

**7 June  
2020**

**Trinity  
Sunday**



Welcome to  
St Barnabas' in Pound Hill and  
St Nicholas' in Worth

## SERVICES TODAY

There will be no public worship today.

## CHURCHES NOW CLOSED

There will no longer be access to either  
St Barnabas' or St Nicholas'  
until further notice.

## ALL

Events and Meetings  
are cancelled or postponed  
until further notice.

See [www.worthparish.org](http://www.worthparish.org)  
For the latest information

## READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

**Sunday 14 June 2020  
Trinity I**

Genesis 18.1-15    Psalm 116.1,10-17  
Romans 5.1-8    Matthew 9.35-10.8



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

'Preach the Gospel at all times, and if necessary use words.' This saying is popularly attributed to St Francis of Assisi and, whether or not he did actually say it, it does enrich our understanding of Matthew 28.19 and Jesus' exhortation to his followers to 'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations' by reminding us that actions often speak more clearly than words.

In the early chapters of the Sermon on the Mount, (Matthew chapters five to seven) Jesus rather ambitiously exhorts his hearers to 'Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.' This comes after various teachings that contradict human experience and inclination. Jesus was under no illusion as to the frailty of human nature, nor to the extent of our stubbornness and stupidity but nor did he, does he, give up on us and holds before us the ideal, perhaps not of perfection but of completeness, wholeness, of being at peace with ourselves, with one another and with God.

The Greek word *koinonia* reflects something of the nature of the Trinity in the life of the Church. In the New Testament it is translated in various places as 'fellowship', 'sharing', 'participation', 'communion' but all our English words are too pale and weak to express the richness and depth of what it means. The inner and outer unity of the church is the object and aim of living in *koinonia*. In fact, you could say, without *koinonia* there is no church. And reflecting the nature of God, *koinonia* is an experience of fellowship that draws in and includes. We like to think of the church, the fellowship of

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believers, as a family and that's a good metaphor because it reminds us that our place within it is something given, not earned or taken.

'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.' And this is what we do; baptizing all, or any, who ask. We baptize into a fellowship, into a family, into a relationship that reflects the life of God; into *koinonia*. St Paul as he ends his second letter to the Christians in Corinth, encourages them to 'agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.'

Being in fellowship is more challenging than merely belonging, as in belonging to club, for example. Where a church thinks and acts like a club, operating solely for the benefit of its members, it becomes exclusive and excluding and the very antithesis of living in *koinonia*. It's all very well for Groucho Marx to refuse to join any club that would accept him as a member but it can, sadly, happen where a new person joins a church congregation only to feel themselves judged, found wanting, and very much on the outside. And when that happens, surely it is the church community not that individual that actually is being judged and found wanting. '*Koinonia*, 'as one writer puts it, 'creates a brethren bond which builds trust and, especially when combined with the values of Wisdom, Virtue and Honour, overcomes two of humanity's deepest fears and insecurities: being betrayed and being demeaned'

The *koinonia* of the church at its best and at its strongest overcomes many fears and insecurities by encouragement, compassion and care. When this lockdown is finally over and we are free to gather once again in our beloved church buildings, free to resume daily life, my prayer is that we pick up not from where we were, or thought we were, but where we had always

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hoped to be, intended to be, where the Lord wants us to be. If by our patience and positivity we encourage others to be kinder and more considerate, we will indeed be living as people who 'Preach the Gospel at all times, and if necessary use words.'

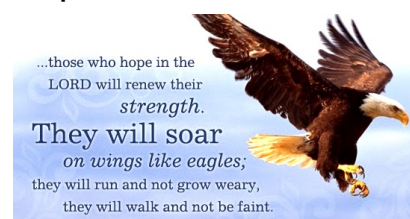
*Fr Michael*

## Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; 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 40.12-17,27-end

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? Who has directed the spirit of the Lord, or as his counsellor has instructed him? Whom did he consult for his enlightenment, and who taught him the path of justice? Who taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding? Even the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as dust on the scales; see, he takes up the isles like fine dust. Lebanon would not provide fuel enough, nor are its animals enough for a burnt-offering. All the nations are as nothing before him; they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.



Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the Lord,

and my right is disregarded by my God'? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

### **Psalm Psalm 8**

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger. When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honour. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

### **Reading 2 Corinthians 13.11-end**

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

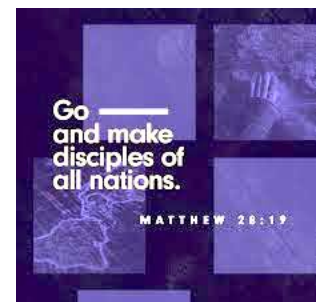


The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.



### **Gospel Matthew 28.16-20**

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'



### **Post Communion**

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Information about events at **Chichester**

**Cathedral** and other resources can be found at: [www.chichestercathedral.org](http://www.chichestercathedral.org)

Festivals this week	
Mon 8 Jun	Thomas Ken, Bishop, Hymn Writer 1711 (LF)
Tues 9 Jun	Columba, Abbot of Iona, Missionary 597 (LF) Ephrem of Syria, Deacon, Hymn Writer, Teacher 373 (C)
Thur 11 Jun	Corpus Christi Day of Thanksgiving for Holy Communion (F)
Fri 12 Jun	Barnabas the Apostle (F)
(F) Festival; (LF) Lesser Festival; (C) Commemoration	

## DIARY NOTES & NOTICES

### Coronavirus, church – and YOU

You are invited to complete an online survey designed to assess how churchgoers have responded to the experience of coronavirus and the lockdown, and what they think the future might hold. The survey should take 20-30 minutes and is at: [tinyurl.com/yqs9fy2](https://tinyurl.com/yqs9fy2)  
See *Church Times* 8 May 2020 p.2

### Donations to Open House

I have spoken to Open House and they would be grateful for UHT milk, eggs and gravy. I am going to put the blue box outside the St Barnabas' vicarage door and so if people would like to donate items then I will deliver them.  
Other items for food parcels also gratefully received.  
Revd Sarah

## CONTACTS

### The Rector

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### Vicar at St Barnabas'

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### Assistant Priest

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### Churchwardens

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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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office@worthparish.org



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[www.worthparish.org](http://www.worthparish.org)

Registered Charity no. 1131090



DON'T YOU THINK IT'S WEIRD THAT THIS READING IS BASICALLY JUST THE "SINCERELY YOURS" PART OF A LETTER?



www.agnusday.org

YEAH - BUT IT SHOWS THAT THE EARLIEST CHRISTIANS UNDERSTOOD GOD TO BE A COMMUNITY OF THREE PERSONS.



YOU GOT ALL OF THAT OUT OF "SINCERELY YOURS?"



2009/11/15 11:13

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