

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI WEST WICKHAM PARISH MAGAZINE



April/May 2023

50 pence

THE CHURCH OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI
RAVENSWOOD AVENUE
WEST WICKHAM KENT BR4 0PW

Church Website: www.stfranciswestwickham.co.uk

 www.facebook.com/StFofA

Vicar:	The Revd Hazel O'Sullivan The Vicarage, The Avenue, West Wickham, BR4 0DX email: hazelos58@gmail.com <i>Day off: Monday</i>	8777 5034
Assistant Priest:	The Rev Richard Ford email: richard.ford73@ntlworld.com	8289 2432
Reader:	Brian Griffiths	8777 6112
SPA [Pastoral Auxiliaries]:	Lesley East Rowena Griffiths	8289 1483 8777 6112

Church Directory

Churchwardens:	Kate Dyer katedyer41@hotmail.com Tim Shingler	8402 8286
Secretary:	Nicky Nightingale email: nicholanightingale@hotmail.co.uk	8916 9855
Treasurer:	David Wada email: stfranciswwtreasurer@gmail.com	8777 6355
Director of Music:	Geoff Mussard	8650 8389
Parish Safeguarding Officer:	Kim Teare kim_teare@hotmail.com	
Parish Magazine: Content:	Vacant	
Magazine – Distribution:	Nicky Nightingale	8916 9855
Library:	Sarah Coverdale	8777 0130
Bible Reading Fellowship:	Lesley East	8289 1483

REGULAR SERVICES

SUNDAY

- 8.00 am** **Holy Communion**
1st Sunday varies - See calendar for details
3rd & 5th Sundays at St Mary's Church, The Avenue
2nd & 4th Sundays at St Francis' Church
- 10.45 am** **Parish Communion**
Activities for younger children (aged 3+) and crèche facilities in church
- 10.45 am** **2nd Sunday – Worship for All Ages**
(non–Eucharistic)
- 10.00 am** **First Sunday – Joint Family Communion**
with St Mary's, held alternately at each church
See calendar for details

WEDNESDAY

- 9.30 am** **Morning Prayer**
10.30 – 11.30am **Church open for quiet and prayer**

LETTER FROM RICHARD

Dear friends,

Outside church circles, "sin" is not a word that one encounters very often, other than in contexts which suggest that it is not being taken very seriously, the sort of contexts that give rise to comments like "naughty but nice" or "a second on the lips, a lifetime on the hips." And if you were to ask the average person on the street if they regarded themselves as sinful, they would probably look at you in amazement. Indeed I think that many of us who are Christians might admit to having weaknesses or faults, but wouldn't really consider ourselves to be sinners, even after the self-reflection which we are encouraged to undertake in Lent. (Is there anything that has emerged this Lent that you feel calls for repentance?)

Yet St Paul in his letter to the church in Rome states that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (3.23) So what is sin? In brief, it's everything that comes between us and God. As the Israelites tried to put into words where they stood in relation to God, they described sin as disobedience to God's will - as exhibited in the Garden of Eden – the abuse of God's gift of free will.

Alongside the trivialising of sin which I've referred to earlier, there's a tendency for us to see it in the world around us, but not in ourselves. So the war in Ukraine is evil - another way of talking about sin - as is human trafficking, domestic abuse, sexual exploitation, racism and so forth. And all these are actions

of human beings, sometimes undertaken by groups, sometimes by individuals. But all involve people like you and me.

Moreover, it is possible to sin unwittingly. If war is evil, then the manufacture of weapons must also be evil, since these make war possible. So what about being employed by an arms company? Or what about investing your savings in a bank or investment company that holds shares in arms companies, or tobacco companies, or fossil fuel extractors? Paul wasn't joking when he said that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Stuart Townsend recognises this in one of his songs that we frequently sing around Easter time, when he writes of Christ hanging on the cross: "It was my sin that held Him there." Now I don't suppose that Stuart Townsend is any more sinful than you or me, who will be singing these words in a few weeks' time, but he did recognise what Paul was getting at.

Now if you're still reading this, I do agree with you that it all sounds a bit negative, but I think that if we're fully to appreciate what Easter means, then we need to think about what Good Friday tells us. And it tells us that sin needs to be taken seriously, very seriously, because it caused God, in the person of Jesus, to undergo the most horrendous suffering and death.

But on Easter Day, we see that Jesus has come through that suffering, that he has conquered sin and death, that, to quote Cecil Frances Alexander, he has paid "the price of sin," so that we are redeemed and the riches of God's kingdom are open to us, both now and throughout eternity. And that is something in which to rejoice. Happy Easter.

Richard

CALENDAR FOR APRIL

Saturday 1st 10am – 1pm High Street Foodbank Collection

Sunday 2nd

8.00 a.m.

PALM SUNDAY

Holy Communion at St. Mary's

Hazel O'Sullivan/Ken Bryan

10.00 a.m.

Joint Service at St. Francis' (livestream)

Hazel O'Sullivan/Ken Bryan

Thursday 6th

MAUNDY THURSDAY

7.30 p.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's

Hazel O'Sullivan/Richard Ford

Friday 7th

GOOD FRIDAY

11.00 a.m.

CTWW Service at St. Francis' (livestream)

Ian Hamlin

2.00 p.m.

