



Journeying Together:

Collaboration

Co-operation

Co-Responsibility

In Touch

Dear Parishioners

Twenty Fourth Sunday in OT (year B)
14th / 15th September 2024 (No. 1394)

I hope that you and your families are all well. I send you all my prayers.

This Sunday is designated **Evangelii Gaudium** Sunday, when we are invited to remember the call of Pope Francis in his very first document as Pope to experience and to promote *The Joy of the Gospel*. It is an invitation to become a missionary Church, in the conviction that this is the true reason for the very existence of our Church. He writes (#27): *I dream of a “missionary option”, that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation. The renewal of structures demanded by pastoral conversion can only be understood in this light: as part of an effort to make them more mission-oriented, to make ordinary pastoral activity on every level more inclusive and open, to inspire in pastoral workers a constant desire to go forth and in this way to elicit a positive response from all those whom Jesus summons to friendship with himself.*

The Bishops have issued a statement for today. They write: *It is very clear that Pope Francis is inviting us to know the joy that we can feel when we enter a personal relationship with the Lord. Our desire to learn more about Jesus as we encounter him in the Scriptures and through our prayers provides us with the opportunity to experience the true joy of the Gospel and what it means to be a disciple. Pope Francis encourages us to live out the joy of the Gospel not only in our prayer and when we are in Church, but also by the way that we are called to serve each other especially the most vulnerable and those who feel themselves on the periphery of society. The essence of living out the joy of the Gospel is that our personal encounter with Jesus in personal prayer, in the sacraments and in our reading of the Scriptures help us to discern the unique gift that we have received from the Lord and that we can put at his service and the service of the Church and of others. Having recognised our gifts and talents we can release them for service within the life of the Church, in this way building up the Body of Christ. When we do this, we soon realise that we depend wholly on the Lord who shows us the true meaning of our lives and how to live in this world. The One we contemplate in prayer becomes the face of the other whom we serve in the world.*

Today we begin again our programme of Family Formation, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our catechists who generously offer their time and energy and talents to bring the Gospel to members of our parish.

Please see the full document of the Bishops on our website. [Evangelii Gaudium](#)

I send my best wishes to you all. Fr Paul

Prayers

Please pray for Terry and Susan Scoble, and for Pamela Bagwell, in hospital; and for Fred Green, who is approaching the end of his life.

Please pray for the success of the visits which Pope Francis is making to countries in Asia.

Please pray for our new programme of Family formation which begins on Sunday.

Please pray for Dominic Savoy and his Fiancée Beth. Beth was received into the Catholic church last week and they will be married at the end of this month.

Please pray for Barry and Fran O'Sullivan who celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Sunday

Please continue to pray for our parishioners Sue Pearson, Norbert D'Souza, John and Sue Rutherford, Demelza Waring, Liz Hicklin, Helen Sweetman, Jill Carter, Laura Rawlinson, Peter and Antee Greene.

Prayer for Creation

*Triune Lord, wondrous community of infinite love,
teach us to contemplate you in the beauty of the universe,
for all things speak of you.*

Awaken our praise and thankfulness for every being that you have made.

Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined to everything that is.

*God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love
for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.*

*Enlighten those who possess power and money that they may avoid the sin of indifference,
that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live.*

The poor and the earth are crying out.

*O Lord, seize us with your power and light, help us to protect all life, to prepare for a better future,
for the coming of your Kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty.*

Praise be to you!

Amen.

In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year "Pilgrims of Hope", 2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer by Pope Francis.

"Prayer unites us; it makes us brothers and sisters.

It is in prayer that our hearts find the strength not to be cold and insensitive in the face of injustice.

In prayer, God keeps calling us, opening our hearts to charity." (Pope Francis)

God of peace may your kingdom come. May fear strike no longer, let pain fade away, may earthly power be challenged, when it plunders the poor, and tramples on hope.

God of peace may your kingdom come. Help us put away the weapons of war, help us destroy the tools of destruction, let earthly power be challenged, when it plunders the poor, and tramples on hope.

God of peace may your kingdom come. Teach us to follow the ways of justice, teach us to walk the paths of truth, let integrity challenge the power that plunders, when it tramples the poor and pours scorn on our hope.

God of peace may your kingdom come. Bring peace sweet as honey, bring peace like a shield, and may we be the challenge to earthly power that plunders and tramples on hope.

God of peace may your kingdom come.

Amen.

