

15 December
2024

Advent 3 Gaudete 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

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: Parish of Worth Poundhill & Maidenbower, sort code 40-18-22, account 61223372.

If you need help, call the Office.

We are now journeying through Advent, which is the season of expectation, as we prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ. During Advent, we remember that Jesus is the Light of the World, who brought light into the darkness.

Candles take on a special significance as the days grow darker. A lighted candle reminds us that Jesus is the Light of the World. On each Sunday of Advent during our church service, we light a candle on the Advent Wreath. You will notice that there are three purple candles and one pink one. In the centre is a white candle that is lit on Christmas Day. Although Advent is a time for reflection in darkness, it is also a time for renewal of hope. Today being the Third Sunday of Advent, we will light the pink candle which symbolises JOY.

As we continue to approach Christmas Day, our joy grows more and more. It takes us back to the joyful anticipation of the shepherds as they journeyed from the hillsides to the stable in Bethlehem to find the Christ-child.

The Church calls the third Sunday of Advent 'Gaudete Sunday'. Gaudete means rejoice or praise, so we rejoice like the shepherds. The colour of the Gaudete candle is pink because that is the liturgical colour for joy. It is sometimes called the Rose candle.

On Gaudete Sunday, as we come to worship, let us be joyful and rejoice in the Lord.

**‘Rejoice in the Lord always.
I will say it again. Rejoice.’**
Philippians 4:4

Collect

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Reading *Zephaniah 3.14-20*

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory;



he will rejoice over you with gladness, he

will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Reading *Philippians 4.4-7*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all



is

understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Gospel *Luke 3.7-18*

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

THE CROWDS ASKED HIM,
"WHAT THEN SHOULD WE
DO?"

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he

said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Post Communion

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your

Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen**

SERVICES THIS WEEK		
Tues 17 Dec	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Wed 18 Dec	18:00 Blue Christmas	St Barnabas'
Thur 19 Dec	10:30 Healing Eucharist 11:30 Burial of Ashes Marilyn Osborne	St Nicholas' St Nicholas'
Sun 22 Dec	8:15 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Child Friendly Eucharist 10:00 Sung Eucharist 16:00 Nine Lessons and Carols	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas' St Nicholas'
Sunday 22 December 2024 Advent 4 Micah 5.2-5a Hebrews 10.5-10 Luke 1.39-45		

Festivals this week	
Tues 17 Dec	Eglantyne Jebb, Social Reformer, Founder of 'Save the Children' 1928 (C)
(F) Festival; (LF) Lesser Festival; (C) Commemoration	

Toddlers Group meets on **Tues 13:00-15:00 and Thurs 9:00-11:00, next in the New Year**, in St Barnabas' Hall.

Scrabble and Cake

Wed 18 Dec, in St Barnabas' Café, 14:30-16:30. Before that Christmas rush come and enjoy games, refreshments and company. £3.50, in aid of St Barnabas' Refurbishment Fund.

Friday Lunches

Friday lunch on **20 Dec** 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 18 Dec**. Profits for Parish funds.

The lunches are for everyone, why not bring a friend and give us a try. All welcome!

*This is the **last Friday lunch this year**. Lunches restart on 3 Jan (and book with the Office by 31 Dec rather than on New Year's Day).*

The Hangout

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

St Nicholas' Crib & Nativity service at 16:00 on Christmas Eve.

We still have places available for the Nativity Play.

Costume collection – Fri 20 Dec 16:00 at St Nicholas'.

Rehearsal - Sat 21 Dec at 9:30 .St Nicholas'. Dress Rehearsal – Mon 23 Dec at 16:00 at St Nicholas'.

If anyone, child or adult would like to join on Christmas Eve please arrive by 15:30; costumes available then too.

Any other details from Joan Tick (01293 884695) or the Office (see contact details on this Sheet.)