An hour at the Cross at St. Mary's

Ken Bryan/Brian Griffiths

Saturday 8th

10am – 3pm Easter Egg Hunt at St Francis'

Sunday 9th

EASTER DAY

8.00 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'

Hazel O'Sullivan

9.15 a.m.

Family Communion at St. Mary's (livestream)

Hazel O'Sullivan/Richard Ford

10.45 a.m.

Family Communion at St. Francis'

Hazel O'Sullivan/Brian Griffiths

Sunday 16th

8.00 a.m.

EASTER 2

Holy Communion at St. Mary's

Richard Ford

9.15 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's (livestream)

Richard Ford/Ken Bryan

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'

*Richard Ford***Friday 21st**

3.45 p.m. Messy Church at St. Mary's

Saturday 22nd

7.00 p.m. St. Georges Supper at St. Mary's

Sunday 23rd**EASTER 3 St. George**

8.00 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'

Hazel O'Sullivan

9.15 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Marys (livestream)

Hazel O'Sullivan/Richard Ford

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'

*Hazel O'Sullivan/Richard Ford***Saturday 29th**

10.30 a.m. Baptism at St. Francis

*Hazel O'Sullivan***Sunday 30th****EASTER 4**

8.00 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's

Hazel O'Sullivan/Brian Griffiths (Video)

9.15 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Mary's (livestream)

Hazel O'Sullivan/Brian Griffiths (video)

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'

Hazel O'Sullivan/Brian Griffiths

CALENDAR FOR MAY

- Monday 1st** West Wickham Village Day at Blakes Park
- Saturday 6th** **Coronation Day**
- Sunday 7th** **EASTER 5**
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis'
Richard Ford
10.00 a.m. Joint Service at St. Mary's (livestream)
Richard Ford/Ken Bryan
12.00 noon Coronation Lunch at St. Marys following the
joint service.
- Friday 12th**
3.45 p.m. Messy Church at St. Marys
- Sunday 14th** **EASTER 6** **Christian Aid Week**
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis'
Richard Ford/Ken Bryan
9.15 a.m. Morning Praise (livestream) at St Mary's
Hazel O'Sullivan/Ken Bryan
10.45 a.m. Morning Worship at St Francis'
Hazel O'Sullivan/Ken Bryan
- Thursday 18th**
7.30 p.m. Deanery Wide Ascension Day Service at
St. George's Shirley

Sunday 21st

8.00 a.m.

EASTER 7

Holy Communion at St. Mary's
Hazel O'Sullivan/Brian Griffiths (video)

Sunday 21st

9.15 a.m.

EASTER 7

Holy Communion at St. Mary's (livestream)
Hazel O'Sullivan

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'
Hazel O'Sullivan/Brian Griffiths

Sunday 28th**PENTECOST**

8.00 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis'
Hazel O'Sullivan

9.15 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Marys (livestream)
Hazel O'Sullivan

10.45 a.m.

Holy Communion at St. Francis
Hazel O'Sullivan/Brian Griffiths

6.00 p.m.

CTWW Service and AGM at **TBC**

Answers to Crossword Puzzle**Across:**

1, Cosmic. 4, Thomas. 8, In his. 9, Delaiah. 10, Falwell.
11, Water. 12, Recovered. 17, Sidon. 19, Radiant.
21, Centaur. 22, Broil. 23, Eleven. 24, Prison.

Down:

1, Cliffs. 2, Scholar. 3, Issue. 5, Holy war. 6, Moist.
7, Sphere. 9, Deliverer. 13, Candace. 14, Deacons.
15, Psyche. 16, Stolen. 18, Dance. 20, Debar.

READINGS FOR APRIL & MAY

Date	Reading	Reader
2 nd April	Phil.2: 5-11 Matt.21: 1-11	Joan Burford Ken Bryan
9 th April	Acts 10: 34-43 Matt.28: 1-10	Alison Davies Hazel O'Sullivan
16 th April	Acts 2:14a, 22-32 Luke 24: 13-35	David Wada Richard Ford
23 rd April	2 Tim. 2: 3-13 John 15: 18-21	James Pitt-Payne Hazel O'Sullivan
30 th April	Acts 2: 42-end John 10: 1-10	Gill Kehoe Brian Griffiths
7 th May	Isaiah 40: 12-17, 25-end Luke 22: 24-30	Dennis Pogose Richard Ford
14 th May	Special readings for Morning Worship	Valerie Hamilton
21 st May	Acts 1: 6-14 John 17: 1-11	Rosemary Swatland Hazel O'Sullivan
28 th May	Acts 2: 1-21 John 20: 19-23 or John 7: 37-39	Alison Davies Hazel O'Sullivan

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

April

Holy Week and Easter

Our familiar service pattern is being continued this year as follows:

- Palm Sunday (**2nd April**): Holy Communion at 8am in St Mary's, joint service at 10am in St Francis'.
- Maundy Thursday (**6th April**): Holy Communion at 7.30pm in St Mary's.
- Good Friday (**7th April**): Churches Together service at 11am in St Francis'; An Hour at the Cross at 2pm in St Mary's.
- Easter Sunday (**9th April**): Family Communion at 8am in St Francis', 9.15am in St Mary's, 10.45am in St Francis'.

