

Welcome to our services today

19 April 2026
Third Sunday of Easter



Today's services are presided by Revd Susan Marsh.

SAID EUCHARIST, 8am

PARISH COMMUNION, 9.15am

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: Lloyd
Hymns: 137, 583, 278, 581(2nd tune)

Choir: Darke in E
Behold the tabernacle of God - Harris

Readings: Acts 2: 14a, 22-32; 1 Peter 1: 3-9; John 20: 19- 31

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

Next Sunday's readings: Acts 2: 42-47; 1 Peter 2: 19-25; John 10: 1-10

Parish Office: Wed to Fri mornings 01707 694191

admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk

This Church is currently in vacancy.

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 21 Apr Said Eucharist, 7.30pm
Wed 22 Apr Toddletime Playgroup, 10am
Said Eucharist, 10.30am
Coffee for All, 10.30am
Thur 23 Apr Powerhouse of Prayer, 2.30pm
Thursday Lunches, 12noon
Fri 24 Apr Choir practice, 7pm
Sat 25 Apr Choral Conducting Training course, 9.30am

Services & Diary Dates: this week

Sun 26 Apr Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), 10.45am
Choral Evensong, 6pm
Sat 9 May Choir Quiz Night (*more details soon*)

News

"The Powerhouse of Prayer meetings started on Thursday, the 9th, when many of us came together to pray for a new vicar. Further weekly meetings will take place until 30th April. Thank you to all who have already committed to come. Please keep spreading the word." Marcia.

APCM is next Sunday 26th April. Do attend if you can, this is a chance to hear what has been happening, our financial situation and what's next with the interregnum. APCM Group Reports and Annual Financial Statements are available on our church website. Some paper copies are available at the back of church.

We have the following vacancies and ask that everyone consider if they would come forward and serve as: PCC members, Deanery Synod and Churchwardens If you have any queries, just speak to Churchwarden Carol.

Reminder: Thursday 7 May is national Polling Day, so the Hall is in use as a polling station all day until 10pm.

Flower Team says: Thank you for the Easter flower donations. If anyone would like to commemorate a special celebration/anniversary or event through flowers in church, please e-mail (anytime): flowers@stfranciswgc.org.uk The team would be delighted to oblige.

URGENT: We really need 3 volunteers for serving refreshments for the 16 May concert. Please sign-up on the noticeboard.

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Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; 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.

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, 'Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?'

Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.'

And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.'

So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added to their number.

1 Peter 1: 17-23

If you invoke as Father, the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile.

You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.

He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.

Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Luke 24: 13-35

On that same day, two of the disciples were going to a village called

Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.

And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad.

Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?'

Jesus asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.

Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.

Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see Jesus.'

Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!

Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?'

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.

But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them.

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.

Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus; and he vanished from their sight.

They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Next Sunday: Acts 2: 42-47; 1 Peter 2: 19-25; John 10: 1-10