




WORTH
ABBEY PARISH

In Touch

Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

Twenty Fourth Sunday in OT (year A)
16th / 17th September 2023
No. 1351

Dear Parishioners

I hope that you and your families are well. At the moment I am confined to barracks with COVID but I hope to be back in harness at the weekend.

I send you all my prayers.

During September we continue our celebration of the season of creation. Following the webinar on Tuesday evening, CAFOD write: *This September marks a year since the Bishops of England and Wales republished The Call of Creation, a document which 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.*

You are invited to join this event hosted by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, CAFOD and St. Mary's University in conversation with Archbishop Peter Loy Chong of Fiji and Sr Margaret Atkins. CAFOD's Director Christine Allen will host and we will also be welcomed by Bishop John Arnold.

I hope that you will enjoy the webinar:

https://www.bigmarker.com/cafod/signsoftimes?bmid=6ec61f04f7e1&bmid_type=member

Archbishop Peter of Fiji speaks very movingly about the challenges, which his people face living on low-lying islands, in the face of rising ocean levels caused by climate change.

Meanwhile do please pray for the success of our new family catechism programme which begins this Sunday after mass, with the All Saints group

I send my best wishes

Fr Paul

Prayers

Please pray for our former parishioner, Nicolas Bellord, RIP, and for his widow, Angela. Nicolas died recently. His funeral will be held at St George's, Ditchling Common, at 11am on 21st September.

Please pray for Mary Baker, who is back at home and recovering.

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

Praying with creation

"For the believer, to contemplate creation is to hear a message, to listen to a paradoxical and silent voice."
(LS 85)

*Praise and thanks be to you, Creator of the universe for the beauty and variety you have given us.
As seasons change, the colours of the woods, countryside and meadows
also change continuously and bring joy to our eyes, along with new scents even for those who cannot see.
How marvellous the perfect mechanism that you thought of, one of an orderly and joyful coexistence,
and with so much responsibility for the beings you created in your own image and likeness!
The scent of the flowers, the majesty of the trees, the song of the birds, the spectacle of the mushrooms
make of your woods stupendous cathedrals, where we celebrate in joy
the memorial of creation and our covenant as brothers and sisters.
From the heights of the snowy peaks and from the depths of the abysses of the cerulean seas
everything sings the greatness of God our Creator.
Laudato Si', our Lord!
Amen*

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

**Please pray for the Souls of – John Johnson, Mr Pannett, Nathaniel Lane, Michael McLoughlin, Victor Avico, Janette Curry, Dorothy Neve, Nellie Bond, Joan Edey and John McCall
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.**

Daily Readings

Monday – 1 Tim 2:1-8 Luke 7:1-10

Tuesday – 1 Tim 3:1-13 Luke 7:11-17

Wednesday – 1 Tim 3:14-16 Luke 7:31-35 **(SS Andrew Kim Taegon and Paul Chong Hasang)**

Thursday – Eph 4:1-7, 11-13 Matt 9:9-13 **(St Matthew)**

Friday – 1 Tim 6:2c-12 Luke 8:1-3

Saturday – 1 Tim 6:13-16 Luke 8:4-15 **(St Pius of Pietrelcina)**

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

1st Reading – Isaiah 55:6-9 2nd Reading – Philippians 1:20-24, 27

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Why be envious because I am generous?

Parish Events

This weekend there is a Second Collection for
"Mission Sunday"

Do you have any leftover foreign currency? You can Pop it
into our collection basket, we will happily accept it.

Fair Trade Stall

Worth Abbey Parish has been supporting the sale of fair-trade goods for many years. The Fair-Trade stall is open every Sunday after the 9.30 am Mass and is stocked with many fair-trade essentials and a wide range of chocolate and biscuits. It is run by volunteers from the Parish on a rota basis and we are keen to recruit new helpers to join the rota. If anyone would be interested or like more information please come and speak to us on the stall or you can call me on 07905 394269, email: Singapore.girl@hotmail.co.uk. Thank you.

Caroline Howells, Fair Trade Coordinator.

Dates for your Diary

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 you 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.

House Group Gathering

All welcome! We have a very informal house group gathering in Balcombe on the last Friday of each month. All Worth parishioners are very welcome to come, socialise, relax, have a drink and some snacks and get to know your community better.

Upcoming dates are: 29th September, 27th October, 24th November and 29th December.

We gather from 7.30pm.

Please let Charlie Tibble know on 07845956243 if you intend to come the week before and she will send you directions

Worth Abbey Pilgrims

As part of the High Weald Walking Festival, join us for accompanied walks through the Worth Estate on **Thursday 14th and 16th September at 11am or 2pm.**

These walks will be led by Fr Patrick and we will have some local experts on hand to point out areas of interest on our farm, and about our trees, woodland, wildlife and birds. this walk will be a leisurely walk and the duration will be approximately 1.5 to 2hrs.

Accompanied children and dogs are welcome.

Alternatively, you may wish to join our walk from Three Bridges Station to Worth on **Saturday 16th September at 11am.**

This walk will be led by Christina and George Fitzsimons and will depart promptly at 11:00am from outside the station. The walk duration is 4.5 hours including a lunch stop at Worth Abbey.

The walk is suitable for accompanied younger walkers who have experience of walking longer distances on trails and off-road paths. Please note, no dogs, except assistance dogs.

There will be refreshments available to purchase on the Piazza of the Abbey Church and walkers are very welcome to join the Monastic Community for **Midday Prayer at 1:00pm.**

Accompanied children are welcome. Please wear appropriate footwear.