(Linda Jones/CAFOD)

Please pray for the people of Israel and Palestine and of Russia and Ukraine

*God of peace, who are peace itself,
and whom a spirit of discord cannot grasp, nor a violent mind receive,
grant that those who are one in heart may persevere in what is good.
and that those in conflict may forget evil and so be healed.*

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

(Prayer: Roman Missal, p.1361)

Anniversaries

Please pray for the Souls of – Michael Finch, Zofia Tywonska, John Ovenden, Matthew Boughton, John Johnson, Mr Pannett, Nathaniel Lane, Michael McLoughlin, Victor Avico and Janette Curry. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.

Daily Readings

Monday – 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33 Luke 7:1-10 (**SS Cornelius and Cyprian**)

Tuesday – 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a Luke 7:11-17

Wednesday – 1 Cor 12:31 – 13:13 Luke 7:31-35

Thursday – 1 Cor 15:1-11 Luke 7:36-50

Friday – 1 Cor 15:12-20 Luke 8:1-3 (**SS Andrew Kim Taegon and Paul Chong Hasang**)

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

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

1st Reading – Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 2nd Reading – James 3:16-4:3

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me.

Parish Events

Dates for your Diary



This Sunday, 15th September – Family Catechesis resumes.

Saturday, 21st September – 11am – 4pm. This year the Catechists' Day will be held again at Worth Abbey & School. We are inviting Catechists and those involved in Children's Liturgy and all forms of adult formation. The theme will be in response to the Pastoral Plan: Call to Mission - are we Equipped for Mission? For more information and to sign up please see <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/2worn7dx>

Mark and Charlie's House Group Gathering

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. Please contact Charlie Tibble c.tibble@stwilfrids.com. Next Date:

Friday, 27th September at 7.30pm.

Fr Paul's absence

Most of you will know that I will have some minor surgery on September 23rd and will be out of action during that week. Abbot Mark has kindly offered me a mini sabbatical for the month of October.

This will give me more energy to serve you better in the future, and I will keep you all in my prayers.

Please pray for me.

During my absence, please direct all inquiries and requests to Maria in the parish office, and she will pass these on to the relevant person. The usual masses will of course be celebrated during my absence.

This Weekend there will be a Second Collection for Mission Sunday.

On *Evangelii Gaudium* Sunday the bishops of England and Wales ask us to pray for the work of evangelisation across our countries and to see ways in which Catholics within their parish settings may be more involved in this work. We are invited to contribute to this work in the collection today.

RCIA

Dear Friends, we are delighted to invite you to participate in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program at Worth Abbey Parish, beginning this September. The RCIA is a journey of faith, providing an opportunity for those who are considering joining the Catholic Church to learn about our beliefs, traditions, and community life.

Whether you are unbaptized, baptized in another Christian tradition, or baptized Catholic but have not received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist, the RCIA program offers a supportive environment to explore your faith and grow spiritually. This invitation is also extended to Sponsors and those who wish to explore the foundations of their faith more deeply.

Please feel free to reach out to me, Geoff Chapman, via email at gchapman@worth.org.uk or call me at 01342 710273 for further information or to express your interest.

We look forward to welcoming you and walking together on this path of faith and discovery.

With blessings, Geoff Chapman, RCIA Coordinator, Worth Abbey Parish

Worth Abbey Pilgrims

Join us for the High Weald Walking Festival and immerse yourself in the serene beauty of the Worth Estate with the Worth Abbey Pilgrims. Read further information and reserve your place now at

<https://www.highwealdwalks.org/guided-walks>

Event Highlights:

Thursday, 12th September: Choose from two guided walks at 10:30am and 2:00pm, led by Fr Patrick. Meet at Abbey Church Piazza. Duration: 1.5-2 hours, Distance: 4.6 km.

Saturday, 14th September: A peaceful walk from Balcombe Rail Station to Worth at 10:45am, returning at 4.00pm. Distance: 8m. This walk is not suitable for young children or dogs.

Enjoy a picnic or refreshments at Worth Abbey Piazza.; Join the Monastic Community for Midday Prayer at 1.00pm or Mass at 5.30pm (5.00pm on Saturdays). We look forward to sharing these walks with you and celebrating the beauty and joy of Worth.



Family Catechesis

We will start our **Family Catechism** again this Sunday, 15th September. It will be a great help if you could very kindly enrol your children in one of the groups according to their age. We need to ensure that we have the correct number of catechists for each group, and a room which will be adequate.

We add to this email, The Introduction to Family Formation for the coming year by Lizzy Wakeling, together with the parental consent form. Please complete the consent form and return it to parish@worth.org.uk Do please note that this year we are pleased to be able to offer two new groups – Baby Saints, for three to five year olds, and Faith Alive, for nine to twelve year olds – as well as the groups which we ran last year.

