptist)**

Wednesday – 1 Thess 2:9-13 Matt 23:27-32

Thursday – 1 Thess 3:7-13 Matt 24:42-51

Friday – 1 Thess 4:1-8 Matt 25:1-13

Saturday – 1 Thess 4:9-11 Matt 25:14-30

Next Sunday's Readings: **Twenty Second Sunday in OT (Year A)**

1st Reading – Jeremiah 20:7-9 2nd Reading – Romans 12:1-2

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

Get behind me, Satan!

Parish Events

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 2nd September – There will be refreshments after the 5pm mass.

Sunday 10th September – There will be brunch in Compass House from 11am.

Saturday 23rd September - Diocesan Catechists' Day - 10.30am - 4pm at Worth School.

The day aims to encourage and inform catechists during a day of reflection and networking.

This year the keynote speech will be by Brendan Thompson from Catholic Voices and the theme, taken from the recent book, is 'Christendom to Apostolic Mission: Our challenge'.

The day is for all catechists, including those involved in Children's Liturgy. Please go to this link for more information and to book: [Catechists' Day \(23-Sep-2023\)](#)

Catechesis Group 2023-2024 (RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

In September we are starting a new **RCIA group** for those planning to be received into the Catholic Church. The aim of the group is to give an overview of Church teaching, some in-depth exploration of doctrine, and formation in the basic aspects of Christian living. The group will be led by Geoff Chapman, and will follow a course called *Sycamore*, a very helpful series of high-quality videos that give a good balance between input and group discussion. Each session is 60 to 90 minutes long, and the course will run weekly, during school term time, from September through to Easter. The group is informal and discussion based and is a great way to get to know people in the Parish better.

In previous years, we have also found that the course is very suitable for anyone who is exploring the Catholic faith, even if they are not sure about becoming Catholic, as well as Catholics who wish to grow in their understanding. This extra participation is also very helpful for those who are in RCIA, so we would encourage to come along to support them if you have the time.

If you are interested in joining, whether for RCIA or just to explore the Catholic faith more deeply, please contact Geoff by email at gchapman@worth.org.uk, or by phone on 01342 710273, or meet him after mass in the narthex.

A Message from Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group (GDWG)

"As the weather is getting colder, we wanted to let you know that the GDWG clothing store needs some of the below men clothes. It would be greatly appreciated if you are able to help. Please contact Nasima Karimi on email: nasima@gdwg.org.uk. Thank you".

Or you can leave items in the Parish Office Porch.

Jumper size M-L Jacket size M-L Trainer's size 08,09,10,11,12
Trousers size 32-34-36 T-shirt- size M-L Tracksuits all sizes.

Webinar - How can we protect our common home?

7pm, Tuesday, 12th September

This September marks a year since the Bishops of England and Wales republished The Call of Creation, a document that encourages us to repair our relationship with God's creation. It recognises the interconnectedness of the biggest challenges of our times and urges each of us to ask ourselves how we can protect our common home. Watch a panel discussion on the 'Call of creation'.

Register: bigmarker.com/cafod/signsoftimes

Would anyone like to organise a pilgrimage to Walsingham?
Please get in touch with the office.

A Day of Reflection for Grandparents

26th September, 11am-3.30pm at The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley RH10 6RP.
Fr Stephen Ortiger will explore how we can see the hand of God in our lives with our Youth Adviser, Lizzie Wakeling offering some hints and tips for communicating with young people. Register your free place [here](#)

Engaging the Disengaged

How to accompany the non-religious person in day-to-day life, **21st November**, 6pm, online (£10).
The evangelist, speaker and author Sherry Weddell will explore how Catholics can fulfil their mission to bring everyone to Christ.
The seminar is particularly relevant to people who are active in evangelisation: priests, deacons, religious, catechists, teachers, pastoral ministers and parishioners.
Find out more & book [here](#).

*If anyone would like to attend and would like the parish to pay, please let us know.

Creating a safer environment - sessions

Please see below upcoming dates for our 'Creating a Safer Environment' training sessions
(all on Zoom).