All walks must be booked through the [High Weald Walking Festival website](#)



Our Lady of Walsingham

Worth Abbey Parish Community
visit to the Catholic National Shrine
and Basilica of
Our Lady - Walsingham



Slipper Chapel Shrine

England, dowry of Mary, is blessed by the Shrine being sited here in the UK diocese of East Anglia. Known and much loved, it's on a par with Knock, Lourdes and Fatima, to name a few.

Our community is considering a visit, either day trip or overnight, to the Shrine and putting together a small core project group to plan, organise and lead this visit. If you would like to help or have a skill/expertise to bring to the group, please contact me as per my details below.

Once I have a few names, I will set up a meeting to share ideas & arrangements. This meeting will be informal and either on-line (Zoom) or in person. I look forward to hearing from everyone interested and, in the meantime, ask the whole of Worth Abbey Parish Community to seek the intercession of Our Lady, Help of Christians, for the visit to be realised. Ave Maria!

Penny

07759 023 743

Penny28HB@aol.com

Non-Parish Events

Library of Things

Share Haywards Heath Tuesdays 9.30pm-11am and Saturdays 9am-10am at
1st Lindfield Scout Hut, Eastern Road, Haywards Heath, RH16 2LP

Brand-new Library of Things in Haywards Heath: - a lending service that offers a wide variety of items for short-term borrowing, promoting sustainable consumption and reducing waste by allowing people to borrow items they need but may not use frequently. <https://sharehh.lend-engine.com/home-1>

This year's DSEI Arms Fair (which is one of the largest in the world)

The arms fair takes place in London from 12th – 15th September, bringing together governments and military delegations from across the world, with more than 1,500 companies selling guns, bombs, and other weaponry. In a statement issued on behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW), Bishop Declan Lang and Bishop Nicholas Hudson criticised the “immoral” sale of weapons for profit saying:

"Pope Francis reminds us that while it may sometimes be legitimate to provide military assistance for countries to defend themselves against aggression, promoting the sale of weapons for profit is immoral and inflicts grave harm upon our human family.

"Through hosting one of the world's largest arms fairs, our country is complicit in fuelling conflicts around the world which destroy lives, drive people from their homes, trap communities in poverty, and damage the environment.

"We once again send our prayers and best wishes to all those who, inspired by Christ's call to be peacemakers, are opposing the arms fair."

You can find out more on the [CBCEW website](#).

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](#)

Crawley Interfaith Network (CIFN)

"Interfaith Journey in Crawley"

Open Forum: Sharing our memories of CIFN experiences & thoughts for going forward.

On **Wednesday 27th September** from 7.30pm – 9pm at

Crawley Museum, The Tree, 103 High Street, Crawley RH10 1DD

Lead Speaker: Roger Baker, First Chair of Crawley Interfaith Network.

ALL are welcome to participate in sharing their experiences.

Website <https://www.crawleyinter-faith.com/>

Face Book: www.facebook.com/Crawley-Interfaith-Network-527183677396243

For Further Information Contact: Iyad Daoud: iyadhdaoud@yahoo.co.uk or 01293 883372

'Who Cares? We Do'

Restored Lives Session, **7th October** at St Joseph's Church, Dorking, RH4 3DL.

A free support group for people going through divorce and separation. This self-help group is run by others who have experienced this loss and change in their lives and are on a recovery journey. The group meet monthly in various locations in West Sussex and Surrey.

For more details [contact the Who Cares team](#).

CELEBRATE Faith Parenting Zoom Evenings

28th September, 5th & 12th October.

CELEBRATE family ministry is running a short series of practical zoom evenings to help families and catechists encourage and inspire children in faith. Join experienced speakers to discover fresh and innovative ways to help children learn about their faith in a relevant and accessible way.

For more information and to book [click here](#).

Day Retreat for Discerning the Priesthood

Saturday 14th October at St Pius X Church in Guildford

Have you considered that Christ may be calling you to serve Him as His priest? Join the diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Tristan Cranfield, for a day of reflection, prayer, and to find out more about this beautiful and essential vocation.

Contact E: vocations@abdiocese.org.uk to register your place and find out more.

Anti-Slavery Day – Slavery on Your Doorstep

Wednesday 18th October

from 6.30pm - 8pm

at the Fitzherbert Community Hub,
2 Bristol Road, Kempdown, Brighton BN2 1AP

Come and find out how modern slavery is very much here in our local area, and how we can respond

Crawley Open House Sleep Out

Every year Open House hold a sponsored sleep out and this year it takes place on the night of **Thursday 26th October**, either in Crawley's Queen's Square or at home. The main event will see a large group spending the night in the Square, but the option is there for people to do it in their homes or place of work if that suits them better.

Crawley Open House say "We are well aware that these sleep outs offer only a tiny glimpse of the disorientation, tiredness and discomfort that too many have to endure EVERY night. However even one night on concrete under the stars can be an eye-opener for many. It is our largest fundraising event this year, and we hope to raise over £10,000 from peoples' combined sponsorship. We face unprecedented demand for our services currently, whilst seeing a marked drop in individual and community giving as a result of the cost-of-living crisis, so we hope this event will attract even more participants and support than usual"

Sign up for your sponsorship at the campaign page

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/cohbigssleepout2023> Or

Please contact ian.wilkins@crawleyopenhouse.co.uk if you have any questions.

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

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.

The National Board of Catholic Women

You are invited to a Webinar on **Saturday 25th November** from 11am-12.45pm.

The webinar is titled – Inspiring Women, Enabling Women to flourish in the Church.

Professor Tina Beattie will explore how we can express our creativity and share our gifts as women; encourage and support women's many different abilities and callings; celebrate our achievements and learn from our frustrations and failings.

Email: nbcw@abdiocese.org.uk to register your interest.

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 voluntaries:

<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.

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.

Adoration – Wednesdays from 2pm–3pm in the Abbey Church.

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