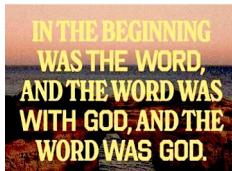




**4 February
2024**

**Second Sunday
before Lent**



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 QR code to donate to Worth Parish. Scan this code with a smartphone to take you straight to a 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.

Having just put the Nativity sets away, last Sunday, today we get a Christmas Gospel reading! St John writes of God's unconditional love for the world, a love so great that not only does he give us freedom, freedom to choose good or evil, freedom to build or destroy, freedom to free or enslave, but he gives us Jesus, born of Mary, who by his death and resurrection, demonstrates the ultimate victory of love. Jesus, light of the world, shining in the darkness and not overcome by it.

In the letter to the Colossians, we read that Jesus is the image of the invisible God. 'For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.' In the face of Jesus Christ we see the immortal, invisible God revealed. What does this tell us of God? The late Bishop John V Taylor wrote how Jesus shows the nature, the personality of God by reminding us that God is Christlike and in him no unChristlike thing exists. And the nature of Jesus, described in the letter to the Philippians: 'being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross.' Total giving, total serving; Jesus came to show us how true freedom comes from serving and loving one another. Let us then be bold and ambitious in our efforts to imitate him, knowing he will help us do so.

And remember, Christmas is not just for Christmas!

Fr Michael

Collect

Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Reading Proverbs 8.1,22-31

Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice?

The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth - when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his

Rejoicing In His
Whole World
And Delighting In
Mankind.

delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

Reading Colossians 1.15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers - all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so

He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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 will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

...HE GAVE THE RIGHT
TO BECOME GOD'S
CHILDREN TO EVERYONE
WHO BELIEVED IN HIM.



Post Communion

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be

transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SERVICES THIS WEEK		
Tues 6 Feb	10:30 Healing Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Thur 8 Feb	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sun 4 Feb	8:15 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Sung Eucharist 10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas'
Sunday 11 February 2024 The Sunday next before Lent 2 Kings 2.1-12 2 Corinthians 4.3-6 Mark 9.2-9		

Festivals this week	
Tues 6 Feb	The Martyrs of Japan 1597 (C)
Sat 10 Feb	Scholastica, sister of Benedict, Abbess of Plombariola c.543 (C)
(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.

Friday Lunches

Friday lunch on **9 Feb** 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 7 Feb**. 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 9 Feb 19:00-20:30
 For Year Groups 7-11. Entry free.
 Weekly during term time.

Saturday Market

will be held on **10 Feb 10:00-11:30** in St Barnabas' Café, in aid of the St Barnabas' Refurbishment. Please support us. All welcome.

St Barnabas' Julian Group

meets on **Mon 12 Feb at 14:00** in St Barnabas'. Old and new friends very welcome.

Mothers' Union

Tues 13 Feb 10:30am Eucharist service.
 Mothers' Union will be welcoming Members from other Branches to this Shriving Service, followed by Shrove Tuesday refreshments; everyone is welcome.

St Nicholas' Julian Group

Meets on **Wed 14 Feb at 12:30** for half an hour of silent prayer. Please feel free to join us - everyone welcome!

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

In February Messy Church will be a on **Wed 21 Feb**

15:00-16:30 and on **Sat 24 Feb 15:00-16:30 (note new time)** at St Barnabas'. Everyone welcome - mums, dads, grandparents, carers - come and have fun



Volunteering

To support the smooth running of the Parish, we are looking to recruit people who can spare as little as an hour or so. We have opportunities to support the administration and maintenance at St Barnabas' to support David. We are looking for a PCC Secretary and there are also opportunities in the growing Children's and Youth Ministry subject to Safer Recruitment checks. Full training and support will be given.

Please get in touch with Fr Michael, Sarah or David.

Your section of the Hall floor

Have you bought your square of the new Hall floor at St Barnabas' yet? £10.00 per unit. We have sold 38 so far, only 1862 to go! Please tell David or Sarah how many you would like. The certificates are great for presents for the person who has everything.....!



CONTACTS

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Assistant Priest

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Assistant Priest

Fr Francis Pole 07764 752608
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Associate Vicar

Revd Dr Greta Sawyer (Thurs & Sun)
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Churchwardens

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Worth Parish Office

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YOU KNOW, THE IDEA
THAT GOD - THE WISDOM
OF THE COSMOS - WOULD
BECOME A REAL HUMAN
WAS BEYOND THE
IMAGINATION OF THE
GREEK PHILOSOPHERS.



WAIT! ARE YOU
SAYING THAT THE
PEOPLE WHO BROUGHT
US "SETTING CHEESE
ON FIRE" AND YANNI...



WERE LACKING
IN IMAGINATION?



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