

April 2023



children@stfranciswgc.org.uk

www.stfranciswgc.org.uk

Youth & Children's Church Newsletter

Welcome to our April edition!

Our under 9's Children's Church on Sundays during the 9.15 communion will be exploring Lent, Easter and "The book of Peter: The good news"

Sunday 2nd April: Palm Sunday:

Matthew 21 V1-10

We will also be making a large tuff tray Easter garden

Sunday 9th April:

10am Easter Day Service

Sunday 16th April:

God is our hope & joy: 1 Peter 1 v3-9

Sunday 23rd April:

We have been saved through Jesus 1 Peter 1 V17-23

Sunday 30th April:

We can choose to follow Jesus: 1 Peter 2 V19-25

Meet the Ministry Team



Reverend Canon Jenny Fennell // Vicar

I have been Vicar here at St Francis since 2010 and ordained since 2002.

I have a passion for creating communities and making sure that the church provides an opportunity for all to encounter God and fellowship.

If you want to email me - you can do so on vicar@stfranciswgc.org.uk



Reverend Rachel Wakefield // Assistant Curate

Hello! I am Rachel Wakefield and I am delighted to be able to serve my curacy with you in the Parish of St Francis. I am married and have two children. To contact me - email curate@stfranciswgc.org.uk

Rachel has been appointed as the new Vicar of the benefice of Redbourn, St Mary. Her last Sunday with us here at St Francis will be July 2nd

Your Children's & Families' Team:



Nikki:

**Children & Families
Worker**



Rachel:

**Children & Families
Assistant**

Contact us by email: children@stfranciswgc.org.uk

Congratulations

Absolutely delighted to share with you all that Reverend Jenny is now an Honorary Canon of St Albans.

What is a canon in the Church of England? A canon may be a member of the clergy on the staff of a cathedral or diocese. A canon on a cathedral staff assists the dean, and a canon on a diocesan staff assists the bishop.



WE NEED YOUR HELP

Could you be on our Parish
Church Council?



We need volunteers to join our
PCC team from April 2023.

Have your say in how we run our Church.
Help shape our future, inspire others and
share ideas.

Commitment is only 10 meetings per year.

We need some volunteers from young
families to ensure we have input from all
areas of our congregation & community

Email vicar@stfranciswgc.org.uk for more information

FAMILY ACTIVITIES TO TRY AT HOME:

St Francis

Youth

Test your Easter knowledge

1. *What are the 6 weeks leading up to Easter called?*
2. *In which South American country will you find Easter Island?*
3. *Can you name the week leading up to Easter Day?*
4. *What yellow flower is traditionally associated with Easter?*
5. *How did Palm Sunday get its name?*
6. *Which disciple betrayed Jesus?*
7. *Which famous rabbit has three sisters?*
8. *Can you name them?*
9. *Where did the soldiers arrest Jesus?*
10. *Which popular UK chocolate brand first opened a shop in Birmingham in 1824?*
11. *At the Last Supper, what food did Jesus say was like his body?*
12. *Who was the first person to meet Jesus again after he had died?*
13. *How many eggs are in a dozen?*
14. *On which day do we traditionally eat hot cross buns?*
15. *Explorers from which country introduced chocolate to Europe?*



ANSWERS



1. Lent
2. Chile
3. Holy week or Passion week
4. Daffodil
5. People waved palm leaves when Jesus rode into Jerusalem
6. Judas
7. Peter Rabbit
8. Flopsy, Mopsy and Cottontail
9. Garden of Gethsemane
10. Cadbury
11. Bread
12. Mary
13. 12
14. Good Friday
15. Spain

To make an Easter Garden you will need

- * A shallow tray or dish
- *Garden soil or compost
- *Moss, cut grass or sand
- *Dried twigs
- *Small pot
- *Sewing thread
- *Small pot
- *Flat stone large enough to cover the mouth of the pot
- * small pots /containers
- *Small flowers
- *Gravel & white material

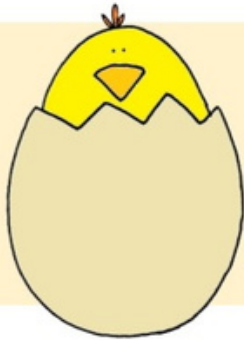
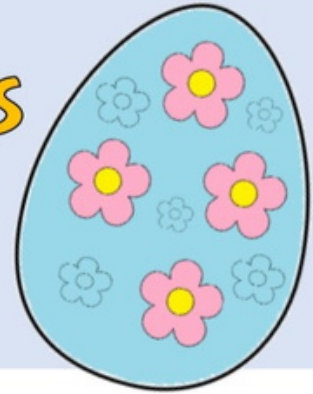
To Make:

1. Fill the tray with soil or potting compost.
2. Arrange it to make a hill on one side of the tray.
3. Cover the soil with moss, grass or sand.
4. Make three crosses with dried twigs tied together with sewing thread and place on the hilltop.
5. Press the small pot into the hillside to make a cave like the garden tomb. Place the white materials inside and place the stone over the mouth of the tomb.
6. Press egg-cups full of water into soil around the garden & fill with flowers .
7. Make a path coming from the tomb with gravel, to show how the disciples ran to the tomb on Easter morning.
8. Early on Easter morning, move back the stone from the tomb ~ showing that it is empty apart from the white cloth in which Jesus' had been wearing



All about Easter Eggs

There are lots of eggs at Easter! We can search for hidden eggs, decorate eggs or eat delicious eggs made from chocolate. Christians believe that eggs can help us understand the story of Jesus dying and coming back to life.



