

WORTH PARISH*St Nicholas, Worth & St Barnabas, Pound Hill***Hope !****Sunday November 30th 2014****Advent Sunday***Welcome to our churches 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 Sung Eucharist at St Nicholas

Celebrant & Preacher:

Canon Anthony Ball

10.00 Eucharist at St Barnabas

Celebrant & Preacher: Canon Julia Peaty

15.00 Christingle service at St Barnabas

Presiding: Canon Anthony Ball

18.30 Advent Carol Service at St Nicholas

Presiding: Canon Anthony Ball**Next week's Readings**

Isaiah 40. 1 – 11

Psalm 85. 8 – 13

2 Peter 3. 8 – 15a

Mark 1. 1 – 8

The Curate writes:-

What's the best moment of my life? Was it the birth of my daughters? But, which one? Was it meeting Liz or our Wedding Day? Was it a sporting achievement? Was it my Baptism or even my ordination? The past seems so much better than my today. How often do we hear it's not like it used to be — I also say to people thinking of joining the police — 'It's not the Job I joined' — as I swing the lamp! So are my best moments in life gone? Or should I look to the future when I have sorted out this or managed to get this thing (Liz see my Christmas List!) to get to the best moment. The reading in Matthew seems to suggest that we are to be constantly watching out to the future — waiting — after all Advent is a season of waiting. So the best moment of my life — past or future? I want to offer another candidate. The greatest moment of my life is this moment right here. This beat of my heart right now. Why? Not because it's particularly joyous or memorable, but rather because it's the only moment I've got. Every past moment is gone — if I live there I lose life. If I live in my future I spend eternity waiting for tomorrow — if I live there I lose life. It's only in the present moment that I can meet God right here, right now. He's in my every breath, every person I meet, in the smallest and most ordinary, for He is faithful. I'm not saying that the past is not important or that we are not to have vision into the future. Rather if we want to encounter God, then we must be attentive and embrace the now of today — for God is closer than we think.

Steve.

READINGS for the day.

Collect:

ALMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and ever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 64. 1 - 9

Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities

like the wind, take us away.

There is no one who calls on your name or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Psalms 80. 1 – 8

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1. 3 - 9

A Reading from the Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.



GOSPEL

Mark 13. 24 - 37

A Reading from the Gospel according to Mark.

‘But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

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### Today's Fact

November 30th is St Andrew's Day; the patron Saint of Scotland, Greece & Russia; he was Christ's first disciple and brother of Peter. Andrew was martyred by crucifixion on this day in 60AD in Greece.

## Post Communion

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; 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

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Tues 10.30 Eucharist - St Barnabas
11.00 Home Communion –
Lanehurst Gardens

Thurs 10.30 Eucharist – St Nicholas

Sat. No Weddings

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### Services next Sunday

#### 2nd Sunday of Advent

08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)

- St Nicholas

09.45 Patronal Festival Eucharist &  
family service - St Nicholas

10.00 Eucharist - St Barnabas

Did you know... the focus on stewardship last month brought pledges of an additional £4000 pa (£77 a week) with 12 new people joining the Parish Giving Scheme ? A huge thank you to those who returned response cards. If you have not reviewed your giving for next year or have yet to join the PGS please do so. Please contact The Treasurer (Matthew Knight) or Giving Officers (David Anderson @ St B & Alastair Wells @ St N) to find out more..

## NOTICES

### Christmas lunches in the Pastoral Centre, 12.30, December 5th\* and 12th

Menu includes turkey, trimmings, Christmas pudding, glass of wine, mince pies, tea/coffee, etc.

Tickets, available from the Pastoral Centre, £10.50 each must be bought in advance. \*BUY by Dec 2nd for Dec 5th

Thanks to all who helped to make the Christmas Fair such a great success, both on the day and in the weeks leading up to it, especially the Christmas tree 'putter upper', a perfect 'Santa's little helper'. Amount raised - **£1089+**, there may be a little more to add to that figure over the week.

Leaf clearing at St Nicholas every Monday, weather permitting, so if you can spare some time please join us from 9.30am. Thank you.

ON SALE TODAY after the services in both churches, jars of sweets, **£1** for



Church Funds. Perfect stocking filler!

Tuesday December 2nd weekly until December 16th Advent Course 7.30pm meet in the Narthex at St Barnabas.

Thursday December 4th St Nicholas Circle meets at 7.30pm (note time change) for the annual Yuletide Cheese & Wine evening. A raffle will be held and donations will be gratefully received on the night. Thank you.

Saturday December 6th this will be the last Saturday Market of 2014 10.00am - 11.45am in the Pastoral Centre. There will be a 'Knit n Natter' stall. Do join us for festive refreshments, etc.

### Monday December 8th at 11.00am

St. Barnabas Julian group will be meeting in the Pastoral Centre. Everyone welcome.

Thursday December 11th St Nicholas Julian group meet at 2.30pm in the Chapel.

Saturday December 13th Christmas Tea 3.00-5.00 pm in the Pastoral Centre, with light entertainment, festive fun. Tickets **£5.50p** from Jane Stanford, Sheila Dring, Ann Lane, Jan Brooks and Karen Fly.

## DIARY NOTES

Sunday December 14th Celebration of Christmas & Carols for All 4.00pm at St Barnabas; followed by mince pies &



mulled wine. Please bring an unwrapped gift for a needy person to go



under our tree. Thank you.

### Sunday December 21st Nine Lessons



& Carols



at

St Nicholas 6.30pm

## CONTACTS

### *Rector*

Canon Anthony Ball 01293 882229  
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### *Curate*

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### *Churchwardens*

Rosemary Cordan - 01342 842088  
Phyl Pennell - 01293 883362  
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### *PARISH OFFICE*

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

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