

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

6th OCTOBER 2024 19th Sunday after Trinity

Services over the next two weeks

Sunday 6 th October	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Mary's 10.00 a.m. Joint Service at St. Francis 3.00 p.m. Pet Service at St. Francis
Sunday 13 th October Harvest	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

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 (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

Our **Action Aid coffee morning** will be on the second Saturday this month as the church is unavailable for the usual day. Therefore please come and support us for coffee/tea/cake on **Saturday 12th October at 10.30**. After that you can visit the annual St John's church fair in the hall next door. A good morning out!

Saturday 12th October 7.00 p.m. Harvest Supper at St. Mary's. Last chance to book a place at the supper. Please contact Beryl 0208 289 8097 or berylbolton@hotmail.com if you wish to come along and haven't signed up, by the end of Sunday. The cost is £10.

The Scouts will be holding a Bake Sale in the hall after the Church Parade service at St. Francis on Sunday 13th October at 11:30am. Please donate a cake and come along and eat a cake. Thank you for your support.

Beckenham Chorale presents Faure Requiem Blackford - Mirror of Perfection on Saturday 23rd November 7pm at St George's Church, Beckenham. More details to follow.

Notices

Please pray for the following people associated with our community:

Vicky Pearce, Jane Smith, Rowena Griffiths, Daphne Dack, John Dack, Sue Jones, Barry Burford, Pam Tabner, Barbara Goodchild, Marcia Chandler, Tim Curtis and Pauline Jackson and we remember the family of Keith Earthrowl whose funeral was on 3rd October.

Interregnum update: The adverts have been posted on Pathways and Church Times websites. Let's pray the right person is guided to us. Links below

<https://pathways.churchofengland.org/en/jobs/vicar-of-st-francis-of-assisi-amp-st-mary-of-nazareth-churches-west-wickham-united-benefice/1461>

<https://jobs.churchtimes.co.uk/jobs/Vicar-in-London-and-Home-Counties-in12912>

"**This Sunday at St. Francis**, we will be returning to the normal system of collections with the collection bags being brought to the congregation during the third hymn. Gift Day envelopes can be given at the same time."

More singers are still needed to make a strong choir for the **Big Christmas Sing. (Saturday 7th December at St. Francis' church)**. Details of practices and times, etc., are on posters in church or please see Geoff. N.b. Previous experience is not essential.

"It is time, once again, for the **St Francis Children's Society Boxes** to be opened, and I would be grateful, therefore, if they could either, be brought into church or I could collect them from your home. Many thanks, Christine Morton (020 8777 9213)"

Link to Hope Family and Elderly Shoebox Appeal: This very worthy charity sends shoeboxes from all over the UK to very poor areas in Ukraine, Moldova Romania and Bulgaria. Camilla Johnson from St John's coordinates the donations from this area. I have supported it for some years both by filling shoeboxes with my granddaughters each October Half Term and by helping out at the "Shoebox Superhub and Hospital each Autumn.

I have left leaflets in the vestibule which outline which gifts should go in the shoeboxes. If you would like to support this scheme, I can collect your shoebox from you. The closing date is 8 November. If the thought of filling a shoebox is too daunting any donations which are suitable to go in a shoebox will be very gratefully received.

More details can be found on the "Link to Hope" website. The videos of the people receiving the boxes at Xmas time are very moving as they live in such abject poverty.

Sharon Newman (078117 42062)

Warm space: We are planning to extend the times of the Warm Space at St. Francis so that we are open each Wednesday from November. We hope to be open from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. 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

Community Lunch: For the last 6 years, **Coney Hill Baptist Church** have hosted a Community Lunch on the third Wednesday of each month. However, the volunteer team has become somewhat depleted and it is becoming a struggle to maintain the good standards our guests have become accustomed to. Any offer of help would be greatly appreciated, but specifically we are looking for people who might come and help us clear away at the end of our time together, so to be available just for 2 hours 12-2pm, once a month. If you can help or know anyone who might be interested, please contact either: Christine Milburn (Lunch coordinator) 07943 329962, or Ian Hamlin (minister) 07543 561868.

The Big Christmas Sing Saturday 7th December @ 4.00 p.m. at St. Francis

a Churches Together in West Wickham event, raising funds for Christian Aid.

Geoff Mussard & David Wada have started to organise this year’s Big Christmas Sing in aid of Christian Aid. It will be our 11th. consecutive year.

For it to happen we have to recruit helpers to assist mainly on the day with:

Refreshments, Projection, Welcoming, Seating, Distribution of Christian Aid envelopes and more. Last year we did not have enough helpers resulting in undue strain for ‘the few’.

Some of the tasks listed also need prior preparation, and there are further ways in which help is needed, e.g. in distributing publicity to churches, local shops, etc...

Our choir, based on the West Wickham Choir, will be joined by members of the other churches in West Wickham, with the Choir from Valley Primary School & the Chamber Choir from Hawes Down Primary School. We hope that Jacqueline Turner will also sing

again for us. Choir rehearsals will be on Thursdays 28th November and 5th December at 7.30 at St. Francis.

Please let **Geoff or David** know how you can help as soon as possible and **certainly by 14th. October**, so that the arrangements can be made for things to go ahead.

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.

Foodbank donations to St. Mary's or St Francis' Church. Items needed: tinned vegetables (including tomatoes and potatoes) hot and cold meat tins, cooking sauces, UHT milk, squash, UHT fruit juice and jam. *They have plenty of pasta, cereal, tea and biscuits.* You can also donate financially here: <https://bromleyborough.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money>. Thank you for your continuing support.

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'.

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

October 6th 2024: 19th Sunday after Trinity

Collect

O God, you ever delight to reveal yourself
to the childlike and lowly of heart:
grant that, following the example of the blessed Francis,
we may count the wisdom of this world as foolishness
and know only Jesus Christ and him crucified,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 2: 18-24

¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' ¹⁹ So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹ So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²² And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³ Then the man said, 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.'

²⁴ Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

2nd Reading: Matthew 25: 31-40

³¹ 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." ³⁷ Then the righteous will

answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?"³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing?"³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?"⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

Gospel Reading: Mark 10: 2-16

² Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?'³ He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?'⁴ They said, 'Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.'⁵ But Jesus said to them, 'Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you.⁶ But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female."⁷ "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife"⁸ and the two shall become one flesh." So they are no longer two, but one flesh.⁹ Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.'

¹⁰ Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter.¹¹ He said to them, 'Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her;¹² and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.'

¹³ People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them.¹⁴ But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.¹⁵ Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.'¹⁶ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them

Post Communion

Merciful God,
who gave such grace to your servant St Francis
that he served you with singleness of heart
and loved you above all things:
help us, whose communion with you
has been renewed in this sacrament,
to forsake all that holds us back from following Christ
and to grow into his likeness from glory to glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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