

Services & Diary Dates

Monday	4 ^h	
Tuesday	5 th	1930 Said Eucharist
Wednesday	6 th	1000 Toddletime Playgroup 1030 Said Eucharist 1100 Coffee for All 2000 Zoom prayer group
Thursday	7 th	1200 Thursday Lunches
Friday	8 th	1900 Choir Practice
Saturday	9 th	
Mothering Sunday	10 th	1000 Family Communion

Sat 9th Mar WG Concert Club in church features 'Red Priest'.

We've been informed this is a sell-out concert, so we **urgently need 2 more extra helpers for refreshments!** Please contact Pui San. All you need to do is turn up at the interval (approx. 8:15pm) to lend a hand. If you wish, you can come earlier and enjoy the music...

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

28th Mar @8pm Maundy Thursday
Sung Eucharist with **The Watch**

29th Mar @12noon Good Friday
Service of Music & Reading

31st Mar @10am Easter Sunday
Family Communion for All

News

NEW! St Francis eNewsletter!

If you'd like to receive the new St Francis eNewsletter, please sign up with your email address via this link: www.stfranciswgc.org.uk/newsletter

The Electoral Roll will be revised from 10th-24th March. All worshippers are encouraged to be on the Roll. If you have any queries please contact the Electoral Roll Officer, Barbara Pavyer.

2024 Lent Course Held during Sunday services, is **"Deepening the Mystery 'unexpected treasures' of art" from The Methodist Modern Art Collection** of artworks depicting scenes featuring the life of and teachings of Christ, from renowned artists. This travelling art exhibition (25 pieces) is now at The Focolare Centre (2nd Mar to 7th Apr). **Free admission!** Please take a leaflet.

Helena will be running her book sale after the main services today and 10th March. All books 50p. Proceeds will be split between St Francis Church and Polar Bear International.

Welcome

Sunday 3rd March 2024

THIRD SUNDAY OF 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: 170 703 480 368

Music Choir: Wood in the Phrygian Mode
Tallis If ye love me

5pm FRANKIE'S AT 5

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

REMINDER: Next Sunday is Mothering Sunday - only one service at 10am

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/

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3rd March 2024
Third Sunday of Lent

Collect

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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.

Exodus 20: 1-17

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work - you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

1 Corinthians 1: 18-25

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

John 2: 13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables.

Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables.

He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!'

His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.'

The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.'

They then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?'

But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Next Readings: Colossians 3: 12-17; Luke 2: 33-35
MOTHERING SUNDAY—10 AM Family Communion Service for all ages