

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

WEST WICKHAM

PARISH MAGAZINE



April/May 2021

50 pence

THE CHURCH OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI
RAVENSWOOD AVENUE WEST WICKHAM KENT BR4 0PW

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REGULAR SERVICES

ONCE RESUMED

SUNDAY

- 8.00 am Holy Communion**
1st & 3rd Sundays at St Mary's Church, The Avenue
2nd Sundays at St Francis' Church
4th & 5th Sundays vary – See calendar for details
- 10.45 am Parish Communion**
Activities for younger children (aged 3+) and crèche facilities in church
- 10.45 am 2nd Sunday– Worship for All Ages (non–Eucharistic)**
- 10.00 am Last Sunday – Joint Family Communion**
with St Mary's, held alternately at each church
See calendar for details

WEDNESDAY

- 9.30 am Morning Prayer**
10.45 am Holy Communion

THURSDAY

- 9.00 am Morning Prayer**

SATURDAY

- 9.00 am – 10.00 am Church open for quiet and prayer**

During April and May on–line and paper–based resources for worship at home will be circulated each week in addition to some services taking place in person. At the time of going to print, the following services are planned in church but this is subject to change at short notice, dependent on local restrictions arising from the Coronavirus pandemic.

APRIL 2021

Planned Services as at 18 March

On-line and paper-based resources for worship at home will continue to be circulated each week in addition to services taking place in person. At the current time, the following services are planned in the church buildings, but this is subject to change at short notice, dependent on local restrictions arising from the Coronavirus pandemic.

Date	Readings	Video Material		In Person
		Talk	President/Lead	
Thurs 1 April <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	CTWW Reflection – Jon Ward			
	Mark 14: 17-End	Debbie	Hazel	7.30 pm at St M Hazel
	On-line provision via Livestream			
Friday 2 April <i>Good Friday</i>	Combined CTWW Reflections available at 11.00 am as premiere			
	11.00 am at St F – The Nail Meditations: Brian 2.00 pm at St M – Crosslight film and prayers: Ken & Richard			
Sat 3 April	CTWW Reflection – Ian Hamlin			
Sun 4 April <i>Easter Sunday</i>	CTWW Reflection – Hazel			
	Acts 10:34-43 Mark 16:1-8	Hazel	Hazel	9.15 am at St M Hazel 10.45 am at St F – Richard
	Livestream 9.15 am service for on-line provision			
Wed 7 April	St Francis' Open for Private Prayer			
Sun 11 April <i>(Easter 2)</i>	John 20:19-end	Richard	Richard	8.00 am at St F Richard 10.00 am at St M – Richard
	Livestream 10.00 am service for on-line provision			
	St Francis' Open for Private Prayer			
Wed 14 April	St Francis' Open for Private Prayer			
Friday 16 April	Messy Church at Home			

APRIL 2021 continued

Sun 18 April Theme: Thanks <i>(Easter 3)</i>	Acts 3:12-19 Luke 24:36b-48	Ken	Richard	8.00 am at St M Hazel 10.00 am at St F – Richard
	11.30 am – St Mary's APCM on Zoom and in church?			
21 April	St Francis' Open for Private Prayer			
Sun 25 April Theme: Generosity <i>(Easter 4)</i>	Acts 4:5-12 John 1:11-18	Gabby Parikh	Hazel	8.00 am at St F Hazel 10.00 am at St M – Hazel
	On-line provision via Livestream			
Wed 28 April	St Francis' Open for Private Prayer			



