



**20 March
2022**

Lent 3



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 still be available
online (live or recorded)

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

10:00 Sung Eucharist St Barnabas'
Celebrant & Preacher Revd Sarah Upchurch

10:00 Sung Eucharist St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher Revd Greta



Please send pew sheet notices to
pewsheet@worthparish.org or phone
0300 111 8150

In today's Gospel passage, Jesus tells a parable about an unfruitful fig tree which is given a chance to thrive by having some care shown to it. I'm not a gardener but apparently the current advice for non-fruiting fig trees stays the same, to dig around it which prunes the roots and stimulates fruiting, with the addition of some fertiliser in the form of manure to aid growth.

In this parable the gardener does not look at the fig tree and discard it as worthless even though it has had three years in which to bear fruit. The gardener wants the fig tree to be given a second chance, a chance to thrive and bear fruit but, with the acknowledgment that help is needed to achieve this second chance.

In the parable the gardener symbolises Jesus, Jesus who cares for us and nourishes us; Jesus who is prepared to give us a second chance. When our lives seem fruitless, all is not lost. We are not discarded as worthless but are retained as worthy. Worthy of receiving the help we need to be able to lead fruitful lives. Worthy of a second chance.

All we need to do is to allow Jesus to care for us and nurture us and for us to be open to the ways in which Jesus can bring nourishment into our lives.

Revd Greta

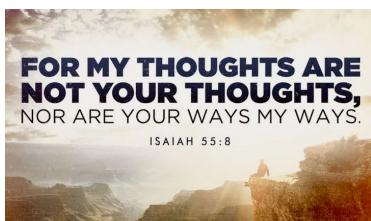
Collect

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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 55.1-9*

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God,



for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my

ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Psalm *Psalm 63.1-9*

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a

dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.



But those who seek to destroy my life shall go down into the depths of the earth.

Reading *1 Corinthians 10.1-13*

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.' We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages



have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to

everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Gospel Luke 13.1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them - do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.' Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in



his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

Post Communion

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 22 Mar	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Thur 24 Mar	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sat 26 Mar	11:30 Burial of Ashes	St Nicholas'
Sun 27 Mar	8:00 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Family Eucharist 10:00 Sung Eucharist and Baptism	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas'

Sunday 27 March 2022

Mothering Sunday

Exodus 2.1-10 Psalm 34.11-20
Colossians 3.12-17 Luke 2.33-35

Festivals this week

Mon 21 Mar	Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, Reformation Martyr 1556 (LF)
Thur 24 Mar	Walter Hilton of Thurgarton, Augustinian Canon, Mystic 1396 (C) Paul Couturier, Priest, Ecumenist 1953 (C) Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador, Martyr 1980 (C)
Fri 25 Mar	The Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary (F)
Sat 26 Mar	Harriet Monsell, Founder of the Community of St John the Baptist, Clewer 1883 (C)
(F) Festival; (LF) Lesser Festival; (C) Commemoration	

DIARY NOTES & NOTICES

100 Club: March Draw

£100 Sue Perry (9)
£50 Jill Freeborn (50)
£25 Gerald Sandwell (29)
£25 Judy Stokes (39)

Lent Course

The Lent Course will continue in St Barnabas' Café **14:30-16:00** on Sat: **26 Mar and 2 Apr**.

Toddlers Group

The Toddlers Group meets on **Tuesdays 13:00-15:00** and **Thursdays 9:00-11:00** during term time in St Barnabas' Hall.

Scrabble and Cake: The next session is on **Wed 23 Mar 14:30-16:30** in St Barnabas' Café. Why not join us for games, tea, cake and friendship and help boost our funds?

PCC

Next meeting on **Wed 23 Mar 19:00** at the Pastoral Centre. Please raise items for discussion with a Churchwarden or PCC Member

Modern Day Slavery

To learn more come to the **Mothers' Union** meeting on **Thur 24 Mar** at **16:00** in the Pastoral Centre. A Speaker will talk about this terrible plight of young and old, even in the UK. Followed by refreshments and Compline. *Everyone welcome.*

Friday Lunches

Lunch in the Pastoral Centre at 12:30 on **25 Mar**. Two courses and a drink £6.50. To help with catering please book your place at the Pastoral Centre (café open Wed and Sat) or via the Parish Office, by Wed **23 Mar**. All welcome.

The Hangout

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

The next **Saturday Market** is on **26 Mar 10:00-11:30** in St Barnabas' Café. New/as new items for sale welcomed.

Parish Prayer Group

will meet on 'zoom' for the last time this month on **Wed 30 March at 19:00**. Thereafter we will resume meeting in person alternately at St Nicholas' (last Thursday afternoon of the month) and at St Barnabas' (last Wednesday evening of the month). Please feel free to join us as we pray for the Parish, its clergy and its outreach.

Churchyard Team

With the advent of Spring and the retirement of Ian Pallett, who has given the Churchyard team many years of dedicated service, we are looking for new volunteers to join and take this important work forward.

If you are interested and have any time to offer please contact Rose Wells or Colin Smith.

Love Your Neighbour

Sun 8 May RUN GATWICK!

Visit: stjohnscrawley.com/loveyourneighbour-rungatwick So runners are invited to an evening pre-race reception on Wed 4 May, please can they confirm at: lyncrawley@stjohnscrawley.com There will be an evening service on **Sun 8 May** at Crawley Community Church celebrating their achievement!

Plant Sale and Market on St Barnabas' Patio, **Sat 14 May, 10:00-11:30**, in aid of St Barnabas' Refurbishment. Please think of us when you are planting your seeds and cuttings and grow a few extra for us. Thank you

CONTACTS

The Rector

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Vicar at St Barnabas'

Revd Sarah Upchurch 01293 524804
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Assistant Priest

Fr Francis Pole 07764 752608
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Assistant Curate

Revd Greta, the Curate (Thurs & Sun)
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Churchwardens

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Worth Parish Office

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