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# Youth & Children's Church Newsletter

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## Welcome back!

A warm welcome back to all of our Youth, Children and Families. We hope you had a great Summer holidays and that everyone's first few days in Nursery/School goes well. All our Sunday groups are back up and running. See poster further on in the Newsletter for all other groups and their start dates.

### **UNDER 9'S CHILDREN'S CHURCH ON SUNDAY'S DURING THE 9.15 COMMUNION WILL BE EXPLORING:**

**4th September: Following Jesus.**

**Luke 14 v25-33**

**11th September: Lost Sheep/ Lost**

**Coin Luke 15 v1-10**

**18th September: True Wealth**

**Luke 16 v1-13**

**25th September: 10am Harvest**

**Festival all age service**

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# Our Children & Families Workers



Nikki:  
Children & Families Worker

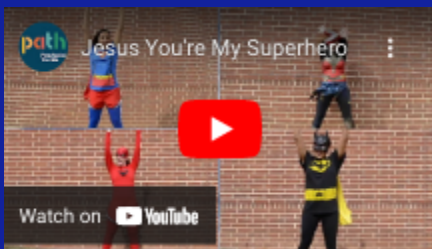


Rachel:  
Children & Families Assistant

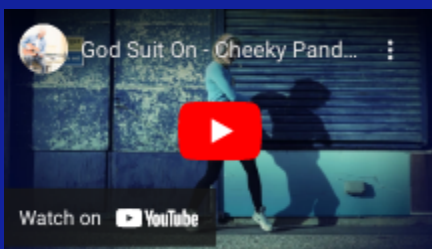
## Our Worship songs this month are:



Our God is a great big God



Jesus your my superhero



God suit on

## Our Closing Prayer during Children's Church:



The Irish Blessing

Contact us by email: [children@stfranciswgc.org.uk](mailto:children@stfranciswgc.org.uk)

# I can pray a rainbow

## I can pray a rainbow...

Genesis 9 v 13

"I am putting my rainbow in the clouds as the sign of the agreement between me and the earth"



God placed a rainbow in the sky as a symbol of his promise to never again send a flood like the one that Noah had survived in the ark. Today the rainbow is a symbol of hope for us, a reminder that God keeps his promises. Here are some rainbow inspired activities for you and your family to explore together.

### Rainbow prayer hunt

Go on a search around your house and try to find something of each of the colours below. Here is a prayer you can say for each colour as you find them.



#### RED

Thank you, God, that you love us and that you are always with us.



#### ORANGE

Dear God, please help us to be patient, to wait and listen to you and to be obedient while we wait for this crisis to end.



#### YELLOW

Dear God, please help all those who are scared. May they know your perfect peace that takes away all fear.



#### GREEN

Dear God, please look after all those who are sick, give them the treatment and help they need to recover, send your healing power into all the world.



#### BLUE

Dear God, please protect all those who are working for the NHS, thank you for all they are doing to protect us.



#### PURPLE

Thank you, God, that we are children of the King of Kings. Thank you that even though we are in difficult times we can trust in you and pray your Kingdom come.



#### PINK

Thank you, God, that we know you will bring us through this crisis to safety on the other side just as you protected Noah and brought him and his family through the flood.

### Make an encouragement rainbow

You will need: Paper and pens or any other craft materials you have around the house

All around the country people are putting rainbows in their windows to encourage people in their street.

Use whatever craft materials you have in your house to decorate a rainbow and put it in your window where your neighbours can see it.



### Some promises to share

Here are some more of God's promises from the Bible. Ask God who needs encouraging today and then send them a promise verse.

**Joshua 1:9** - Be strong and brave. Don't be afraid because the LORD your God will be with you everywhere you go.

**Jeremiah 29:11** - "I say this because I know what I am planning for you," says the LORD, "I have good plans for you, not plans to hurt you. I will give you hope and a good future."

**Mark 11:24** - So I tell you to believe that you have received the things you ask for in prayer, and God will give them to you.

**Romans 8:28** - We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him.



# Let's go on a Psalm walk

## A passage to unpack Psalm 23

Find the book of Psalms in the Old Testament and read Psalm 23.



A psalm is a poem, this one was written by King David, the same David who defeated Goliath! Before he was a King David was a shepherd boy, he recognised that God looks after us like a shepherd looks after his sheep.

Draw a sheep here!



Verse 1 reminds us that just like a shepherd God provides everything we need. Write or draw something in the space below that you can say thank you to God for providing.