Holy Saturday Easter Egg Hunt

Our Youth Club leaders are running an Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday 8th April** at St Francis' from 10am to 4pm. The activities and hunt will be available to take part in all day: drop in for however long you like, whenever you like! There will be plenty of games and activities running alongside the Easter Egg Hunt as well as the sale of cakes, tea, and coffee. The link to pre-book tickets (cost of £3) is: <https://www.Ticketsource.co.uk/st-Francis-of-Assisi>. You can turn up any time between 10 am and 3 pm to take part in the activities (pay on the door if you prefer). If you would just like to come along to socialise, we would also love to see you there! Please do invite family, friends, and neighbours: all are welcome.

St George's Supper

Our St. Georges Supper takes place at 7.00 p.m. on **Saturday 22nd April** at St Mary's. This is a 3-course meal of melon/prawn cocktail, roast beef with all the trimmings, trifle and coffee. The cost is £15 per head, and you have to bring your own alcoholic drinks. There are a few places left if you haven't already booked your place. There will also be a raffle and all profits will be for church funds. Contact Beryl Bolton 0208 289 8097 if you wish to come along. Thank you.

May

West Wickham Village Day

The West Wickham Village Day in Blake Park is a great opportunity to meet thousands of people in our local community. Churches Together in West Wickham are again looking to be a blessing to our community at this event with some hospitality and family spaces being provided. Please do put the date in your diary – **Monday 1st May** – and be prepared to sign up for volunteering on the day. We will need people to help with setting up marquees and seating early in the day, as well as interacting with families during the day in our Messy Church space.

Coronation of King Charles III

From Easter Sunday we are asked to pray for the Coronation of King Charles III and there will be booklets to use with daily prayers, as well as background information about the coronation included. We may show the coronation in one of the churches on Saturday 6th May – watch out for more information nearer the time. Then, on Sunday 7th May there will be a Joint Service of Communion at 10am in St Mary's

church. This will be followed with some celebratory drinks after the service, as well as the normal tea and coffee, and then a Community Lunch from 12noon.

Coronation Lunch

The Community Lunch at 12 noon follows the joint service on **Sunday 7th May** at St. Mary's. If you would like to stay for the lunch, please reserve your place with Beryl Bolton 0208 289 8097 or berylbolton@hotmail.com. Do invite family, friends, and neighbours to join you. The cost will be £10 a head (£5 for children under 14). All food, tea, coffee, and soft drinks will be provided but please bring along your own alcoholic drinks. Payment must be made at time of booking and by Monday 1st May to allow time for organising food etc.

Fundraising Concert for Christian Aid

St John's and St Francis' Churches are putting on a fundraising concert on **Friday 12th May** in St Francis' Church. The show begins at 7.45pm and will feature performers from current West End shows. This will be a night of entertainment raising money for Christian Aid and their DEC Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal. Doors open at 7pm. There will be a bar and a raffle with a chance to win two tickets to a West End show. Tickets at £15 from:

<https://stjohnsww.churchsuite.com/events/msbi17vmc>.

Christian Aid Week

This year Christian Aid Week is from 14th-20th May 2023. The theme for the week is women farmers in Malawi coping with increases in the cost of living and exploitative middlemen. Food, fuel, fertiliser and school fees have doubled in price in the last 12 months. And these hard-working famers are seeing their harvests fail as the climate crisis

brings increasingly erratic weather. Stories from Christian Aid show how these women can now plant better seeds, secure a fairer price for the crops, and build happier futures for their children.

We won't stop until everyone has the chance to live a full life, free from poverty.

Lunchtime Concerts at St. Francis

It is time to think about the new season of lunchtime concerts to be held in St. Francis Church and we have got some exciting new musicians who we are looking forward to playing for us, as well as some familiar players. They are all on Thursdays and begin at 12.45pm for about 45 minutes.

Please pencil the following dates in your diary, 25th May, 13th June, 17th August and 21st or 28th September. *Jean Mather*

St. Mary's Summer

Garden Party & BBQ



Saturday 17th June from 11am – 3pm

St. Mary's Church Gardens
The Avenue, West Wickham BR4 0DX

RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL EVENTS DATES

2023 DIARY

April

- 1st High Street Foodbank collection – 10am to 3pm
- 6th Maundy Thursday
- 7th Good Friday
- 8th Easter Egg Hunt
- 9th Easter Sunday
- 22nd St George's supper at St Mary's – 7:00pm

May

- 1st Bank Holiday – West Wickham Village Day
- 6th Coronation Day
- 7th Coronation Lunch at St Mary's – 12:00pm
- 12th Fundraising Concert at St. Francis' – 7:45pm
- 14th – 20th Christian Aid Week
- 18th Ascension Day
- 20th Piano recital and Afternoon Tea at St Francis' – 2pm
- 18th – 28th Thy Kingdom Come
- 28th CTWW Pentecost service and AGM – 6pm

June

- 8th – 10th Matchbox performances
- 17th St Mary's Garden Party

July

- 8th TBC – Concert at St Francis'
- 15th West Wickham Choir performance (TBC)

August

- No planned events

September

- TBC Concert at St Francis'

October

- 1st Pet Service at St Francis
- 7th Harvest Supper at St Mary's
- 8th All Age Harvest Services
- 8th Reader Licensing Service at Southwark Cathedral 6pm
- 29th CTWW Bible Sunday service and meeting 6pm

November

- 5th Memorial Service at St Mary's
- 11th (TBC) High Street Foodbank collection 10am to 3pm
- 12th All-age Remembrance Sunday services
- 24th West Wickham Christmas Lights switch-on
- 25th St Mary's Christmas Market
- 30th – 2nd Dec Matchbox performances

December

- 2nd The Big Christmas Sing at St Francis' 4pm
- 16th Scouts' Carols service at St Mary's
- 17th Carol Services
- 24th Christingle service at St Mary's 4pm
- 24th Lighting the Lamps service at St Francis' 6pm
- 24th Midnight Communion at both churches 11:15pm

The information on the events with (TBC) will be updated over the next few months. Please update your diary with the above and your support at all events will be gratefully appreciated.



