

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

24th November 2024 CHRIST THE KING

A message from Richard: *Following the talk last Sunday, Safeguarding Sunday, by the Southwark Diocesan Advisors on Modern Slavery, I made the following points:*

Safeguarding is of major importance and the responsibility of everyone. If anyone experiences, hears or sees anything at all that concerns them, they should contact the relevant safeguarding officer, in person, in total confidence for the matter to be dealt with. For St Mary's Charlotte Wilson is the safeguarding officer, for St Francis it's Kim Teare.

Services over the next two weeks

Sunday 24 th November	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 1 st December	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Mary's
Advent	10.00 a.m. Joint Service at St. Francis

Services are livestreamed on YouTube during the main services, weekly at St Mary's and whenever possible at St Francis.

December 1st, Advent Sunday: At our joint service at St Francis, we shall be welcoming the Bishop of Croydon, Bishop Rosemarie, to preach and preside at our Holy Communion service. We anticipate that she will join us afterwards to meet with members of the congregation.

Weekly services/Prayers

Tuesday at 10am	Pray for growth of the church held at 130 The Avenue Is taking a break and will recommence on the 26th November.
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

Good news in a changing world: St John's, Layhams Road, our sister church, is holding a **quiet day on Saturday November 30th, 11 am - 4pm**, when you are invited to drop in for some prayer and quiet reflection on the real meaning of Christmas.

Saturday 30th November St. Mary's Christmas Market 10.30 a.m.– 2.30 p.m.

Help is needed this Sunday after the service to bring down the Christmas Market items from the cupboard upstairs. Also, if can help in the evening of Wednesday, 27th to clear the vestibule, then please contact Natalie Outten on Natalieoutten2@ntlworld.com or Tony Ivey on iveytony@yahoo.co.uk Thank you.

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, Pauline Jackson and Jean Pogose.

Notices

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

On the Restoration of the 'Common Cup' (the shared chalice) at the Eucharist

The Church of England has asked us to restore the 'Common Cup', i.e. to return to the practice of receiving the consecrated wine at the Eucharist from a shared chalice.

The Common Cup is important in the celebration of the Eucharist because it is a sign of our unity, both with each other and with Christ.

The Liturgical Commission has expressed the theological ideas behind this as follows. Drinking from a common cup is a strong symbol of unity, and of a Christian's belonging to, and responsibility towards, others and, not least, Christ. Before the crucifixion, Christ prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want' (Matthew 26:39b). The cup from which the communicant drinks is not their own, but Christ's cup of self-sacrificial love.

We shall be returning to the use of a shared chalice from Sunday December 1st Advent Sunday

A few points of detail are set out below:

1. There is absolutely NO OBLIGATION to receive the wine at Communion. We entirely understand that some people may feel anxious about this. If you do not wish to receive the wine, then simply leave the altar rail after you have received the bread (wafer).
2. Intinction by communicants (i.e. dipping the wafer in the wine in the chalice) is not permitted.
3. It would be very rare for a healthy person to get sick just from drinking out of the

common cup.

For members of St Francis, if you have any questions please speak to a member of the PCC as we will be discussing this at the next PCC meeting. For members of St Mary's, do speak to the Ministry Team.

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.

Donations of mince pies or cash in lieu would be much appreciated. Please give to David Wada at St. Francis and Margaret Bond or Kay Mussard at St. Mary's. Thank you. There is a box in the vestibule at St. Mary's for the mince pies and there is a box at the back of St Francis for donations of mince pies and a list for volunteers. If you would like to help with refreshments on the day that would much appreciated. Please add your name to the list or speak to Gill Kehoe.

The second Community Christmas Tree Festival will be held between 14th – 21st December at St Francis Church and we are looking for volunteers to help during the following opening times:

- Saturday 14 December – 10.00am – 1.00pm
- Sunday 15 December – 12.00noon – 3.00pm
- Wednesday 18 December – 10.30am – 1.00pm
- Friday 20 December – 10.00am – 1.00pm
- Saturday 21 December – 10.00am – 1.00pm

If you are able to help either to Welcome and support with any questions or to help serve refreshments (tea/coffee/biscuits) please can you sign up on the sheets available at St Francis and St Mary's or let either Kate Dyer katedyer41@hotmail.com or Nicky Nightingale nicholanightingale@hotmail.co.uk know.

Women's Group Christmas Tree: This year our tree will be decorated with pictures (with names) of great women who have inspired us or are significant to us, famous or not, alive or not. Please do bring along pictures already made up as decorations or bring along the pictures to be made up as decorations. Please drop them into either St Francis or St Mary's over the next 2 weeks ready for the Christmas Tree Festival between 14-21 December. Thank you.

Warm space: This will take place from **10.00 am – 2.00 pm on a Wednesday morning at St Francis** as unfortunately we have been unable to find volunteers to be able to open for longer. 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

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'.

The flowers in the porch and sanctuary at St. Mary's were for baby Louis's baptism last Sunday.

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

November 24th 2024 Christ the King

Collect

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.

First Reading: Revelation 1: 4b-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading: John 18: 33-37

³³ Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' ³⁴ Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' ³⁵ Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?'

³⁶ Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' ³⁷ Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

Post Communion Prayer

Stir up, O Lord

The wills of your faithful people;

That they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,

May by you be plenteously rewarded,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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