

**Fifth Sunday of
Lent
Sunday
13th March
2016**



*Welcome to our churches today.
If you have time after the 10.00am
service, please stay for refreshments.
At the Distribution of Communion all
are welcome to come to the altar rail
to receive a blessing or, if baptised, the
Communion.
Children are welcome at all our
services, and there are soft toys and
children's books at the back of the
church for their use.*

Services Today

08.00 Holy Communion (BCP) at St Nicholas'

Celebrant & Preacher: Revd Gordon Parry

10.00 Parish Eucharist at St Barnabas'

Celebrant: Revd Steve Burston

Preacher: Canon Anthony Ball

(Followed by a Bring and Share Lunch)

Next week's Readings (Palm Sunday)

Liturgy of the Palms:

Luke 19:28-40

Liturgy of the Passion:

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 31:9-16

Philippians 3:4b-14

Luke 22:14-23:56

The Curate writes

Here are my credentials of faith; I was baptised on the day of my birth and was married in a Church; I did my first Alpha (over ten years ago) and went to a Free Church in London; I made a commitment to Christ and was baptised in a full immersion ceremony. I then started going to a rural Anglican Church and was then confirmed in the Anglican faith by Bishop Mark; I ran the youth group for several years, ran a home group, led Alpha Courses, went to study at Cambridge for two years, and was then ordained deacon and then priest. Does any of that mean anything to God? Of course, yes - they are important markers on the way - but what matters most to God is none of this. I am equal to every single human being, for what matters is my response to the Gospel. Is it, like Judas, where the Gospel does not penetrate the heart or is it from the heart, like Martha, who cannot help but show her love in anointing Christ with perfume? What matter's to God is that we know with all our heart, soul and mind that Christ made us his own and from that we are to press on in our relationship with Him. From this knowledge we can then look forward with firm foundations at what God might be calling Worth Parish to do in the coming years.

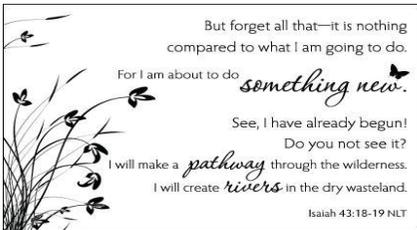
Steve

Collect

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 43.16-21



Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.



Yes, the Lord has done
great things for us, and

Psalms 126

we are filled with *joy*,
Psalms 126:3

New Testament reading

Philippians 3.4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Gospel Reading

John 12.1-8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of

pure
nard,
anointed
Jesus'
feet, and
wiped
them
with her
hair. The



house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever **Amen**.

Services during next week

St Barnabas'

Wed. & Fri.

09.00 Morning Prayer & Eucharist
Tues. & Thurs. 09.00 Morning Prayer
Tues. 10.30 Eucharist
Fri. 12.00 Stations of the Cross
Sat 09.00 Morning Prayer & Eucharist

St Nicholas'

Sat. 17.00 Evening Prayer
Thurs. 10.30 Eucharist

Services next Sunday

Palm Sunday

08.00 Holy Communion BCP
St Nicholas'
09.45 Sung Eucharist with
Procession of Palms
St Nicholas'
10.00 Eucharist with Procession of Palms
St Barnabas'
11.30 Nic's All-age service St Nicholas'

One parish or two? is one of the questions raised about Worth Parish in the Crawley Review. Please let us have your views (by e-mail or letter) on whether we should split the parish or remain as one. Replies to the Rector or Parish Office **by 22 April** please. There will be a report back to the APCM (27 April) and the responses will inform discussion at the Away Day (7 May)

Email sent to the Parish Office:

My husband and I would like to say a big thank you for all of your thoughts and prayers to help in his recent cancer illness and recovery. They have truly helped and he is getting a little better each day. The Doctors have said he should make a full recovery. Again, we thank you and God bless you all.

Russell & Wendy Quire
Queensland, Australia.

NOTICES & DIARY NOTES

Please send pew sheet notices to pewsheet@worthparish.org.uk or phone 0300 111 8150 Sue

Friday lunches 12.30 in the Pastoral Centre - 2 courses + tea / coffee - £5.50. Please **buy** tickets by **Mar 15th** for Mar 18th at the Centre or phone **883362**

Lenten soup lunches will be served in the Pastoral Centre at **12.15 pm on Tuesdays**, 15 and 22 March. Donations to the Parish World Bank. **Please support us**

Mon. 14th March St Barnabas' Julian Group meets at 11.00, everyone welcome.

Tue. 15th Mar Ecumenical Lent Course **Crawley URC**

PCC meeting 19.30 **Wed 16 March** in the Pastoral Centre.

Saturday 19th March 9.00am - 11.45am. Spring cleaning and gardening session at St Barnabas'. Please help us if you can. Refreshments provided. Sign the list at St Barnabas' or just turn up. **Everyone welcome.**

Thursday 24th March 7.00pm Maundy Thursday Eucharist and Passover Meal at St Barnabas'. Please sign the list at St. Barnabas' or let a church warden know if you would like to attend.

Sat. 26th March at 7pm. **The Watoto children's choir** are performing at St Andrews. Admission free, donations welcome. Liz Burston 279028

The APCM which was scheduled for 13 March will now take place on (Weds) **27 April** at 6.30 p.m.

7th May (Sat) – Parish Away Day to develop a vision for the future shape of our mission and ministry. Venue tbc (transport will be available). Please keep the date free in your diary.

Tuesday June 21st - Sunday June 26th Wintershall Open Air Play 'The Life of Christ' order tickets **from 01793 418299** or: www.wintershall-estate.com. A wonderful experience and day out.

Sidespeople & Welcomers: There will be a meeting (& training session) for all involved in this ministry in either church (and any who are thinking of joining the teams) **today** after the Parish Eucharist (and before the shared meal).

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LAST CALL: Bob Musselwhite is compiling a register of **parish key holders**. This is not to take any keys you use away from you, but for insurance purposes we need to know who has what for where! Key holders please contact the Parish Office. Any keys you no longer need can be handed to Bob, the Parish Office or one of the clergy. Thank you.

Thanks to those who supported the Saturday Market on 5th March. £49.38 was raised for church funds.

CONTACTS

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Curate

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Churchwardens

Phyl Pennell - 01293 883362
Sheila Dring - 01293 513496

PARISH OFFICE

for enquiries about
weddings, baptisms, hall bookings, etc.

☎ 0300 111 8150

E-mail- office@worthparish.org.uk