This training is aimed at PSR's, Group Leaders, and Coordinators of activities in parishes, who also need to know the elements of our 'Creating a Safer Environment' policy. We would be grateful if you could spread the word to relevant individuals within your parishes and ask them to email Safeguarding@abdiocese.org.uk to register.

- 📅 Wednesday 6th September 10-11.30am
- 📅 Wednesday 11th October 10-11.30am
- 📅 Thursday 26th October 2-3.30pm
- 📅 Tuesday 7th November 7-8.30pm

Links for Our Common Home

[Help Reduce Food Waste](#) [Greenpeace 101 ideas to live more sustainably](#)

[Help Reduce Plastic Waste](#) [Laudato Si' Movement](#)

[WSCC Environment and Climate Change Newsletter](#)

[Nature on your doorstep](#) <https://www.sussexgreenliving.co.uk/>

<https://www.recyclenow.com/repeatthecycle> [Greenpeace Big Plastic Count](#)

[West Sussex Climate Action](#) [The Joyful Environmentalist](#) [Greener Living](#)

[CAFOD climate crisis campaign](#) [grow wild uk news](#) <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>

For other regular items, please see the website:

For readings, see Universalis: [Universalis](#) Parish Leadership Team: [Parish Leadership Team](#)

Our Facebook page: [Parish Facebook](#) Children's Junior Church liturgy: [Junior Church](#)

Diocesan Family Materials: [Family Materials](#) Parish Giving: [My Dona Parish Giving](#)

For D'Arcy's music, please visit our homepage under Organ volunteers:

<https://www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk/>

Please use the QR code for donations to the Parish. Thank you



Parish Priest: Fr Paul Fleetwood (Mobile: 07764 260216)

Parish Office Email: parish@worth.org.uk Parish Office Tel: 01342 710313 Parish Website: www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk

Secretary: Maria Stribbling, available 9.15am-1.15pm Mon-Fri

Night time emergencies only: 01342 710331

Any cheques to be made payable to – Worth Abbey Parish

In Touch: If you would like anything to appear in 'In Touch', please contact Maria Stribbling at parish@worth.org.uk
(by Wednesday 10am)

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

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.

REGULAR EVENTS IN THE PARISH

Mass Times - Saturday: 9.00 am (Concelebrated) and 5.00 pm (First Mass of Sunday),

Sunday: 9.30 am

Daily Mass: 5.30 pm (Concelebrated), Holy Days of Obligation: 7.30 pm;

Feast Day: 5.30 pm



Confessions (Sacrament of Reconciliation) – In the Church, Sundays 08.45am – 09.15am
(If anyone cannot come at this time, please make a special appointment with Fr Paul)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament – Every Sunday at 6.30pm in the Church, after vespers.

Rosary Group – Mondays in the Abbey Church after Vespers – 7:10pm until 8:00pm. Please get in touch with Rachel Davies: 07801 696354. **Resumes on Monday 11th September**

Lectio Divina – Tuesday evenings at 8pm via Zoom. Please contact Jenny Chapman
jenny_chapman@sky.com

Christian Meditation Group – 7.00pm in the Unity Room, please contact Richard by email
rbrownd1@gmail.com Next Dates – **27th September**, 25th October and 29th November.

Vigil for Vocations - (1st Friday). After Compline 8.30pm - 9.00pm.

Bible Study Group – 2pm on Mondays in Compass House. Please contact Jenny Chapman. **Resumes on Monday 4th September**

Adoration – Wednesdays from 2pm–3pm in the Abbey Church. **Resumes on Wednesday 13th September.**

Worth Abbey Parish is committed to safer recruitment. Arundel and Brighton Diocese and Worth Abbey Parish are committed to safeguarding all children and vulnerable groups at risk within its community. The Diocese aims to embed a culture of safeguarding to prevent abuse and to provide support to individuals who have been hurt by abuse, taking the necessary actions to reduce the likelihood of further harm.

Our Worth Abbey Parish Safeguarding Reps are Charles and Ann McCarthy

Email: sg1.worth@abdiocese.org.uk