

## Welcome to our services today

15 March 2026  
Mothering Sunday



### **FAMILY COMMUNION, 10am**

Presided by Revd Susan Marsh.

Followed by refreshments and chat (as well as homemade cakes sale) in the Hall.

There are no separate Youth and children's church groups as the All-Age Talk takes place instead of a sermon. There are various resources and activity bags in the Children's Chapel available for younger children.

Hymns: 393, 238 (*omit \* verses*), 277, 253  
Please refer to full text in the order of service

Choir: Shephard The Wiltshire Service  
Rutter The Lord bless you and keep you

Readings: 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7; Luke 2: 33-35

This week we pray for all who live and work in Little Youngs and Youngs Rise.

*Next Sunday's readings: 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7; Luke 2: 33-35*

Parish Office (mornings Wed – Fri): 01707 694191

**This Church is currently in vacancy.**

[admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk](mailto:admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk)

Enquiries on Funerals or Burials, 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 17 Mar Said Eucharist, 7.30pm  
Funeral Service – Sue Farnsworth, 11am
- Wed 18 Mar ToddleTime playgroup, 10am  
Said Eucharist, 10.30am  
Coffee for All, 10.30am
- Thur 19 Mar Thursday Lunches, 12noon  
Parochial Church Council Meeting, 8pm
- Fri 20 Mar Choir Practice, 7pm
- Sun 22 Mar Said Eucharist, 8am  
Parish Communion, 9.15am  
Service of Prayers and Music for Passiontide, **5pm**  
(Includes Choirs from Applecroft Primary School and St John's Lemsford C o E Primary School)

## **Services & Diary Dates: further ahead**

- Thur 2 Apr Maundy Thursday-Sung Eucharist with the Washing of Feet, 8pm followed by 'The Watch' until midnight
- Fri 3 Apr *Churches Together service in Howardsgate, 11am*  
Liturgy of Good Friday, 8am  
Service of Music and Readings, 12 noon
- Sun 6 Apr Family Communion for Easter, 10am  
(ends with Easter egg hunt outside)

## **News**

Marcia proposes a weekly church prayer group to pray specifically for our new Vicar on Thursdays at 2.30pm, beginning 9 April. Please feel very welcome to join with this act of communal prayer focussing on such an important concern affecting all of us.

## **APCM will be held on Sunday 26th April.**

### **The Electoral Roll is being revised from 29 Mar to 9 Apr**

All worshippers are encouraged to be on the Roll. If you have any queries, please contact Electoral Roll Officer, Barbara Pavyer.

**We have the following vacancies for and ask that everyone consider if they would come forward and serve as:**

**PCC members, Deanery Synod and Churchwardens**

If you would like more information on any of these roles, please speak to a PCC member (list on the noticeboard) or the Churchwardens; Rob and Carol.

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### **Collect**

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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.

### **2 Corinthians 1: 3-7**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ.

If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering.

Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

### **Luke 2: 33-35**

The child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about Jesus.

Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed - and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

*Next Sunday: Ezekiel 37: 1-14; Romans 8: 6-12; John 11: 1-45*

**Do join us for our services during Holy Week and Easter:**

#### **1 April, Tuesday, Holy Week**

7.30pm Said Eucharist

#### **2 April, Wednesday, Holy Week**

10.30am Said Eucharist

#### **3 April Maundy Thursday**

8pm Sung Eucharist with the washing of feet followed by 'The Watch' until midnight

#### **4 April Good Friday**

11am Churches Together service in Howardsgate

8am Liturgy of Good Friday

12 noon Service of Music and Readings

#### **6 April Easter Sunday**

10am Family Communion *followed by Easter Egg Hunt*

**hope**

#### **7 April Easter Monday**

#### **Pilgrimage to St Albans Abbey, led Rev'd Susan Marsh**

The Easter Monday 3pm informal service in the Cathedral features their worship band, with worship led by Russell Blackman (award winning singer/song writer and worship leader), guest preacher Leah Bucko (youth pastor, Soul Survivor) and ends with short communion led by Bishop Jane, Bishop of Hertford.

Please refer to the special noticeboard in the porch to sign up.

There are various ways for everyone of all abilities; (walking all the way, meet up at meeting point to walk the last 3 miles or just meet up in the Cathedral orchard for a picnic)

Then (2.30pm) everyone processes together inside for the service.