

Welcome to our services today

13 April 2025
Palm Sunday

SAID EUCHARIST, 8am

PARISH COMMUNION, 9.15am

Followed by refreshments and chat in the Hall.

For part of this service during term time, young people are invited to join our age-appropriate activities led by our youth team:

Groups for ages up to Year 5 meets in the Hall

Years 5 to 7 in the Parish Room

Years 8+ in the Cellar (access is through the Parish Room)

There are various resources and activity bags in the Children's Chapel available for younger children.

Hymns: 128 (omit * verses), 129 (2nd tune), 748, 123

Congregational Setting: None

Choir Music: Jackson in G

Mathias Lift up your heads

Readings: Isaiah 50: 4-9a; Philippians 2: 5-11; Luke 23: 1-49

This week we pray for all who live and work in Lytton Gardens and The Cloisters.

*Next Sunday's service readings: Acts 10: 34-43; John 20: 1-18
(Note: Easter Sunday Family Communion @10am - only one service for all ages)*



Services & Diary Dates: this week

Tue 15 Apr	Holy Week Said Eucharist, 7.30pm
Wed 16 Apr	Holy Week Said Eucharist, 10.30am Coffee for All, 10.30am
Thur 17 Apr	Thursday Lunches, 12 noon Sung Eucharist for Maundy Thursday with the Washing of Feet, 8pm followed by The Watch until Midnight
Fri 18 Apr	Service of Music and Readings for Good Friday, 12noon Choir practice, 7pm
Sun 20 Apr	Family Communion Service - Easter, 10am (ends with Easter egg hunt)

Services & Diary Dates: further ahead

Sun 27 Apr	Said Eucharist, 8am Parish Communion, 9.15am Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), 11am Choral Evensong, 6pm
Sun 4 May	Interment of Ashes – G. Searl, 10:30am Frankie's @5 Informal worship service, 5pm

Our church thrives through volunteers - can you help?

See foyer noticeboard for details and sign-up sheets.

URGENT: The Flower Team would be very grateful for cash donations towards Easter flowers. Please give your contributions to Julie Lowes directly. Thank you.

News:

Lent 2025 HOLY WEEK's theme is "Transformed"! Each week we display the topic's; reading, discussion question, prayer and suggested music. You can also go online and access these resources digitally (various weblinks listed on our poster). Do check out our noticeboard in the porch and the church.

APCM: Do attend if you can. You get a chance to hear what has been happening, our financial situation and what's next (interregnum)! Look out for our APCM Group Reports and Annual Financial Statements will be available on our church website soon. Some paper copies will be made available from the back of church.

Parish Office (mornings Wed - Fri): 01707 694191 admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk

Reverend Canon Jenny Fennell: 01707 320960 vicar@stfranciswgc.org.uk

St Francis of Assisi, (CoE) Church Road, WGC, AL8 6QJ Registered Charity No: 112984

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Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; 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 50: 4-9a

The servant of the Lord said:

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens - wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards.

I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Philippians 2: 5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Luke 23: 1-49

The Passion according to Luke starts:

Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, 'We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.' Then Pilate asked him, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' He answered, 'You say so.' Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, 'I find no basis for an accusation against this man.' But they were insistent and said, 'He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.'

...

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, 'Certainly this man was innocent.' And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things

Next Readings:

Maundy Thursday @8pm with The Washing of Feet and ends with The Watch until midnight: Exodus 12: 1-4, 11-14, 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26, John 13: 1-7, 31b-35

Good Friday @12 noon: Service of Music and Readings

Easter Sunday (Family Communion @10am): Acts 10: 34-43; John 20: 1-18 (Note: only one service for all ages)