

Welcome to our services today

19th July 2026
Seventh Sunday after Trinity



Both services presided by Revd Dr Callan Slipper:

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 through the Parish Room)

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

Congregational Setting: Lloyd

Hymns: 383, 406, 470, 507

Choir: Todd - Jazz Missa Brevis

Green arr. Leddington-Wright - In your image I was made

Readings: Wisdom of Solomon 12: 13, 16-19; Romans 8 12-25;
Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

This week we pray for all who live and work in Stanborough Mews and Longcroft Green.

Next Sunday's readings:

Parish Office: Wed to Fri mornings 01707 694191

admin@stfranciswgc.org.uk

This Church remains in vacancy until 7 September 2026.

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 Jul	Said Eucharist, 7.30pm
Wed 22 Jul	Said Eucharist, 10.30am Coffee for All, 10.30am
Thur 23 Jul	Thursday Lunches, 12 noon
Sun 26 Jul	Said Eucharist, 8am Parish Communion, 9.15am

Services & Diary Dates: later on

Mon 7 Sep	Licensing and Installation Service, 7.30pm
2 to 4 Oct	Arts Festival, 11am-6pm
Sat 3 Oct	Artists' Desert Island Discs, 7pm

News

We are delighted to share with you that, three of our candidates are currently being prepared for confirmation, with support from Revds: Ryan and Susannah. **Bishop Rob Wickham will confirm them on Sunday, 26 July @6.30pm in Welwyn St Mary's Church. Please support them and uphold them in your prayers: Charlie Sudell (baptised in the same service), Callum Burke and Edward Apling.**

Choir Week 2026 takes place in Salisbury Cathedral from 17 to 23 August. Monday, 17th to Saturday 22nd; Choral Evensong services at 5.30pm (note: Choir has the day off on Thursday, 20 Aug) and choir also sings on Sunday 23rd: Eucharist - 10.30am and Choral Evensong - 4.30pm.

Please feel very welcome to join our choir in these worship services in this historic 800 year old early English Gothic cathedral setting.

Reminder: Strictly no parking on the kerb. We would appreciate everyone's co-operation to help us remind casual visitors too. And to keep at least 10 feet of unhindered access at both exit points of the driveway.

Open invitation to the Licensing & Installation Service - Revd Tricia Reed as Interim Priest-in-Charge, 7.30pm on Mon 7th Sep.

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Collect

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; 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.

Wisdom of Solomon 12: 13, 16-19

There is not any god besides you, Lord, whose care is for all people, to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly; for your strength is the source of righteousness, and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all.

For you show your strength when people doubt the completeness of your power, and you rebuke any insolence among those who know it. Although you are sovereign in strength, you judge with mildness, and with great forbearance you govern us; for you have power to act whenever you choose.

Through such works you have taught your people that the righteous must be kind, and you have filled your children with good hope, because you give repentance for sins.

Romans 8: 12-25

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh - for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' It is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ - if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us.

For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away.

So when the plants came up and bore grain then the weeds appeared as well.

And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?"

He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?"

But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."

Then Jesus left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying,

'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.

Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age.

The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

Next Sunday: 1 Kings 3: 5-12; Romans 8: 26-39; Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52