St Mary of Nazareth Church

West Wickham

Coronation Lunch

7th May 2023

12 noon - 3pm

Buffet Lunch

including soft drinks, tea and coffee

(bring your own alcoholic drinks)

Tickets £10 (children under 14, £5)

available until 1st May from Beryl

0208 289 8097 or berylbolton@hotmail.com

April

- 2nd** As Jesus entered Jerusalem, let him enter our life
Palm Sunday that he may rule in our heart always.
- 6th** Father we thank you for inviting us to share in the
Maundy supper which your Son gave to his church, to be a
Thursday memorial of his death and passion. May we be
strengthened by his presence and united in his love.
- 7th** As our Saviour Christ suffered death upon the cross
Good for our sake, may we follow the example of his life
Friday on earth and share in his resurrection.
- 9th** Alleluia! Blessed be the Lord Jesus, who has risen
Easter from the tomb and opened the gate for us to eternal
Day life.
- 23rd** Pray that we may be wisely governed and that we
St. George may serve our community and country to the best
of our ability.
- 25th** As we are firmly grounded in the gospels may we be
St. Mark faithful to their teaching, both in word and deed.

The Wonder of Easter

Living God, we praise you for the wonder of Easter – this day – that changed the world for ever! We rejoice in the victory of Christ: his triumph over evil hatred, despair and even death itself.

Living God, we praise you for the victory you have won, and for the assurance it brings that nothing in life or death can separate us from your love; and nothing in heaven or earth can defeat your loving purpose for all the world. To you be praise and glory, this day and always. Alleluia! Amen (Nick Fawcett)

FOCUS

May

- 1st** Let our words and actions draw people to
St. Philip and St. James you, Lord Jesus.
- 14th** Like the Apostles, may we stay faithful; united
St. Mathias in prayer and the breaking of bread.
- 14th – 20th** May God bless those who give and those who
Christian Aid collect and may the money be a great help and blessing to many people
- 18th** We give thanks that the risen and ascended
Ascension Lord Jesus has promised to be with us for ever.
- 28th** Lord Jesus pour your Spirit upon us and set us
Pentecost on fire with love for you that we may bear fruits – love, joy and peace.

Peace in the World

We pray for world peace, that ways of aggression and violence against fellow humans and against God's creation may be renounced, and that world leaders may lessen the threat of destruction and killing which war brings. We pray for those in power and all others who strive to bring peace and the building up of community and fellowship among people. We pray for war-torn countries where communities have been destroyed, and families divided or separated. We remember children who have lost contact with their parents.

We pray for all who have been maimed or murdered and those traumatised through seeing the brutality of others. We pray for people buried under bombed out buildings and also those buried through earthquake damage.

We remember all refugees from war-torn areas and pray they may reach safety and be cared for. Give them comfort O Lord, and grant that we who dwell securely in this insecure world may be generous in caring for our displaced brothers and sisters. Amen

Messy



Church

If you had come into St. Mary's after school on Friday March 10th, this is what you would have found at 4 o'clock:

Stephen has spread huge sheets of paper on the hall floor, and together with Phillip, is encouraging some very messy 'mood' painting. Margaret is using pictures cut out from calendars for the children to make Mother's Day gifts by adding interesting drawings and messages. Kate and Jean are talking to children about how they feel today – happy, sad, excited... and paper plates with a moving pointer will be taken home when appropriate mood faces and expressions have been added. Geoff and Ken are spilling water and glitter, and the resulting prayer/thinking bottles are going home to help concentration. (Well, that's the plan....) Richard and Anne are telling the story of Hannah whose prayers were answered in the birth of baby Samuel. Hannah probably didn't wear a robe made of a washing-up cloth, but our cardboard figures are really rather splendid. Hazel is on the 'meet and greet' table and keeps all our paperwork in order as well as making everyone feel very welcome. Kay is hanging some of the children's "Thank you, Sorry, Please" prayers on the tree branch which Stephen rescued from the ground, and is also helping children to make TeaSPoon cards to take home

as a reminder. The children's prayers are wonderfully individual, God is thanked for sunshine, bunnies, football, families and lots more besides. In the kitchen Annette and Cheryl (this is Beryl's week off) are busy cooking 70 fish fingers, slicing lettuce, putting crisps in bowls, making drinks, etc., etc., and, as usual, everything is running like clockwork.

When it is about twenty to five, off we go into the church where Hazel leads a carefully planned celebration service. We all sing "If you're happy and you know it" and "He's got the whole world in His hands" while Geoff attempts to keep us in tune, and as well as telling the story of Hannah, Hazel uses the children's own prayers. One has already been answered – a request for sunshine was granted during the afternoon even if we have to wait longer for the warm temperature which was also asked for.

