

Services & Diary Dates

Monday	18 th	
Tuesday	19 th	1930 Said Eucharist
Wednesday	20 th	1000 Toddle Time playgroup 1030 Said Eucharist 1100 Coffee for All 2000 Zoom Prayer Meeting
Thursday	21 st	1200 Thursday Lunches
Friday	22 nd	1900 Choir Practice
Saturday	23 rd	
Sunday Harvest	24 th	1000 Family Communion 1800 Choral Evensong

Christian Aid Quiz Nite

Sat 30th Sep 5:30 to 8pm

All are welcome. (BYO) Bring your own food and drink! Adults: £5, Children: free entry. 6 persons per team. Please sign up on the list in the porch.

CTF2023 is our Silver Jubilee!!

Christmas Tree Festival 9th & 10th Dec

This 2023 is our really special CTF anniversary, 25 years!

Don't miss out, get your tree entry in early! Would you like to exhibit or volunteer on one of the stalls?

Contact Graham Bloye on:

stfranciscf@outlook.com if you like more details. If you would like an entry form, please help yourselves to forms available in the porch.

News

Next week is our Harvest Sunday - Bishop of St Alban's Harvest Appeal Cracking Food Poverty Together

in aid of Mission Direct's work in Kumi, Uganda, by providing materially poor families with chickens. The collection will go to this 'crackingly' good cause!



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Fri 29th Sep, 11am to 4pm

Hosted by Liz Hyde and friends at 61 & 63 Valley Road, WGC

Lovely cakes & bake! Everyone is welcomed. Donations much appreciated.

There are many members of the congregation who regularly visit people who are housebound or perhaps just welcome a friendly face. Thank you! If you are someone who would appreciate a visit from time to time (or know someone who might), or alternatively someone who would like to look after a person by dropping in to see them occasionally, please contact Andrew Watkinson, who has offered [to be an informal coordinator](#). 07913 923364 or [andrewwatkinson@btinternet.com](#)

Welcome

Sunday 17th September 2023

Fifteenth 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 too.) **Years 5 and above in the Cellar**

Congregational Setting: Archer

Hymns: 385 496 609 598

Music Choir: Cooke in E minor

Lloyd View me Lord a work of time

This week we pray for all who live and work in Elmwood

Next Sunday is our special Harvest Thanksgiving with services at:

10am Family Communion for All ages

and 6pm Choral Evensong

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 Wed 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/



17th September 2023
Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.

Genesis 50: 15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?'

So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, *Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.*

Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God?

Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today.

So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Romans 14: 1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions.

Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.

Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them.

Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds.

Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.'

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Matthew 18: 21-35

Peter came and said to Jesus, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?'

Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.

When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made.

So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, *Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.* And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, *Pay what you owe.*

Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, *Have patience with me, and I will pay you.* But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

Then his lord summoned him and said to him, *You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?* And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.

So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

Next Readings: 2 Corinthians 9: 6-15; Luke 12: 16-30