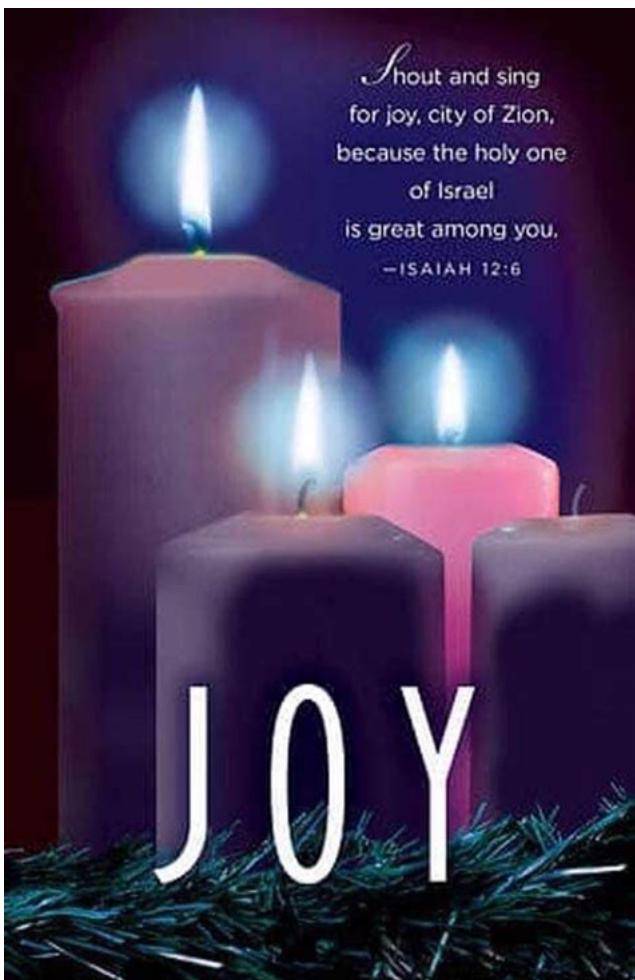
St Barnabas' Crib & Christingle

We're looking for adults and children of all ages who'd like to take an active role in St Barnabas' Crib & Christingle on Christmas Eve at 15:00. You'll still be able to turn up on Christmas Eve and take part in dressing up and setting the scene, this notice is for people who'd like to take a larger role such as acting/reading/singing/dancing and can commit to a couple of rehearsals in December.

For more info and to register your interest, contact Louise - louiseryrieschool@gmail.com 07721416323

We would like your nominations for **Love Christmas boxes** (fairly urgently now). Please give the name of the person you wish to nominate to the clergy, to Rebecca Turvill or to Ann P. Thank you

Gifts under the Christmas Trees



Gifts under the Christmas trees at both churches will be donated to Crawley Free Shop and Open House. Please leave your gifts at any time until Christmas Day. Gifts should be new and unwrapped. Suitable items include toys, books, games, craft items, warm clothing, toiletries and non-perishable foods. 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)

Associate Vicar

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

Assistant Priest

Revd Canon Penny Foreman
michaelzanny@btinternet.com

Assistant Priest

Revd Gordon Parry 07802 432398
gordonmwparry@btinternet.com

Assistant Priest

Fr Francis Pole 07764 752608
francis.pole@virgin.net

Churchwardens

David Anderson (St B) 01293 409914
stbwarden@worthparish.org
Colin Smith (St N) 01293 889894

Worth Parish Office

Sue Perry 0300 111 8150
office@worthparish.org



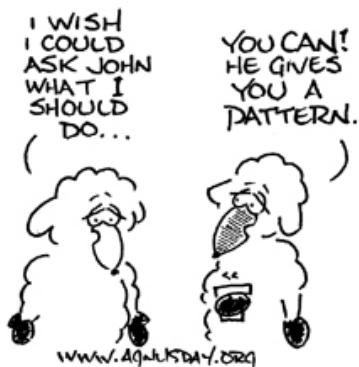
www.facebook.com/worthparish



www.twitter.com/worthparish



www.worthparish.org



©AGNUS DAY 2012