



YEAR OF PRAYER 2018

WORTH PARISH

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



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24 June 2018 The Birth of John the Baptist



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: Fr. Michael Boag

10.00 Child-Friendly Eucharist St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher: Fr. Michael Boag

10.00 Child-Friendly Eucharist St Barnabas'
Celebrant & Preacher: Rev. Sarah Upchurch

Please send pew sheet notices to
pewsheet@worthparish.org or
phone 0300 111 8150

Zechariah's audacity to question the Angel Gabriel led him to be struck dumb for the duration of Elizabeth's pregnancy. Zechariah thought he knew best and was silenced. This recorded phenomenon was an irrefutable sign at the time for both Zechariah and his peers, illustrating dramatically that God was at work.

It appears Zechariah was 'set in his ways', seeing things from a human point of view, even though being visited by a spiritual being, who stood in the presence of God. This is in direct contrast to Mary mother of Jesus who responded to Gabriel in a completely different way. Zechariah underestimated the power of God, but when he was released from his inability to speak the first thing he began to do was to start praising God.

At times we can all see things from an entirely human, material, point of view, but as Christians are we not called to be different? Do we not believe by faith, that which is unseen?

Do you ever wish sometimes, like I do, that God would be more obvious with his signs? Maybe it is a question of recognising how God speaks to us. There is so much distracting us from spending time with God. We can become too busy doing and not being.

Why not set aside some extra space this very day, to spend time and listen for God's voice? Let us look for signs of his extraordinary work in our lives, careful not to underestimate his power!

Peace be with you,

Rev'd Sarah

Collect

Almighty God, by whose providence your servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of your Son our Saviour by the preaching of repentance:

lead us to repent according to his preaching and, after his example, constantly to speak the truth, boldly to rebuke vice, and patiently to suffer for the truth's sake; 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

Isaiah 40.1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all
her sins.

A voice cries
out:
'In the
wilderness
prepare the
way of the Lord,



make straight in the desert a highway for
our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made
low;

the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall
be revealed,

and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!'

And I said, 'What shall I cry?'

All people are grass,

their constancy is like the flower of the
field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,

when the breath of the Lord blows upon
it;

surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;

but the word of our God will stand for
ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,

O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,

lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,

'Here is your God!'

See, the Lord God comes with might,

and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,

and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;

he will gather the lambs in his arms,

and carry them in his bosom,

and gently lead the mother sheep.

Psalms 85.7-13

*Show us thy
mercy,
O LORD,
and grant us thy
salvation.*
Psalms 85:7

Second Reading

Galatians 3.23-29

Now before faith came, we were
imprisoned and guarded under the law until
faith would be revealed. Therefore the law
was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so
that we might be justified by faith. But now
that faith has come, we are no longer
subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ
Jesus you are all children of God through
faith. As many of you as were baptized into



Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and

female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Gospel

Luke 1.57-66,80

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.



On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, 'No; he is to be called John.' They said to her, 'None of your

relatives has this name.' Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, 'What then will this child become?' For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

Post - Communion

Merciful Lord,
whose prophet John the Baptist proclaimed your Son as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world:
grant that we who in this sacrament have known your forgiveness and your life-giving love may ever tell of your mercy and your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

SERVICES THIS WEEK

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Tues 26 | 10.30 Eucharist + Refreshments after | St Barnabas' |
| Wed 27 | 15.00 Messy Church | St Barnabas' |
| Thur 28 | 10.30 Eucharist + Refreshments after | St Nicholas' |
| Sat 30 June | 14.00 Wedding | St Nicholas' |
| Sun 1 Jul | 08.00 Holy Communion | St Nicholas' |
| | 10.00 Eucharist | St Barnabas' |
| | 10.00 Sung Eucharist | St Nicholas' |

Sunday 1 July 2018, Trinity 5

Wisdom of Solomon 1.13-15; 2.23,24

Psalm 30

2 Corinthians 8.7-15 Mark 5.21-43

Join us at Messy Church!

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



Wed 27 June 2018 St Barnabas' 15.00-16.45 including a light tea

Wed 11 July 2018 Maidenbower Infant School Studio 15.15 – 16.30

By the time you read this our Summer Parish Fair will be over. Many thanks to all of those who helped before, during and after and to everyone who came and supported.

DIARY NOTES & NOTICES

Mondays – Cake Shop & Café at St Barnabas' Pastoral Centre 12.00 -17.00
Fabulous cakes to buy and to order.

Tuesdays - Forget-me-Not Café in the Pastoral Centre. Dementia-friendly café - lunches & refreshments 12.30 to 14.30

Friday Lunch in the Pastoral Centre, 2 courses and tea/coffee for £6.50. All welcome. To help with catering, please order tickets by **27 June for 29 June** at the Pastoral Centre or by calling 0300 111 8150.

There will be a gardening and tidy up session at St. Barnabas on **Friday 6 July 2.00pm - 4.00pm**. Please come along and help us if possible. Refreshments provided. Thank you.

Tickets are now available for “The Art of Guitar: Virtuoso Classics” a concert at St Nicholas' on **Sat 14 July**. Performed by Mark Jennings, this promises to be an exhilarating evening of some of the finest Spanish and Classical guitar music. A bar and refreshments are available from 6pm, the concert starts 7pm and, with interval, will end around 8.45pm. Tickets are £10 and available from worthparish.eventbrite.co.uk or via our Facebook page or from Graham Beaumont and Tony Chamier.

Worth & Pound Hill Mothers' Union **Would you like to join their outing?**

THURSDAY 19th JULY 2018

Cost £10

A tour of Lancing College Chapel followed by a cream tea in Steyning.

We will be leaving the Pastoral Centre at 1pm, driving to Lancing by car.

If you would like to join us please let Mary Fry know by Sunday 9th July.

01293 410383 or mary.fry2@btinternet.com



Keep voting for the Hall flooring project in the 6 local Tesco stores!
LAST WEEK

You are given a token at the checkout (ask for one) and vote for us! We will receive £1000 or more if we receive more votes

Hall flooring - work on the new flooring will be carried out from **Mon 30 July- Fri 3 Aug** when there will be no admittance to the Hall, entrance hall and Hall kitchen.

On **Sun 29 July** from 4.30pm a team will be required to empty these areas and again on either **Fri 3 Aug or Sat 4 Aug** to replace everything. If you can spare a couple of hours to help please call. Thank you. Phyl Pennell 883362.



CONTACTS

The Rector

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Vicar at St Barnabas

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Assistant Priest

Rev'd Gordon Parry 07802 432398

Churchwardens

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