

# ST. MARY OF NAZARETH/ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI – WEST WICKHAM

## 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025 Baptism of Christ

### Services over the next two weeks

Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis 9.15 a.m. Morning Praise at St. Mary's 10. 45 a.m. Morning Worship at St. Francis
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Mary's 9.15 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Mary's 10.45 a.m. Holy Communion at St, Francis

*Services are livestreamed on YouTube during the main services, weekly at St Mary's and whenever possible at St Francis.*

### Weekly services/Prayers

Tuesday at 10am	Pray for growth of the church held at 130 The Avenue. Contact Jean Pogose on 8289 5996 for more information – <b>CANCELLED this week.</b>
Wednesday at 9:30am	Morning Prayer at St Francis
Wednesday at 10:30am	St Francis' open for <b>private prayer</b> till 11:30am
Thursday at 9am	Morning prayer at St Mary's

### Upcoming Events

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - January 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>:** We have been invited to join our brothers and sisters at **St Mark's for Evening Prayer on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 pm**, followed by light refreshments. I do hope a good number of you will join me for this Churches Together in West Wickham service. (St Mark's, 83 Manor Park Road, West Wickham, BR4 0JY)

**Bible study: Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 7.30 pm:** Our friends from St John's West Wickham, will be using St Francis' Church for a one-off Bible Study. Nick Lang, who takes services for us from time to time, has called it "The Man who shouted at God" and he says it will be light and enjoyable, with opportunity to join in, in small groups or all together.

In this one-off study, Nick, hopes to demonstrate that it is okay to show our emotions to God, that God understands and is patient with us...and how God really is in charge.... He does know what he is doing and changes us over time.

He has warmly invited members of our congregations to join in.

## **Please pray for the following people associated with our community:**

Vicky Pearce, Jane Smith, Rowena Griffiths, Daphne Dack, John Dack, , Barry Burford, Pam Tabner, Barbara Goodchild, Marcia Chandler, Tim Curtis and Pauline Jackson.

## **Notices**

A new booklet of Jane Smith's poems called "**POEMS OF HOPE**" is now available to purchase at £5 a copy from the Kintsugi Hope charity at:-

<https://shop.kintsugihope.com/products/poems-of-hope>

Proceeds from the sale of the book will go towards the work of Kintsugi Hope which seeks to provide communities where mental and emotional health is accepted and understood and where everyone can flourish.

**Warm space:** This will take place from **10.00 am – 2.00 pm on a Wednesday morning at St Francis**. Thank you to those who have already told me that they can help with this. We always have two volunteers on at a time and in general they do a 2-hour shift. If anyone else is happy to volunteer to help, please could you get in touch with me by email.

We are also looking for new ideas for the Warm Space perhaps some special activity that people can join in with. If you have any ideas and would be prepared to get involved with putting it on just get in touch. Maybe you could run a painting morning or a “knit and natter” or have other wonderful ideas. Thank you. Kate.

[katedyer41@hotmail.com](mailto:katedyer41@hotmail.com)

We will continue to collect items for the **Bromley Homeless Starter Pack Scheme** for those starting out in a new home with nothing. Starter Packs for families in need include cutlery, crockery, duvet covers (not duvets) pillowcases, tea towels, saucepans, frying pans, bath towels, toothbrushes etc. Please continue to bring these items to St. Francis.

**Flowers:** If anyone would like a pedestal at either church in memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special anniversary etc., please contact Merri Womack (8777 8772) for St Mary's (or there is a list to sign in the vestibule at St. Mary's) or Nicky Nightingale [nicholanightingale@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nicholanightingale@hotmail.co.uk) or 8916 9855) for St Francis'.

The sanctuary pedestal at St. Mary's this week has been donated by Margaret Bond in memory of Richard and has been arranged by Beryl.

Items for pew sheet to Beryl [berylbolton@hotmail.com](mailto:berylbolton@hotmail.com) **Deadline is Thursday MIDDAY**

Items for St Mary's website to Gifty [office@stmarywestwickham.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarywestwickham.co.uk)

Items for St Francis' website to Bo [bolaptop1@outlook.com](mailto:bolaptop1@outlook.com)

## 12<sup>th</sup> January, Baptism of Christ

### Collect

Heavenly Father,  
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:  
may we recognize him as our Lord  
and know ourselves to be your beloved children;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

### First Reading: Isaiah 43: 1-7

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.

<sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you when you walk through fire you  
shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

<sup>3</sup>For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.  
I give Egypt as your ransom Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

<sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my sight and honoured, and I love you,  
I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you <sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, 'Give them up',  
and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth <sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my  
name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### **Gospel reading: Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22**

<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

<sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

### **Post Communion**

Lord of all time and eternity,  
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father  
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:  
by the power of your Spirit  
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth  
through the waters of the new creation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

*The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England. Bible reading from the New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicised Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America*