



11 January 2026

The Baptism of Christ



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 Canon Penny Foreman
Preacher Deborah Cowie

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

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.

At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit alighted on him. His true identity – the Son of God – was revealed to all who witnessed the event. 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' This is how Matthew describes this celestial announcement. Mark's Gospel describes it similarly. Other versions of the Bible alter the language slightly and refer to God's favour resting upon him. The same announcement occurs at the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:5) with the addition of the instruction '...listen to him.' That is what, in so many ways, individuals and the Church over two millennia have been trying to do.

God took infinite pleasure in his incarnate Son, giving him his love and the capacity to love others that is a divine gift to all humanity when it chooses to exercise it. Mary and Joseph had a tenacious love for their child. Within our society many adults are deferring or even rejecting the addition of children to their lives. Some prefer dogs. The love of parents for their children is not only a very precious and beautiful transaction, but it is also absolutely essential for children's proper physical and neurological development. Without it, children's growth – even the physical size of their brains – is stunted. To the families that raise them, children are – or should be - the most precious gifts possible. Christ himself was adamant about the need to protect and cherish children. This was how Christ's heavenly Father felt about him and it is surely how we should see him as we welcome him into our hearts and our lives. May we as a church community project God's love – Christ's love – to those around us, the community in which we live.

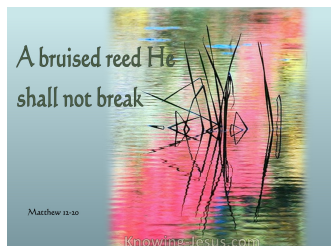
Gordon

Collect

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

Reading *Isaiah 42.1-9*

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his



voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will

faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Reading *Acts 10.34-43*

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ - he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed

Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'



Gospel *Matthew 2.1-12*

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when



Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

Post Communion

Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 13 Jan	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Wed 14 Jan	15:00 Messy Church	St Barnabas'
Thur 15 Jan	10:30 Healing Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sun 18 Jan	8:15 Eucharist (BCP) 10:00 Sung Eucharist 10:00 Sung Eucharist	St Nicholas' St Barnabas' St Nicholas'
Sunday 18 January 2026 Epiphany 2 Isaiah 49.1-7 I Corinthians 1.1-9 John 1.29-42		

Festivals this week

Mon 12 Jan	Aelred of Hexham, Abbot of Rievaulx 1167 (LF) Benedict Biscop, Abbot of Wearmouth, Scholar 689 (C)
Tues 13 Jan	Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, Teacher 367 (LF) Kentigern (Mungo), Missionary Bishop in Strathclyde and Cumbria 603 (C) George Fox, Founder of the Society of Friends (the Quakers) 1691 (C)
Sat 17 Jan	Antony of Egypt, Hermit, Abbot 356 (LF) Charles Gore, Bishop, Founder of the Community of the Resurrection 1932 (C)
(F) Festival; (LF) Lesser Festival; (C) Commemoration	

Toddlers Group meets on Tues 13:00-15:00 and Thurs 9:00-11:00, in St Barnabas' Hall in term time.

St Barnabas' Julian Group

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

St Nicholas' Julian Group

meets on **Wed 14 Jan** at **12:00** 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 January the second Messy Church will be on **Wed 14**

Jan; 15:00-16:30, at St Barnabas'.

Everyone welcome - mums, dads, grandparents, carers - come and have fun!



The Hangout

Youth Club at St Barnabas' meets Every **Friday** at 19:00 during Term

Scrabble and Cake

Wed 21 Jan 14:00-16:00, (note new earlier time), in St Barnabas' Café. Come and enjoy games, refreshments and company. £4. In aid of St Barnabas' Refurbishment Fund. All welcome.

Friday Lunches

The next lunch will be on **23 Jan**. Please book your place for the 23 Jan with the Office or the Café by Wed 21 Jan.

We are still in need of some more cooks, so do let us know if you can help out. Thank you

Saturday Market

24 Jan, 10:00- 11:30, in St Barnabas' Café. Come and find a new year's bargain and enjoy Café refreshments. In aid of St Barnabas' Refurbishment Fund. All welcome.

Worth Parish Legendary Quiz Night

Sat 31 Jan 19:00 – 22:30

St Barnabas' Church

Doors 19:00; Food 19:15; Quiz 20:00

1. Gather up to 6 friends and choose a team name
2. Email office@worthparish.org stating how many people need food
3. Turn up and pay on the night (cash or card)

Food: jacket potatoes, baked beans, cheese and coleslaw, plus ice-cream

- **Teams of up to 6**

- **£12 per head with food, £7 without**

See website for details <https://wp.me/P387KI-u8s>

Recycling

We continue to recycle **milk bottle tops**.

Containers are now available in the Narthex and on Sue's doorstep. Please deliver **by the end of JANUARY**

We also collect used postage **stamps** (for the Hospice) and used **printer cartridges** (for McIndoe); please deliver to the Narthex.

Thank you!

CONTACTS

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MATTHEW 3:13-17

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