

Welcome to our services today

22 June 2025
1st Sunday after Trinity

SAID EUCHARIST, 8am **PARISH COMMUNION, 9.15am**

Rev'd Sue Stilwell presides over both services.

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.

Congregational Setting: Lloyd
Hymns: 4, 483, 308(1st tune), 277
Choir Music: Lloyd St Luke's Service
Hurford Litany to the Holy Spirit

Readings: Isaiah 65: 1-9; Galatians 3: 23-29; Luke 8: 26-39
This week we pray for all who live and work in Guessens Grove and Guessens Court.

INTERMENT OF ASHES – Gerrit Searl, 10:30am

CHORAL EVENSONG, 6pm

Introit: Parry My soul there is a country Responses: Leighton
Psalm: 57 Canticles: Aston in F Anthem: Wesley Blessed be the
God and Father Hymns: 21, 10 Dismissal: Leighton/ Harrison Festal

Next service's readings: 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62

Parish Office (mornings Wed – Fri): 01707 694191

admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk

This Church is currently in vacancy.

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



Services & Diary Dates: this week

Tue 24 Jun	Said Eucharist, 7.30pm
Wed 25 Jun	ToddleTime Playgroup, 10am Said Eucharist, 10.30am Coffee for All, 10.30am Zoom online prayer group, 8pm
Thur 26 Jun	Thursday Lunches, 12 noon
Fri 27 Jun	Choir practice, 7pm
Sun 29 Jun	Said Eucharist, 8am Parish Communion, 9.15am

Services & Diary Dates: further ahead

Sun 6 Jul	Afternoon Tea Party, 4pm followed by Frankie's @5 Informal worship service, 5pm
-----------	--

Our church thrives through volunteers - can you help?

Does anyone have a spare fridge that we can use in the Hall for Choir Week? Required from 9 Aug and returning it on 19 Aug. If you can offer, please speak to Julie Owen.

Homemade cakes, biscuits or other teatime treats, please! We need baked goodies (except scones) for our summery Afternoon Tea Party 4pm on Sunday, 6 July, followed by Frankie's @5, (all age) Informal worship service led by Graham Bloye. All are welcome!

News

We have several large (47cm X 55cm dia) plastic terracotta plant pots seeking new homes. Used but in reasonable condition, they would normally cost £8-10, brand new from B&Q, but available now for a donation to church funds (£2 each has been suggested). For more info, please contact Anthony Packer or the Parish Office.

Update: Arts Festival 2025 (exhibition, sales with refreshments in the Hall) starts with a special preview on Thursday night (25 Sep). Opens to the public (11am to 6pm) from Friday 26 to Saturday 27 Sep. On Sunday 28 Sep it opens after the end of the 9:15am service. Enquiries to Andrew Watkinson: artsfestival@stfranciswgc.org.uk

22 June 2025
1st Sunday after Trinity

Collect

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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 65: 1-9

The word of the Lord through the prophet:

I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, 'Here I am, here I am,' to a nation that did not call on my name.

I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; who say, 'Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.' These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long.

See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the Lord; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions.

Thus says the Lord: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, 'Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,' so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all.

I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

Galatians 3: 23-29

Before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed.

Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith.

But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.

As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ; there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Luke 8: 26-39

Jesus and his disciples arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee.

As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs.

When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me' - for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.)

Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him.

They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country.

Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid.

Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed.

Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned.

The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, 'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

*Next Readings: 1 Kings 19: 15-16, 19-21; Galatians 5: 1, 13-25;
Luke 9: 51-62*