

## Services & Diary Dates

Monday	20 <sup>th</sup>	
Tuesday	21 <sup>st</sup>	1930 Said Eucharist
Wednesday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	1030 Said Eucharist 2000 Zoom Prayer Meeting
Thursday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	1430 Christingles Prep'n
Friday Christmas Eve	24 <sup>th</sup>	1600 Christingle / Crib 1800 Christingle / Crib 2300 Midnight Mass
Saturday Christmas	25 <sup>th</sup>	1000 Family Communion Service
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup>	0915 Parish Communion

### St Francis Shoebox Appeal 2021

**Thank you** for all donations and to Jan Nafzger for organising this worthwhile cause and to Stuart Cunliffe who delivered about 60 shoeboxes to Dalston, London on Wednesday.

**The Flower Team would be most grateful for any donations towards the Christmas flowers.**

### REMINDER:

**Social distancing rules still in place! Use hand sanitiser gel upon entry & exit and keep your masks on whilst on the premises!**

## News

### TODAY:

**@9:15am** Family Communion  
Service with Nativity Play  
**6pm** Traditional Nine Lessons & Carols Service (*quiet & reflective*)

### Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Dec:

**4pm & 6pm** Christingle / Crib Services  
**11pm** Midnight Mass

### Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Dec @10am

Family Communion for all

**Thank you** to our local Brownies and Guides and St Francis helpers led by Jan Nafzger for preparing the hundreds of Christingle oranges ready for our services.

Reminder: Please ensure all pew leaflet notices for weeks ending 26<sup>th</sup> Dec and 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan is e-mailed to the Parish Office by Thur, 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec.

From Christmas Day until the 6th Jan the Church is open for regular weekday and Sunday services but the Parish Office is shut.

## Welcome

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2021

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

#### Services Today

**8am SAID EUCHARIST**

**9:15am PARISH COMMUNION with Nativity**

**With regrets, there is no Parish Coffee for now.**

*Youth & Children's* No separate YACC sessions today with the Nativity Play offered by our YACC children.

*Church*

*(YACC)*

*Music*

**Hymns to be sung by the congregation with masks on!**

**238 (omit v.3) No gradual 26 37**

Choir: Sumsion in F

Harrison - The Angel Gabriel

**6pm**

**Traditional Nine Lessons and Carols Service**

(A quiet and reflective service)

This week we pray for all who live and work in Howardsgate and Howard Centre.

St Francis of Assisi, CoE  
Church Road, WGC, AL8 6QJ  
Church open (M-F): 0930 - 1200

Charity No: 1129849

*Vicar: The Revd. Jenny Fennell*

01707 320960

vicar@stfranciswgc.org.uk

### OPENING HOURS (0930 - 1200):

[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 19 December 2021**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Collect**

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Readings**

**Micah 5.2-5a**

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labour has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;  
and he shall be the one of peace.

If the Assyrians come into our land  
and tread upon our soil,  
we will raise against them seven shepherds  
and eight installed as rulers.

**Hebrews 10.5-10**

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,  
'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;  
in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.  
Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God"  
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).'

When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken  
pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and  
sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law), then he  
added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first  
in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we  
have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus  
Christ once for all.

**Gospel: Luke 1: 39-45**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?

For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

**Next Sunday: First Sunday of Christmas @9:15 am**  
**1Samuel 2: 18-20,26; Colossians 3: 12-17; Luke 2: 41-52**