

Welcome to our services today

31 August 2025
11th Sunday after Trinity



PARISH COMMUNION, 9.15am

Celebrant: Revd Martin King.

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: 523, 401, 421, 594

Choir on holiday

Readings: Ecclesiasticus 10: 12-18; Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16;
Luke 14: 1, 7-14

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

*Next Sunday's readings: Deuteronomy 30: 15-20; Philemon 1-21;
Luke 14: 25-33*

Parish Office (mornings Wed – Fri): 01707 694191
This Church is currently in vacancy.

admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk

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

Tue 2 Sep	Said Eucharist, 7.30pm
Wed 3 Sep	Said Eucharist, 10.30am Coffee for All, 10.30am Zoom online prayer group, 8pm
Thur 4 Sep	Thursday Lunches (in Church), 12noon
Sun 7 Sep	Said Eucharist, 8am Parish Communion, 9.15am 'Frankie's@5' Informal worship service, 5pm

Services & Diary Dates: further ahead

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
Sun 29 Sep	Harvest Festival – Family Communion, 10am (one service suitable for all ages)

Our church thrives through volunteers - can you help?

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

HELP greatly needed! We will need as many helpers possible with setting-up to final clearing, welcoming artists and their works, event stewarding, serving refreshments, etc. **Rotas have been displayed on the noticeboard. Please sign-up.**

We need your delicious homemade whole cakes/traybakes that we can slice for our teas ala 'Arts Festival Café'.

We need donations of Raffle hamper groceries – please refer to the list of suggested items you could offer. Do feel free to be as generous as you wish. Do bring them in early - there is a collection crate at the back of church.

All enquiries to be directed to Andrew and his team on:

artsfestival@stfranciswgc.org.uk

News

The 8am Said Eucharist Sunday service resumes from 7 Sep onwards.

Churchwarden Rob will be organising a fun family Quiz Night (social and fundraiser) for Saturday 11 October. Please put this date into your diary and get your teams ready. More details later on.

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Collect

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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.

Ecclesiasticus 10: 12-18

The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord; the heart has withdrawn from its Maker.

For the beginning of pride is sin, and the one who clings to it pours out abominations. Therefore the Lord brings upon them unheard-of calamities, and destroys them completely.

The Lord overthrows the thrones of rulers, and enthrones the lowly in their place.

The Lord plucks up the roots of the nations, and plants the humble in their place.

The Lord lays waste the lands of the nations, and destroys them to the foundations of the earth.

He removes some of them and destroys them, and erases the memory of them from the earth.

Pride was not created for human beings, or violent anger for those born of women.

Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16

Let mutual love continue.

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured.

Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers.

Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.' So we can say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?'

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.

Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name.

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Luke 14: 1, 7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable.

'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, *Give this person your place*, and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, *Friend, move up higher*; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you.

For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'

He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid.

But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

Next Readings: Deuteronomy 30: 15-20; Philemon 1-21; Luke 14: 25-33