Verse 4 reminds us that wherever we are God is with us, even in tough times or when we are worried or fearful. The Bible tells us we should give all our worries to God.

Write or draw any fears or worries in this box, then tear this corner off the sheet and throw it in the bin as you give those worries to God.

Verse 3 talks about how God our shepherd leads us on paths that are right. When we are children of God, we can choose to live in a way that pleases God. Our helper Holy Spirit helps us make good choices about how we live.

### Sorry

Take a moment to think if there are any things you need to say sorry to God for. Times when you have not behaved in a way that is pleasing to God. Write a sorry prayer here:

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### Help

Take a moment to think if there are any areas in your life where you find it hard to live in a way that pleases God. Write a prayer asking Holy Spirit to help you here:

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# HARVEST

## Together @ Harvest



### Deuteronomy 24 v 19–22

When you are gathering your harvest in the field and leave behind a bundle of grain, don't go back and get it. Leave it there for foreigners, orphans, and widows so that the LORD your God can bless everything you do. When you beat your olive trees to knock the olives off, don't beat the trees a second time. Leave what is left for foreigners, orphans, and widows. When you harvest the grapes in your vineyard, don't pick the vines a second time. Leave what is left for foreigners, orphans, and widows. Remember that you were slaves in Egypt; that is why I am commanding you to do this.

Why do you think God told his people to leave behind some of their harvest?



Who is God asking us to support today?

What does our family have which we could share or give to others?



### Celebrate Harvest together with our grain challenge

**G** Give some food to a local food bank or community fridge to share with those in need.



**R** Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair! Harvest is a great time to think of our own environmental impact. What can your family do to save our planet?

**A** Ask somebody in your community if you can do their food shopping for them this week or collect anything they need from the shops.

**I** Invite somebody to share a meal with you. If you cannot meet because of social distancing why not arrange to drop off a meal which they can heat up and join together virtually as you eat.

**N** Get out into nature together and spend some time thanking God for the many different plants and animals He has created.

### A harvest prayer

Dear God,

Help us at harvest time to remember that you are our provider who gives us what we need. Help us to always remember to say thank you for all the good gifts that you give us.

We pray for all those who are struggling to buy the food they need for their families and for all the food banks and local projects who work so hard to support those in their communities.

In these difficult times help us not to be greedy, to only take what we need and to share what we have with others.

Amen



Starting back on  
Tuesday 13th  
September

No need to pre-book



Hot drinks, biscuits  
& Baby snacks  
provided.



Baby group!

Suitable for  
Newborn to  
nearly  
walking  
babies



- Come along & meet other families
- Explore our baby friendly environment & toys
- Breastfeeding friendly

Tuesday's  
10-11.30  
September,  
October &  
November  
Term time  
only sessions



Suggested  
donation of £2

St Francis Church  
Church road.  
WGC  
AL8 6QJ

Children@stfranciswgc.org.uk

FaceBook @stfranciswgc

# welcome little one!

## OUR WEEKDAY GROUPS



Starting back 7th September!



# TODDLETIME



WEDNESDAYS 10-11.30 AM TERMTIME ONLY

Toddletime will be on  
Wednesday's 10-11.30  
during September, October  
and November in term time

Come & join us to explore  
our toys, activities, craft,  
story & songtime

Please follow us on Facebook  
@stfranciswgc

Email Nikki / Rachel on:  
children@stfranciswgc.org.uk

St Francis church. Church  
Road. WGC AL8 6QJ

All sessions are on a first come first  
served basis.

£2 per Adult and 1 Child. Extra children  
50p each. Card payment only please

Only 1 adult per family please & no more  
than 3 children per adult

Parking is limited so please walk where  
possible

We offer drinks & snacks for adults and children.  
Please bring your own beakers and lidded mugs.  
We note that outside snacks can not be eaten  
during the session due to allergies.



St Francis Church would like to invite you and your family to some really fun events that are coming up!

