

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

26th January 2025 Third Sunday of Epiphany

Services over the next two weeks

Sunday 26 th January	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St Francis
	9.15 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Mary's
	10. 45 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis
Sunday 2 nd February	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis
	10.00 a.m. Joint Service at St. Mary's

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.
Wednesday at 9:30am	Morning Prayer at St Francis
Wednesday at 10:30am	St Francis' open for private prayer till 11:30am
Thursday at 9am	Morning prayer at St Mary's

Upcoming events

Warm space at St Francis: Wednesday mornings from 10:00am – 2:00pm

Coffee morning at St Francis church on Saturday 1st February 10.30am till 11.30am supporting Action Aid.

Valentine's Lunch at St. Mary's – Saturday 15th February 12.30 pm: This is our annual event organised by the men of St. Mary's for church funds. The cost is £12 per person. You can book your place through Beryl on 0208 289 8097, berylbolton@hotmail.com or by signing the list in St. Mary's vestibule. Numbers will be limited to 40 so book early to avoid disappointment. When booking we need to know if you would like mushroom or tomato soup, and whether you would like cheese, ham or pate with your ploughman. There will also be a raffle.

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. Pauline Jackson, Charlie Smythe, Kim Teare and her family at this difficult time.

Notices

For St. Mary's - this year is the 6 yearly revision of the church electoral roll. All those on the roll will have to fill in the appropriate forms available from Chris Fitzgerald. If there are any parishioners who are not on the roll but would like to be, now is a good time to get an application form as well. This all has to be done and finalised in time for our APCM which is on Sunday 16th March so all forms must be returned to Chris or left on the table at the back of the church by Sunday 9th March.

The December/January edition of The Bridge is live! As always, this edition is packed full of stories and features from across the Diocese, which we hope you will enjoy and be encouraged by. Please feel free to share it with your friends, family and wider community. You can also re-use individual stories for your parish magazines, newsletters and pew sheets (crediting The Bridge, please). The Bridge is also available in print and copies have been distributed directly to each parish.

Thank you to those of you who have got in touch and shared your stories with us over the past year - we look forward to receiving more submissions for future editions. Remember this is your newspaper, so please do send us your stories, high-res photographs and What's On listings. We would also like to hear your thoughts to help us shape the future of the newspaper. Your feedback is important, so please tell us what you think by completing this short survey: <https://forms.office.com/e/p6dsVRH4gw> Don't forget that you can also advertise in The Bridge – contact us for more information and charge rates. Email: bridge@southwark.anglican.org

Read and download The Bridge from: southwark.anglican.org/thebridge

On behalf of **Bromley Borough Foodbank**, I would like to thank everyone from St Francis and St Mary's for your continuing support. You donated an amazing 587.25kg of food and toiletries to the Foodbank in 2024 as well as a cheque for £650. As a result of the generosity and kindness of people like you, we were able to provide emergency food parcels to over 8,000 people, including some 3,000 children, in our community who had no option but to turn to a food bank. Once again, a huge thank you from all of us for ensuring we can continue to support those most in need in the Borough.

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 or 8916 9855) for St Francis'.

The sanctuary pedestal at St. Mary's has been donated by Audrey Tibbles to remember her brother Denis's birthday and arranged by Merri.

Items for pew sheet to Beryl berylbolton@hotmail.com **Deadline is Thursday MIDDAY**

Items for St Mary's website to Gifty office@stmarywestwickham.co.uk

Items for St Francis' website to Bo bolaptop1@outlook.com

26th January Third Sunday of Epiphany

Collect

God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives,
and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen

First Reading: 1 Corinthians: 12: 12 -31a

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?

¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this.

But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Gospel Reading: Luke 4: 14-21

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

Post Communion

Almighty Father,
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
may your people,
illumined by your word and sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory,
that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed
to the ends of the earth;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

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