



**30 April
2023**

Easter 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 Fr Michael Boag

10:00 Sung Eucharist St Barnabas'
Celebrant & Preacher Revd Gordon Parry

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

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



Today's reading is about Jesus as the Good Shepherd. What we tend to overlook with this passage is the image of Jesus as the Gatekeeper; he describes himself as the gate. "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep". Now we are all very familiar with the idea of a gate, ranging from a typical picturesque gate in a picket fence of a front garden to a large farmyard gate in an entrance to a field. We have gates to keep people out and gates to keep people in. We have gates that we can't wait to open (e.g. gates at the football stadium) to gates that we would rather not open (insert your own idea here). Some gates we are keen to go through and other gates we are potentially uneasy about or even fearful of, as we don't know what awaits us on the other side. I wonder, what type of gate is Jesus to you?

The scriptures tell us that Jesus is the gateway to a new life, a life that is filled with love and grace and the peace that passes all understanding. Taking that first step through the gate can be a daunting task especially if taken alone, but by following someone we trust, as the sheep trust in and follow the shepherd, we can enter into new pastures. We can enter into a new way of being safe in the presence of our Lord. I wonder, who can you help through the gate this week?

Revd Greta

Collect

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Reading Acts 2.42-47

They were continually devoting themselves to.....

- the apostles' teaching
- fellowship
- the breaking of bread
- prayer

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reading 1 Peter 2.19-25

For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. 'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.' When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who

judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his

wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel John 10.1-10

'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

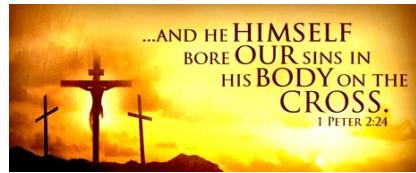
So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.'

I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

Post Communion

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 2 May	10:30 Healing Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Wed 3 May	14:00 Funeral Paul Lessiter	St Nicholas'
Thur 4 May	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sat 6 May	14:00 Wedding	St Nicholas'
Sun 7 May	8:15 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Sung Eucharist 10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas'

Sunday 7 May 2023

Easter 5

Isaiah 40.12-17,25-31 I Peter 2.2-10
John 14.1-14

Friday Lunches

Friday lunch on **5 May** 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 3 May**. All welcome.

St Barnabas' Julian Group

meets on **Mon 8 May at 14:00** in St Barnabas'.

St Nicholas' Julian Group

The St Nicholas' Julian Group will meet for half an hour of silent prayer on **Wed 10 May at 12:30**. Please feel free to join us - everyone welcome!

Come and see, Crafts, Bible story, a song and a prayer, followed by Pizza and lollies.



In May Messy Church will be on **Sat 13 May 15:30-17:00** and **Wed 17 May 15:00-16:30** (in the Church) at St Barnabas'. Everyone welcome - mums, dads, grandparents, carers - come and have fun!

Mothers' Union

Sat 13 May Mothers' Union Members' Day held at St John the Evangelist Church, Knoyle Road, Preston, Brighton BN1 6RB. 10:00 for 10:30 until 15:00. Open to everyone If you would like to attend please contact either Joan Tick 884695 or Mary Fry 410383 for further details.

Plant Sale and Market

Sat 20 May, at St Barnabas', 10:00-11:30. In aid of St Barnabas' Refurbishment. Donations of plants and new/as new items to sell welcomed.

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.

Parish Coronation Bring and Share Lunch/BBQ,

12 noon, Sun 7 May, at St Barnabas'. Please see lists for signing that are displayed in both churches. Please sign **TODAY**.

The Hangout

Youth Club at St Barnabas' on

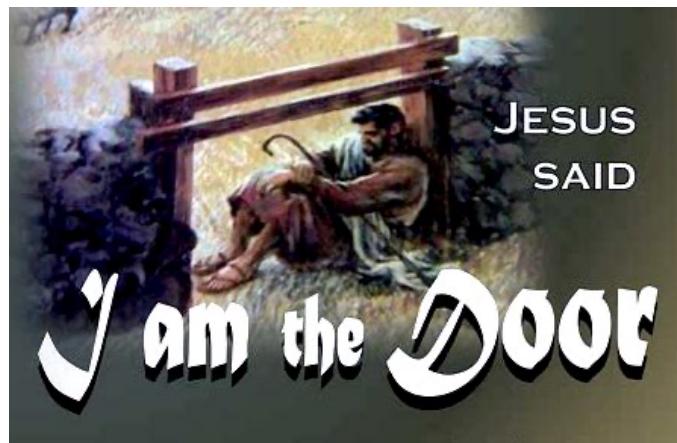
Fri 5 May 19:00-20:30

Ages 12-16. Entry free. Weekly during term time.

Parish Summer Fair

Sat 3 June, at St. Barnabas'. We are looking for donations towards our raffle of hampers/baskets of goodies with a Summer theme, e.g. a 'picnic basket', 'an afternoon tea basket', 'a gardening basket', 'a seaside basket' and so on. We also welcome donations for stalls, e.g. tombola items, bottles for bottle tombola, books, quality bric-a-brac and the like.

There is a box (in each church) for donations of items. Thank you.



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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IS JESUS THE
SHEPHERD
OR THE GATE?

THERE ARE
SEVERAL
METAPHORS
HERE.

AND WHO
ARE THE
OTHER
SHEEP?



[Agnus Day](http://www.agnusday.org) appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org

OH, THAT'S
YOU!

IT'S MEEEEEE!

JOHN 10:1-10

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