Next – it's back in the hall where adults and children sit around a very long table and enjoy the tasty meal – fish finger wraps, followed by chocolate rolls. "Would you like orange squash, blackcurrant squash or just plain water with that?" There's lots of chat and lots of happy faces and, thank goodness, there was enough food to feed 36 people.

This is church, but not as you might know it. A small group of helpers meet and plan everything well in advance of each month's session and we then work from written plans, so we all know what's going to happen. We use lots of recycled resources – we need to save money as well as the environment. Donations from our visitors covered the costs of all the food this month and a kind cash donation, from a member of the congregation who would probably prefer to remain anonymous, enabled us to purchase some much-needed glue sticks too.

As the families go home with lots of smiles and thank-yous everything is cleared away before the tired helpers rush home. (Some of us will be back for choir practice in less than an hour!)

There were eighteen children together with parents and helpers here in March. It would be wonderful to welcome a few new helpers to our team so that experienced helpers could have an extra pair of hands on their activity table. Since we started Messy Church at St. Mary's we have lost several helpers due to illness or mobility issues. Three very special helpers, Jan, Cynthia and very recently Barbara Plummer have gone to a better place and are much missed. Would you like to join us? We have helpers from St. Mary's, St. Francis and St. John's, all are welcome! If you are interested in joining us, please let Kay know, or have a chat with any of the people mentioned above, - plus Alison who couldn't join us in March due to having Covid.

Our next Messy Church is on Friday April 21st, and then on the second Friday of each month. It would be great to see some new faces and you too could have Messy fun, food and fellowship.

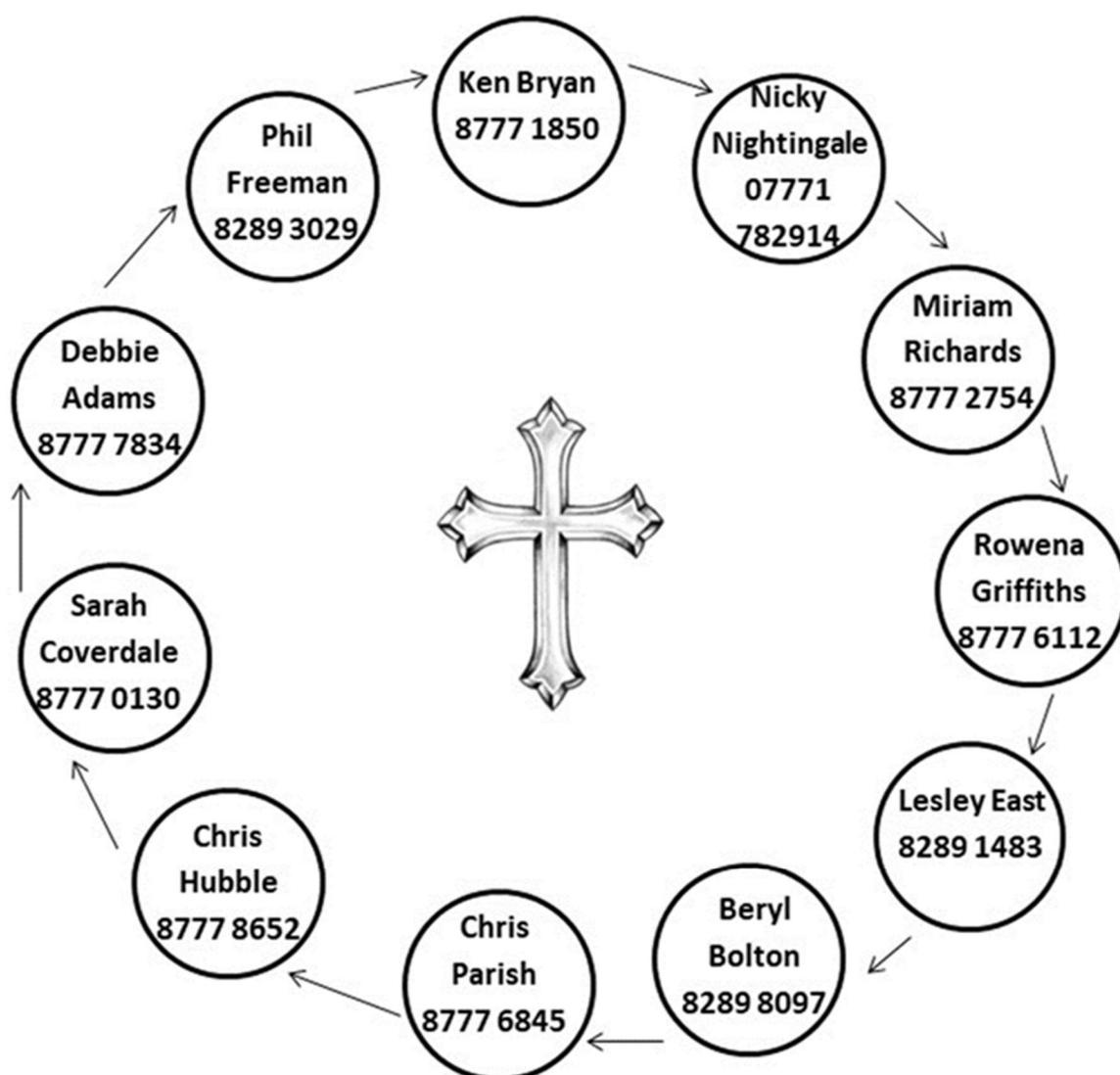
Kay Mussard



St Francis and St Mary's Prayer Chain

Many people find they are given strength and peace of mind when they know that they, or their loved ones, are being prayed for. And the more people who are praying for someone, the better!

