

Do you believe in the transforming power Jesus can have for people's lives? Paul's life changed in the moment we read about in our Acts reading. So has Peter's – a fortnight ago he was denying Jesus three times before the cock crowed, today he has answered "yes" three times to the question we are each asked by Jesus – "Do you love me?" John's Gospel records Jesus' final words to Peter: "Follow me" – Matthew tells us Jesus' first words to Peter: "Follow me". As the new edition of the Parish Magazine (thank-you Elizabeth!) makes clear the next month or so of our common life will have a significant focus on discerning what it will mean for us to follow Jesus as individuals and as a parish. This week the first sessions of the "Everybody Welcome" course will be held. Whether or not you are able to take part in the sessions, it would be wonderful (and potentially transforming!) if the whole church community could be praying daily:

Heavenly Father, you have welcomed us into your kingdom and your heart's desire is to draw every human being to yourself. Grant us clear eyes to see people as you see them, sensitive feet to stand in their shoes, and warm smiles to welcome them in your name. Give us such generous hearts that our church becomes a foretaste of heaven where every soul you send us finds a loving home in the community of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; 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

Acts 9.1-6

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.'

Psalms 30

Second Reading

Revelation 5.11-14

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, 'Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!'

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, 'To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever!' And the four living creatures said, 'Amen!' And the elders fell down and worshipped.

Gospel Reading

John 21.1-19

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So

Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?"

He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."



Post Communion Prayer

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Services during next week

St Barnabas'

Mon 11.00 Julian Group

Wed. & Fri.

09.00 Morning Prayer & Eucharist

Thurs. 09.00 Morning Prayer

Tues. 10.30 Eucharist

Sat 8.30 Morning Prayer and Eucharist

St Nicholas'

Thurs 10.30 Eucharist

Thurs, Fri & Sat 17.00 Evening Prayer

Thurs 14.30 Julian Group

Fri 3.30 Burial of Ashes

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### **Maidenbower Infants School**

Wed 15.15 Messy Church

### **Services next Sunday**

08.00 Holy Communion BCP

St Nicholas'

09.45 Sung Eucharist - St Nicholas'

10.00 Eucharist - St Barnabas'

11.30 Nic's - All age St Nicholas'

**One parish or two?** is one of the questions raised about Worth Parish in the Crawley Review. Please let us have your views (by e-mail or letter). Replies to the Rector or Parish Office **by 22 April** please. The new edition of the Parish Magazine has a short piece on this.

**Everybody Welcome.** There are Members' Manuals available (in named envelopes) at the back of church for those who have signed up. Please collect yours. If you don't have one and are planning to come please call the Parish Office or email [info@worthparish.org.uk](mailto:info@worthparish.org.uk)

## **NOTICES & DIARY NOTES**

Please send pew sheet notices to [pewsheet@worthparish.org.uk](mailto:pewsheet@worthparish.org.uk) or phone 0300 111 8150 *Sue*

**Friday lunches** 12.30 in the Pastoral Centre - 2 courses + tea / coffee - £5.50. Please **buy** tickets by **Apr 12th** for Apr 15th at the Centre or phone **883362**.

**Everybody Welcome Course. 4 sessions.** All parishioners are encouraged to attend. Please sign up at the back of church for either **Tuesday** (19.30-21.00 at St Barnabas' starting **12<sup>th</sup> April**) or **Thursday** (11.30-13.00 at St Nicholas' starting **14<sup>th</sup> April**).

**Saturday 23rd April Mothers' Union Coffee Morning** with sale of book & cakes together with a raffle and friendship. Pastoral Centre 10.00 - 11.45 - everyone welcome to come & buy, as are donations of cakes & books please. Monies go towards helping support MU charities.

**Saturday 23rd April 2016 Birthday Tea at St B's** to celebrate The Queen's 90th. Tea starts at 3.00 pm sharp. Tickets £5:50 per person. Tickets available from either Sheila Dring, Ann Lane or the Pastoral Centre (numbers are needed ASAP for catering). Musical entertainment included.

**Thurs 28th April 2016 Mothers' Union Meeting.** Archdeacon Fiona will be celebrating and preaching at our Branch's Eucharist she will then join us for coffee and talk about the Mothers' Union. All are very welcome to join us for the service and coffee afterwards. St Barnabas, Pound Hill 7.30 p.m.

The **Annual Parochial Meeting** will take place on (Weds) **27 April** at 6.30 p.m. The Electoral Roll revision is now complete and notices for the APCM will shortly be posted. Elections will be held for the 4 Warden posts, 2 Deanery Synod Reps & 5 lay reps on the PCC. Are you called to serve in one of them?

### **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May Parish Away Day**

10.00-15.30 - to develop a vision for the future shape of our mission and ministry. Venue tbc (transport will be available). Please keep the date free in your diary and sign up at the back of church to indicate participation (numbers needed for catering).

### **Thursday 26th May 2016 Parish Pilgrimage**

to Chichester Cathedral on Corpus Christi. Come and join us as we eat our lunch at the Bishop's Palace at 1pm with tea and coffee. Followed by a visit to the Door of Mercy in the Cathedral and ending with a service in the Bishop's Chapel 5pm. Any enquiries ask Revd Steve.

**Tuesday June 21st - Sunday June 26th** Wintershall Open Air Play 'The Life of Christ' order tickets **from 01793 418299** or: [www.wintershall-estate.com](http://www.wintershall-estate.com). A wonderful experience and day out.

### **CONTACTS**

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