



YEAR OF PRAYER 2018

## WORTH PARISH

Serving Crawley in Worth, Pound Hill, Maidenbower and Forge Wood



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**25 Feb 18**  
**Lent 2**



Welcome to our services at  
St Barnabas in Pound Hill &  
St Nicholas in Worth

This sheet details the readings in today's services as well as notices for everyone.  
**Please do take it home and share it.**

There are soft toys and books available at the back of the church for children.

At Communion, everyone is welcome to come up and receive a blessing or, if baptised, share the bread and wine. If you are here for the first time, please introduce yourselves. After the 10.00 service on Sunday please join us for refreshments.

### SERVICES TODAY

08.00 Holy Communion St Nicholas'  
Celebrant & Preacher: Revd Gordon Parry

10.00 Sung Eucharist St Nicholas'  
Celebrant & Preacher: Revd Gordon Parry

10.00 Eucharist St Barnabas'  
Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Michael Boag

11.45 Baptism Service: Revd Gordon Parry

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

'For those who want to save their life will lose it'. The Greek lyric poet Tyrtaeus, who was busy some seven hundred years before Jesus, said something similar: 'The man who risks his life in battle has the best chance of saving it; the one who flees to save it is the most likely to lose it.' In other words, the most important thing in the heat of battle is not to lose your head (either figuratively or literally). And it is impossible to keep a cool head if you are trying, in a panicky way, to steer clear of danger; the fleeing soldier is easily shot in the back. On the other hand, intrepid soldiers sometimes miraculously survive, even when their companions are falling left and right, because they act in a purposeful and deliberate fashion that unnerves the enemy.

Jesus takes this piece of military advice to a whole new level, with himself as a general of an army, and his present situation as one of fierce warfare; the climactic battle, in fact, between God's army and the powers of darkness, fear and despair in the world. From the outset of his ministry he announces that God is about to invade the world and break down Satan's strongholds. One of the uses of the Greek word that gives us Gospel, evangelion, is 'good news from the battlefield.' Jesus, then, calls his people, to follow him intrepidly into battle, without looking back, without hesitating, without giving a thought to the danger that such following might pose to their lives. And he promises that those who do so will, against all expectation, find life. In other words 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves take up their cross and follow me.' For his is the final victory - and ours.

*Fr Michael*

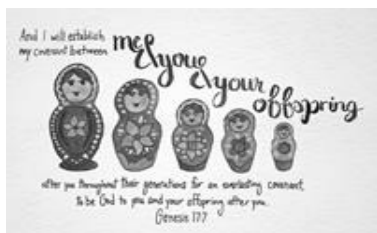
## Collect

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## First Reading

*Genesis 17.1-7,15,16*

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring

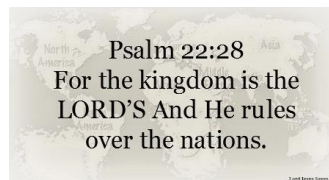


after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.'

God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

## Psalms

22.  
23-31

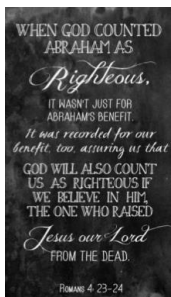


## Second Reading

*Romans 4.13-25*

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver



concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was

reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

## Gospel

Mark 8.31-38

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

## Post Communion

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 27 Feb	10.30 Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Thurs 1 March	10.30 Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Fri 2 March	12.00 Funeral 15.00 Memorial Service	St Nicholas'
Sun 4 March	08.00 Holy Communion	St Nicholas'
	10.00 Family Eucharist	St Barnabas'
	10.00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas'

**Sunday 4 Mar 2018**

**Lent 3**

Exodus 20.1-17 Psalm 19\*  
I Corinthians 1.18-25 John 2.13-22

## Join us at Messy Church!

Just turn up for crafts, refreshments, activities, a song and a story at our:



Wed 7 March 2018 Maidenbower Infant  
School Studio 15.15 – 16.30

Wed 21 March 2018 St Barnabas Hall,  
15.00-16.45 including a light tea

**Forget-me-Not Café** every Tuesday  
in the pastoral centre – Dementia-  
friendly café serving lunches &  
refreshments from 12.00 to 3.00pm

## **DIARY NOTES & NOTICES**

**Friday Lunch** in the Pastoral Centre, 2 courses and tea/coffee for £6.50. All welcome. To help with catering, please order tickets by 28<sup>th</sup> Feb for 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar at the P C or by calling 0300 111 8150

**Mondays New Cake Shop and Café** at the Pastoral Centre on Monday afternoons between 12.00 and 5.00pm. Fabulous cakes which just have to be seen! A PC volunteer will also be there to compère the games between 2 and 4pm.

**Lent Soup Lunches at 1.00pm** also in the Pastoral Centre until **Sat 17 Mar**. Donations will be accepted for Parish World Bank. All are welcome!

**PARISH LENT COURSE - 'Inspired to follow Art and the Bible Story'**, led by Fr Michael Boag, continues in the Pastoral Centre weekly until March 17th.

### **CURC - Lent Course**

"Walking the Way" Tuesdays at 2.00pm at Crawley United Reformed Church for 4 weeks, all are welcome.

**Monday February 26th 10.00am** at the Pastoral Centre - **A Wave of Prayer** for our linked dioceses, organised by Mothers' Union and open to everyone who wishes to join us in an hour of prayer, hymns & readings, followed by refreshments.

### **Thurs 1 March St Nicholas Circle**

20.00 in the Pastoral Centre. Please come and hear what our dear Revd Gordon Parry does during the week!

### **Fri 2 March Women's World Day of**

**Prayer** Services at the Friary, Crawley **10am** and at St Andrew's, Furnace Green **7.30pm** Please come, everyone welcome!

**Spring cleaning** in the Pastoral Centre 11.30-2.15 **Wednesday 7 March**. If you can spare even an hour, do join us. Bring a sandwich lunch, drinks/**cake** provided.

Revd Sarah Upchurch will be licensed as Associate Vicar for St. Barnabas on **Tues 13 March at 7.30pm** at St. Barnabas. Everyone welcome! There is a 'sign up' list in both churches for the 'bring and share' light refreshments.

On **Thurs 15th March** Chichester will be praying for our churches at the 5.30pm Sung Evensong. We are warmly invited to the Cathedral for a guided tour, complimentary tea in the Cloisters Cafe (at 4.30pm) and to join the service (see poster in church). If you would like to come please sign the sheet and indicate if you need a lift or would be able to provide one or phone 873073 or [jstuartsharpe@aol.com](mailto:jstuartsharpe@aol.com)

**24 March** Jumble Sale – Save now, but do not bring until the day before please.

Fr Michael has been given tickets (Circle Box) for Samuel Barber's Pulitzer Prize winning opera 'Vanessa' (libretto by Gian-Carlo Menotti and said to be inspired by Karen Blixen's 'Seven Gothic Tales') at Glyndebourne on Sunday 12 August. If interested, please let him know. The donor suggests a donation to church funds of (at least) £75 each (plus GiftAid)

## **CONTACTS**

### **The Rector**

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[rector@worthparish.org](mailto:rector@worthparish.org) (Tues-Sun)

### **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

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