If you would like prayer for yourself, please call anyone on the chain below and they will pass a message on around the circle. If you like a name added to the intercessions list in our services, (which will be on-line as well as in-person) please state this when you make contact.



FROM THE REGISTERS

Funeral

On Tuesday 14th February at **11.00 a.m.**

Barbara Plummer aged 87

Barbara's funeral held in St Francis' Church was put together following her wishes about what to include in her funeral – a very helpful thing to do. This meant that we got a very clear (if sometimes surprising) picture of the person who Barbara was.

Two items that were stored away with all these papers were a prayer (which we think she wrote) and a revised wording of psalm 23, both of which many people found quite moving.

Barbara's prayer

Barbara began every day in a positive way and her prayer links the beginning of all that we do in life with the end:

*Lord, may everything we do each day,
begin with your blessing and continue with your help.
May everything we say each day,
begin with your love and continue with your grace.
May everything we plan each day,
begin with your inspiration and continue with your peace.
So that, throughout our lives
all that we begin in you, may by you be happily ended,
all that we fail to do, may by you be mercifully mended,
and all that we seek through you, may by you be lovingly attended.
Amen.*

A psalm for busy people:

The Lord is my pace setter, I shall not rush.

He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals.

He provides me with images of still ness which restore my serenity.

He leads me in the ways of efficiency through calmness of mind,

And his guidance is peace.

Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day,

I will not fret, for his presence is here.

His timelessness, his all-importance will keep me in balance.

He prepared refreshment and renewal in the midst of my activity,

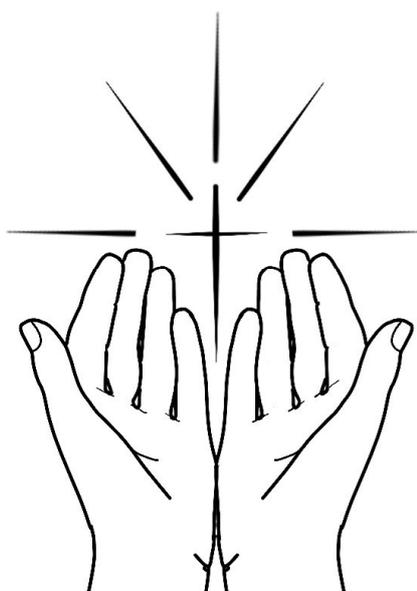
By anointing my mind with the oils of tranquility.

My cup of joyous energy overflows.

Surely harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruits of my hours.

For I shall walk in the pace of my Lord and dwell in his house

forever.



Funeral

On Wednesday 15th March at 1.30 p.m.

Stuart FROMENT aged 69

Followed by cremation at Beckenham Crematorium

Stuart Froment's funeral took place at St. Mary's church on Wednesday 15th March, after passing on early in the new year. Having been a member of the St. Francis and St. Mary's men's group, most of his friends attended to mourn a caring, thoughtful and a respected member of our community, who was seen as a champion of worthwhile causes around West Wickham.

With the family home in The Avenue, Stuart attended at all the major St. Mary's church festivals and many of the church social events, never missing the church's Christmas market.

