

WORTH PARISH*St Nicholas, Worth & St Barnabas, Pound Hill*

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the
mouth of God.”

Sunday March 9th 2014
First Sunday of Lent

Welcome to our church today.

*If you have time afterwards, please
stay for refreshments.*

*At the Distribution of Communion all
are welcome to come to the altar rail
to receive a blessing or, if baptised,
the Communion.*

*Children are welcome at all our
services, and there are soft toys and
children's books at the back of the
church for their use.*

SERVICES TODAY

08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)

at St Nicholas

Celebrant & Preacher:

Canon Anthony Ball

09.45 NO SERVICE at St Nicholas

10.00 PARISH Eucharist at St Barnabas

Celebrant :- Revd Angela Martin

Preacher: Canon Anthony Ball

Next week's Readings

Genesis 12. 1 – 4a

Psalms 121

Romans 4. 1 – 5, 13 – 17

John 3. 1 – 17

The Rector writes:-

On returning from Egypt on Thursday I was saddened to learn that Janet Mann had died that morning. This Lent will have a particular poignancy for Phil, the family and their many friends – “doing without” sharing in Janet’s great love of people and, most especially, her family. Today’s gospel has Jesus being led into the wilderness, the Judean desert, for a period of “doing without” and spiritual re-forming. He emerges strengthened to undertake his public ministry. Earlier in the week I was driving through the bleak Sahara desert that covers much of Egypt’s land surface, before returning to the water-ways, fed by the Nile, that sustain life in the rural areas. There I met people who live in dreadful poverty but for whom the various Christian partners with whom Embrace (the charity I travelled for) work were providing hope and opportunities to change their lives. In that context, with Janet and others in our parish going through difficult times very much in my mind, I reflected on possible contributions to the Women’s World Day of Prayer on Friday, prepared this year by Egyptian women with the theme “Streams in the Desert”. There is no denying the desert (or the poverty or the hurt) and as water (acts of love and charity) is poured on the sand it seems simply to disappear. What’s the point ? But then the most remarkable thing happens as the dormant seeds in the desert burst into blossom. As we make a spiritual journey this Lent, through our own deserts, let us trust in and give thanks for the refreshing streams God provides – seeking, too, to provide that refreshment for others. *Anthony*

READINGS for the day.

Collect –

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Genesis 2. 15 - 17; 3. 1 - 7

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, ‘You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.’

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God say, “You shall not eat from any tree in the garden”?’ The woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, “You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.”’ But the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit

and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Psalm 32

SECOND READING

Romans 5. 12 - 19

A Reading from Paul’s Letter to the Romans.

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man’s trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man’s sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man’s trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man’s trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man’s act of righteousness leads to justification

and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

GOSPEL

Matthew 4. 1 - 11

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."' '

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' '

Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' '

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."' '

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Post Communion Prayer –

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SERVICES during next week

St Nicholas

Mon – Fri 07.30 Morning Prayer
Sat 08.30 Morning Prayer

St Barnabas

Mon – Sat 17.00 Evening Prayer

Tues 10.30 Eucharist – St Barnabas

Thurs 10.30 Eucharist – St Nicholas

Fri 17.00 Stations of the Cross –

St Barnabas

Sat - NO Weddings

12.00-12.30 Ring Blessing–St Nicholas

Services next Sunday

Second Sunday of Lent

08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)

- St Nicholas

09.45 Sung Eucharist - St Nicholas

10.00 Family Service - St Barnabas

Did you know... we were not successful in our bid for the school in Forge Wood ? The successful bidder was the GLYN Academy chain.

N.B. More volunteers are needed to help in the **Pastoral Centre on Saturday mornings 10.00 am - 12 noon.** If anyone feels able to offer one Saturday morning every six weeks or is able to help on **Tuesday mornings 10.30-12.30** Phyl Pennell 883362 roger.pennell@Zen.co.uk

NOTICES

It is with great sadness we announce that Janet Mann passed away on Thursday March 6th. Our thoughts and prayers are with Phil & family. A service of Thanksgiving for Janet's life will take place March 21st 1.00pm at St Nicholas.

Friday lunches in the Pastoral Centre.

Please purchase tickets by March 11th for **March 14th** (01293 883362)

Two courses plus tea/coffee **£5.50**.

BOOK QUIZ Copies on sale **TODAY £1 each**, from Jan Brooks, Karen Fly, Ann Lane, Phyl Pennell or Jane Stanford. Return by March 23rd.

Thanks to all who supported the Saturday Market on March 1st. **£78.66** was raised for church funds and the Knit 'n' Natter stall raised **£27** towards the Pastoral Centre Double Glazing Project.

Thanks to those who supported Gill Osborne's 3, Tea Dances in February. **£115** (all gift aided) was raised for church funds.

LENT SOUP LUNCHESES will be available in the Pastoral Centre 12.30pm **Wednesdays in Lent until April 16th** after a short meditation with Revd Angela. Donations in aid of Parish World Bank.

Tuesday March 11th Lent Bible Study

CURC 7.30pm – 9.00pm for 6 weeks. Sign-up sheets in both churches, books **£7.75** from Joan Tick.

Monday March 10th St Barnabas

Julian Group 11.00am in the Narthex.

Thursday March 13th St Nicholas

Julian Group 2.30pm in the Chapel.

Saturday March 15th 9.30am Parish

Jumble Sale in St. Barnabas Hall. Please bring Jumble to St. Barnabas from March 11th Helpers are needed on March 15th – there is a list for signing in the Narthex ...

....at St. Barnabas or ring Phyl on (01293) 883362. Thank you'.

DIARY NOTES

Thursday March 20th Mothers' Union

Wave of Prayer 3.00- 4.00pm meeting initially in the Narthex.

Sunday March 23rd APCM 11.30am

St Barnabas. Everyone is invited to attend the Annual Meeting, coffee will be served before the Meeting in the Pastoral Centre.

Saturday March 29th Spring Cleaning

at St. Nicholas: 9.30 a.m. onwards (we usually finish about 12.30 – but the more who come the quicker it will be done !) Do please come and join us – it's a busy but sociable morning and we would love to see you. Bring your own Hoover if you wish. Contact Jill Freeborn 883631.

Sunday June 8th Evensong – 6.30pm at St Nicholas.

CONTACTS

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PARISH OFFICE

for enquiries about
weddings, baptisms, hall bookings, etc.

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