## **Services & Diary Dates**

Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> John, Apostle and Evangelist		
Tuesday 28th 1930 Said Eucharist The Holy Innocents		
Wednesday	29 <sup>th</sup>	1030 Said Eucharist
Thursday	30 <sup>th</sup>	
Friday	31st	New Year's Eve
Saturday	1st	New Year's Day
Sunday Epiphany	2 <sup>nd</sup>	0800 Said Eucharist 0915 Parish Communion

The Flower Team thanks all who have donated towards the Christmas flowers. The flowers in church have been donated by Anne Woolmington and family in loving memory of her mother, Vera Taylor.

#### **REMINDER:**

Social distancing rules still in place!

Use hand sanitiser gel upon entry & exit

Keep your masks on whilst on the premises!

#### News

Closed - Christmas to New Year:
The Church will only be open for

The Church will only be open for regular weekday and Sunday services in this period.

The Parish Office is shut and will re-open on Thur, 6<sup>th</sup> Jan.

A huge **Thank You** to all Leaders, teams of volunteers and unsung volunteers who serve this Church and community so generously throughout the year and especially under such difficult times recently. We really appreciate all your time, efforts and talents. We couldn't do it without you.

For anyone who would you like to consider joining our 'church army', in some way, do get in touch with a member of the ministry team or the Parish Office.

Welcome

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2021

**First Sunday of Christmas** 

Services Today



9:15am PARISH COMMUNION

With regrets, there is no Parish Coffee for now.

*Youth &* Regular groups will resume on 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2022.

Children's

Church

(YACC)

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

63 45 67 73

Choir on Holiday

This week we pray for all who live and work in Stanborough Green and all members of St Francis who live outside the parish.

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 o1707 694191 admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk

www.stfranciswgc.org.uk

www.facebook.com/stfranciswgc/

www.instagram.com/stfrancischurchwgc/

www.twitter.com/stfranciswgc/

# **Sunday 26 December 2021 First Sunday of Christmas**

#### Collect

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## 1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, 'May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord'; and then they would return to their home.

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with the people.

#### Colossians 3: 12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### Luke 2: 41-52

Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover.

And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival.

When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it.

Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.

And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?'

But they did not understand what he said to them.

Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

Next Sunday: Isaiah 60: 1-6; Ephesians 3: 1-12; Matthew 2: 1-12