

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

16th February 2025 3rd SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

A message from Richard: I shall be away and unavailable from February 12th to March 2nd inclusive. Should you need a member of the clergy urgently, Carol will be available with the usual contact details: carol.coslett@southwark.anglican.org ; 020 7939 9456.

Services over the next two weeks

Sunday 16 th February	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
Sunday 23 rd February	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

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

Saturday 22nd March St. Georges Church, Beckenham concert by Beckenham Chorale
Mozart C Minor Mass Exsultate Jubilate. www.ticketsource.co.uk/beckenhamchorale
Tickets £20, £15, £5 to include drink and programme. Online and on door from 6.15pm

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 and Kim Teare and her family at this difficult time. Please pray also for the soul of Charlie Smythe and remember Dot and the family at this sad time.

Notices

Lent 2025: This year we shall once again be running three Lent Groups: one on Mondays at 8 pm, one on Wednesdays at 10.30 am and one on Wednesdays at 8 pm. Numbers in the Monday group are limited because of space. We shall be rerunning the course that we started in 2020, but were unable to complete because of Lockdown, looking at the events of Holy Week through the lens of the BBC serialisation “The Passion,” first seen in Holy Week 2008, starring, amongst others, James Nesbitt, Joseph Mawle and Penelope Wilton. The course will run for five weeks, beginning in the week beginning March 9th for the two evening groups and on the 19th for the morning group. Sign-up lists are now available at the back of both churches.

Easter Egg Evangelism: Again, this year, I shall be bulk ordering the Original Real Easter Egg, the one that contains a 24 page Easter story activity book. I currently need 7 more orders to complete a case, which brings the price down to £5.50 each (single eggs cost £6.20). I’m also happy to order the dark version (6.90 single). There are signing up sheets in both churches, but I’m happy for you to contact me by email (richard.ford73@gmail.com) or phone (02082892432). Richard Ford.

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 David Taylor or Gifty Nortey.

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.

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 by Sunday 9th March.

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

Bromley Food bank – Items required: Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Cold Meats, Tinned Potatoes and Men/Ladies Deodorants. Thank you.

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'.

The sanctuary pedestal St. Mary's this week has been donated by Malcolm Hubbard in memory of Carole whose anniversary occurs at this time 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

16th February 3rd Sunday before Lent

Collect

Eternal God,
whose Son went among the crowds
and brought healing with his touch:
help us to show his love,
in your Church as we gather together,
and by our lives as they are transformed
into the image of Christ our Lord. Amen

First Reading: Jeremiah 17.5-10

Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.

⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹ The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse— who can understand it?

¹⁰ I the Lord test the mind and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways according to the fruit of their doings.

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Reading: Luke 6: 7-26

⁷ The scribes and the Pharisees watched him to see whether he would cure on the sabbath, so that they might find an accusation against him. ⁸ Even though he knew what they were thinking, he said to the man who had the withered hand, 'Come and stand here.' He got up and stood there. ⁹ Then Jesus said to them, 'I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to destroy it?' ¹⁰ After looking around at all of them, he said to him, 'Stretch out your hand.' He did so, and his hand was restored. ¹¹ But they were filled with fury and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus.

¹² Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God. ¹³ And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles: ¹⁴ Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, ¹⁵ and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot, ¹⁶ and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

¹⁷ He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

‘Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ ‘Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

‘Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²² ‘Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ ‘But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ ‘Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

‘Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶ ‘Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

Post Communion

Merciful Father,
who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life,
that those who come to him should never hunger:
draw us to the Lord in faith and love,
that we may eat and drink with him
at his table in the kingdom,
where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen

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