



**11 February
2024**

**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	Fr Michael Boag
10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Celebrant	Revd Dr Greta Sawyer
Preacher	Revd Gordon Parry
18:00 Racial Justice Sunday	St Barnabas'
Leader	Revd Sarah Upchurch
Preacher	Revd Dr Godfrey Kesari

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.

Our Gospel this week describes Christ's transfiguration as he, with Peter, James and John, were together on 'a high mountain'. In a sense it completes the events of the Epiphany: this is the revelation of Christ in full glory, wearing apparel that was dazzling white and in the company of two key figures of Jewish history, Moses and Elijah. Peter recognised that this was an event of the utmost significance and, in his impulsive way, wished it to be commemorated by the building of three memorial structures. This bears out exactly what was at the heart of the Epiphany story. Christ was seen in awesome dimensions so that his divine nature was powerfully apparent to Peter, James and John. Equally importantly Christ 'saw' them and awoke in them an overwhelming sense of the divine nature of his being. Furthermore, they heard God calling to them, confirming Christ's nature as 'his Son, the Beloved' and exhorting them to 'listen to him'. Seeing was being augmented by listening.

We do not have the capacity to see Christ but we can listen to him through silent prayer, through situations that overwhelm us with their timeless significance and through acts of love both given and received. We know from the words of St John's Gospel (chap. 17) that Christ promises God's love and protection to those who make sincere efforts to seek him out.

The search for Christ really is a central activity of our faith. We should try to cultivate a consciousness of Christ anywhere and everywhere, in both the good and the bad contexts in which life is lived. If we can sense Christ, we can sense God's true glory and the wonder of his heavenly promise to us.

Gordon

Collect

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Reading 2 Kings 2.1-12

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them,



and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father!

The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Reading 2 Corinthians 4.3-6

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.



In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Gospel Mark 9.2-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud



there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved;

listen to him!' Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Post Communion

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

SERVICES THIS WEEK		
Tues 13 Feb	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Wed 14 Feb	13:00 Ash Wednesday 13:30 Funeral Shirley Harris 20:00 Ash Wednesday	St Barnabas' St Nicholas' St Nicholas'
Thur 15 Feb	10:30 Healing Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sat 17 Feb	11:00 Burial of Ashes Svetlana	St Nicholas'
Sun 18 Feb	8:15 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Sung Eucharist 10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas'
Sunday 18 February 2024 Lent I Genesis 9.8-17 1 Peter 3.18-22 Mark 1.9-15		

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.

Festivals this week	
Thur 15 Feb	Sigfrid, Bishop, Apostle of Sweden 1045 (C) Thomas Bray, Priest, Founder of the SPCK and the SPG 1730 (C)
Sat 17 Feb	Janani Luwum, Archbishop of Uganda, Martyr 1977 (LF)

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

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!

Friday Lunches

Friday lunch on **16 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 14 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' next meets on **Fri 23 Feb 19:00-20:30** For Year Groups 7-11. Entry free. Weekly during term time.

Parish Prayer Group

will meet at **14:30 at St Nicholas' on Wed 28 Feb.** Please join us at St Nicholas' as we pray for our Parish, its clergy and its outreach.

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

In February Messy Church will be 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



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.....!

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.

St Nicholas' Spring Clean

Please come and help with our Annual Spring Clean on **Sat 23 Mar 10:30-12:30**.

The more volunteers we have, ladies and gentlemen, the shorter time it will take.

All tools and cleaning equipment provided together with 2 hours of good company, a good supply of laughs and the satisfaction that our beautiful church will look its best not only for Easter, but for some time to come. If you cannot spare 2 hours then any lesser period would still be greatly appreciated.

If you have any queries please contact me – Jill Freeborn 01293 883631 – but it would also be appreciated if you could let me know that you will be coming.

Mothers' Union

Thurs 22 Feb 16:00 at St Barnabas', MU
Eucharist service, followed by the AGM in the Café. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Crawley Vue Cinema – Christian Films

The Chosen: Season 4 - episodes 3 to 5 will be showing at cinemas on Thur 15 Feb only.
Season 4 - episodes 6 to 8 will be showing at cinemas on Thur. 29 Feb.
For details and to book: thechosentv.co.uk

Ordinary Angels

is opening in cinemas nationwide on Fri 23 Feb
For details and the trailer google:
ordinaryangels.movie

CONTACTS

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Vicar at St Barnabas'

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vicarstb@worthparish.org (Tues-Sun)

Assistant Priest

Revd Gordon Parry 07802 432398
gordonmwparry@btinternet.com

Assistant Priest

Fr Francis Pole 07764 752608
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Associate Vicar

Revd Dr Greta Sawyer (Thurs & Sun)
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