

## Services & Diary Dates

Monday	17 <sup>th</sup>	
Tuesday	18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>1930 Said Eucharist</b> 2000 PCC Meeting
Wednesday	19 <sup>th</sup>	1000 Toddle Time playgroup <b>1030 Said Eucharist</b> 1100 Coffee for All 2000 Zoom Prayer Meeting
Thursday	20 <sup>th</sup>	1200 Thursday Lunches
Friday	21 <sup>st</sup>	1400 Knit, Hook & Stitch Group
Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	
Sunday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>0800 Said Eucharist</b> <b>0915 Parish Communion</b>

**11 seats left - Can you help us fill up the coach!**

*"SUNG EUCHARIST: The main celebration of the Eucharist – on a Sunday, at 11:15am – is the high point of our weekly worship, engaging the senses with sound, colour and movement. This service includes choral music, hymn singing and a sermon, and lasts around 75 minutes."*

## COACH Sign-up list for Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July to St Paul's Cathedral

**We warmly invite all: friends, families and neighbours, join us as we worship prayerfully together with inspirational singing from our St Francis Choir under Wren's magnificent dome of St Paul's.**

**Please arrive in Church at 8:45am** for a prompt departure at 9am.

**Cost: CASH £15** with return to WGC after the Eucharist service.

You are very welcome to remain in London and also attend the later 3pm Evensong service, however the cost remains £15, without return.

Please hand your payments asap to Pui San, Parish Administrator  
Thank you for your support.

## News

### **NEW! Knit Hook & Stitch Group**

First meeting on Fri, 21<sup>st</sup> Jul @2pm, bring along your current project and join others for tea, biscuits & chat in the Parish Room. Thereafter, meets monthly on the third Friday.

**Each Sunday until 6<sup>th</sup> Aug: 2 to 4pm**  
**Bishop Alan's OPEN GARDEN in aid of The Herts & Beds Historic Churches Trust.** Tickets: £4 Adult, Children: free entry, dogs on leads. Refer to poster for more details.



## Welcome

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023

## Sixth Sunday after Trinity

## Services Today

**8am SAID EUCHARIST**

**9:15am PARISH COMMUNION**

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

Youth & *YACC sessions take place in their usual age groups:*

Children's **Age 2½ to Reception and Years 1 & 2, 3 & 4 - Hall**

Church Younger ones incl. babies who are accompanied are very welcome.

(YACC) **Years 5 & above - Meet in the Cellar**

Under 2 ½ - Activity bags provided by sides person

Congregational setting: *Choir to sing the Gloria*

**Hymns: 89 515 321 421**

Music

Choir: Darke in F major  
Caesar Requests

**6pm CHORAL EVENSONG**

Choir: *Introit* Byrd *Sacerdotes Domini* *Responses* Reading *Psalm* 62  
& 63 *Canticles* Stanford in C *Anthem* Ireland Greater love  
hath no man **Hymns 368 453** *Dismissal* - Naylor Ferial

This week we pray for all who live and work in Stanborough Mews and Longcroft Green.

St Francis of Assisi, CoE  
Church Road, WGC, AL8 6QJ  
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  
01707 694191 admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk

www.stfranciswgc.org.uk

www.facebook.com/stfranciswgc/

www.instagram.com/stfranchischurchwgc/

www.twitter.com/stfranciswgc/

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023**  
**Sixth Sunday after Trinity**

**Collect**

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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.

**Isaiah 55: 10-13**

Thus says the Lord:

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

**Romans 8: 1-11**

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law - indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

**Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23**

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up.

Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away.

Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.

Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!

Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.

As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.

As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

**Next Readings: Isaiah 44: 6-8; Romans 8: 12-25; Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43**