

Services & Diary Dates

Monday	19 th	Half term week
Tuesday	20 th	1930 Said Eucharist
Wednesday	21 st	1030 Said Eucharist 1100 Coffee for All
Thursday	22 nd	1200 Thursday Lunches
Friday	23 rd	1130 Funeral Mass - D. Hemmings
Saturday	24 th	
Sunday	25 th	0800 Said Eucharist 0915 Parish Communion 1800 Choral Evensong

Diane Hemmings:

Funeral mass in church on Friday, 23rd Feb @11:30am with reception hosted in WGC Golf Club @3pm, the family would be very grateful if people attending the reception could confirm with Pui San so the family can finalise with the caterer.

Key dates:

25th Feb @6pm Choral Evensong

10th Mar @10am Mothering Sunday

Family Communion Service for all

Sat, 23rd Mar from 9:30 to 11:30am

Annual Spring Clean

28th Mar @8pm Maundy Thursday

Sung Eucharist

29th Mar @12noon Good Friday

Service of Music & Reading

31st Mar @10am Easter Sunday

Family Communion for All

News

Today: Start of 2024 Lent Course

Held during Sunday services, the theme is “Deepening the Mystery ‘unexpected treasures’ of art” from **The Methodist Modern Art Collection**. These 25 artworks depict scenes featuring the life of and teachings of Christ, part of the main collection, from renown artists such as Graham Sutherland, Elisabeth Frink and Maggi Hambling. This travelling art exhibition on-going since 60 years ago is now

at The Focolare Centre (from 2nd Mar to 7th Apr). **Free admission!**

Help yourself to a leaflet.

Sunday Parish Coffee Rota:

We urgently need more volunteers to join our Sunday Coffee teams as

we have several gaps. Please

contact churchwarden, Carol Jager:

carol_jager@yahoo.co.uk

Did you know? In 2023, we

supported the Utange Orphans Charity in Kenya and Isabel Hospice.

This year, we will donate to ‘Resolve’ (adult drugs & alcohol treatment & homeless charity based in Hatfield and the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO).

Welcome

Sunday 18th February 2024

SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

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. **Years 5 & above - Meet in the Cellar**

Congregational Setting: None

Hymns: 95 496 532 385

Music

Choir: Half term week

This week we pray for all who live and work in Russellcroft Road.

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):

Parish Office: Wednesday to Friday
01707 694191 admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk

www.stfranciswgc.org.uk

www.facebook.com/stfranciswgc/

www.instagram.com/stfrancischurchwgc/

www.twitter.com/stfranciswgc/



18th February 2024
First Sunday of Lent

Collect

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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 9: 8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark.

I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.'

God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.'

God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

1 Peter 3: 18-22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.

And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Mark 1: 9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him.

And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.

He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

Next Readings: Genesis 17: 1-7,15-16; Romans 4: 13-25;
Mark 8: 31-38