

Services & Diary Dates

Monday	21 st	0930 Morning Prayer
Tuesday	22 nd	0930 Morning Prayer 1930 Eucharist
Wednesday	23 rd	0945 Morning Prayer 1030 Eucharist 2000 Online Prayer (Zoom)
Thursday	24 th	0930 Morning Prayer
Friday	25 th	1900 Junior and Mens' Choir Practice
Saturday	26 th	
Sunday	27th	1000 Family Communion for Harvest

Today's 6pm Choral Evensong service has been cancelled. We hope to hold a Choral evening service on Sun 18th Oct @ 6pm.

REMINDERS:

Use hand sanitiser upon arrival

Re-use and bring own copy of the Order of Service

Maintain Social Distancing 2m inside the church and 1m plus outside

Wear face coverings

Do not touch anything you do not need to.

News

Sadly we say goodbye to **Joan and Vince Gilbert** as they prepare to move to Leeds.

Today is their last service here with us in St Francis and we send them off with our blessings and prayers (with wonderful memories of years of friendships and fellowship).

The Bishop's Harvest Appeal 2020 -

'Create a Buzz in Nepal' raises funds to promote/facilitate cottage beekeeping in small communities and on a wider scale maintain the biodiversity, environment and enhance crop production in Nepal. If you can help with donations, from today, please take away a yellow 'Harvest' labelled gift aid envelope and bring in your cash donation in time for presentation to the altar on Harvest Festival (27th Sep).

Celebration of Rachel's Ordination and Harvest Festival:

Rachel Wakefield will be ordained as Deacon at 10am in St Albans Abbey on Sat, 26th Sep 2020. This service will be live-streamed from the Abbey's website. Do login to watch.

Sunday, 27th Sep Harvest Festival @10am

Family Communion service (only one service for all ages). The planned celebratory picnic, is now cancelled as we adhere to the latest Govt. guidance.

The Eucharist on Wed, 30th Sep @10:30am will be dedicated to David Buck. Please join us.

Welcome

Sunday 20th September 2020

15th Sunday after Trinity

Services Today

8am Said Eucharist

9:15am Parish Communion

Coffee in the Hall - SUSPENDED for now.

Youth & Children's Church (YACC)

YACC sessions take place in their usual age groups within the Govt's COVID-19 guidelines.

Age 2½ to Reception and Years 1&2, 3 to 5 - Hall

(Younger children including babies who are accompanied are very welcome)

Years 6&7 - Song School

Years 8+ - Parish Room (not Cellar)

Music

No Hymns to be sung by the congregation

Congregational setting: Said Gloria

(The Choir will sing the Sanctus and Benedictus)

Choir: Be thou my vision

Just as I am

Sumsion in F

Farrant - Hide not thou thy face

Organ: A Solemn Sarabande for these distracted times

Peter J Smith (b.1945)

Choral Song Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)

This week we pray for all who live and work in Elmwood.

Next Sunday, 27th Sep 2020 **** (10am Family Communion Service for all) ****

St Francis of Assisi, CoE
Church Road, WGC, AL8 6QJ

Charity No: 1129849

Vicar: *The Revd. Jenny Fennell*

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Current Office Opening Hours: 9:30am to 12noon

YACC Office: Monday to Tuesday

Parish Office: Wednesday to Friday

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Next Sunday, 27th Sep 2020 ** (10am Family Communion Service for all) ******

Sunday 20th September 2020
15th Sunday after Trinity

Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.

Jonah 3: 10 - 4: 11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry.

He prayed to the Lord and said, 'O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the Lord said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?'

Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered.

When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.' But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.'

Then the Lord said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

Philippians 1: 21-30

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer.

I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you.

Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing.

For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well - since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Matthew 20: 1-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard.

After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, *You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.* So they went.

When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, *Why are you standing here idle all day?*

They said to him, *Because no one has hired us.*

He said to them, *You also go into the vineyard.*

When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, *Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.*

When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage.

Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, *These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.* But he replied to one of them, *Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?*

Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?

So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

Next Readings: Sunday 27 September 2020
Deuteronomy 8: 7-18; 2 Corinthians 9: 6-15; Luke 12: 16-30