



**4 December
2022**

Advent 2



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)

08:15 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 Fr Michael Boag

Please try our new QR code to donate to
Worth Parish. Scan this code with a
smartphone to take you straight to a giving
page.



To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him through the waters of baptism. If we have been baptized into Christ, what then should we look like? If we have heeded the message of John Baptist, how will that show itself? 'As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.' Paul writes to the Galatians. What is this clothing? Not the camel's hair and leather belt of John in the wilderness as he ate his locusts and wild honey; being clothed with Christ will be evident by the fruits of the spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

All Christian people are called to proclaim Christ and the coming of the Kingdom of God, as John the Baptist did, but possibly not in the same way he did. Calling our neighbours 'You brood of vipers' is not exactly going to win friends and influence people! Yet there are so many who hunger and thirst and ache for such a Kingdom, how will we point them in its direction? We may not be great orators or evangelists but through compassion and care, generosity and welcome, forgiveness and prayer, we make Christ known in the world, in our world, in our streets. That is what the proclamation of the Kingdom is about: a way of living based on love and self-sacrifice, of serving one another before ourselves.

Prepare the way of the Lord!

Fr Michael

Collect

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. **Amen**

Reading *Isaiah 11.1-10*

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall



graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Psalm *Psalm 72.1-7*

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son. May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice. May the mountains yield

prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness. May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.

May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations. May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth. In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endures.

Reading *Romans 15.4-13*

"FOR EVERYTHING THAT WAS WRITTEN IN THE PAST WAS WRITTEN TO TEACH US, SO THAT THROUGH ENDURANCE AND THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE SCRIPTURES WE MIGHT HAVE HOPE."

For whatever was written in former

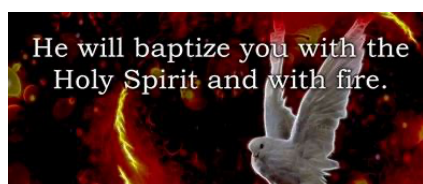
days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Gospel Matthew 3.1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his



He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork

is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Post Communion

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 6 Dec	10:30 Healing Eucharist	St Barnabas
Thur 8 Dec	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sun 11 Dec	8:15 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Sung Eucharist 10:00 Sung Eucharist 16:00 Carols for All	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas' St Barnabas'

Sunday 11 December 2022 Advent 3

Isaiah 35.1-10 Psalm 146.4-10
James 5.7-10 Matthew 11.2-11

Church Mouse's Christmas

will follow the Thursday Eucharist at St Nicholas' on **8 Dec** at 11:30. Words and a little music for Christmas, followed by a 'faith lunch'. Please bring a contribution.

Festivals this week

Tues 6 Dec	Nicholas, Bishop of Myra c.326 (LF)
Wed 7 Dec	Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Teacher 397 (LF)
Thur 8 Dec	The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (LF)

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

DIARY NOTES & NOTICES

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

Scrabble and Cake

The next session takes place on **7 Dec**, 14:30-16:30 in St Barnabas' Café, £3.50, in aid of St Barnabas' Refurbishment. All welcome.

St Nicholas' Circle

Wed 7 Dec 19:30 for 20:00 in the Café at St Barnabas' for Christmas Wine and Cheese.

Pilgrim's Nurture Course
on **Wed** nights at 19:00 in the Café at St Barnabas'; for those who are exploring or want to refresh their faith.

Friday Lunches

Friday lunch on **9 Dec** in the Pastoral Centre at 12:30. Two courses and a drink £7.00. To help with catering please book your place at the Pastoral Centre (café open Wed and Sat) or via the Parish Office, by **Wed 7 Dec**. All welcome. Lunches will be served on 16 Dec but we will be closed on 23 and 30 Dec..

Olly's Christmas Show

Will be at St Barnabas' on **Fri 9 Dec** – time to be announced.

The Hangout

Youth Club at St Barnabas' on
Fri 9 December 19:00-20:30

Ages 12-16. Entry free. Weekly during term

The next **Saturday Market** takes place on **10 Dec** in St Barnabas' Café 10:00-11:30.

Parish 2023 Calendar

A Calendar with photos of the Parish. Lots of space for writing engagements; public holidays and major Christian festivals shown.

£10 – **all of which goes to charity.**

Widely available, or contact Liz Gallagher.

Every home should have one; perfect present!

Love Christmas

'Love Christmas' is an outreach from churches in Crawley to people who are anxious or isolated. We give them a 'bag of kindness' which is filled with treats and gifts to show that we care for our neighbours.

'Love Christmas' would like to express enormous gratitude for the £200 already raised by the congregation at St Barnabas'. The collection point at the back of St Barnabas' will be there today. We are humbled by your generosity!

We would still like your nominations for the recipients of the bags in our Parish. Please give these to Revd Sarah, in confidence, by **6 Dec**. Thank you for your help!

St Barnabas' Julian Group

Meets on **Mon 12 Dec** at **14:00** in St Barnabas'. All welcome.

Please join us for the story, crafts, songs and prayers, followed by a light tea.

In December Messy Church will combine the Wed and Sat meetings on

Sat 10 Dec 15:30-17:00 (in the Church) at St Barnabas' for a **Christingle** with oranges and sweets. Everyone welcome - mums, dads, grandparents, carers - come and enjoy!



St Nicholas' Julian Group

will meet for half an hour of silent prayer **Wed 14 Dec** at **12:30**. Please feel free to join us - everyone welcome!

CONTACTS

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Assistant Priest

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Assistant Curate

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