



**2 May  
2021**

**Easter 5**



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

**Our churches are now open again**  
(With Covid precautions)

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

08:00 Said Eucharist (BCP) St Nicholas'  
Celebrant & Preacher Revd Gordon Parry

10:00 Said Eucharist St Barnabas'  
Celebrant & Preacher Revd Sarah Upchurch  
(broadcast)

10:00 Child Friendly Said Eucharist  
St Nicholas'  
Celebrant & Preacher Fr Michael Boag



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

The metaphor Jesus uses of the vine is one of total interconnectedness and dependence. The vine branches, shoots and tendrils reaching out from the main trunk, the origin and support of the whole plant. And when he talks about the vine-grower pruning branches to stimulate growth and yield, it is to remind us that God wants us to realise the potential he sees in us and to understand the trials and challenges we may face, not just as obstacles but also as opportunities. No doubt the oyster finds the grit uncomfortable to live with before producing the pearl!

The vine is also a metaphor of the Kingdom of Heaven. We need to be careful not to think we have to complete the Kingdom either all by ourselves or even in our lifetime. Our very human desire to be successful, complete, wholly satisfied, can actually become a stumbling block for us, just as rejecting Jesus was a stumbling block to those around him. The Kingdom, even our little part of it, won't be finished by us, in our time, but day by day it continues to grow. Each of us is a part, a critical and unique part, but not the whole. There is always more to learn and more to offer of ourselves to others. Each of us, connected to and nurtured by Jesus, connected to each other, growing together and bearing fruit, fruit that will last. So, let us nurture one another with the same care and love as he gives us.

*Fr Michael*

## Collect

Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

## Reading Acts 8.26-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went.

Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides



me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way

rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

## Psalm Psalm 22.25-31

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live for ever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him. Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.



## Reading 1 John 4.7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.



God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is,

so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

### Gospel John 15.1-8

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.'



### Post Communion

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

## SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 4 May	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Thur 6 May	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sun 9 May	8:00 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Said Eucharist 10:00 Said Eucharist 11:45 Baptism	St Nicholas' St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas'

### Sunday 9 May 2021 Easter 6

Acts 10.44-48 Psalm 98  
1 John 5.1-6 John 15.9-17

## Festivals this week

Tues 4 May	English Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation Era (LF)
Sat 8 May	Julian of Norwich, Spiritual Writer c.1417 (LF)
(F) Festival; (LF) Lesser Festival; (C) Commemoration	

## DIARY NOTES & NOTICES

### Pastoral Centre

The Refurbishment in the Pastoral Centre is now well underway. Please note there is strictly no admittance to the Pastoral Centre for the next few weeks.

### St Nicholas' Circle

Tuesday 4 May 20:00 – Jeremy Hodgkinson will talk on "The Iron Industry in Worth". All by Zoom. Contact Max Perry at [max.perry@datamax.co.uk](mailto:max.perry@datamax.co.uk) or phone Sue at the Parish Office 0300 111 8150.

### The Julian Group at St Barnabas'

will continue to meet in our homes on Monday 10 May at 11:00 due to the continuing building work in the Pastoral Centre. Old and new friends very welcome, contact details from the Parish Office.

## **St Nicholas' Julian Group Wednesday 12 May 12:30**

The St Nicholas' Julian Group meets in the side chapel of the church on the second Wednesday afternoon of each month at 12:30.

So please feel free to join us for half an hour of silent prayer **Wednesday 12th May at 12:30.**

### **The Hangout**

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

### **APCM**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in St Barnabas' on **Sunday 16 May at 11:30.**

### **Saturday Market**

On **Saturday 22 May, 10:00-12:00** there will be a Market on St. Barnabas' patio in aid of St. Barnabas' Refurbishment. Stalls will include books, cakes, plants and toys. Please do support us. Donations of cakes and plants particularly welcome. (No bric-a-brac on this occasion, thank you.)

### **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 Fr Michael or Revd Sarah for further information and/or the Zoom link for the sessions at: [rector@worthparish.org](mailto:rector@worthparish.org) or [vicarstb@worthparish.org](mailto:vicarstb@worthparish.org)

### **Parish Spring Quiz**

The Parish Spring Quiz, by Zoom, on 24 April was enjoyed by all and raised £200 for Parish funds. Well done Sue and Max!

## **Twin my Vaccine**

The initiative to 'Twin my Vaccine', set up by the Rector of St Andrew's, Curry Rivel and his wife, with a



target of £1,000, has now raised £143,000. It is not too late to contribute at:

[justgiving.com/fundraising/rowanpatterson](https://justgiving.com/fundraising/rowanpatterson)

### **Mission Aviation Fellowship**

If you have been inspired by the articles about MAF in the Parish Magazine, you might be interested in a 'coffee table book': "Above and Beyond" illustrating their work. Available from: [maf-uk.org/beyond](http://maf-uk.org/beyond) (£20)

### **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  
[gordonmwperry@btinternet.com](mailto:gordonmwperry@btinternet.com)

#### **Honorary Assistant Priest**

Fr Francis Pole 07764 752608  
[francis.pole@virgin.net](mailto:francis.pole@virgin.net)

#### **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)



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