



**18 December
2022**

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 still be
available online (live or recorded)

08:15 Said Eucharist (BCP)	St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher	Rev'd Gordon Parry
10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Celebrant & Preacher	Rev'd Greta
10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher	Fr Michael Boag
16:00 Nine Lessons and Carols	St Nicholas'

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.



One of the joys, but perhaps one of the stresses of impending parenthood, is trying to decide the name of the baby. While parents often have free choice, sometimes there are conventions to follow. And sometimes the name is decreed by the family. Mary and Joseph had no choice in deciding what their new baby would be called. In today's Gospel passage we hear about the Angel appearing to Joseph in a dream. 'She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus'. Yet further on in the passage we read 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son and they shall name him Emmanuel'. One Gospel passage but two names! Is there a conflict? Of course, many people are known by more than one name: quite often the second moniker is used to distinguish between people of the same name e.g. Big John and Little John. Jesus was a very common name two thousand years ago. It means 'God saves'. The meaning of Emmanuel is 'God with us'.

Last Sunday during a joyful (and chocolate-filled) 'Carols for All' service at St Barnabas' we sang 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing'. Amongst the lyrics are the words 'Christ, the everlasting Lord'; 'Hail the Incarnate Deity'; 'Hail, the Heaven-born Prince of Peace!'; 'Hail the Son of Righteousness'. There are many names that we can use for Jesus, and at the heart of all of these wondrous names is Emmanuel 'God with us'. God with us, incarnate in the newborn babe lying in the manger. God with us... right now and at all times and in all places. God with us beyond the manger in the stable to be part of our lives on Christmas Day and throughout the year to come. God with us, ALWAYS. Amen.

Rev'd Greta

Collect

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Reading Isaiah 7.10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also?

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

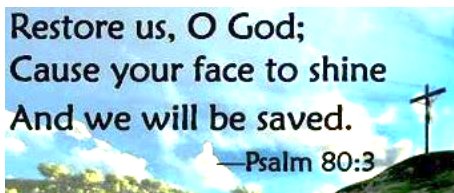
Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat

curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Psalm Psalm 80.1-8

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.



O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure. You make us the scorn of our neighbours; our enemies laugh among themselves.

Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

Reading Romans 1.1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God,

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he

promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

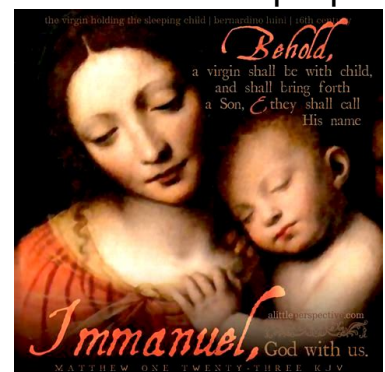
To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Matthew 1.18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.'

All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive



and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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. **Ame**

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 20 Dec	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Wed 21 Dec	18:00 Blue Christmas	St Barnabas'
Thur 22 Dec	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sat 24 Dec	14:00 Crib Service	St Barnabas'
	16:00 Crib Service and Nativity	St Nicholas'
	23:30 Midnight Mass	St Nicholas'
Sun 25 Dec	8:15 Eucharist (BCP)	St Nicholas'
	10:00 Child Friendly Eucharist	St Barnabas'
	10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sunday 25 December 2022 Christmas Day Isaiah 52.7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1.1-4 John 1.1-14		

Festivals this week

Sat 24 Dec	Christmas Eve (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.
Returns in the New Year on **10 Jan**.

Blue Christmas

Blue Christmas will be at St Barnabas' at 18:00 on **Wed 21 Dec**. 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.

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

We will be closed for Lunches on 23 and 30 Dec.

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!

Gifts under the Christmas Trees

Both churches will be collecting gifts for two charities. Open House welcomes tea, coffee, canned and packaged foods, toiletries and warm clothing. The Golden Lions Children's Trust welcomes toys, books and puzzles. Items must be new and unwrapped (although rolls of wrapping paper are welcomed). Donations can be brought to either church up to and including the Crib services on Christmas Eve. Thank you

Scrabble and Cake

Scrabble and Cake on 7 Dec raised £26.50 for St Barnabas' Refurbishment Fund.

Saturday Market

The Saturday Market on 10 Dec raised £141.90 for St Barnabas' Refurbishment Fund. Thanks to all our supporters.

Christmas Eve Nativity

16:00 at St Nicholas'. If any children, age 3+, would like to join in creating the Nativity Story during the Crib Service we will be holding rehearsals on **Thurs 22 Dec & Fri 23 Dec at 16:00 until 17:00** at St Nicholas'. Interested? Please come along, collect a costume and see what you will have to do. All are welcome.

Christmas Eve Nativity – St Barnabas'

14:00 at St Barnabas', any children wanting to join in are welcome, just come along on Christmas Eve.

100 Club Draw

November:	£100	Shirley Siddaway
	£50	Joan Tick
	£25	Gill Osbourne
	£25	Mary Pollatos
December:	£100	Ian Pallet
	£50	Don Hewerdine
	£25	Trevor Stokes
	£25	Jim Bull

CONTACTS

The Rector

Fr Michael Boag 01293 882229
rector@worthparish.org (Tues-Sun)

Vicar at St Barnabas'

Revd Sarah Upchurch 01293 524804
vicarstb@worthparish.org (Tues-Sun)

Assistant Priest

Revd Gordon Parry 07802 432398
gordonmwparry@btinternet.com

Assistant Priest

Fr Francis Pole 07764 752608
francis.pole@virgin.net

Assistant Curate

Revd Greta, the Curate (Thurs & Sun)
curate@worthparish.org

Churchwardens

David Anderson (St B) 01293 409914
stbwarden@worthparish.org
Rose Wells (St N) 01293 884250
stnwarden@worthparish.org
Colin Smith (St N) 01293 889894

Worth Parish Office

Sue Perry 0300 111 8150
office@worthparish.org



www.facebook.com/worthparish



www.twitter.com/worthparish



www.worthparish.org

SO... JOSEPH
TAKES THE *RISK*
OF A LIFETIME...



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

BECAUSE HE
HAS A *DREAM*?



YES, THAT'S
ABOUT IT.



I LIKE HIS *STYLE*!



MATTHEW 1:18-25

© WETZSTEIN 19.12.17