### Services & Diary Dates

Sunday	30 <sup>th</sup>	0800 Said Eucharist 0915 Parish Communion with Baptism
Saturday	29 <sup>th</sup>	
Friday	28 <sup>th</sup>	1900 Choir Practice
Thursday	27 <sup>th</sup>	1200 Thursday Lunches
Wednesday	26 <sup>th</sup>	1000 Toddle Time playgroup 1030 Said Eucharist 1100 Coffee for All 2000 Zoom Prayer Meeting
Tuesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	1000 Baby Group 1930 Said Eucharist
Monday	24 <sup>th</sup>	

The Flower Team thanks everyone who has given generously towards the various flower appeals all these years.

They wish to inform (with regret) that there will no longer be fresh displays each week as costs have escalated hugely over the last ten years whilst funds have dwindled. However they are delighted to continue to arrange them for holy Festivals and for personal tributes (named anniversaries, celebrations, etc upon request). Please continue to forward your requests and donations directly to Diane Hemmings. If you like to donate anytime, you are most welcome to do so.

#### News

Today @10:30am APCM meeting Do attend if you can. The **Electoral Roll** will re-open after today's APCM. APCM Group Reports and Annual Financial Statements are available on the church website.

Sat, 1<sup>st</sup> July 12–3pm SUMMER FETE! Nikki is leading the organisation of the Fete and would really like some helpers to join her team (Raffle, Tombola, Cakes) and volunteers for the stalls.

We are collecting various items based on this schedule—please leave your donations in the labelled crates in the porch:

Apr: lucky dip-kids party novelties /toys May: wrapped sweets & empty (but

clean!) jam jars

Jun: raffle prizes & soft toy donations. Jul: loan of your gazebos (need 10), please. Finally we are appealing for monetary donations: Please use yellow envelopes (gift aid if possible) and label 'YACC Summer **Fete'** (to buy new face paints).

Thur, 4<sup>th</sup> May The Hall is used as a **Polling Station** from 7am to 10pm. No Thursday Lunches nor any other events in the Hall.

#### Welcome

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023

## **3rd Sunday of Easter**

## Services Today



Younger ones incl. babies who are accompanied are very welcome. Church Years 5 & above - Meet in the Cellar (YACC)

Congregational setting: Tambling

Hymns: 162 393 563 148 Music

Choir: Jackson in G

Stanford O for a closer walk with God

CHORAL FVFNSONG 6pm

Choir: Introit Bruckner Locus Iste Responses Edwards Psalm 48

Canticles Noble in B minor Anthem Harris Behold the

Music tabernacle of God Hymns 148 175

Dismissal - Leighton/Harrison

The flowers in church have been donated by Margaret Ryder in loving memory of beloved husband, Geoff upon his anniversary (29<sup>th</sup> Apr).

This week we pray for all who live and work in Downfields and Stacklands.

St Francis of Assisi. CoE Church Road, WGC, AL8 6QJ 01707 694191 Church open (M-F): 0930 - 1200

Charity No: 1129849

Vicar: The Revd. Canon

Jenny Fennell

01707 320960

vicar@stfranciswgc.org.uk

## **OPENING HOURS (0930 - 1200):**

*[YACC: Mon to Tue]* Parish Office: Wed to Fri admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk

Welwyn Garden City

www.stfranciswgc.org.uk

www.facebook.com/stfranciswgc/

www.instagram.com/stfrancischurchwgc/

www.twitter.com/stfranciswgc/

# Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023 Third Sunday of Easter

#### Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### Acts 2: 14a, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, 'Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?'

Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.'

And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.'

So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added to their number.

### 1 Peter 1: 17-23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile.

You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.

He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.

Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

(Next Sunday's readings: Acts 2: 42-47; 1 Peter 2: 19-25; John 10: 1-10)

#### Luke 24: 13-35

On that same day, two of the disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.

And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad.

Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?'

Jesus asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.

Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.

Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see Jesus.'

Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!

Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?'

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.

But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.

Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus; and he vanished from their sight.

They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.