Don't forget to save the dates & share with friends & family



Join us for Wild Church

Sunday 11th September @3pm

Everybody Welcome. Suitable for All Ages

We will be exploring

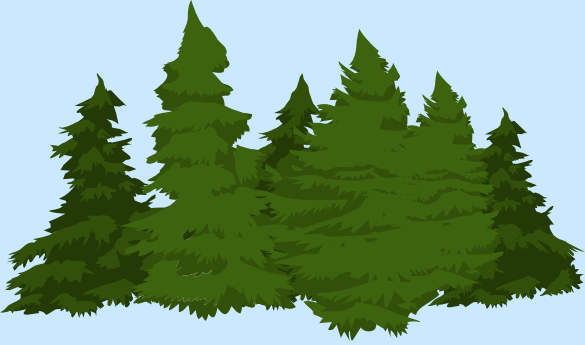
'The Friend at Night' Luke 11 whilst we walk and explore the woods together

Meet outside Roundwood drive entrance to Sherrards Wood. Parking AL8 7JZ  
Please bring your own drink.

Prayer. Activities. Discussion. Exploration.

Email Nikki or Rachel  
[Children@stfranciswgc.org.uk](mailto:Children@stfranciswgc.org.uk)

**We would love you & your family join us!**



**If your joining us for  
Wild Church please come  
dressed for the weather &  
walking in the woods,  
bring a drink, we will  
provide a small snack.  
If parking locally please  
be considerate of  
resident's driveways  
Please be aware that  
there are no toilets.  
We aim for the session to  
finish back at the Wood  
entrance by 4pm**





Please support Pui-San, our Church administrator and her family raise money for 'Children with Cancer UK' There will be a cake sale and raffle after this Sunday's (11th/9) 9.15 service or see below for other times.

Dear friends and neighbours,

We are raising monies for 'Children with Cancer UK' in memory of our beloved family members, (Piers & Ruben) lost to childhood cancers. John is running the London Marathon (2<sup>nd</sup> Oct) for this amazing charity.

Come and join us at No. 34 Blakemere Rd. on both Sat & Sun, 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> Sep from 1 to 5pm. We have homemade cakes, cream teas & greeting cards sale and a Raffle (prizes include: hampers, Bosch coffee machine & Hakalok Restaurant meal voucher).



## BAKE SALE

FUNDRAISER

*lovely Raffle prizes!*

We hope to see as many of you as possible. We appreciate these are challenging economic times, so any amount donated is gratefully received.

If you can't make it but would like to donate online, please go to:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/johnapling>

Or scan this QR code into your smartphone camera:



Thank you for your generous support and encouragement.

From: John,  
Pui San, Amelie,  
Annelise & Edward



**ST FRANCIS CHURCH**  
**QUIZ**  
**NIGHT**  
**SATURDAY, 17TH**  
**SEPTEMBER 2022**

**Please invite friends, families or neighbours, get your teams together or come and form a new team. Maximum team size is 8 people including children.**

**Price is £12 per person which includes a fish and chip or chicken and chip supper, vegetarian option also available.**

**PLEASE CONTACT SARAH BRANWHITE  
([PCC@STFRANCISWGC.ORG.UK](mailto:PCC@STFRANCISWGC.ORG.UK)) TO REGISTER  
YOUR TEAM OR FOR MORE DETAILS. ALL TEAMS  
TO BE REGISTERED BY 10TH SEPTEMBER**

**Starts at 5pm!**

HARVEST SUNDAY

25<sup>th</sup> Sep 2022

Family Communion Service @ 10am  
Parish Refreshments in the Hall  
with Presentations on:

**ECO  CHURCH**

**Caring for God's Creation**



**Inclusive  Church**



**Jacket Potato Lunch**

(Service & events are suitable for all ages)

# CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2022

Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th December:  
Christmas Tree Festival

Sunday 11th December: 9.15 The Nativity &  
Family Communion

Saturday 17th December: 4pm Family Carol  
Service

Saturday 24th December:  
4pm & 6pm: Christingle Service  
12pm: Midnight Mass

Sunday 25th December: 10am Christmas Family  
Communion Service

*Merry Christmas*



## Church contact details:

Parish Office: Open Wed-Fri, 9.30am-noon  
St Francis of Assisi Church, Church Road, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6QJ  
Phone: 01707 694191 Email: admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk

Vicar: The Reverend Jenny Fennell  
Phone: 01707 320960 Email: vicar@stfranciswgc.org.uk

Children's & Families' Team  
Email: children@stfranciswgc.org.uk

Check out our  
YACC webpage  
& keep up to  
date with all the  
Sunday Church  
materials to do  
at home :

<https://stfranciswgc.org.uk/youth-and-children/>

Join our Zoom  
Prayers  
on Wednesdays  
at 8pm

Email  
curate@stfranciswgc.org.uk to  
receive the  
details



@stfranciswgc



@stfrancischurchwgc



@stfranciswgc