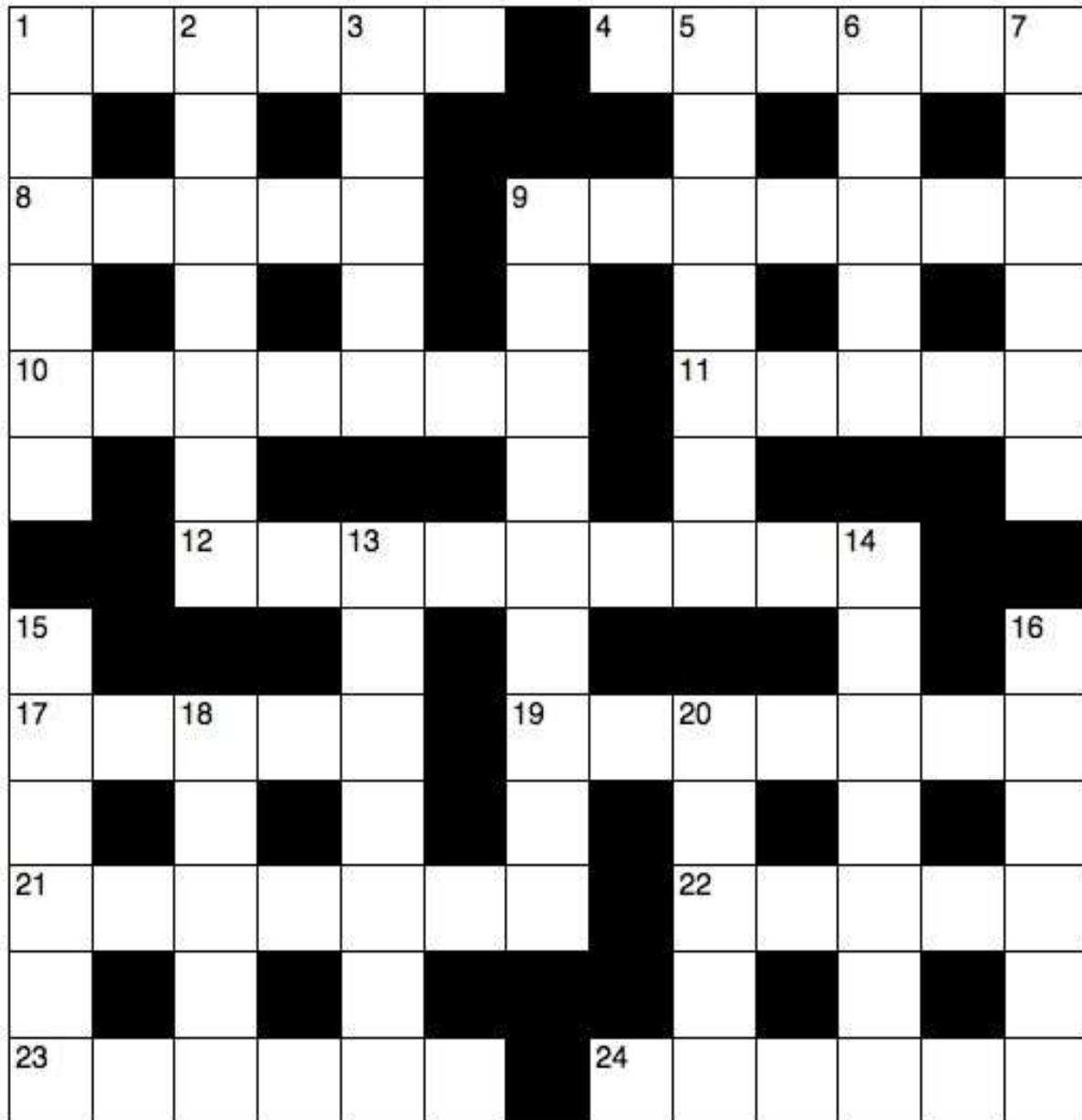
With Stuart's late father giving decades of service to St. Mary's as church auditor and scout treasurer, Stuart drew on his family's example of believing in the importance of service to the community.

Stuart spent his 33-year career with the church commissioners as a manager. He enjoyed eating out often seen in every restaurant in West Wickham and was a prolific photographer, recording local life and times. We will miss his love of life, expert general knowledge and sense of purpose and direction. His wake was held in The Railway, all the staff there will miss him.

Farewell then Stuart, as a Christian soul you have been loved and guided every step of the way through life by your Almighty God, go to receive your rewards in the heavenly places, your service and your good works are completed on earth. Rest now in peace.

In admiration. *Stephen Howe*

CROSS WORD GRID



Across

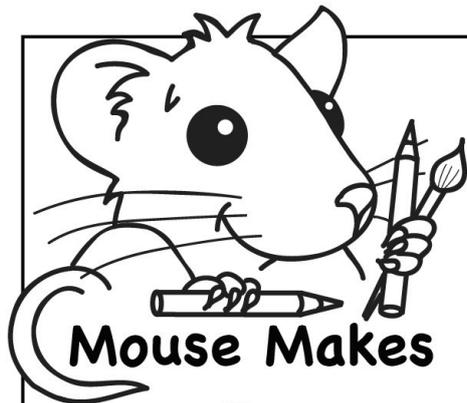
- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across
(John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe
it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing
Jeremiah's message
(Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral
Majority, Jerry — (7)

- 11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?'
(Acts 8:36) (5)
- 12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
- 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome
(Acts 27:3–4) (5)
- 19 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had
spoken with the Lord'
(Exodus 34:29) (7)
- 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)
- 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
- 23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles'
(Acts 1:26) (6)
- 24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you
came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)

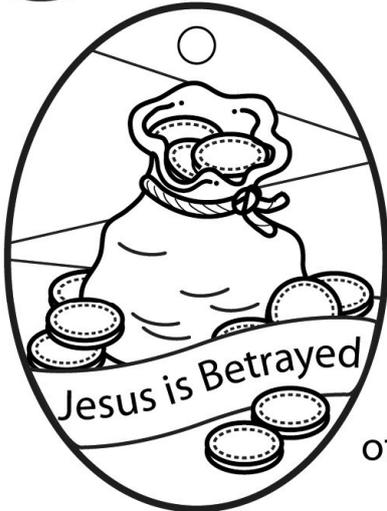
Down

- 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
- 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
- 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
- 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)
- 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)
- 7 He reps (anag.) (6)
- 9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
- 13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all
her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
- 14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in
much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)
- 15 The human mind or soul (6)
- 16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war
increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)
- 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — '
(Matthew 11:17) (5)
- 20 Bared (anag.) (5)

