



**16 April  
2023**

**Easter 2  
Low Sunday**



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

11:45 Baptism 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.



Today is the first Sunday after Easter. The disciples do not know whether they are coming or going, so they continue to stick close together. They return to the room where they could meet safely; some think it is the same room where they ate the Passover meal. Our Gospel reading contains the second and third appearances of the risen Jesus. The first appearance was, of course, to Mary Magdalene in the garden, which was part of the Easter Gospel.

The second appearance results in the disciples telling Thomas, "We have seen the Lord". Thomas doesn't believe their words – probably the same reaction that the disciples had at Mary's words. You know, I really don't know why Thomas gets such a bad press. All the disciples had doubts - all of them were afraid. I think Thomas is highlighted simply because he became the absentee disciple who had to get his head round the resurrection in front of the others.

Jesus asks: "Have you believed because you have seen me?" This was Jesus' challenge to his disciples. Jesus then adds: "*Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.*" Those words apply to you and to me!

Very sadly, a lot of people - even some who would say they are Christians - cannot get their heads around the fact of the Resurrection. The idea that someone could die, and three days later rise again, defies logic. But then, the whole idea of God becoming man in Jesus also defies logic. The truth is that, with God, nothing is impossible or difficult. So, dear friends, take heart and believe the Gospels!

Wishing you every blessing and have a wonderful Eastertide!

*Fr Francis*

## Collect

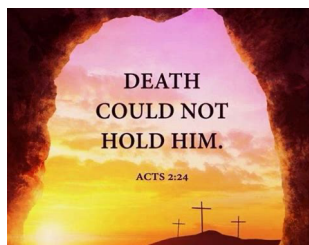
Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred: open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace, to the praise of God the Father.

**Amen**

## Reading Acts 2.14a,22-32

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them:

‘You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know - this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified



and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him

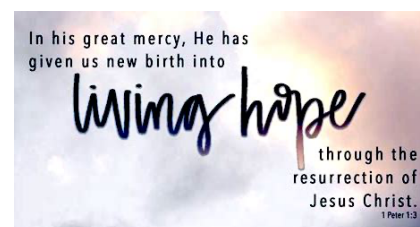
to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, “I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.”

‘Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, “He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.” This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

## Reading 1 Peter 1.3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given

us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ



from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith - being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire - may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

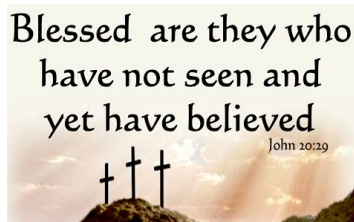
## Gospel John 20.19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although

the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you



believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

### Post Communion

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**

### 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.

**St Barnabas' Julian Group** will not meet in April.

### Friday Lunches

Friday lunch on **21 Apr** 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 19 Apr**. All welcome.

### The Hangout

Youth Club at St Barnabas' on **Fri 21 Apr 19:00-20:30**  
Ages 12-16. Entry free. Weekly during term time.

### Festivals this week

Wed 19 Apr	Alphege, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr 1012 (LF)
Fri 21 Apr	Anselm, Abbot of Le Bec, Archbishop of Canterbury, Teacher 1109 (LF)

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

### SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 18 Apr	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Thur 20 Apr	10:30 Healing Eucharist 14:00 Wedding	St Nicholas' St Nicholas'
Sun 23 Apr	8:15 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Child Friendly Eucharist 10:00 Sung Eucharist 11:45 Baptism 16:00 St George's Day Evensong	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas' St Nicholas' St Nicholas'

### Sunday 23 April 2023 Easter 3

Acts 2.14a,36-41 | Peter 1.17-23  
Luke 24.13-35

### Scrabble and Cake

**Wed 26 Apr** 14:30-16:30, in St Barnabas' Café. Come and enjoy games and refreshments. All welcome. £3.50. In aid of St. Barnabas' Refurbishment.

### Parish Summer Fair

**Sat 3 June**, at St. Barnabas'. Please put the date in your diary. There will be a first planning session for the event on **Tues 25 April** at 11:30 in St Barnabas' Café. Do join us if you feel you can help in any way - running a stall or bringing some good ideas to us.

### Parish Prayer Group

will meet at **19:00 at St Barnabas' on Wed 26 Apr.** Please join us at St Barnabas' as we pray for our Parish, its clergy and its outreach.

### Mothers' Union

**Thurs 27 Apr 16:00pm** MU Branch Meeting at St Barnabas' celebrating the forthcoming Coronation of King Charles III, with a Quiz, Maundy Money talk and a "Royal Crown" competition. Everyone welcome.

**Sat 29 Apr 10:00 – 12:00** St Barnabas' Café, Mothers' Union Coffee Morning and sale of home-made cakes, second hand books and 'quality bric-a-brac', in aid of AFIA and MU Projects. We look forward to seeing **you** there.

### Youth Courses

**Young Communicants** Course for those over 7yrs old on **Thursdays 16:30** at St Barnabas' Café. Contact Revd Sarah or Revd Greta.

**Youth Alpha** on Fridays **18:00** at St Barnabas' Café. Contact Revd Sarah with any questions.

### PCC Situations Vacant

Please consider whether you could support our Parish life by becoming a PCC member. Elections & appointments will be made at our APCM on 19 Apr. Your current PCC would be happy to discuss any questions you have. In addition, both our Treasurer and our PCC Secretary positions are currently vacant and the work being managed by the Wardens and Clergy. We are praying for people with time and talent to come forward.

### Yvonne Wright

We are sorry to announce the death of Yvonne Wright on Sunday 26 March.  
Funeral at St Barnabas' on Wed 19 April at 14:30.

### 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



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I'M JUST SAYIN' IT'S A  
GOOD THING THAT JESUS  
STUCK AROUND  
UNTIL THEY ALL GOT THEIR  
ACT TOGETHER!

