

Services & Diary Dates

Monday	29 th	
Tuesday	30 th	1930 Said Eucharist
Wednesday	1 st	1000 ToddleTime Playgroup 1030 Said Eucharist 1100 Coffee for All 2000 Zoom prayer group
Thursday	2 nd	Hall is used all day as a Polling Station
Friday	3 rd	1900 Choir Practice
Saturday	4 th	
Sunday	5 th	0800 Said Eucharist 0915 Parish Communion 1700 Frankie's at 5

News

COMING SOON!

Sat, 11th May, SF Quiz Night

Organised by churchwarden Rob. The sign-up list is on the main noticeboard. We will be using contactless payments on the night for your tickets. Don't delay, our first team is already on board! Ideally, please form tables of 6 persons (max). You will be very welcome even if you don't have a full team, join in with the others...

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES:

Thur 9th May @8pm Said Eucharist for Ascension Day

Sun 19th May @10am Pentecost Family Communion Service for all ages

Next Sunday (12th May) there is Wild Church @3pm - usual meeting point: Sherrardspark Woods, Roundwood Drive entrance. Always check our FB page for updates: www.facebook.com/stfranciswgc/

Helpers to serve Refreshments (WG Concert Club - 7 to 9pm):

Thanks to Eric, Barbara and Rowena we have a full team for the 18th May concert.

Did you know? All monies raised goes to our own church funds!

The 2024/25 concert season begins 19th Oct. If there is anyone new to this - why not consider if this is something you could do for 2 hours on a Saturday night to help our church raise regular funds?

Thank you.

Welcome

Sunday 28th April 2024

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Services Today

8am SAID EUCHARIST

9:15am PARISH COMMUNION

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

YACC sessions take place in their usual age groups:

Age 2½ to Reception and Years 1 & 2, 3 & 4 - Hall

Youth & Children's Church
Younger ones incl. babies who are accompanied are very welcome. **Years 5 & above - Meet in the Cellar**

Congregational Setting: Lloyd

Hymns: 311 284 (1st tune) 158 731

Music

Choir: Sumsion in F
Duruflé Ubi Caritas

6pm Choral Evensong

Choir: *Introit* Chilcott Be thou my vision *Responses* Barnard
Psalm 96 verses 1 – 13 Chant S. Linley *Canticles* Howells

Music

Coll Reg. *Anthem* Wood Expectans expectavi
Hymns 221 612 *Dismissal* Naylor Festal

This week we pray for all who live and work in Downfields and Stacklands.

St Francis of Assisi, CoE
Church Road, WGC, AL8 6QJ
Church open (W to F): 0930 to 1200

Charity No: 1129849

Vicar: The Revd. Canon Jenny Fennell
01707 320960

vicar@stfranciswgc.org.uk

Opening hours:
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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Sunday 28th April 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Collect

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Acts 8: 26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

1 John 4: 7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God.

So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world.

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.

We love because he first loved us.

Those who say, 'I love God,' and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

John 15: 1-8

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower.

He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.'

Next Readings: Acts 10: 44-48; 1 John 5: 1-6; John 15: 9-17