

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

4th MAY 2025 EASTER 3

Services over the next two weeks

Sunday 4 th May	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Mary's 10.00 a.m. Joint service at St. Francis <i>Both services taken by the Archdeacon</i>
Sunday 11 th May	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis
See below	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.

Sunday May 11th: This Sunday we shall be joined by Liz and Mike Jeggo, whose work for OMF in Japan is supported by St Francis', as one of their charities. Mike will be preaching at all three services, whilst Liz will be talking at the 9.15am and 10.45am services about their work supporting "returnees" - those Japanese Christians who have come to faith whilst living abroad or who are seeking to know about what it means to be a Christian.

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

Please come and join us on **Saturday 10th May 2025 between 2.30-4.30pm 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>

The next **St Francis & St Mary's Women's Group** evening will take place on **Tuesday 13th May at 8.00pm at St Francis of Assisi Church** where we will be joined by Anna

Khan, CEO of Welcare who will talk about Welcare and how they provide emotional and practical support for children and families experiencing temporary or long-term challenges. As it is also Christian Aid Week there will be a raffle to raise money for Christian Aid. Refreshments will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there.

Churches Together in West Wickham - Christian Aid Week Activities (11-17

May): This year we are once again working closely with St John's and would ask for your support of the following fund-raising activities:

Saturday May 10th: Join the London Freedom Walk (organised by Christian Aid). This year it is a different route, starting at St Martin-in-the Fields at 12 with a short service (or you can join later), visiting different churches in the City of London and finishing at 5 pm with an option to experience full Choral Evensong inside St Paul's Cathedral, a total of 5K. To take part we ask you for sponsorship (Jonathan Tickner, email address below, of St John's has sponsor forms) or 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 a group or want to know more, please contact Jonathan (jticknerphoto@gmail.com or 07774 422120).

Sunday May 11th: St John's Open Church, 2-5 pm, possible activities, yet to be finalised, include bellringing, a guide to the church building and grounds, children's quiz/treasure hunt, brass rubbing, cream teas and cake sale, and viewing parish registers for births, marriages and deaths. Beforehand there will be a bring-and-share lunch at St. John's following the morning service. Please spread the word around to friends and neighbours.

Thursday 15th May 7.10 p.m. at St. Mary's, the film Apocalypto will be shown. It is a 2006 epic historical action-adventure film depicting the Mayans' lives, civilisation, and beliefs in the early 1500. The film is produced and directed by academy award winning actor Mel Gibson and features a cast of indigenous and Mexican actors.

Saturday May 17th: Plant Sale 10 am-2 pm in the front garden of 80 Kingsway, Coney Hall. Please start growing plants and taking cuttings for this and publicise with friends and neighbours. If you can provide plants, please contact Julie Lancaster (julie.lancaster08@gmail.com or 020 8777 2373). Plants can be delivered to the front garden of 81 Kingsway (NOTE: This is the opposite side of the road) 5.30-8 pm on Friday May 16th or from 8 am on Saturday May 17th to the front garden of 80 Kingsway.

Saturday May 17th: Auction of Promises 7 pm at St John's with tea /coffee and biscuits. Open to members of St Francis', St John's and St Mary's, but we will invite other churches too. A list of promises (e.g. gardening, cleaning, taxi, babysitting, ironing, language/IT skills lessons (anyone offering support with Windows 11 gratefully received!), meals, cakes/bread, paintings etc) will be collated and circulated, with people able to put in sealed bids beforehand if

they can't attend.

May sees the start of our **Lunchtime Concerts at St. Francis**. On **Thursday May 22nd at 12.45pm** we have a flute and string trio playing for us. Free admission and tea/coffee served beforehand as always.

Just a reminder to everyone about the **Garden Party on Saturday 14th June from 11.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. at St. Mary's**. **Message from Chris Fitzgerald:** If anyone has any bedding plants to contribute to plant stall please bring along on the day. Thanks Natalie

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.

Notices

Thank you to Caroline and Bo who have offered to take over the gardening at St. Francis and will attend to it as and when they have the time. If anyone else feels they too could help, please contact Caroline and Bo. Valerie Hamilton

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.

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

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 bo@manusmedical.com

4th MAY 2025 EASTER 3

Collect

Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life
and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.

First Reading: Acts 9: 1-20

9 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' ⁵ He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' ⁷ The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' ¹¹ The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' ¹³ But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.'

¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel reading: John 21: 1-9

21 After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' ⁶ He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. ⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread.

Post Communion

Living God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples
in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in all his redeeming work;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

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