MAY 2021

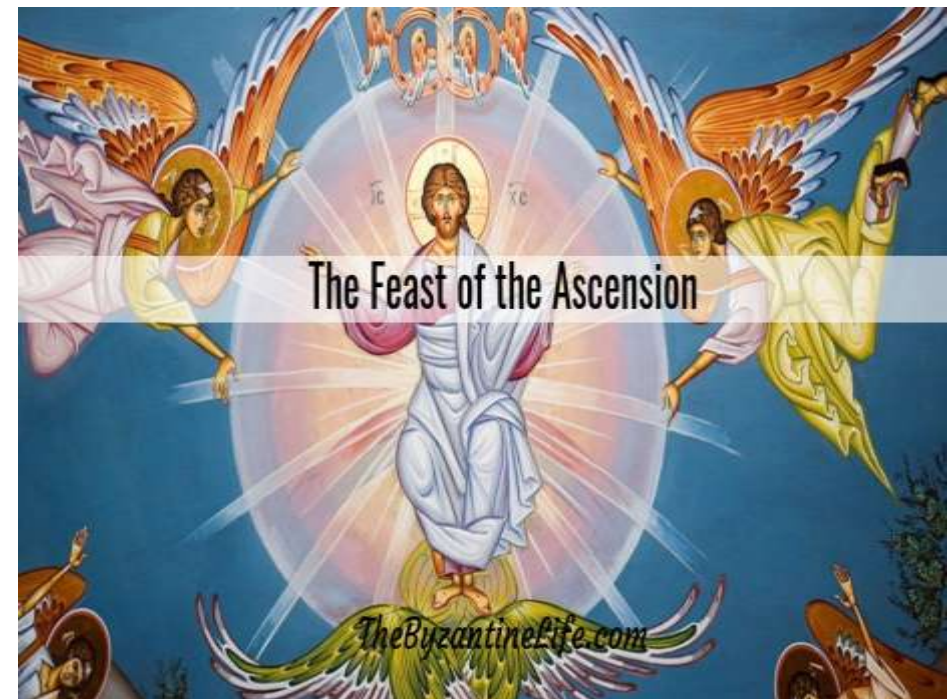
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Date	Readings	Video Material		In Person
		Talk	President/Lead	
Sun 2 May Vision Sunday (Easter 5)	Acts 8:26-end John 15:1-8 <i>Non-Eucharistic</i>	Hazel	Hazel	8.00 am at St M Hazel 10.00 am on Zoom
On-line provision via Zoom				
Wed 5 May	St Francis' Open for Private Prayer			
Sun 9 May Giving Sunday (Easter 6)	Acts 10:44- end John 15:9-17	Hazel	Richard	8.00 am at St F Hazel 10.00 am at St M Richard
On-line Provision via Livestream 11.30 am – St Francis' APCM on Zoom and in church				
Wed 12 May	St Francis' Open for Private Prayer			
Thurs 13 May Ascension Day	TBD			
Fri 14 May	Messy Church at home			
Sat 15 May	Christian Aid Week Event?			
Sun 16 May Christian Aid Sunday (Easter 7)	Acts 1: 15-17, 21-end John 17:6-19	Richard	Hazel	8.00 am at St M Richard 10.00 am at St F Hazel
Wed 19 May	St Francis' Open for Private Prayer			
Sun 23 May Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21 John 15:26-27 16:4b-15	Brian*	Hazel*	8.00 am at St F Hazel 10.00 am at St M Hazel
On-line provision via Livestream				
6.00 pm – CTWW Service and AGM at Emmanuel Church				

MAY 2021 continued

Date	Readings	Video Material		In Person
		Talk	President/Lead	
Wed 26 May	St Francis' Open for Private Prayer			
Sun 30 May Trinity Sunday	Isaiah 6:1-8 Rom 8:12-17 John 3:1-17	Ken	Hazel	8.00 am at St M Hazel 10.00 am at St F Hazel



Holy Week

This year Holy Week will clearly need to be different, with our church buildings likely to be opening up for public worship at the start of this week. Our plan is for the following services to be held:

- Palm Sunday: 8.00 am communion at St Francis' Church
10.00 am communion at St Mary's Church
- Wednesday 31: Communion at 10.45 am in St Francis' Church
- Maundy Thursday: Communion at 7.30 pm in St Mary's Church
- Good Friday: Service of the Word including additional
Mediations from "The Nail" at 11.00 am in
St Francis' Church
Showing of the film *Crosslight* from The Riding
Lights Theatre Company with prayers at
2.00 pm in St Mary's Church
- Easter Sunday: 9.15 am communion at St Mary's Church
10.45 am communion at St Francis' Church

There will also be on-line services for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday, as well as a compilation of the Churches Together reflections available on Good Friday.

Hazel

Churches Together in West Wickham – Holy Week Reflections

From Sunday 28 March to Sunday 4 April one of our ministers will present a video to help you reflect on the following themes during the week:

- Palm Sunday – Entry into Jerusalem
- Monday – Jesus in the temple
- Tuesday – Foot washing
- Wednesday – Last supper
- Maundy Thursday – Peter's denial
- Good Friday – Crucifixion
- Holy Saturday – Jesus' burial
- Easter Sunday – Resurrection

You can watch each reflection at any time during the day on the Churches Together YouTube channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPSc8fwp4LwP5KOWD-ByExQ>. We may also have links from our own church websites.

