



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

# WORTH PARISH

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

**9 February  
2020**

**3 before Lent**



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

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.

There are soft toys and books available for children. Note that we do not normally sing the starred (\*) verses in hymns.

## SERVICES TODAY

08:00 Holy Communion	St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher:	Revd Gordon Parry
10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher:	Fr Michael Boag
10:00 Eucharist & Sunday School	St Barnabas'
Celebrant & Preacher:	Revd Sarah Upchurch
11:45 Baptism	St Nicholas'

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

Salt prevents foodstuffs from going bad because it draws water from them, including from the bacteria that would otherwise cause decomposition and potential food poisoning. It has been vital in preserving food stocks for civilisations down the ages. Salt can also enhance the taste of certain foods. When Christ compares us to salt he is sharing his concern that the first people to bear witness to him were not behaving any differently from any of the other political, religious and military groups of the time. They were going bad and losing their effectiveness. Furthermore, their capacity to illuminate the nature of things – as light does – was also diminished, so that people stumbled, lost their focus and became disorientated. This supposes that we know the nature of things. What do we mean by Gospel references to 'good works', 'fulfil the law', 'let your light shine before others', 'the kingdom of heaven'?

We must remember that this passage from Matthew is a part of Christ's 'Sermon on the Mount', the most direct and extended explanation Christ ever gave as to the values with which our lives should be lived.

God's love for us was expressed in the sending of his Son to live amongst us and to explain to us how life could and should be lived. The Cistercian monk, Thomas Merton summed it up for us as follows.

'Love is our true destiny. We do not find the meaning of life by ourselves alone – we find it with another.'

Let us use our capacity for good, for love and for drawing attention to the nature of things to help create a world that is more and more like the kingdom of heaven.

*Gordon*

## Collect

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; 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**

## Reading *Isaiah 58.1-9a*

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 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.

## Psalm *Psalm 112*

Praise the Lord! Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in his commandments. Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures for ever. They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous. It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice. For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered for ever. They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord. Their hearts are steady, they will not be



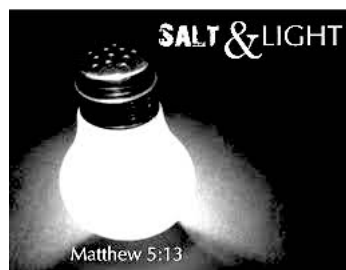
afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes. They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures for ever; their horn is exalted in honour. The wicked see it and are angry; they gnash their teeth and melt away; the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.

## Reading *1 Corinthians 2.1-12*

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age

understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, 'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him' - these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

### Gospel Matthew 5.13-20



'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is

thrown out and trampled under foot.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

### Post Communion

Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never hunger: draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom, where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Festivals this week	
Mon 10 Feb	Scholastica, Abbess of Plombariola c.543 (C)
Fri 14 Feb	Cyril & Methodius, Missionaries to the Slavs 869, 885 (LF) Valentine, Martyr at Rome c.269 (C)
Sat 15 Feb	Sigfrid, Apostle of Sweden 1045 (C) Thomas Bray, Founder of the SPCK and SPG 1730 (C)
(F) Festival; (LF) Lesser Festival; (C) Commemoration	

### SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 11 Feb	10:30 Eucharist and refreshments after	St Barnabas'
Thur 13 Feb	10:30 Eucharist and refreshments after	St Nicholas'
Sun 16 Feb	08:00 Holy Communion (BCP) 10:00 Eucharist 10:00 Sung Eucharist and Baptism	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas'

### Sunday 16 February 2020 2 before Lent

Genesis 1.1-2.3 Psalm 136 1-9,23-26  
Romans 8.18-25 Matthew 6.25-34  
Preacher at St Nicholas'  
Fr Julian Hollywell SCP

### Chichester Cathedral Events

Details of all Services and Events up to March 2020 (**inc. half-term Fun Day**) can be found at: [chichestercathedral.org/whats-cathedral](http://chichestercathedral.org/whats-cathedral)  
Leaflets are also available at the back of both churches.

## February Messy Church

Please join us for the story, crafts, songs and prayers, followed by a light tea. Each month we are now offering a choice of weekend or weekday, the next Messy Church will be on:

**Wed 12 Feb 15:15**, in the Hall at St Barnabas'. Everyone welcome - mums, dads, grandparents, carers - come and enjoy!



## DIARY NOTES & NOTICES

**Mon 12:00-17:00 JayDee's Café**  
at the Pastoral Centre.

**Mon 10 Feb 11:00 Julian Group**  
at St Barnabas' for half an hour of silent prayer. Old and new friends welcome.

**Toddlers Group Tues 11 Feb** and  
**Thur 13 Feb 9:15-11:00** St Barnabas' Hall.

**Wed 12 Feb 14:30 Parish Tea** offered in the Pastoral Centre – good company – great food. Everybody welcome.

**Thur 13 Feb 14:00 Knit & Natter**  
in the Pastoral Centre.

**Thur 13 Feb 14:30 Julian Group**  
at St Nicholas' for half an hour of silent prayer. Please join us if you can.

**Friday Lunch 14 Feb 12:30** in the Pastoral Centre; two courses and tea/coffee for £6.50. All welcome. To help with catering, please order tickets by **12 Feb** at the Pastoral Centre or by calling 0300 111 8150.

### The Hangout

Youth Club at St Barnabas'

**Fri 14 Feb 19:00-20:30** Years 7-11.

Entry free. Weekly during term time.

**Sun 16 Feb 16:00 Chichester Cathedral Choir** sing Choral Evensong at Holy Trinity, Forest Row. Followed by refreshments.

The funeral of the late **Pauline Shaw** will take place at St Nicholas' on **Tues 18 Feb 13:00**.

**Wed 19 Feb 19:30 Parish Prayer Group** at St Barnabas'. Please come and join us in praying for our congregation, clergy, Parish and outreach.



**Tues 25 Feb 14:00-16:00 'Scrabble and Cake'** A relaxing afternoon in the Pastoral Centre in aid of St Barnabas' Refurbishment. Come and enjoy Scrabble or dominoes or do a jigsaw puzzle, with tea, cake and company. Tickets £3.50; just turn up. All welcome.

The Saturday Market on 1 Feb raised £89.94. Thanks to our supporters.

**Sat 28 Mar 10:00-11:30 Books, Plants and Toys Sale** in the Pastoral Centre in aid of St Barnabas' Refurbishment. We will welcome donations of suitable items – please save these for us at the moment. Thanks.

### Hand Made Opera Studio

Sun 16 Feb 15:30  
at St Nicholas'

### Love, Potions and Madness

Extracts from:

Macbeth (Verdi)

Figaro (Mozart)

Don Giovanni (Mozart)

L'elisir d'amore (Donizetti)

The Rake's Progress (Stravinski)

Aida (Verdi)

HMS Pinafore (Gilbert & Sullivan)

## CONTACTS

### The Rector

Fr Michael Boag 01293 882229  
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### Vicar at St Barnabas'

Revd Sarah Upchurch 01293 524804  
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### Assistant Priest

Revd Gordon Parry 07802 432398  
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### 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

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