



WORTH PARISH

ancient and present in Crawley

Registered Charity no. 1131090

27 September 2026

Trinity 17

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) Celebrant & Preacher	St Nicholas' Rev'd Gordon Parry
10:00 Child friendly Eucharist Celebrant & Preacher	St Barnabas' Rev'd Sarah Upchurch
10:00 Sung Eucharist Celebrant & Preacher	St Nicholas' Father Michael Boag
12:00 Baptism	St Nicholas'
15:00 Pet Service	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: Parish of Worth Poundhill &
Maidenbower, sort code 40-18-22, account
61223372. If you need help, call the Office.

As we hear in our Gospel passage, Jesus was in the Temple during the final days in Jerusalem, when his authority was challenged by the chief priests and elders. They were as good as saying 'Who do you think you are? Instead of a direct response, Jesus, as so often the case, told a parable in order to make his point. In this case, the parable was about a man who had two sons. I wonder if you can identify with this story? Perhaps you have had the experience of asking a child to do something, only to be met with a blank refusal. I have learnt to give it a few minutes before I respond as the 'No!' might transform into more compliant behaviour. In the parable, the father makes a request. One son initially refuses to do what his father asks, but then has a change of attitude. The second son appears willing, but then doesn't follow through with the appropriate action. After telling the parable, Jesus posed the question 'Which of the two did the father's will?' Jesus forced his listeners to judge correctly before they realised that they were condemning themselves. Jesus went on to shock his audience by saying, 'Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the Kingdom of God before you.' He made that statement in order to help his listeners to understand that the son who at first refused his father's request but then changed his mind, represented people who reject God's Word but later have a change of heart, whereas the second son represents those who profess obedience but who are not faithful.

The message is clear. God desires our obedience rather than empty promises. Therefore, let our assent be confirmed by our actions.

Canon Penny

Collect

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever

Amen

Reading Ezekiel 18. 1-4, 25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is



lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not

die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in

the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Reading Philippians 2. 1-13

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. 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 Matthew 21. 23-32

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism



of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind

and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Post Communion

Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

NOTICES

The Hangout Youth Club

at St Barnabas' meets Every Friday at 19:00 during term time.

Toddlers Group

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

Pew Sheet Notices

It has been brought to my attention that I have not been receiving all of the emails that have been sent to the Pew Sheet address. Please could all future notices be sent to my personal email address, so that I can make sure everyone's notices are included.

Denysesmith@hotmail.co.uk

A Remembrance List

will be at the back of both churches from today until **October 25**. Please tick the column that indicates when you would like to have your loved ones remembered, on **November 1** at the All Souls service and /or during 2027. Thank you.

Parish Prayer Group

Meets on **Wednesday 30 September** at 14:00 at St Nicholas'. Please join us to pray for our parish, our clergy, our outreach and our congregations.

Friday Lunches

The next lunch will be on **9 October**. Please book your place with the Office or the Café by **Wednesday 7 October**. We are still in need of some more cooks, so do let us know if you can help out (help and advice given)

Shelley Copthorne Educational Foundation

Registered Charity No. 306408

Small grants towards the expenses of college or university courses are available to students, under the age of 25 years, who are resident in or near the civil and ecclesiastical parishes of Worth.

Applications for grants should only be made for courses where a confirmed offer of a place has been accepted. Application should be by email, giving brief details of yourself, which must include your date of birth, your home postal address and the course you will be undertaking, and sent to the Secretary at shelleycopthorne@gmail.com **Applications by 1st November for consideration in the current year**

Scrabble and Cake,

Wednesday 30 September, in St Barnabas Cafe, 14.00-16.00. Come and enjoy games, refreshments and company. £4. In aid of St Barnabas Refurbishment. All welcome. Just turn up.

Harvest Cafe Church

Please note next Sunday's St Barnabas' service on **4 October** will be a Cafe Church at **11am (There will be no 10am service)**, Followed by a shared Harvest lunch at **12noon**. If you able to contribute please sign the list at the back of church **TODAY**. Please join us for coffee, crafts and communion. All ages welcome. Harvest food gifts welcome for Crawley Open House/ The Easter Team.

Saturday Market

The next Saturday Market takes place on **10 October, 10.00-11.30**, in St Barnabas' Cafe. Come and find a bargain and enjoy refreshments with us. In aid of St Barnabas Refurbishment Fund

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Tues 29 September	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Barnabas'
Thur 1 October	10:30 Said Eucharist	St Nicholas'
Sun 4 October	14:00 Wedding	St Nicholas'
	8:15 Eucharist (BCP)	St Nicholas'
	10:00 Harvest Festival	St Nicholas'
	11:00 Harvest Festival	St Barnabas'
	12:00 Baptism	St Nicholas'
Sunday 4 October 2026 Harvest Deuteronomy 8. 7-18 2 Corinthians 9. 6-15 Luke 12. 16-30		

GENERAL ENQUIRIES



worthparish.org



office@worthparish.org



Worth Parish Office
St Barnabas' Church
Worth Road Crawley RH10 7DY
0300 111 8150



CLERGY



Rector
Fr Michael Boag (Tuesday to Sunday)
rector@worthparish.org
01293 882229

Vicar
Revd Sarah Upchurch (Tuesday to Sunday)
vicarstb@worthparish.org
01293 524804

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

Assistant Priest
Revd Gordon Parry
gordonmwperry@btinternet.com
07802 432398

Assistant Priest
Revd Canon Penny Foreman
michaelzanny@btinternet.com

CHURCHWARDENS



St Barnabas' Churchwarden
David Anderson
stbwarden@worthparish.org

St Nicholas' Churchwarden
Colin Smith
01293 889894

St Nicholas' Deputy Churchwarden
Jon Stringer
07766 744882

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