

ST. MARY OF NAZARETH/ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI – WEST WICKHAM
6th APRIL 2025 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Services over the next two weeks

Sunday 6 th April	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St Francis 10.00 a.m. Joint Service at St. Mary's
Sunday 13 th April	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.
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

St. George's Supper at St. Mary's on Saturday 26th April 7.00 p.m. in the hall. The cost will be £15 per head to include a three course meal of prawn cocktail/melon, roast beef with all the trimmings, trifle and coffee but you must bring your own alcoholic drinks. Numbers will be limited to 40 so please book early to avoid disappointment. There will also be a raffle, and any donations of prizes would be appreciated. All profits will be for church funds. After the meal we will have the usual sing along of patriotic songs with thanks to Geoff. You can book your place through Beryl on berylbolton@hotmail.com or 0208 289 8097 or there is a list in St. Mary's vestibule for you to sign up with your choices. List will be removed after the service on Easter Sunday.

VE Day Afternoon Tea and Songs with Jacqueline Turner: Please come and join us on **Saturday 10th May 2025** between 2.30pm-4.30pm at St Francis of Assisi Church Hall, Ravenswood Avenue, West Wickham for Afternoon Tea and Songs with Jacqueline Turner. Tickets £15.00 per person including a glass of fizz on arrival and are available from Nicky Nightingale – nicholanightingale@hotmail.co.uk or by clicking on this link: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/St-Francis-of-Assisi/t-xmndmyz> We are sure it will be lovely afternoon and hope you can join us.

Please pray for the following people associated with our community

Vicky Pearce, Jane Smith, Rowena Griffiths, Daphne Dack, John Dack, Joan Burford, Pam Tabner, Barbara Goodchild, Marcia Chandler, Tim Curtis. Pauline Jackson, Brian Beadle, Sarah Challenger Francis (Gillian's daughter) and John Richards. Please pray also for the soul of Cheryl Davies and remember Brian, Michelle, Helen and all the family at this sad time.

Notices

"Move the Organ Fund" - We have launched this fund to cover the cost of moving our Organ to its new position. Contributions can be by Cheque (payable to St. Francis), Cash given to David Wada or by Credit Card using the SumUp machine in the Church. The aim is to raise £1500. Any questions, please speak to David.

Will members of St. Mary's who have a **Children's Society Box** please hand in to Dave or Wendy Taylor for the annual count as soon as possible. Thank you.

Emergency Contact Consent Form: We are collecting emergency contact information to ensure that, in case of emergency, we have a way to notify family members or other designated contacts promptly. Providing this information is entirely optional but can help us support you and your family in urgent situations.

St Francis - forms are at the back of the church and once completed, please return to David Wada, Treasurer.

St Mary's – forms are in the vestibule and once completed, please return to Gifty Nortey or Jackie Greatorex.

St Francis – Revision of Electoral Roll: This year is the 6 yearly revision of the church electoral roll for St Francis. Everyone on the current electoral roll will need to complete a form which will be at the back of St Francis from Sunday 9th February through to Sunday 30th March. Once you have completed the form please return to Marion Barry, Electoral Roll Officer. If you have any questions, please speak to Marion. If there are any parishioners who are not on the electoral roll but would like to be, now is a good time to get an application form. The roll has to be completed and finalised by Saturday 12th April ahead of the APCM on Sunday 27th April.

Bromley Food bank – Items required: Tea, Sweets, Cereals, Squash and Washing Up Liquid. Thank you.

Foodbank Table in St Francis: Once a month, we will have a 'Foodbank donation table' at the back of the church for you to bring in your food donations for the Foodbanks that we collect for. Please look out for the next collection date which will be published in advance in the pew sheet and the food items that will be collected. If you have any questions, please contact Nicky Nightingale nicholanightingale@hotmail.co.uk

Collection 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'.

No flowers during Lent.

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

6th April 2025 Fifth Sunday of Lent

Collect

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

First Reading: Philippians 3.4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ¹ the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved¹ I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel reading: John 12. 1-8

12 Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.)

⁷ Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

Post Communion

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever. Amen

The Archbishops' Council of 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