

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

11th MAY 2025 EASTER 4

Services over the next two weeks

Sunday 11 th May	8.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis 9.15 a.m. Morning Praise at St. Mary's 10.45 a.m. Morning Worship at St. Francis
Sunday 18 th May	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.

Sunday May 11th: Today 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 9.15 and 10.45 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 along to our next **Women's Group evening on Tuesday 13th May at 8.00pm at St Francis of Assisi Church**, Ravenswood Avenue, West Wickham. We will be joined by Anna Khan, Chief Executive Officer of Welcare, a family support charity working with families and children up to the age of 13 in South London and East Surrey. Anna will share information on Welcare and how they provide emotional and practical support for children and families experiencing temporary or long-term challenges. We will also have a raffle to raise money for Christian Aid Light refreshments will be provided and we look forward to seeing you.

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.

There will be a Children's Society Coffee and Cake Sale on Saturday 24th May, 2025 in the hall at St Francis's Church from 10.00am to 12.00 noon. Delicious homemade cakes will be on sale, together with coffee and biscuits, children's amusements, 'Guess the weight of the Cake' and a raffle. Donations of homemade cakes would be very welcome.

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 s

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

11th MAY 2025 EASTER 4

Collect

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.

First Reading: Acts 9: 36-43

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading: John 10: 22-30

²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' ²⁵ Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one.

Post Communion

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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