

Welcome to our services today

16 August 2026
Eleventh Sunday after Trinity



Presided by Revd Richard Syms

PARISH COMMUNION, 9.15am

Followed by refreshments and chat in the Hall.

We may not be running all year groups during the summer holidays.
There are various resources and activity bags in the Children's Chapel available for younger children.

Congregational Setting: Archer

Hymns: 547, 719, 308 (1st tune), 626

Choir Week in Salisbury Cathedral

Readings: Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8; Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32;
Matthew 15: 21-28

This week we pray for all who live and work in Rooks Hill and Rooks Close.

*Next Sunday's readings: Isaiah 51: 1-6; Romans 12: 1-8;
Matthew 16: 13-20*

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: 1129849

Services & Diary Dates: this week

Tue 18 Aug Said Eucharist, 7.30pm

Wed 19 Aug Said Eucharist, 10.30am
Coffee for All, 10.30am

Thur 20 Aug Thursday Lunches, 12 noon

Sun 23 Aug Parish Communion, 9.15am

Services & Diary Dates: later on

Wed 2 Sep Funeral Service – Penny Hyde, 2.15pm

Fri 4 Sep Funeral Service – Pamela Hawkins, 2pm

Sun 6 Sep Interment of Ashes – Colin Gosnell, 10.30am

Mon 7 Sep Licensing and Installation Service, 7.30pm

2 to 4 Oct Arts Festival, 11am-6pm

Sat 3 Oct Artists' Desert Island Discs, 7.30pm

News

The flowers in church this week have been donated by David Hancock to commemorate Doreen's anniversary. If anyone is interested in donating towards church flowers or a memorial tribute, please e-mail: flowers@stfranciswgc.org.uk

Choir Week 2026, 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)

Sunday 23rd Aug: Eucharist @10.30am & Choral Evensong @4.30pm. Please feel very welcome to join our choir at these worship services in this historic 800 year old early English Gothic cathedral setting.

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

2026 Autumn Art Festival: 11am to 6pm from Fri 2nd to Sun 4th Oct
Features a programme of activities and the star attraction - original artworks sale. Admission: £3.50 Adults (incl. a hot drink) with free entry for children (under 18s).

Special Artists' Desert Island Discs event on Saturday, 3rd October from 7:30 to 9 pm, 'an evening where art meets music'. Tickets available from zoejasko.com or On the Door: £8 Adults (children free entry). Licensed bar refreshments available.

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Collect

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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.

Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8

Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.

And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant - these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt-offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy.

For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Matthew 15: 21-28

Jesus went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.'

But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.'

But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.'

Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

Next Readings: Isaiah 51: 1-6; Romans 12: 1-8; Matthew 16: 13-20