

Services & Diary Dates

Monday	31 st	2100 Online Compline
Tuesday	1 st	1000 Baby Group 1930 Said Eucharist
Wednesday	2 nd	1030 Said Eucharist 1000 Toddletime Playgroup 2000 Zoom Prayer Meeting
Thursday	3 rd	2100 Online Compline 1945 WH Deanery Synod Meeting
Friday	4 th	1900 Choir Practice
Saturday	5 th	
Sunday	6 th	0800 Said Eucharist 0915 Parish Communion

News

Join us for Lent for Living in Love and Faith Course:

We explore how questions about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage fit within the bigger picture of the good news of Jesus Christ.

All are welcome. All sessions are on Wednesdays: 8 to 9:30pm but venues alternate between our church and St Mary Magdalene, WGC.

9th March @ St Francis
16th March @ St Mary Magdalene
23rd March @ St Francis
30th March @ St Mary Magdalene
6th April @ St Francis

There will be a **Confirmation Service** on Sunday 8th May @ 9:15am. If anyone is interested in being confirmed, please speak to the Vicar before the end of January.

Many have informed us that they missed out on contributing to Retired Organist, Robin Coxon's leaving gift but very much like to do so.

Today is the last day of collection and the chance to sign the card. This special farewell card is located at the back of church.

Monetary Collection during the Offertory hymn has resumed.

Wednesday Coffee for All and Thursday Lunches resumes from February onwards.

REMINDER:

Use hand sanitiser gel upon entry & exit

One way entry/exit

Keep your masks on whilst on the premises!

Welcome

Sunday 30th January 2022

Candlemas (Presentation of Christ in the Temple)

Services Today

8am SAID EUCHARIST

9:15am PARISH COMMUNION

Followed by Parish Coffee in the Hall - All are welcome.

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

Church (YACC) Age 2½ to Reception and Years 1 & 2, 3 & 4 - Hall
(Younger children including babies who are accompanied are very welcome)

Years 5 - 7 Song School; Year 8 upwards in the Cellar

Music **Hymns to be sung by the congregation with masks on!**
505 360 238 (omit vs 3) 557 (2nd Tune)

Choir: Wood in Phrygian Mode

Bennet - Ave Maria

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

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 30 January 2022

Candlemas (Presentation of Christ in the Temple)

Collect

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Malachi 3: 1-5

Thus says the Lord God:

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight - indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness.

Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

Hebrews 2: 14-18

Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death.

For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Luke 2: 22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him.

It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.

Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed - and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day.

At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

**Next Sunday: Isaiah 6: 1-8; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11; Luke 5: 1-11
(Monetary Collection during the Offertory hymn has resumed)**