



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

# WORTH PARISH

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

**8 March  
2020**

**Lent 2**



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:	Fr Michael Boag
10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher	Fr Michael Boag
10:00 Eucharist & Sunday School	St Barnabas'
Celebrant & Preacher:	Revd Sarah Upchurch

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

It is only in John's Gospel that we meet  
Nicodemus. In our reading today he is  
trying to draw out from Jesus the true  
meaning of the phrase 'you must be born  
from above'. Later in the Gospel (Chapter  
7) Nicodemus defends Jesus from those  
pharisees in the Temple who wish the  
Temple police to arrest him, arguing that a  
person has a right to be heard properly  
before judgments are made against him.  
Finally, in Chapter 19, we read that  
Nicodemus helps Joseph of Arimathea to  
embalm the body of Jesus with myrrh and  
aloes after he had been taken down from  
the Cross.

Nicodemus was highly educated, wealthy  
and influential, both politically and  
religiously. Despite his background (or,  
perhaps, because of it) he failed initially to  
grasp the full meaning of Jesus' teaching,  
even though he sought a conversation with  
Jesus 'by night'. Usually, this phrase is  
taken literally, with the understanding that  
Nicodemus did not wish to be seen to  
compromise himself in front of his  
influential peers. It could, of course, be  
read symbolically: Nicodemus was gripped  
by the darkness of misunderstanding and  
ignorance, despite the extent of his  
education and influence. The later  
references to Nicodemus in John's Gospel  
indicate clearly that Nicodemus did grasp  
the full significance of Jesus and remained  
loyal to him until the ignominious end of  
his earthly life.

We do not need vast amounts of learning  
and a particular position in society to  
assimilate the presence of Jesus into our  
lives. God is there for all of us and reveals  
himself through the life, teaching, death  
and resurrection of his Son. Lent gives us  
a special opportunity to 'listen to him'.

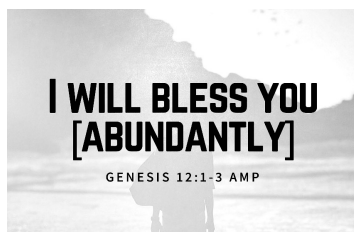
*Gordon*

## 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**

## Reading Genesis 12.1-4a

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will



make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless

those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

## Psalm Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills - from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and for evermore.



## Reading Romans 4.1-5,13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. 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.

## Gospel John 3.1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus



by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the

mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

### 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 10 Mar	10:30 Eucharist and refreshments after	St Barnabas'
Thur 12 Mar	10:30 Eucharist and refreshments after	St Nicholas'
Sun 15 Mar	08:00 Holy Communion (BCP) 10:00 Eucharist & Sunday School 10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas'
<b>Sunday 15 March 2020</b> <b>Lent 3</b> Exodus 17.1-7      Psalm 95 Romans 5.1-11      John 4.5-42		

### Festivals this week

*There are no Festivals this week*

(F) Festival; (LF) Lesser Festival; (C) Commemoration

There will be  
**NO ACCESS to St Nicholas'**  
Monday to Friday 7:30-18:00  
Monday 16 March to Friday 3 April



We are delighted that the Lottery Community Fund has awarded £10,000 towards the Pastoral Centre element of the St Barnabas' Refurbishment Project.

THERE IT IS: FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT, ALL IN ONE PLACE IN THE BIBLE.



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

THE DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY TRINITY IS REVEALED TO US BY JESUS HIMSELF.



YEAH! ONE OF HIS MORE INTERESTING IDEAS, I'D SAY.



JOHN 3:1-17

POFFFT!

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## March 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:



**Sat 14 Mar 15:30** and **Wed 18 Mar 15:15**, in the Hall at St Barnabas'.

Everyone welcome - mums, dads, grandparents, carers - come and enjoy!

### Lent Course 'Chocolat'

Saturdays 14, 21 and 28 March  
13:30-15:30  
in the Pastoral Centre

## DIARY NOTES & NOTICES

**Mon 9 Mar 11:00 Julian Group**  
at St Barnabas'.

**Toddlers Group Tues 10 Mar** and  
**Thur 12 Mar 9:15-11:00** St Barnabas' Hall.

**Wed 11 Mar Pound Hill Infants Year 1**  
visiting St Nicholas' (10:00) and St Barnabas' (13:30).

**Wed 11 Mar 14:30 Parish Tea** offered in the Pastoral Centre – good company – good food. Everybody welcome.

**Thur 12 Mar 14:00 Knit & Natter**  
in the Pastoral Centre.

**Thur 12 Mar 14:30 Julian Group** at St Nicholas' for half an hour of silent prayer. Please join us if you can.

**Friday Lunch 13 Mar 12:30** in the Pastoral Centre; two courses and tea/coffee for £6.50. All welcome. To help with catering, please order tickets by **11 Mar** at the Pastoral Centre or by calling 0300 111 8150.

### The Hangout

Youth Club at St Barnabas' on  
**Fri 13 Mar 19:00-20:30** Years 7-11.  
Entry free. Weekly during term time.

**Sat 21 Mar 16:00 Cantatrice Voices**  
at St Nicholas'

**Wed 25 Mar 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.

**Thur 26 Mar 19:30 MU Evening** in the Pastoral Centre. Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance will be giving an interesting talk. Everyone is welcome to join us; refreshments will be served.

**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.

## Chichester Cathedral Events

Details of all Services and Events up to March 2020 can be found at:

[chichestercathedral.org/whats-cathedral](http://chichestercathedral.org/whats-cathedral)

Leaflets are also available at the back of both churches.

## CONTACTS

### The Rector

Fr Michael Boag 01293 882229  
[rector@worthparish.org](mailto:rector@worthparish.org) (Tues-Sun)

### Vicar at St Barnabas'

Rev'd Sarah Upchurch 01293 524804  
[vicarstb@worthparish.org](mailto:vicarstb@worthparish.org) (Tues-Sun)

### Assistant Priest

Rev'd Gordon Parry 07802 432398  
[gordonmwperry@btinternet.com](mailto:gordonmwperry@btinternet.com)

### 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

Sue Perry 0300 111 8150  
[office@worthparish.org](mailto:office@worthparish.org)



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