

Welcome to our services today

10 May 2026
Sixth Sunday of Easter



SAID EUCHARIST, 8am
Presided by Revd Dr Callan Slipper

PARISH COMMUNION, 9.15am
Presided by Revd Richard Syms

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: Tambling

Hymns: 6(2nd tune), 703, 154(omit * verses), 159

Choir: Sumsion Service for Men's Voices

Edwards O sacrum convivium

Readings: Acts 17: 22-31; 1 Peter 3: 13-22; John 14: 15-21

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

*Next Sunday's readings: Acts 1: 6-14; 1 Peter 4: 12-14, 5: 6-11;
John 17: 1-11*

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 12 May Said Eucharist, 7.30pm

Wed 13 May Toddletime Playgroup, 10am
Said Eucharist, 10.30am
Coffee for All, 10.30am

Thur 14 May Thursday Lunches, 12 noon
Sung Eucharist for Ascension Day, 8pm

Fri 15 May Knit, Hook & Stitch Group, 2pm
Choir practice, 7pm

Sun 17 May Said Eucharist, 8am
Parish Communion, 9.15am

Services & Diary Dates: this week

Sat 16 May Welwyn Garden Concert Club, 7.30pm

Sun 24 May Pentecost – Family Communion Service, 10am
(with homemade cake sale in the Hall)

News

URGENT:

We desperately need 2 volunteers for serving refreshments for the 16 May concert. Please sign-up on the noticeboard.

Church Flowers:

If anyone would like to commemorate a special celebration/anniversary or event through donating flowers in church, please e-mail (anytime): flowers@stfranciswgc.org.uk The team would be delighted to help.

WANTED! Plant Seedlings:

Have you sown too much or bought more than you can use. If so, can you spare your surplus plants for St Francis Church garden, where everyone could enjoy them too? Please speak to Anthony Packer, anytime.

VOLUNTEERS: This church thrives on volunteers.

We give thanks for all who are already serving in so many capacities. If there is anyone unsure or think they can help or even in a small way or perhaps, only occasionally, we have roles or needs that may suit. Don't be shy, please speak to Churchwarden Carol or check in with the Parish Office.

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Collect

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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 17: 22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him - though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said, "For we too are his offspring." Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

1 Peter 3: 13-22

Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good?

But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an account of the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you - not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

John 14: 15-21

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

Next Sunday: Acts 1: 6-14; 1 Peter 4: 12-14, 5: 6-11; John 17: 1-11