

**Second Sunday
of Easter
3rd April 2016**

*Peace
be with
you*

*Welcome to our churches today.
If you have time after the services, 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
St Nicholas' -
Celebrant & Preacher: Rev'd Gordon Parry
09.45 Sung Eucharist - St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher: Revd Steve Burston
10.00 Informal Family Eucharist -
St Barnabas' -
Celebrant & Preacher: Canon Anthony Ball
11.30 Nic's - All age St Nicholas' -
Leader: Revd Steve Burston

Next week's Readings (Easter 3)

Acts 9.1-6 [7-20]
Psalm 30
Revelation 5.11-14
John 21.1-19

The Curate writes:

Doubting Thomas who appears in our readings today gives all of us hope. For in his doubts the writer of the Gospel is telling us that doubts are ok. For sometimes doubt can do good in us. It can motivate us to study and learn. It can purify false beliefs that have crept into our faith. It can humble our arrogance. It can give us patience and compassion with other doubters. It can remind us of how much truth matters. Martin Luther, who was the champion of the importance of faith but wrestled with doubt himself, insisted that pride—not doubt—is the opposite of faith. Faith without a shade of any doubt quickly becomes fundamentalism. Fundamentalism in Christianity as well as Islam has led to the Crusades, sectarian violence or the atrocities of ISIS. So to have questions is natural and it is the role of the Church to create safe spaces such as home groups and services where these doubts can be expressed and explored without judgement or fear. There is a phrase in the Alpha Course Leaders booklet that states; there is no question that is silly, stupid or that has probably never been asked before. Questions are good for they test our faith and make us humble. Let us at times be doubting Thomas and at others as sure in faith as St Paul.

Blessings Steve

Collect

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ 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 5.27-32

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

Psalm 150

Second Reading

Revelation 1.4-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the

firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Gospel Reading

John 20.19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus

came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.



Post Communion Prayer

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

A Revision of the Electoral Roll is taking place. Please contact Jane Stanford or the Parish Office with any amendments or applications to join (forms are at the back of church) before 6 April.

Mothers' Union Lady Day Service at Holy Trinity Cuckfield tomorrow, Monday Apr 4th at 14.30 - followed by refreshments.

Services during next week

St Barnabas'

Wed. & Fri.

09.00 Morning Prayer & Eucharist

Tues. & Thurs. 09.00 Morning Prayer

Tues. 10.30 Eucharist

Sat 8.30 Morning Prayer and Eucharist

Sat 17.00 Evening Prayer

St Nicholas'

Thurs 10.30 Eucharist

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri

17.00 Evening Prayer

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#### **Lanehurst Gardens**

Tues 11.00 Home Communion

### 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'

**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) on whether we should split the parish or remain as one. Replies to the Rector or Parish Office **by 22 April** please. The Apr/May edition of the Parish Magazine will have a short piece on arguments for & against. There will be a report back to the APCM (27 April) and the responses will inform discussion at the Away Day (7 May).

## 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 **Apr 5th**  
for Apr 8th at the Centre or phone  
**883362**.

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> April St Nicholas Circle**  
**20.00** at Pastoral Centre. Kevin  
Gordon, who has worked for British  
Transport Police for 35 years, speaks  
on the *History of Policing the Railway*.

**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 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.

**The APCM** which was scheduled  
for 13 March will now take place on  
(Weds) **27 April** at 6.30 p.m.

**7<sup>th</sup> May (Sat)- 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).

**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.

**Desperately needed space in a**  
**green-house** - doesn't have to be  
heated. Plants potted up. Need  
regular watering.

Please contact Sheila Dring



01293 513406. Will deliver.

## CONTACTS

### Rector

Canon Anthony Ball 01293 882229  
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### Curate

Revd Steve Burston 01293 279028  
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### Churchwardens

Phyl Pennell - 01293 883362  
Sheila Dring - 01293 513496

### PARISH OFFICE

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

☎ **0300 111 8150E-mail-**  
[office@worthparish.org.uk](mailto:office@worthparish.org.uk)