

Services & Diary Dates

Monday	7th	0930 Morning Prayer
Tuesday	8th	0930 Morning Prayer 1930 Eucharist 2100 Online Compline
Wednesday	9th	0945 Morning Prayer 1030 Eucharist 2000 Zoom Prayer
Thursday	10th	0930 Morning Prayer
Friday	11th	1900 Junior and Mens' Choir Practice
Saturday	12th	
Sunday	13th	0800 Said Eucharist 0915 Parish Communion

We are still in urgent need of a PCC Secretary. If you feel you may be able to help (you do not need to be a PCC member already), please do talk to Rev'd Jenny.

Our usual worship services in church resume from today onwards with the Sunday 8am Said Eucharist being web-streamed at 12noon.

Please access our church website: www.stfranciswgc.org.uk for the latest updates as we have plenty of services, reflections and prayers online.

The Church is OPEN for private prayer on Mondays to Fridays from 09:30 to 12:00.

News

The Refugee Council, London -

Supermarket Gift card Appeal 2020

This year, instead of shoebox gifts - please donate a supermarket gift card (minimum suggestion £25 or any amount you wish). Please drop it off into the church's letterboxes before 13th Dec.

The Flower Team would be very grateful

for donations towards the Christmas flowers. Please give contributions directly to Diane Hemmings or hand into Parish Office.

Outdoors Christmas Tree Display 2020

Calling all our **SF Church Groups** - We've only received one entry from YACC, would anyone else like to help to display a 5ft tree outdoors with the theme of Comfort & Joy as our Christmas message (ready by 18th Dec) to share with the community?

More details via e-mail sent out from:

stfranciscf@outlook.com please contact our Parish Office.

Minecraft Nativity:

Help us create the Christmas story in Minecraft. Screen shots will then be shared on our church's social media platforms. More details: contact ministry team.

Sadly, **Rachel Jackson** has passed away suddenly but peacefully on Friday, 27th Nov.

Welcome

Sunday 6th December 2020

2nd Sunday of Advent

Services Today

8am Said Eucharist
9:15am Parish Communion with Baptism of Maximilian Kersey
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)

Music

Years 6 upwards in the Song School
No Hymns to be sung by the congregation
 Congregational setting: Said Gloria
 (The Choir will sing the Sanctus and Benedictus)
 Choir: Purify my heart / Awake! Awake fling off the night
 Darke - Collegium Regale
 Stainer - How beautiful upon the mountains
 Organ: Wachet auf Flor Peeters (1903-86)
 Prelude and Fugue in B flat J K F Fischer (1665-1746)

This week we pray for all who live and work in Honeycroft & Parkway Gardens.

20th Dec: Nine Lessons & Carols Services 5pm & 7pm Free to attend but you need to book your tickets online. **The easiest way to book: go to our church website**, click on the 'What's On' tab and then click on the active weblink shown on the Nine Lessons & Carols Services poster, this takes you directly to Eventbrite's booking site.

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

Charity No: 1129849

Vicar: *The Revd. Jenny Fennell*

01707 320960

vicar@stfranciswgc.org.uk

Current Office Opening Hours: 9:30am to 12noon
 YACC: Mon to Tue Parish Office: Wed to Fri
 01707 694191 admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk

www.stfranciswgc.org.uk

www.facebook.com/stfranciswgc/

www.instagram.com/stfrancischurchwgc/

www.twitter.com/stfranciswgc/



Sunday 6th December 2020
Second Sunday of Advent

Collect

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Isaiah 40: 1-11

Comfort Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!'

See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

2 Peter 3: 8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.

The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Mark 1: 1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: *Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.*'

John the baptiser appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals.

I have baptised you with water; but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

Next Readings: Sunday 13 December 2020

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11; 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24; John 1: 6-8,19-28