Request for phone donations - GDWG

Does anyone have an old smartphone that is still in good working condition? We are getting a lot of requests for smartphones and are unable to keep up with the demand. If you are upgrading your phone or have an unwanted phone, we'd so appreciate your donations. Thank you. Please let Karris know if you can help at

karris@gdwg.org.uk



Worth Pro Earth

Monday was the start of Fairtrade fortnight, 9th – 22nd September. 30 years of working together has made the Fairtrade mark a leader of life-changing impact for farmers and workers across the world. It's 30 years since the first Fairtrade certified products hit supermarket shelves. In that time the movement has achieved incredible informative impact. Fairtrade works with farming co-operatives, businesses and governments to make trade fairer. Together with Fairtrade farmers and workers they have a vision: a world in which trade is based on fairness so that producers earn secure and sustainable livelihoods.

Choose Fairtrade now and help save our favourite foods. Did you know cocoa, bananas and coffee could soon be much more difficult to find on our shelves? Climate change is making crops like these harder and harder to grow. Combined with deeply unfair trade, communities growing these crops are being pushed to the brink. More of us choosing Fairtrade means extra income, power and support for those communities, as they work to build sustainable and prosperous futures.

Please remember when shopping that 'Fairtrade' is the gold standard of ethical trading and the world's most trusted and best known food certification scheme. 'Fairtrade' certifies products and ingredients. They independently check that their standards have been met by the farmers, workers and companies that are part of product supply chains. In order to reassure consumers that this has happened, they license the use of the 'Fairtrade' mark on products and packaging to signal this. Look out for the logo above on Fairtrade foods.

As many of you know, the Worth Abbey Fairtrade stall carries a large selection of Divine chocolate. Divine is the only chocolate company in the world which is 100% 'Fairtrade' and owned by cocoa farmers. While 'Fairtrade' ensures farmers receive a better deal for their cocoa and additional income to invest in their community, company ownership gives farmers a share of Divine's profits and a stronger voice in the cocoa industry.

Choose 'Fairtrade' this Fairtrade Fortnight and beyond; choose to fight for climate justice, for farmers on the front line of climate change, for our planet and for future generations.

The Dutch born Catholic missionary Father Frans van der Hoff, who died in February 2024, was a co-founder of the global Fairtrade movement. Through guaranteeing price levels for their produce that benefit their communities, it has improved the livelihoods of millions of cooperative farmers. His obituary can be read in full at the following link: [Fr Frans Van Der Hoff](#)

Growing our Movement for Change Report

Read the report to mark 30 years of fairtrade sales in the UK, the difference that it has made all around the world and what the future holds for fairtrade. [Fairtrade at 30](#)

The Fairtrade stall is open every Sunday after the 0930 am Mass. You will find us in the Narthex.

WPE welcome new members. We meet once a month on a Wednesday at 2pm in St Benedict's. Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 18th September** at 2pm. Please get in touch if you would like to attend.

*Creator God, we thank you for the wondrous gifts of creation.
Inspire us to take only what we need, so that your people may benefit equally
from the gifts you give us all.
Amen*

SEASON 4

MONKS
IN THE CITY

A prayerful oasis for the city of Brighton

☎ 07444 802368 📍 St John the Baptist's, 2 Bristol Rd, Kempdown, BN2 1AP.

Season 4 dates and times

Saturday Sanctuary - 14th Sept, 5th Oct, 2nd Nov, 7th Dec

A morning of fellowship, reflection, prayer & silence. 10.10am - 12.10pm
7th Dec is an Advent Day of reflection 10.10am - 5pm

Monk Talks - 24th Sept, 22nd Oct, 19th Nov

6pm evening prayer, 6.30pm simple supper, 7pm talk.
24th Sep - 'Praying with Lectio' *D Anthony/D Gabriel*
22nd Oct - 'Praying with Meditation' *D Peter*
19th Nov - 'Praying with Icons' *Rosie Bradshaw*

Midday Stillness - 13th Sept to 13th Dec

An hour of music, prayer and reflection.
Fridays 12noon - 1pm

Pray with us

Morning Prayer 9am Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat
Evening Prayer 6pm Mon, Tue, Wed

Special Vespers - 24th Nov

Solemnity of Christ the King 5pm



www.monksinthecity.uk

Non-Parish Events

Catechists' Day

Saturday 21st September 11am - 4pm at Worth School. For all catechists and those involved in adult formation across our parishes: a day of formation, reflection and networking. Sign up at [Catechists' Day \(21-Sep-2024\) · ChurchSuite Events](#) or book through the Diocesan website events calendar. Any queries please email E: jon.harman@abdiocese.org.uk

"Interfaith Journey in Crawley"

Open Forum: Reflections on Past Events & Looking Forward into the Future.