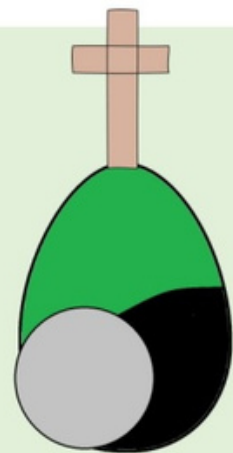
New life

Eggs are a symbol of birth and new life! Christians believe that Jesus was born as a baby on the earth, God in human form. Jesus was sent to be an example for us and to help us to be friends with God.

What's inside?

Traditional easter eggs are hollow inside, Christians use this as a reminder of the tomb where Jesus was placed after he died. A large stone was placed in front of the tomb. When his friends visited the tomb, the stone had been rolled away and Jesus was gone.

Christians believe that Jesus had come back to life! Jesus' friends saw him walking and talking three days after his death, then he went to heaven.



A gift for everyone

Christians believe that because Jesus died and came back to life there is hope for everyone. We are all invited to be a friend of God and to one day be with Him in heaven.

John 3:16

God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.



Summer fete wish list:

Throughout April, May & June there will be a lidded box outside the YACC office where we would love you to bring in and fill with Summer fete donations. We will be asking for set things each month so please only drop off requested items.

April: We need....

Nearly new party bag toys or small size items that we can use for our lucky dip stall at the Summer fete
Please dont buy any new plastic items as we would prefer to re gift any that are in really good condition

Any new & unused adult / child gift sets

email children@stfranciswgc.org.uk if you have any questions

Save
THE
date

The text "Save THE date" is rendered in a black, elegant script font. The word "Save" is at the top, "THE" is in the middle in a smaller, all-caps sans-serif font, and "date" is at the bottom. The text is surrounded by decorative black line art elements: a sprig of leaves and a small heart-shaped flower on the left, a similar sprig on the right, and two sets of three teardrop-shaped leaves on the far left and far right.




Save the date!



Summer fete

Saturday 1st July
12pm to 3pm



Join us this Sunday at 5pm!



YOU'RE INVITED TO A NEW MONTHLY SERVICE.
IT'LL BE DIFFERENT EACH TIME, COULD BE INSIDE,
• COULD BE OUTSIDE... COME AND SEE...!

FRANKIE'S AT 5

AT 5PM ON

SUNDAY 2ND APRIL

SUNDAY 7TH MAY

SUNDAY 4TH JUNE

SUNDAY 2ND JULY

EVERYONE IS
WELCOME

www.stfranciswgc.org.uk



Join us for Wild Church

Explore the outdoors with us through:
Prayer, Activities, Discussion, Exploration & Fellowship.
Everybody Welcome. Suitable for All Ages

*Sunday 14th May @3pm
Sunday 11th June @3pm
Sunday 9th July @3pm
Sunday 10th September @3pm
Sunday 8th October @3pm

*Meet outside Sherrardspark Wood Roundwood
Drive entrance. AL8 7JZ
Please bring your own drink & dress for the weather.
No need to pre-book. Session time is 3-4pm

Follow us on social media or check the website for
meeting points for each session

children@stfranciswgc.org.uk
www.stfranciswgc.org.uk



@stfranciswgc



@stfranchischurchwgc



@stfranciswgc

Toddletime

WEDNESDAYS 10-11.30*
Come & Join in the fun!

CRAFT TOYS STORY SONGTIME SNACKS PLAYTIME



Suggested donation: £1 for 1 adult & child 50p extra child.

Card payment only please

St Francis Church, Church Road WGC

Please bring a lidded travel mug & your Child's water beaker



@stfranciswgc



@stfrancischurchwgc



@stfranciswgc

Now open to walkers and up to 18 months!



*Join us for Baby group
Tuesday's at 10am -11.30 termtime only
0-18mths*

*Suitable for bumps, no need to pre book
bundles, non walkers &
walkers*

*hot drinks, various
baby toys & equipment,
baby snacks,*

*£2 suggested donation
via card payment*

*Bring along a lidded travel mug for a hot drink if you can
www.stfranciswgc.org.uk Children@stfranciswgc.org.uk*

Our under 5's groups will re open WC: 16th April



St Francis Church, Church Road, AL8 6QJ

Thursday Lunches

Everyone is welcome!

Join us every Thursday 12-1pm

For a homemade soup, bread & cheese,
with a hot cup of tea.

A great space to chat & meet new people



A spiritual hub for the community, making God's love known to all.

Churches In Welwyn Garden City

WARM HUBS IN WGC

Looking for warmth and company this winter?
Why not join us? It's free and you are welcome.

The Lounge - Tuesdays 1.30-3pm.

Christchurch Peartree, Tewin Road

Mary and Isabel's Compassionate Cafe, Tuesdays, 11-11pm, St Mary Magdalene's Parish Centre, Hall Grove

Teapot Tuesdays, 2-4pm, United Reformed Church Parkway

Coffee For All, Every Wednesday 10.30am- 12 noon
St Francis Church, Parkway

Body and Soul Cafe - Weds & Thurs anytime
11-2pm Christchurch Parkway, 110 Parkway

Thursday Lunches, 12 noon-1pm, St Francis Church Parkway

Coffee Pot at St John the Evangelist Digswell
every Friday morning 9:00am - 12 noon

The Hub Cafe at CtKHub, Haldens
every Saturday morning 9:00am - 12 noon

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**



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