The NIV bible was used to set the crossword. Answers on page 7

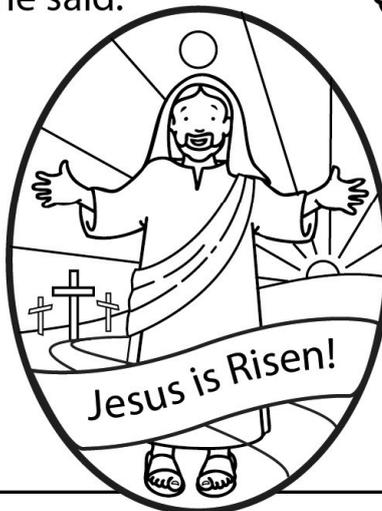
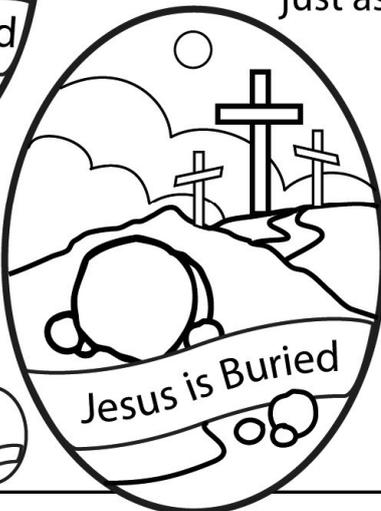
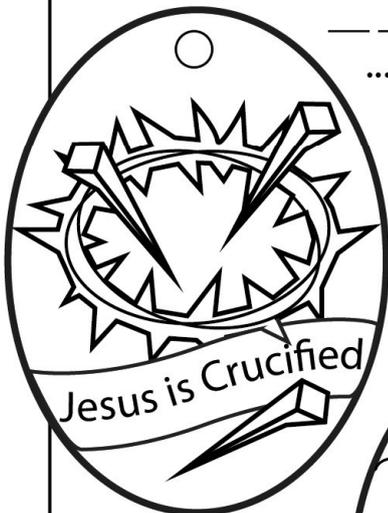
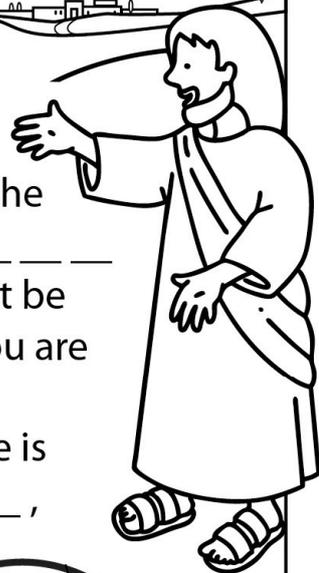


HE IS RISEN!
 Read the story of
 The Resurrection in
 Matthew 28:1-20



How many other
 words can you
 make from
RESURRECTION

An _____
 of the Lord came down from
 _____ and going to the
 _____ rolled back the _____
 ... the _____ said, "Do not be
 _____, for I know you are
 looking for Jesus who was
 _____, He is
 not here; he has _____,
 just as he said!"



Glue this page onto
 card. Cut out the
 ovals then colour in.
 Punch a hole at the
 top and hang up
 for Easter

ST FRANCIS' PRE-SCHOOL HELD IN THE CHURCH HALL

We are a small, friendly Pre-School and we take children aged between 2 to 5 years.

Contact: Kelly Fiander
Tel: 07719-397637
Email: stfrancispreschool21@gmail.com
URL: <https://stfrancispreschool.co.uk>



HAVE YOU OR WILL YOU BE MAKING A WILL?

If so, please consider leaving a legacy to St. Francis'.

Legacies we have had in the past have been a great blessing and encouragement and enabled us to carry out important work. It is helpful if the bequest is given without conditions so the PCC can use the money as they feel appropriate.

Please give this prayerful consideration.

To make a Will is one of the kindest things you can do so your wishes are known.

GROUPS & ACTIVITIES AT ST FRANCIS CHURCH

On the first Saturday of every month the church is open from 10.30 am to 11.30 am when refreshments are served, and this raises money for Action Aid.

Contact Barbara Goodchild 8777 8782

The Church Halls. Our main large hall is available for hire. There is also a small hall which can be used in conjunction with the main hall at weekends and during school holidays.

Bookings Secretary: Liz Raper 8777 2745

Church Choir. The choir helps to lead the singing at Sunday services. It regularly sings anthems and there are special musical services at festivals. Rehearsals: 7.15 pm – 8.15 pm on Thursdays.

Contact: Geoff Mussard 8650 8389

Men's Group. This meets on the second Monday evening of the month, alternately at St Francis' and St Mary's.

Contact: Tim Shingler 8402 8286

Reading Group. This meets on the second Thursday morning of the month.

Contact Barbara Plummer 8289 3846

Matchbox Theatre. A well-established amateur dramatic society which includes members of St Francis' Church and performs in the church hall, two or three times a year.

Contact Annie Norris 8651 1775

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN THE CHURCH HALL

Cubs

Tuesdays from 6.15 pm to 7.45 pm

Contact Kat Hardman

katkahardman@gmail.com

Scouts

Fridays from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm

Contact Hilary Moy, Group Scout Leader 07961

826814

Ravenswood Women's Institute

Fourth Thursday of the month from 7.45 pm

Contact Barbara Goodchild 8777 8782

West Wickham Market [Stalls & Refreshments]

Fridays from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm 07712

492854

Wednesday Market

From 9.00 am to 1.00 pm 07956

580467

Debbie's Dance

Thursdays from 9.00 am to 10.00 am .. debbiesdanceschool@yahoo.com

Sugar Craft & Cake Decorating

Thursdays at 8.00 pm (Six meetings a year)

Articles and items for the magazine are always welcome.

We are currently looking for a new editor, but if you have any contributions for the next bi-monthly magazine [editions

for Dec/Jan, Feb/March, etc], please contact our vicar, Hazel

by the second Sunday of the month