

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

**'You are my Son, the Beloved;
with you I am well pleased.'**

Sunday January 11th 2015

The Baptism of Christ

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 & Preaching: Revd Gordon Parry

09.45 Sung Eucharist & Holy Baptism

at St Nicholas

Celebrant & Preacher: Canon Anthony Ball

10.00 Eucharist at St Barnabas

Celebrant & Preaching: Revd Gordon Parry

12.00 Holy Baptism at St Nicholas

Presiding: Canon Anthony Ball

Next week's Readings

1 Samuel 3. 1 - 10

Psalms 139. 1 - 5, 12 - 18

Revelation 5. 1 - 10

John 1. 43 - 51

The Rector writes:-

In both the Genesis and gospel readings today we have water, spirit and a voice. The hallmarks of creation and the hallmarks of baptism. The beginning of Christian life is a new beginning of God's creative work, a kind of restoration of what it means to be fully human. And being fully human is to grow into such a loving relationship with God that we can be called God's sons and daughters. Jesus' coming among us was precisely to restore humanity to that relationship – something he does from within by becoming fully part of the chaos of the human world. That chaos has been only too evident in the news this week. History as well as our experience tell us that the new humanity that is created around Jesus is not one that is always right or in control of things. But it does mean that Christian people should be (and are) found in those places where humanity is most chaotic – most at risk, most disordered. The baptised are to be found where Jesus was found – defencelessly alongside those suffering and in need. And, as Rowan Williams put it in *Being Christian* (a wonderful little book I was given for Christmas) the baptised Christian should be "in touch with the chaos in his or her own life – because we all of us live with not just the chaos outside ourselves but with quite a lot of inhumanity and muddle inside us". So today, as we reflect on Jesus' baptism and (in different services) welcome four new members of the Christian family as they are baptised, can we renew our commitment to be with Jesus in the depth of human need giving thanks that there too we are with him in the depth of God's love, constantly refreshed and recreated by the Spirit.

READINGS for the day .

Collect:

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; 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 1. 1 – 5

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.



PSALM 29

SECOND READING

Acts 19. 1 - 7

A Reading from The Acts of the Apostles.

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptised?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' Paul said, 'John baptised with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.' On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied — altogether there were about twelve of them.



GOSPEL

Mark 1. 4 - 11

A Reading from the Gospel according to Mark.

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and

were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'



Post Communion

Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Lord, we pray for those who will be baptised today, we ask that your gift of the Holy Spirit will surround them with your love, fill them with love of you, guide and encourage them to follow you, every day of their lives and to be a guiding light in the world for others. **Amen.**

SERVICES during next week

St Barnabas

Mon, Tues, Weds, Fri & Sat

08.30 Morning Prayer & Eucharist

Thurs 8.30 Morning Prayer

St Nicholas

Mon – Sat 17.00 Evening Prayer (BCP)

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**Tues 10.30 NO service** at St Barnabas  
19.30 Eucharist with Licensing  
of Revd James Grant – St Barnabas

**Thurs** 10.30 Eucharist - St Nicholas

**Sat. No weddings.**

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Services next Sunday

Second Sunday of Epiphany

08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)

- St Nicholas

09.45 NO service - St Nicholas

10.00 Parish Eucharist - St Barnabas

New look Parish Magazine



Will be ready to read on February 1st !

Any items you wish to be included should be emailed to...

magazine@worthparish.org.uk

by Monday January 19th, thank you.

This week's Fact

January 12th is the day we remember Aelred, he was born in 1110 in Hexham and when he was 24 entered the Cistercian abbey of Rievaulx in Yorkshire. He led a new foundation in Revesby, Lincolnshire before returning to Rievaulx as Abbot in 1147 and remained there until his death in 1167. Aelred wrote many books on spirituality, history and sermons.

NOTICES

Friday lunches in the Pastoral Centre at 12.30p.m. Please purchase tickets by **January 13th** for January 16th. Cost £5.50 (2 courses plus tea/coffee).

Monday January 12th St. Barnabas Julian Group meet at 11.00am in the Pastoral Centre. New and old friends welcome.

Tuesday January 13th 7.30pm Eucharist with the **Licensing** of the Revd James Grant as **Associate Vicar** by the **Bishop of Horsham** and **Installation** by the Archdeacon, at **St Barnabas**. Refreshments will be served in the Hall after the service.

Sunday January 18th 10.00 am. Parish Eucharist at St Barnabas for Fr James' first Sunday.

No 9.45am service at St Nicholas that day.

Tuesday January 20th 9.30am there will be a meeting for Pastoral Centre volunteers and would-be volunteers in the Pastoral Centre.



DIARY NOTES

Wednesday January 28th Messy Church 3.00pm – 4.30pm meets in St Barnabas Church Hall.

Thursday January 29th, 6.30 pm Service to Commemorate the **60th Anniversary of the Laying of the Foundation Stone** of St Barnabas. Bishop of Lewes to preside. Refreshments after the service.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is from 18 to 25th January this year. See note for details of Ecumenical Service - 25 Jan.

Sunday January 25th 4.00pm

Ecumenical service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at St Johnthe Baptist, Crawley Town Centre.

Sunday February 1st 6.30pm Evensong for Candlemass at St Nicholas.

Used postage stamps, printer cartridges, redundant mobile phones and spectacles can be placed in the boxes provided at the Pastoral Centre and at the back of both churches - **ALL YEAR ROUND**. Proceeds from the sale of these helps such charities as St. Catherine's Hospice, Blond McIndoe etc.

CONTACTS

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PARISH OFFICE

for enquiries about
weddings, baptisms, hall bookings, etc.
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Did you know... that we raised just over £2,000 for charity at our Christmas services? Thank you for your generosity.