



**25 December
2022**

Christmas Day



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 Child Friendly
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.



There is no doubt that Christmas will be different for everyone this year. Some may find it a blessing to be together with family and friends, while others may dread mixing, having to appear jolly, when they feel anything but.

Some will have an extravagant Christmas with lavish gifts and 'skin stretching' amounts of rich food. Some will nervously wonder how to pay for the gifts that they have given. Some will be painfully aware of those who they love that are missing, through bereavement, separation or geography.

I can't help thinking of what Christmas will be like for those in the Ukraine.

With some degree of sadness, and, if I am honest, frustration, some won't even think of the real reason for the season. Yet, I am consoled by all the school assemblies we led and the amazing Pound Hill Junior School Nativity where the first Christmas was so beautifully presented with a modern twist!

Take heart, have courage my fellow travellers on the journey of life!

Our God, in his wisdom and majesty, came to earth as a vulnerable baby human, trusted his chosen parents Mary and Joseph, taught us how to live and love, heal and forgive and eventually die in order to save us so that we could be re-united with Him in heaven.

Even though all our individual experiences may be different this Christmas, what remains the same for each of us, is that Jesus was born to fulfil his destiny which was, and still is, to save every one of us.

Have a truly blessed Christmas, may you know God's truth, justice and mercy in your life, today and evermore.

Peace be with you and all those you love in this world and the next. Amen.

Revd Sarah

Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. **Amen**

Reading *Isaiah 52.7-10*

"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the one who brings news of peace!" Isaiah 52:7

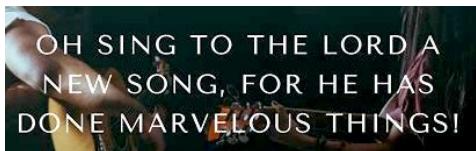


How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who

announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.' Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Psalm *Psalm 98*

O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has



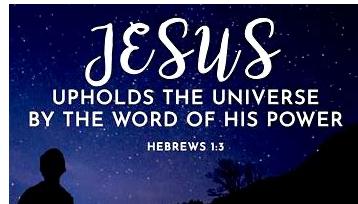
done marvellous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gained him victory. The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord. Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming

to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Reading *Hebrews 1.1-4*

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he



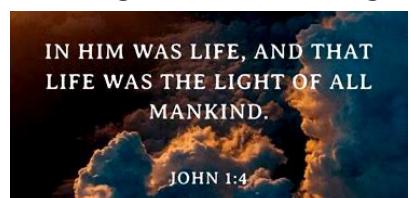
sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the

right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Gospel *John 1.1-14*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.

What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all



people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the

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!

New Boiler for St Nicholas' January 2023

We have received the required faculty permissions from the Diocese, the Approval of the PCC for our Contractor and his estimate and a start date for work in the first week of January. Years to plan – hopefully only days to do. We will advise regarding availability of heating for services as work progresses.



I LOVE THE PROLOGUE
IN JOHN! IT'S SO
MYSTERIOUS -- IT'S
PERFECT FOR
CHRISTMAS!



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

A LONG TIME AGO
IN A GALAXY
FAR FAR AWAY...



YEAHHH -- THAT'S
THE WRONG
PROLOGUE.



JOHN 1:1-14

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