

Welcome to our services today

10 August 2025
8th Sunday after Trinity



PARISH COMMUNION, 9.15am

Celebrant: Revd Susan Marsh.

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 parent volunteers:

For ages up to Year 5 meets in the Hall (mixed ages)

We may not be running other year groups during the summer holidays.

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

Congregational Setting: Lloyd

Hymns: 453, 490 (*1st tune*), 393, 555

Choir on holiday

Readings: Genesis 15: 1-6; Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16; Luke 12: 32-40

This week we pray for all who live and work in Bridge Road, The Campus, Woodside House, Rosanne House and Peel Court.

ORGAN RECITAL, 10:30am

by Joel Colyer and Matthew Porter

Next Sunday's readings: Jeremiah 23: 23-29; Hebrews 11: 29 - 12: 2; Luke 12: 49-56

Parish Office (mornings Wed – Fri): 01707 694191

admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk

This Church is currently in vacancy.

Enquiries on Baptisms, Funerals, etc. to be directed to: Parish Administrator, c/o Parish Office

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

Services & Diary Dates: this week

11 to 15 Aug	<i>Choir 2025 Ely Cathedral-Choral Evensong, 5.30pm</i>
Tue 12 Aug	Said Eucharist, 7.30pm
Wed 13 Aug	Said Eucharist, 10.30am
	Coffee for All, 10.30am
	Zoom online prayer group, 8pm
Fri 15 Aug	Hook, knit & stitch group, 2pm
Sun 17 Aug	Parish Communion, 9.15am
	Interment of Ashes – Les Hyde, 11am
	<i>Choir in St Edmundsbury Cathedral</i>
	<i>Choral Eucharist, 10.30am and Evensong, 3.30pm</i>

Services & Diary Dates: further ahead

Sun 7 Sep	'Frankie's@5' Informal worship service, 5pm
Sun 21 Sep	Choral Evensong, 6pm
Thur 25 Sep	Autumn Arts Festival - Preview Night, 6pm
26 to 28 Sep	Autumn Arts Festival, 11am to 4pm

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.

News

The flowers in church have been lovingly given by David Hancock, to commemorate mother, Doreen's anniversary today.

Our Organist team are presenting us with organ recitals (30 mins) following the 9.15am service. Please don't rush off, why not bring your drinks back into church, stay and enjoy the music.

There is no 8am Said Eucharist service throughout August.

Autumn Arts Festival 26 to 28 Sep, 11am to 4pm:

We need your help with stewarding, serving refreshments, making cakes, donating Raffle hamper groceries etc. The rotas have been displayed on the noticeboard. Please sign-up. All enquiries to be directed to Andrew and his team on:

artsfestival@stfranciswgc.org.uk

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Collect

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Genesis 15: 1-6

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.'
But Abram said, 'O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?'
And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.'
But the word of the Lord came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.'
The Lord brought Abraham outside and said, 'Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.'
And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going.
By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old - and Sarah herself was barren - because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, 'as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.'

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.

If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return.

But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one.

Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Luke 12: 32-40

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks.

Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them.

If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

*Next Readings: Jeremiah 23: 23-29; Hebrews 11: 29 - 12: 2;
Luke 12: 49-56*