



**8 October
2023**

Trinity 18



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 Fr Francis Pole

10:00 Sung Eucharist St Nicholas'
Celebrant & Preacher Fr Michael Boag

11:45 Baptism St Nicholas'

18:30 Prayer and Praise St Barnabas'

Please try our QR code
to donate to Worth
Parish. Scan this code
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giving page.



Payments to the Parish

If you possibly can, please transfer the money
by electronic payment to: Worth PCC, sort
code 40-18-22, account 61223372.
If you need help, call the Office.

The parable contained in our gospel reading
should not escape our understanding.

A vineyard is established by a landowner. He
engages tenants to look after it and ensure
that it is productive. When he sends his
representatives to collect the wine they are
attacked and one is killed.

As we reflected upon last week, God
created our earth and wishes to see it
tenanted productively with love, with
compassion. We have managed over the
millennia to disfigure it with our insecurities,
our greed, our jealous conflict and our
short-term perspective on things.

The landowner finally sends his son to the
vineyard. He too is killed and the tenants
expect to inherit the vineyard. The
consequence of that is nothing but grief. All
those who allow greed and enmity to rule
their lives alienate themselves from God and
those who possess little or nothing receive
value, and an inheritance from God.

This parable should resonate with us in
various ways. It is a wonderful metaphor for
the life - and death - of Christ. Suspicion,
misunderstanding and political insecurity led
to his death on the cross.

Those who lead us, who organise in so
many different national and international
ways, our tenanting of the earth, seem all
too frequently motivated by quite selfish and
dishonourable impulses. In Britain we are in
the midst of the annual round of political
party conferences. What feelings are
aroused in us by the political rhetoric that is
broadcast from them? A number of those
who might have really significant and
positive contributions to bring to our
national life are drowned out by the sound-
bites and the showmanship that seem to be
an essential part of conference life. When
and how will God-given values be enabled to
infuse our earthly stewardship?

Gordon

Collect

God, our judge and saviour, teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love, that we may live each day with confidence in the salvation which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Reading *Isaiah 5.1-7*

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watch-tower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard



that I have not done in it?

When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down

its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

Reading *Philippians 3.4b-14*

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because

of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.



Gospel *Matthew 21.33-46*

‘Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, “They will respect my son.” But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, “This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.” So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ They said to him, ‘He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the

vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.'

Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.'

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Post Communion

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here a pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever. **Amen**

SERVICES THIS WEEK		
Tues 10 Oct	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Thur 12 Oct	10:30 Said Eucharist 11:00 Burial of Ashes Elsie Tilson	St Nicholas' St Nicholas'
Sat 14 Oct	15:30 Messy Church	St Barnabas'
Sun 15 Oct	8:15 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Sung Eucharist 10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas'
Sunday 15 October 2023 Trinity 19 Isaiah 25.1-9 Philippians 4.1-9 Matthew 22.1-14		

Festivals this week	
Mon 9 Oct	Denys, Bishop of Paris, and his Companions, Martyrs c.250 (C) Robert Grossteste, Bishop of Lincoln, Philosopher, Scientist 1253 (C)
Tues 10 Oct	Paulinus, Bishop of York, Missionary 644 (LF) Thomas Traherne, Poet, Spiritual Writer 1674 (C)
Wed 11 Oct	Ethelburga, Abbess of Barking 675 (C) James the Deacon, Companion of Paulinus 7 th century (C)
Thurs 12 Oct	Wilfrid of Ripon, Bishop, Missionary 709 (LF) Elizabeth Fry, Prison Reformer 1845 (C) Edith Cavell, Nurse 1915 (C)
Fri 13 Oct	Edward the Confessor, King of England 1066 (LF)
(F) Festival; (LF) Lesser Festival; (C) Commemoration	

DIARY NOTES & NOTICES

Evening Service of Prayer and Praise TODAY 18:30

at St Barnabas', Pound Hill (in the Church). Christians of all denominations are welcome to an informal ecumenical service of Prayer and Praise in a series of a regular Sunday evening services. The Worship Group will be creating a peaceful worshipful atmosphere with music and song and plenty of time for all to reflect together prayerfully. If you would like to join in the music group by playing an instrument or singing (or even both!): for more information please email John Palmer on music.stb@worthparish.org

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

There will be NO Julian Meeting at St Barnabas' on 9 Oct. Back to normal in November

St Nicholas' Julian Group

will meet for half an hour of silent prayer on **Wed 11 Oct** at **12:30**. Please feel free to join us - everyone welcome!

Scrabble and Cake

Wed 11 Oct 14:30-16:30, in St Barnabas Café. Come and enjoy games, refreshments and company. £3.50, in aid of St Barnabas' Refurbishment. All welcome.

Friday Lunches

Friday lunch on **13 Oct** in The Café at 12:30. Two courses and a drink £7.00. To help with catering please book your place at the Café (café open Wed and Sat) or via the Parish Office, by **Wed 11 Oct** Profits for Parish funds. The lunches are not exclusively for the elderly, why not bring a friend and give us a try. All welcome.

The Hangout

Youth Club at St Barnabas' on **Fri 13 October 19:00-20:30** For Year Groups 7-11. Entry free. Weekly during term time.

Saturday Market

14 Oct, 10:00-11:30, in St Barnabas' Café. In aid of St Barnabas' Refurbishment Fund. All welcome

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

In October Messy Church will be on **Sat 14 Oct** 15:30-17:00 and **Wed 18 Oct** 15:00-16:30 (in the Church) at St Barnabas'. Everyone welcome - mums, dads, grandparents, carers - come and have fun!



St Nicholas' Circle

will next meet on Wed 8 Nov. Details to follow.

Bishop of Lewes to visit St Nicholas'

Bishop Will is coming to celebrate, preach and confirm in St Nicholas' on **Thurs 19 Oct** at 10:30. This is a special occasion (and rare treat) for us, so do please come and support the candidates.

All Souls' Service

A list of names is in both churches for those you wished to be remembered at the All Souls' Requiem on Sun 5 Nov at 16:00. Please indicate against the name of your loved one as shown (✓). Thank you.

Licensing of Revd Greta 24 Oct 19:00

Refreshments will be provided after the Licensing of Revd Greta by Bishop Ruth at St Nicholas'. Contributions towards the cost will be most welcome and may be handed to your Churchwarden or placed in the collection box in an enveloped marked *Greta*.

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 Dr Greta Sawyer (Thurs & Sun)
curate@worthparish.org

Churchwardens

David Anderson (St B) 01293 409914
stbwarden@worthparish.org
Vacant (St N) 0300 111 8150
Colin Smith (Acting, St N) 01293 889894

Worth Parish Office

Sue Perry 0300 111 8150
office@worthparish.org