



**20 December  
2020**

**Advent 4**



Welcome to  
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.

## SERVICES TODAY

Certain services will be available online  
(live or recorded):

- |                               |                     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 8:00 Holy Communion (BCP)     | St Nicholas'        |
| Celebrant & Preacher          | Fr Michael Boag     |
| 10:00 Said Eucharist          | St Barnabas'        |
| Celebrant & Preacher          | Revd Sarah Upchurch |
| 10:00 Said Eucharist          | St Nicholas'        |
| Celebrant & Preacher          | Fr Michael Boag     |
| 15:00 Blue Christmas          | St Barnabas'        |
| 18:30 Nine Lessons and Carols | St Nicholas'        |
| (only choir to sing)          |                     |

St Nicholas' will be open every day for individual private prayer, as will the Narthex at St Barnabas'.

## CORRECTION

### Nine Lessons and Carols: TODAY

In the online version of last week's pewsheets the time given for this service was incorrect. The correct time is 18:30. We apologise for any confusion or inconvenience.

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

Advent is a season of waiting, as, like Mary, we wait for the birth of Jesus; and yet 2020 seems to have been a whole year of waiting. Waiting in uncertainty for the first lockdown to end and then waiting for the second lockdown to end. Waiting to find out what tier we will be in. Waiting to know when we will be able to hug family and friends outside our household or support bubble and yes, even waiting to be able to go to the pub for a pint, just a pint with no food included! Waiting to know when we can be vaccinated. Waiting to find out if there is a job for us at the end of furlough.

All of this is uncertain waiting. Yet Advent is different; the waiting in Advent is not passive but active. The church calls it a time of 'alert watchfulness' when we can be full of expectation and preparation. There is joy in this waiting as we already know the outcome. Instead of uncertainty, there is joyful anticipation of the glorious day of our Saviour's birth; we know it will happen because it has already happened and will continue to happen, as the Word is made Flesh. Every Advent brings a new opportunity for us to embrace afresh the meaning of our Saviour's birth. This year, when there has been so much darkness, it is a needy reminder that Jesus brings light to the world and that we can be bearers of his light to others who are in darkness.

Amen

*Revd Greta*

## Collect

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## Reading 2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16



Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.'

Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you.' But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?' Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover,

the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.

## Psalm *Magnificat* (Luke 1.46-55)

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'



## Reading *Romans* 16.25-27

Romans 16.25-27  
Doxology

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of

Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith - to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever! Amen.

## Gospel *Luke* 1.26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with

you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not



be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God

will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

### Post Communion

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### Attendance at Christmas Services

If you intend to attend the Christmas services at either church, please inform Sue at the Office.

### Christmas Charities

Cash collections at Christmas services will be divided among our Christmas charities, which are Home Start, Tariro and the Parish.

## SERVICES THIS WEEK

Hand sanitising, masks and social distancing are still required.  
Some services will be available online (live or recorded)

Tues 22 Dec	10:30 Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Thur 24 Dec	10:30 Eucharist 14:00 Nativity film  16:00 Christmas Crib  23:30 Midnight Mass	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' (online only) St Nicholas' (online only) Both churches
Fri 25 Dec	8:00 Holy Communion (BCP) 10:00 Said Eucharist 10:00 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas'  St Barnabas' St Nicholas'
Sun 27 Dec	8:00 Holy Communion (BCP) 10:00 Child Friendly Said Eucharist 10:00 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas'  St Barnabas' St Nicholas'
<b>Sunday 27 December 2020</b> <b>John, Apostle and Evangelist</b> Exodus 33.7-11a Psalm 117 1 John 1.1-10 John 21.19b-25		

## Festivals this week

Sat 26 Dec	Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr (F)
(F) Festival; (LF) Lesser Festival; (C) Commemoration	

## DIARY NOTES & NOTICES

### Blue Christmas

Blue Christmas will be at St Barnabas' at 15:00 TODAY. A quiet service for those who find Christmas difficult, a space to acknowledge sadness alongside hope. A telling of the Christmas story together with prayers and reflection.

## Advent Course

The parish is running an Advent course on Wednesdays throughout Advent at 10:30 via zoom, concluding on Wednesday **23 Dec**. The sessions are based on the Advent Podcasts released by the Diocese on the theme of Nine Lessons and Carols. Each session is stand-alone so there is no need to commit to the whole programme, just join when you are free! Please email Revd Greta at [curate@worthparish.org](mailto:curate@worthparish.org) for more information and/or the link. Please let others know who might not be reached by the Pewsheet.

## Gifts under the Christmas Trees

As in previous years we will be collecting gifts for those less fortunate than ourselves. This year our gifts will be distributed to Open House which provides support for those suffering the effects of homelessness, unemployment, loneliness, discrimination or other forms of social exclusion. Suitable donations – which must be new but do not need gift-wrap - include warm clothing, toiletries and packaged foods. Please place your gifts in one of the boxes under the trees when you attend any services up to and including 22 December. We look forward to a bumper collection – particularly when so many are in desperate need this year. Thank you.

## The Hangout Youth Club

Fridays during term time. 19:00-20:30.  
Years 7-11. Entry free.

Due to current guidelines and limitations on numbers, places need to be booked by emailing: [youth@worthparish.org](mailto:youth@worthparish.org)

## Saturdays 10:30 via Zoom

Please join us via Zoom for our Rise and Shine 'coffee' mornings. A chance to chat to friends old and new! Contact Revd Greta for further information and/or the Zoom link for the sessions at: [curate@worthparish.org](mailto:curate@worthparish.org)

## Chichester Cathedral

### The Chichester Nativity

A new art installation to herald the heroes of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Until 3 February 2021.  
For further information, go to [www.chichestercathedral.org.uk](http://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk) or Facebook: @ChichesterCathedral

### Carols from Chichester Cathedral

A pre-recorded Carol Service is also available online, as well as services live-streamed over the Christmas season. See the website.

## CONTACTS

### The Rector

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

### Vicar at St Barnabas'

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

### Assistant Priest

Revd Gordon Parry 07802 432398  
[gordonmwparry@btinternet.com](mailto:gordonmwparry@btinternet.com)

### Assistant Curate

Revd Greta, the Curate (Thurs & Sun)  
[curate@worthparish.org](mailto:curate@worthparish.org)

### Churchwardens

David Anderson (St B) 01293 409914  
[stbwarden@worthparish.org](mailto:stbwarden@worthparish.org)  
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)



[www.facebook.com/worthparish](https://www.facebook.com/worthparish)



[www.twitter.com/worthparish](https://www.twitter.com/worthparish)



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

Agnus Day appears with the permission of [www.agnusday.org](http://www.agnusday.org)

HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION:  
WHAT IF MARY HADN'T  
BELIEVED GABRIEL'S  
MESSAGE?



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG



GOOD THING  
SHE DID.  
I'LL SAY!!



LUKE 1:26-38

© WETZSTEIN 17.12.20