

Welcome to our services today

7 September 2025
12th Sunday after Trinity

SAID EUCHARIST, 8am

PARISH COMMUNION, 9.15am

Celebrant: Revd Susan Marsh at 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 parent volunteers:

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 thru the Parish Room)

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

Congregational Setting: Archer

Hymns: 260, 416 (*1st tune*), 442 (*tune 301*), 598

Choir: Ireland in C

Walking in the garden - Hutchings

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

This week we pray for all who live and work in High Grove and The Valley Green.

“FRANKIE’S@5” Informal worship service, 5pm

*Next Sunday's readings: Numbers 21: 4-9; Philippians 2: 6-11;
John 3: 13-17*

Parish Office (mornings Wed – Fri): 01707 694191

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

Tue 9 Sep	Said Eucharist, 7.30pm
Wed 10 Sep	Toddletime Playgroup, 10am Said Eucharist, 10.30am Coffee for All, 10.30am Zoom online prayer group, 8pm
Thur 11 Sep	Thursday Lunches, 12noon
Sun 14 Sep	Morning Prayer, 8am
Holy Cross	Parish Communion, 9.15am (Presided by Bishop Stephen Venner)

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

Saturday, 4 Oct - 'Autumn in Paris' Concert of classical and popular French music(1940s-50s). See poster for more details on tickets, etc.

Saturday, 11 Oct St Francis Family Quiz Night (social and fundraiser). More details later on.

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Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of 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.

Deuteronomy 30: 15-20

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess.

But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love - and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment.

Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced.

Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother - especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account.

I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Luke 14: 25-33

Large crowds were travelling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, 'Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it?

Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, "This fellow began to build and was not able to finish."

Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand?

If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace.

So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.'

Next Readings: Numbers 21: 4-9; Philippians 2: 6-11; John 3: 13-17