

Welcome to our services today

11 May 2025

Fourth Sunday after Easter



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: 135, 517, 138, 410

Congregational Setting: Archer

Choir Music: Edwards The Highgate Service

Edwards Hail true body

Readings: Acts 9: 36-43; Revelation 7: 9-17; John 10: 22-30

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

The flowers in church this week have been donated by Janet and family in loving memory of Bill Turnbull.

Next service's readings: Acts 11: 1-18; Revelation 21: 1-6; John 13: 31-35

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

This Church is currently in vacancy. New minister required!

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

Services & Diary Dates: this week

Mon 12 May Parochial Church Council Meeting, 8pm

Tue 13 May Said Eucharist, 7.30pm

Wed 14 May Said Eucharist, 10.30am

Coffee for All, 10.30am

Zoom online prayer group, 8pm

Thur 15 May Thursday Lunches, 12 noon

Fri 16 May Knit, hook and stitch group, 2pm

Choir practice, 7pm

Sun 18 May Said Eucharist, 8am

Parish Communion, 9.15am

Choral Evensong, 6pm

Our church thrives through volunteers - can you help?

URGENT: Anyone with basic calligraphy writing skills?

We desperately need someone to update names into our Book of Remembrance, located in the St Clare Chapel. This book remembers all who have had a final service connected to St Francis Church. This is not onerous work and is done at home, ideally 4 times to twice a year (minimum). All information is provided by the Parish Administrator. Please have a chat with Pui San to find out more.

News

Our new PCC meets on Monday. A full list of members is displayed on the porch noticeboard. If anyone has any new idea, query, concern, suggestion they wish to voice, please feel very welcome to speak to any PCC member and if you wish to raise it as a PCC item for discussion, contact PCC Secretary, Sarah Branwhite: pcc@stfranciswgc.org.uk

Funeral Service of Sheila Pilfold will take place in Harwood Park Crematorium on Monday, 30 June at 3pm.

We are going to hold an Art Exhibition in church over 3 days at the end of September 2025, featuring work by artists who live in WGC or nearby. Would anyone who is an artist, or attends Art Classes or knows of people who do and might be interested in exhibiting, please contact Andrew Watkinson at andrewwatkinson@btinternet.com or 07913 923364.

11 May 2025
4th Sunday of Easter

Collect

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Acts 9: 36-43

In Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.'

So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them.

Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up.

He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive.

This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Revelation 7: 9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.

They cried out in a loud voice, saying 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?'

I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

John 10: 22-30

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon.

So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.'

Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep.

My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.

I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.

What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand.

The Father and I are one.'

Next Readings: Acts 11: 1-18; Revelation 21: 1-6; John 13: 31-35