Hazel

Prayer Cycle

We pray for those who live on:

Boleyn Gardens; Braemar Gardens; Bramley Way; Cavendish Way; Chamberlain Crescent; Chatsworth Lodge; Chessington Way; Christie House; Dixon Place.

In our cycle of prayer for other churches in West Wickham, we pray for the people at Hawes Lane Methodist Church and West Wickham and Shirley Baptist Church.

We pray for the continuing pandemic and ask for:

- God's blessing on all those key workers who have continued in their work during this time, putting themselves at risk;
- wisdom for our government and health and scientific advisers as they help us to become free of our current restrictions while remaining safe;
- comfort for those whose medical care may have been affected by the pandemic and for those who have lost loved ones during the past year.

We pray for each of the projects in Southwark being supported by the Bishop's Lent Appeal:

- Local food banks in Redhill, Wandsworth, Norwood and Brixton which provide emergency food, support and advice to people who have been pulled into poverty and hardship, showing that hidden poverty is an acute problem in the local community, with needs everywhere, even in relatively wealthy areas.
- LewCAS which provides food parcels, clothing and basic household supplies to refugees and asylum seekers, campaigning on their behalf and praying for justice and a loving response to their needs.
- Projects in Bermondsey and Camberwell which offer a warm main meal, activities and reading for children during the school holidays.

Pray for the country of Zimbabwe and our link church of St Andrews in Gweru, who have experienced a sharp drop in GDP, hyper-inflation, deindustrialisation, closure of industries, large-scale lay-offs and disruption of public services. The consequential food insecurity has been exacerbated by climate change: whilst the rains have come this year after previous droughts, there is now a danger that the crops will be washed away because of too much constant rain.

Dear Friends

As we begin to come out of lockdown, it's a bit like starting a new life. Our first week back worshipping in the church buildings is likely to be Holy Week and so thinking about new life, which we will do so at Easter, seems very appropriate. We will also follow Easter with a time of looking back over the past year and forwards to how we might outreach into our community more in the future at our annual meetings, which will happen on 18 April for St Mary's and on 9 May for St Francis'. At a recent meeting of the Vision Group, the following verse seemed very relevant:

Isaiah 43:19 – I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

The recent National Day of Reflection on 23 March had three themes, which I think will tie in with this period:

Reflect: While we want to look forward to better times, we mustn't forget what has happened and how it has exposed some aspects of our society which could be improved.

Support: There are many in our community of West Wickham who will need support in the months ahead:

- Some will be anxious, especially older people and those who have been shielding. Even with the vaccine someone may be wary of going out when so much time has been spent at home.
- Those who are grieving (whether they have lost loved ones due to COVID or some other reason) will be feeling a loss and probably some loneliness. Being able to share this experience

with others is not easy, so if we can provide opportunities to do so, this might be helpful.

- One in five people in the UK (and 30% of children) live in poverty and our continued support of the Foodbank and other organisations who can help will be critical to reducing division in our society.

Hope: If our new life is better than what we had before, then we can also bring hope to others, just as Jesus brought hope to his disciples through his resurrection.

Many of the issues that we will face in the future can be made easier if we act together with others and in step with God. A first step in being able to do this has to be about sharing our stories of where we believe that God is at work amongst us. Please do send me any stories that you want to share (of good experiences, of being supported through a difficulty, or of feeling God's presence with you), so that we can get a greater sense of what is going on in this place. You can request that your story is anonymous if you'd prefer to keep it that way.

I wish you all a safe and Happy Easter.

Hazel

Opening up our Church Buildings

After Holy Week and Easter Sunday our church buildings will be open for public worship and private prayer in line with the pattern that was established last year before the latest lockdown:

- 8.00 am communion service alternating between St Mary's (first Sunday of each month) and St Francis'.
- 10.00 am service alternating between St Mary's and St Francis' in the other building.
- Wednesday morning provision for private prayer at St Francis' Church.

This will enable us to hold services without a need to clean in between, except where additional events, such as the APCMs, are held.

Thy Kingdom Come

Between Ascension Day (Thursday 13 May) and Pentecost (Sunday 23 May), there may be some activity connected with *Thy Kingdom Come*, which is a movement that has grown since 2016 into an international and ecumenical call to prayer. Do get involved and find out the power of prayer.

