

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

**28<sup>th</sup> April 2024: Fifth Sunday of Easter**

This week we have Holy Communion services at 8am in St Francis' Church, at 9.15am in St Mary's Church and at 10.45am in St Francis' Church.

On **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May** we will have Holy Communion services at 8am in St Francis' Church, and a joint service at 10am in St Mary's Church, which will be Hazel's farewell service.

We meet to **pray for growth of the Church** on Tuesday mornings between 10-11am at 130, The Avenue. Please contact Jean Pogose for more information:

([dennis.pogose@ntlworld.com](mailto:dennis.pogose@ntlworld.com) or 8289-5996).

**Morning Prayer** is held each week in St Francis' Church on Wednesday morning at 9.30am, followed by the church being **open for private prayer** from 10.30-11.30am. It is also held in St Mary's Church on Thursday morning at 9am.

**Resources and updates for the week ahead** – Each week our service is livestreamed on YouTube at 10am or before. All other files for this week have been combined and included in this pew sheet which will be sent on paper to those who have told us that they are not on-line.

**Children's Society Boxes at St. Marys** are due for the annual count. Could all those who have a box please let Dave or Wendy Taylor have them in, or any donations you'd like to make to the Children's Society. Thank you.

The Christian Aid Team have arranged the following events for **Christian Aid Week** to raise money for projects in Burundi, one of the poorest countries in Africa:

- **Saturday 11th May:** Join the **London Freedom Walk**, visiting churches in the City of London. It starts from 12.30pm at All Hallows by the Tower (or you can join later along the route) and finishes at 5pm with an option to experience full Choral Evensong inside St Paul's Cathedral. To take part you might be sponsored or give a donation to Christian Aid. You are welcome to go round the route on your own, or with friends, but if you would like to join us as a group please contact Jonathan Tickner (07774 422120 or [jticknerphoto@gmail.com](mailto:jticknerphoto@gmail.com)). Details of the route, which is just over 5km, are available on the following website: <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/events/london-freedom-walk>.
- **Sunday 12th May: Family Quiz Evening** 7pm at St Mary's Church Hall, The Avenue, West Wickham. Bring your own drinks and snacks, tea and coffee provided. Teams of 6 to 8 - come as a team or join a team when you arrive.

Donations to Christian Aid (suggested minimum £5 per person). There will be a raffle so please bring some small change. Please let us know if you have a team (and how many people) or if you want to join a team on the night - contact Anna Seabrook (07791 106199 or [anna\\_seabrook9@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:anna_seabrook9@yahoo.co.uk))

- **Tuesday 14th May, Film Night** 7pm at St Mary's Church, West Wickham. The film is 'Hidden Figures', a biographical drama about three inspiring black, female mathematicians working on the NASA space Program. Refreshments and popcorn provided. Donations to Christian Aid. Please contact Tony Ivey (07771 942013 or [iveytony@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:iveytony@yahoo.co.uk)) if you would like to come.
- **Saturday 18th May**, 10 am - 2 pm, a **Plant Sale** in the front garden of 80 Kingsway, Coney Hall and an activity for children. Please start sowing seeds and growing plants for this sale. If you have plants available, please contact Julie Lancaster (020 8777 2373 or [julie.lancaster08@gmail.com](mailto:julie.lancaster08@gmail.com)). Plants can be delivered to the front garden of 80 Kingsway 5.30 - 8 pm on Friday 17th May or from 8 am on Saturday 18th May.

We have set up an electronic envelope with Christian Aid to receive donations, which can be gift aided if appropriate. The link is

<https://fundraise.christianaid.org.uk/envelope-2024/west-wickham-cofe-churches>

If you're not so interested in walking a long distance on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May, please do come to the **Children's Society Coffee and Cake Sale** in the hall at St Francis' Church from 10am to 12noon where delicious home-made cakes will be on sale, together with coffee and biscuits, children's amusements, "Guess the weight of the Cake", and a Raffle. Donations of home-made cakes would be very welcome.

On **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 7.45 pm** the Bromley Boy Singers with Travis Baker are performing at St. Francis Church. Doors open at 7.15 p.m. Refreshments wine soft drinks and nibbles will be served at half time. Tickets for sale at £12 with free entry for under 12s from Anita Curtis (telephone 0208 777 5973 or at the Church) and on the door. Tickets also available on line via <https://bromleyboysingers.org.uk>.

### **St Francis of Assisi – APCM – Sunday 19 May 2024**

The St Francis APCM will be held after the service on Sunday 19 May at 11.45am in the church where Churchwardens and PCC members will be elected. All are welcome to attend.

Tickets are available from today for **St. Mary's** fundraising afternoon tea **on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May** at 1.30 p.m. Tickets at £10 (without fizz) £15 (with fizz) can be obtained from Natalie Outten 07941 680369.

**Bromley Borough Foodbank's 2024 AGM** is being held on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** at 7.15pm at Bromley Methodist Church (College Road, BR1 3NS). We are invited to go and to nominate a voting delegate for each church at this event. It is an important event for the foodbank, so it would be good if we could be represented. If you'd like to go, please email your contact details (name, church & email) to the team at: [admin@bromleyborough.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:admin@bromleyborough.foodbank.org.uk)

Please bring **Foodbank donations** to the Vicarage or St Francis' Church. Currently they require 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. Please do not bring any fresh or frozen food, or baby milk as the foodbank cannot pass this on. You can also donate financially here: <https://bromleyborough.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money>. Thank you for your continuing support.

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

Vicky Pearce, Jane Smith, Graham Stone, Rowena Griffiths, Daphne Dack, John Dack, Sue Jones, Barry Burford, Pam Tabner, Mark Christy and Joan Mountain.

Hold before God all those who have lost loved ones recently, praying especially for Jackie Greatorex and the family of Jack Bramwell.

Our last **Women's Event** was a trip to St Paul's Cathedral, and I know some were interested, but could not make it. Here is a link to Kate Bottley's talk and the questions and answers that followed: <https://www.stpauls.co.uk/resources/have-little-faith>

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), pillow slips, tea towels, saucepans, frying pans, bath towel, toothbrushes, etc. Please continue to bring any excess items that you have in cupboards at home.

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'.

Any items for the joint pew sheet to Beryl [berylbolton@hotmail.com](mailto:berylbolton@hotmail.com) and items for the websites to Gifty [office@stmarywestwickham.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarywestwickham.co.uk).

## 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024: Fifth Sunday of Easter

### Collect

Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world  
and the wonder of your risen life:  
give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve,  
to the glory of God the Father.

### First Reading:

#### 1 John 4: 7-21

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup> God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. <sup>15</sup> God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup> So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup> Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup> The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

### Gospel reading:

#### John 15: 1 - 8

<sup>15</sup> 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. <sup>2</sup> He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and

my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:  
grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

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