

ST. MARY OF NAZARETH/ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI – WEST WICKHAM
8th DECEMBER 2024 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Services over the next two weeks

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| Sunday 8 th December | 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis |
| St. Mary's Patronal | 9.15 a.m. Morning Praise at St. Mary's |
| | 10.45 a.m. Morning Worship at St. Francis |
| Sunday 15 th December | 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 |

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

Weekly services/Prayers

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| 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

Christmas Tree Festival at St. Francis 14th to 21st December. See item under notices.

Community Christmas Lunch at St Francis' on Sunday 15th December: We are looking for raffle prizes for the Community Christmas Lunch with the money raised going to Zimbabwe.

Christingle service on 24th December at St Mary's: If anyone at St Mary's would like to donate towards the cost of the Christingles, please give to either of the Churchwardens or, if you prefer to buy some sweets, it's jelly babies or any other **soft** small sweets to put on the cocktail sticks. Thank you.

4th January 2025 next Action Aid Coffee Morning

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

'Other Earth' Christmas Tree Scheme: St Francis' are participating in the 'Other Earth' Christmas Tree scheme this year. They have included St Francis on their website www.otherearth.co.uk. Order online and select 'St Francis Church West Wickham' as the charity and we will receive a £5 donation from the company. Customers will have the option to choose between free local delivery or click and collect their tree from Bromley FC. Visit Bromley Football Club from 9.30 a.m. Monday to Sunday or buy online.

Nominate a charity for the 12 days of giving draw: Please can you vote for St Francis of Assisi to get the opportunity receive £1,000 which will be very useful for St Francis by using the below link: [Movement for Good - Nominate a charity for an award](#). Many thanks David Wada

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.

Once again **Kay and Geoff** have offered to **deliver Christmas cards locally** for those from St. Marys not able to get out. Please contact Kay or Beryl when your cards are ready, and they will arrange to pick them up. They must be with Kay and Geoff by the **15th December.**

If anyone at **St. Mary's** could provide a few **cakes for the tea after the Carol Service** on the 22nd of December at 4.00 p.m. it would be much appreciated.

Please encourage children to bring a small toy along with them on **Christmas Day** to the 10am Family Communion service at **St Francis**. Maybe something they found during early morning stocking present unwrapping!

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.

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 at St, Mary's this week has been provided by Joan Baker in memory of Peter 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

December 8th Second Sunday of Advent

Collect

Almighty God,
who looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin
Mary and chose her to be the mother of your only Son:
grant that we who are redeemed by his blood
may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen

First Reading: Luke 1: 46- 55

46 Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord,
47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
48 for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
50 His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
51 He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
52 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
53 he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
54 He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel reading: Luke 2:1-7

1 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 All went to their own towns to be registered. 4 Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5 He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God**Post Communion**

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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