

**Sixth Sunday of
Easter
1st May 2016**



The Curate writes:

As we approach the Parish Vision Day and as we sit in the wake of Annual Parish Church Meeting, I paused to reflect in my study at St Barnabas' about the importance of prayer and the prayer life of the Parish. In a few weeks we have been challenged by our Archbishops, Justin and Sentamu, to enter with all other churches into a season of prayer between Ascension Day (5th May) and Pentecost Sunday (15th May). We (the clergy) are going to pray at Morning Prayer each day for a specific geographical area of our Parish and send an email/post on Facebook a daily reflection that we hope will enable those amongst our congregations to engage also in this season of prayer. As is always the case with God, this initiative has coincided with a parallel-renewed interest in the prayer life of the Parish that has emerged from the Home Groups that looked into the spiritual gifting amongst us. From this a small prayer group has committed to meet in the Upper Room at St Barnabas' at 9.30am each Sunday to pray together for such things as the parish, the Parish Vision Day and the service that follows. If you would like to join them then please do ask me and I will point you in the right direction. Prayer matters and makes a difference.

Blessings - Steve

Services Today

- 08.00 Holy Communion BCP
St Nicholas'
Celebrant and Preacher: Canon Anthony Ball
- 09.45 Sung Eucharist - St Nicholas'
Celebrant and Preacher: Canon Anthony Ball
- 10.00 Informal Family Eucharist - St Barnabas'
Celebrant and Preacher: Revd Steve Burston
- 11.30 Nic's - All age St Nicholas'
Leader: Revd Steve Burston
- 15.00 Worth Abbey - Eucharist & Confirmation
Celebrant: Bishop Mark Sowerby

STOP Press: Election results from the APCM
Congratulations to Greta Sawyer & Sue Walshe
our new Deanery Synod Reps, to Vera Sheehan,
Viv Tillyer, Elizabeth Whyman, David Fry and
Alexander Keulemans joining our PCC and last
but certainly not least - David Parker & Colin
Smith - St Nic's Churchwarden & Deputy.

Next week's Readings (Easter 7)

Acts 16.16-34
Psalm 97
Revelation 22.12-14, 16, 17, 20, 21
John 17.20-26

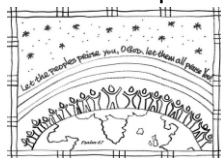
Collect

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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 16.9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.



Psalms 67

Second Reading

Isaiah 58. 1-14

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?' Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the

afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honourable; if you honour it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Gospel Reading

John 5.1-9

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be made well?” The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.” Jesus said to him, “Stand up, take your mat and walk.” At once the man was made well,

and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a sabbath.

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Services during next week

St Barnabas'

Wed. & Fri.

09.00 Morning Prayer & Eucharist
Tues & Thurs. 09.00 Morning Prayer
Tues. 10.30 Eucharist
Sat 17.00 Evening Prayer

St Nicholas'

Thurs 10.30 Eucharist
Tues, Wed & Fri. 17.00 Evening Prayer
Sat 9.00 Morning Prayer and Eucharist

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Tues 11.00 Home Communion,  
Lanehurst Gardens

### **Services next Sunday**

|       |                    |              |
|-------|--------------------|--------------|
| 08.00 | Holy Communion BCP |              |
|       |                    | St Nicholas' |
| 09.45 | Sung Eucharist     | St Nicholas' |
| 10.00 | Family Eucharist   | St Barnabas' |
| 12.00 | Holy Baptism       | St Nicholas' |

Thoughts and prayers for the following people who are being confirmed at Worth Abbey at 3 pm this afternoon:



Alice Burston  
Lottie Edwards  
Andrea Elsombe  
Muvi Ogbighele  
Kate Saunders

John Seddon

## NOTICES & DIARY NOTES

Please send pew sheet notices to  
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 **May 3rd** for May 6th  
at the Centre or phone **883362**.

**Everybody Welcome Course.** It is not  
too late to join the course as 1 more  
session is left on **Tuesday 3rd May** (19.30-  
21.00 at St Barnabas') or **Thursday 5th**  
**May** (11.30-13.00 at St Nicholas').

**Thursday 5th May - St Nicholas**  
**Circle.** 8 pm: 'Responding to crisis with  
BMS World Mission' – Corinna Woods  
provides an update on the charity work,  
friends and contacts in Nepal.

**Saturday 7th May The next Saturday**  
**Market** 10 am – 12 noon takes place in the  
Pastoral Centre.

**Saturday 7th May Parish Away Day**  
10.00-15.30 at Copthorne Parish Hub,  
Borers Arms Road, Copthorne, RH10 3ZQ  
- to develop a vision for the future shape of  
our mission and ministry (transport will be  
available). **Today is the last day** to sign  
up at the back of church to indicate  
participation (numbers needed for catering).

**Saturday 14th May, Plant Sale and**  
**Market.** 10.00 am - 12 noon, on the Patio  
(weather permitting) and in the Pastoral  
Centre. Items for sale may be brought to  
the Pastoral Centre on Friday 13th May  
between 10.15am and 2.00 pm or on the  
day of the Fair from 8.45 am. Help needed  
on the day- please sign the list at St.  
Barnabas or give Phyl a ring on 883362.  
Thank you.

**Wed 18th May 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm**  
**'Late Spring Clean'** session in the  
Pastoral Centre followed by tea and cakes.  
All helpers welcome.

If anyone would like to obtain Frances  
Reed's new address, please contact the  
Parish Office

**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.

**Saturday 28th May, Book Sale** 10.00 am  
- 12 noon in the Pastoral Centre. Please let  
us have your unwanted books (good  
condition only) on Friday 27th between  
10.30 am and 2.00pm or from 9.00am on  
the day. Thank you

**Sat/Sun 28th/29th May Big Church**  
**Day Out** - Great Day for all the Family!  
tickets for all day £18 adult/£14 for children.  
Come for either one / other or both! Main  
Church group is going on Sunday.

**Sun 12th June Choral Evensong**  
18.30 pm, St Nicholas'. Please save the date.

**16th July 2016** Early diary note for our  
forthcoming Charity Cabaret evening on be  
held at St Barnabas church. Tickets £15.00,  
including a 2 course dinner and a glass of  
Bucks Fizz on arrival and an evening of  
magical entertainment and music. Time  
TBC.

The Queen's Tea Party raised £288.96 for  
church funds. Many thanks to those who  
donated cakes, flowers, raffle prizes and  
sang, but most of all to those who  
supported the event.

## CONTACTS

### Rector

Canon Anthony Ball 01293 882229  
rector@worthparish.org.uk

### Curate

Revd Steve Burston 01293 279028  
steve.burston@worthparish.org.uk

### Churchwardens

Sheila Dring (St B) - 01293 513496  
David Parker (St N) - 01293 991467  
Phyl Pennell (St B) - 01293 883362

Colin Smith ( St N) - 01293 889894

**PARISH OFFICE ☎ 0300 111 8150**

**E-mail- [office@worthparish.org.uk](mailto:office@worthparish.org.uk)**