Date: **Thursday 26th September** at 7.30 – 9.00pm

Venue: Longley Room, The Orchard, 1-2 Gleneagles Court, Brighton Road, Crawley, RH10 6AD

Refreshments (Coffee & Chai (Masala Tea) & Samosas will be served to celebrate 5th Sept (World Samosa Day).

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,
01293 883372

CIFN: Gratefully Supported by: Crawley Borough Council and Longley Trust

Beginning Experience Weekend

4th – 6th October, Brentwood CM15 9BX
(Cost: £195).

A residential weekend programme led by trained volunteers for widowed, separated and divorced people, aimed at helping participants with natural feelings of grief and loss.

For further details please visit the Beginning Experience [Website](#)

Anti-Slavery Day

18th October 6.30pm-8.30pm, Chichester Cathedral & Assembly Rooms, PO19 1AF.
Join Bishop Richard and Bishop & Alastair Redfern at an [Ecumenical Anti-Slavery event](#) with speakers from Sussex Police, West Sussex County Council and our diocesan Modern Slavery Ambassador volunteers.
All are welcome

Marriage Anniversaries Mass

Saturday 12th October 11.30am at Arundel Cathedral. Bishop Richard will celebrate Mass followed by a drink's reception. Please join us for a wonderful opportunity to renew your wedding vows and revel in the joy that marriage can bring.

Family and friends are very welcome. To book your place please use the attached link.

<https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/70tzo4jq> or book through the Diocesan website events calendar.

Mass for Altar Servers

26th October, 12pm, Arundel Cathedral.
Altar servers across our Diocese are warmly invited to join Bishop Richard for a special Mass to celebrate their service in the Church.

[Click Here](#) to find out more. Everyone is welcome.

Please contact Michael Weston Burt on paul.michael.westonburt@btinternet.com

The Lourdes Pilgrimage Big Sing

26th October, 2pm, Worth Abbey, RH10 4SB.

People across our faith family are invited to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of our diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage by raising their voices to sing some 'Lourdes favourites'. Entry is free with donations to the Pilgrimage welcome on the day.

[Click Here](#) to let the team know you're coming

Grandparents' Formation Day

Wednesday 6th November at 11am at the St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley.
Come along for a day with Becky Sedgewick, author of the inspiring 'Grandparenting for Faith' book. Refreshments from 10.15am.

Please bring a packed lunch.

To book your place please use the attached link [Grandparents Day](#) or book through the Diocesan website events calendar.

Marriage Catechists' Day

Saturday 16th November at 11am at the St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley. Please join us for our Annual Day of Formation.

Bishop Richard looks forward to welcoming you to celebrate all that you offer in your Ministry and to share how marriage preparation will continue to develop under the revised Pastoral Plan. If you are part of a team, it would be wonderful if the whole team could attend. To book your place please use the attached link [Marriage Catechists](#) or book through the Diocesan website events calendar.

News on the Synod, to be completed in Rome during the month of October.

The "working document" for the Synod has been released. Cardinal Vincent Nichols said: "This is a welcome document which has clarity of purpose, firmness of foundations, refreshing perspectives and concrete pathways for development. Its purpose is clear: to rekindle hope, to spark renewal in discipleship, to restore a missionary outreach in the Church on the basis of our common baptism and to do so through working and walking together." The document is structured in five sections with three central parts:

- Relationships with God, among brothers and sisters, and among the Churches.
 - Formative paths and community discernment.
 - Places of ecumenical and interreligious dialogue.

The document concludes with an invitation to continue the journey as "Pilgrims of Hope" in next year's Jubilee. [Click Here](#) to download the document, or [here](#) to read more about it on the A & B website.

Source: [CBCEW](#); [Vatican News](#)

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](#)

or use our QR code.



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

Nighttime 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 and on
Wednesdays from 2.30pm-3.30pm in the main Church.

Rosary Group – Mondays in the Abbey Church after Vespers – 7:10pm until 8:00pm. Please contact Rachel
Davies: 07801 696354.

Lectio Divina – Tuesday evenings at 8pm via Zoom. Please contact Jenny Chapman
jenny_chapman@sky.com If you would like to join us, please contact Jenny Chapman by email or speak to
her after Mass any weekend.

Christian Meditation Group – 7.00pm in the Unity Room, please contact Richard by email
rbrownd1@gmail.com . Forthcoming dates **25th September**, **23rd October** and **27th November**.

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

Bible Study Group – 11am on Mondays in St Benedict's (Parish Office). Please contact the Parish Office.



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