



24<sup>th</sup>  
September  
Trinity 15

Welcome to our services at  
St Nicholas' in Worth and  
St. Barnabas' in Pound Hill.

This sheet details the readings in today's services and notices for everyone. **It is for you to take home and share.** If you are here for the first time, please do introduce yourselves. Please feel free to use the soft toys and books at the back of the church for your children. At Communion, everyone is welcome to come up and receive a blessing or, if baptised, share the bread and wine. We'd also love you to join us for refreshments after the service.

## SERVICES TODAY

08.00 Holy Communion	St Nicholas'
<i>Celebrant &amp; Preacher:</i>	Revd Gordon Parry
09.45 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas'
<i>Celebrant &amp; Preacher</i>	Canon Julia Peaty
10.00 Family Service (non Eucharist)	St Barnabas'
	Revd David Knight
12.00 Baptism	St Nicholas'
	Canon Julia Peaty

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

## 'TAKE OFF YOUR SHOES'

The story of the burning bush (Exodus Ch. 3 v3) has much to teach us. Moses is tending sheep and notices a burning bush, but it is not consumed. He wonders why and goes to have a closer look. God calls to him "Do not come near; take off your shoes, for the place where you are standing is holy ground".

It is a story about the wonder of God's presence in ordinary things and places. Many of us on holiday will have been told to take off our shoes before entering a Mosque and some Buddhist shrines. Holy places require appropriate reverence.

At the back of our house there is a small room which we call the 'garden room' as it looks out on to the lawn, flowers and shrubs. It is where I say Morning and Evening Prayer and some years ago when I was saying the morning office I had this extraordinary awareness of the Wonder of Being. Magpies, wood pigeons, a squirrel and a solitary robin evoked this strange sense of the glory and beauty of all created things, including, of course, ourselves.

In our frenetic and violent world how often do we pause, wonder and reflect on the Wonder of being? For many years I have treasured the words of Elizabeth Barrett Browning. "Earth is crammed with Heaven and every common bush is a fire of God. Only those who can see take off their shoes, while others stand round it and pick blackberries".

So look out for those 'Take off your shoes' moments in everyday life. They will be a great blessing.

Roger

## Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:

grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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

*Jonah 3.10 - 4.11*

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, 'O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the Lord said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the

sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.'

But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the Lord said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'



## Psalm 145.1-8



## Second Reading

*Philippians 1.21-30*

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus

when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

## Gospel

*Matthew 20.1-16*



'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each

of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

## Post Communion

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 26th Sept	10.30 Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	15.00 Messy Church	St Barnabas'
Thurs 28th Sept	10.30 Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	11.30 Memorial Service	St Nicholas'
Sat 30th Sept	12.00 Wedding	St Nicholas'
Sun 1st October	08.00 Holy Communion	St Nicholas'
	09.45 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas'
	10.00 Eucharist	St Barnabas'
	11.30 Nic's Mini Messy	St Nicholas'
	13.30 Wedding	St Nicholas'

## Readings for Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October Trinity 16

Ezekiel 18.1-4,25-3,2 Psalm 25.1-8  
Philippians 2.1-13, Matthew 21.23-32

## Notices & Diary Notes

**Friday lunches** 12.30 in the Pastoral Centre, 2 courses + tea / coffee - £6.50. All welcome. Please order tickets by 27<sup>th</sup> Sept (for catering) for 29<sup>th</sup> Sept at the PC or call 0300 111 8150

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Sept 19.30 Book Club** at the Pastoral Centre. Enjoy a good book, looking for something new? Come and join us to hear about what we've last read and receive October's book. Everyone welcome.

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September Messy Church**, St Barnabas Church Hall at 3 pm. Everyone Welcome!

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September** There will be a **Book Sale and Plant Stall** in aid of the Hall Refurbishment 10.00 am- 12 noon in the Pastoral Centre. Donations of books to the Pastoral Centre during normal opening hours or on 29<sup>th</sup> 10.00am- 2.00pm or on 30<sup>th</sup> from 9.15am

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 19.30** St Nicholas The licensing of Revd Michael Boag as Rector of the Parish. Please put this date in your diary to give Fr Michael a truly great welcome!

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October** There will be a brief first planning meeting at 10.00 am in the downstairs meeting room at St. Barnabas for the Christmas Fair (18<sup>th</sup> November). If you are willing to be part of the planning group please attend. If you are willing to be involved in the group, but not available at this time please contact Jane Stanford (01293) 543065.

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Oct 20.00 St Nicholas Circle** Talk by our very own Dr Rose Wells on her work with the Martlets Hospice in Hove.

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October, 9.30am Jumble Sale** in the Parish Hall. Please save us your jumble, but do not bring it before 27<sup>th</sup> October as we have nowhere to store it.

Our thanks go to the Flower Arrangers for the beautiful Harvest flowers decorating the church for the lovely Harvest Service last Sunday. Harvest contributions have been given to Open House and the Easter Team who have expressed their thanks for all the donations from both Churches.

Help please: Do to a variety of reasons we are temporarily in need of people to help as sidespeople and or coffee servers. Please speak to Colin – Matthew 16:27

**An A4 booklet of the Parish Remembrance Diary** is in both churches to update it for 2018. Please 'tick' beside the name of your loved ones if you want them to be remembered in the weekly Intercessions or on All Saints' Day, or even on both occasions. If anyone is to be added please write full names, date & year of their death on the page of the month concerned. Thank you.

## CONTACTS

During the interregnum the Rural Dean, the Revd Canon Julia Peaty & Church Wardens, Phyl Pennell and Gerald Sandwell, are the Sequestrators (responsible for clergy cover).

Also Revd Gordon Parry has offered his number 07802 43 23 98 if anyone specifically needs to talk with a member of clergy

### Churchwardens

Sheila Dring (St B)	01293 513496
Phyl Pennell (St B)	01293 883362
Gerald Sandwell (St N)	01293 883388
Colin Smith (St N)	01293 889894

### Worth Parish Office

0300 111 8150

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