Hazel

Christian Aid Representation

Christian Aid Week this year is from 10-16 May and focusses on Climate Justice. We will not have a door-to-door collection, but (physical and virtual) envelopes can be given to friends and neighbours and there will be a collection point noted. We will focus on Christian Aid at our service on Sunday 16 May. Carol Hubbard has stepped down as our representative at St Mary's and Anita Curtis from St Francis' will be unable to co-ordinate our efforts this year. If we are to contribute to Churches Together in West Wickham in this respect and record how much we raise, we will need to have someone else as our representative. If anyone is interested in finding out more (and the role need include only those aspects which someone is able to take on), please contact either Anita Curtis on 020 8777 5973 (john.curtis23@ntlworld.com) or me.

Hazel

Telling Our Stories

For those who have followed the Live Lent material this year, you will know that it has been all about telling God's story by telling our own stories. Do pick up a booklet from church if you would like to find out more about this. As I said in this month's letter, it will be helpful to hear some of these stories over the next few months, so that you can get the feel for where God might be at work in your own life and in other people's lives, so enabling your interactions with others to include some of these stories.

Here's one to get us started from Tony Ivey:

Finding God outside the Church

In January I was working on a mobile installation with equipment in a BT transmission room and in a cabin on a roof. I had the

easy task working inside, while Josh, a younger guy, was given the roof assignment with an assistant (Health & Safety policy states that working on a flat roof involves two man working). This person arrived late, and all he had was a plastic Tesco bag where he kept his boots – he had no helmet, no hi-viz jacket and he looked totally un-prepared. To top it all, he said he was an electrician. I was not impressed.

During the day, I was talking to Josh about another colleague, Everon, who died suddenly at only 49 years old just before Christmas. I said how we'd prayed for him, but he is gone. The electrician asked whether I was a Christian, which I confirmed, and later he said he would pray for me before we left.

When I completed my task, I went to assist Josh on the roof. The weather was not great – wind, rain and very cold. The last place I wanted to be was on a roof! To complicate matters the cabin where the equipment was being installed was on an adjacent building and to get to it, you had to use a metal ladder, going up, over and down to the other roof, being careful not to slip. As I started to use the ladder the electrician, being impatient, decided to come down it and accidentally crush my hand, making me even less impressed by him.

We completed the work and I told the electrician I was leaving, thanking him for his assistance. As we both came out of the cabin onto the roof he started to pray, asking God to look over me and my family, as well as quoting scripture in between his prayers. His prayer really flowed and I felt the Holy Spirit come over me. He ended his prayer, winked and said, "You didn't expect that, did you?"

A month later I spoke to Josh and mentioned our electrician friend. We agreed he was a character, with his lack of PPE. Josh said that apart from his boots, he had several cans of beer in the bag. The more I think about it, it seems that our friend probably needed praying for more than me, but he gave his time to pray for me amongst the rain, wind and cold.

It's not often that someone prays for you in the workplace. I'm sure God sent him to me.

slr

Hazel

News from Zimbabwe – February 2021

As with most countries, combating Covid is high on the list of Zimbabwe's priorities. After a sharp rise at the turn of the year, the numbers of cases and deaths began to reduce at the beginning of February. In total, up to the beginning of February, there had been 34,781 cases reported, with around 1,300 deaths. These deaths have included three government ministers as well as a significant number in Croydon's link-diocese of Central Zimbabwe. As in this country, medical resources have been put under considerable pressure.

Schools and churches were closed in early January and were remaining closed until mid-February at the earliest, with only essential services continuing. As a consequence of the closure, churches are struggling financially and anticipate that when reopening is allowed, numbers will be restricted.

The political situation remains problematical, with the economy continuing to struggle.

Sadly, when the much need rains eventually came, they came with a vengeance, leading to floods, and people in Gweru, where our link parish of St Andrew is situated, lost their homes in the flooding and had to shelter in community halls.

Under the leadership of Bishop Ignatius, who used to be the parish priest at St Andrew's, the Diocese of Central Zimbabwe has a number income-generating projects underway: St Patrick's Farm has a healthy looking herd of cows; Harbern Park is producing butternuts and green mealies, the sale of which raised 5440 US dollars; a feasibility study has just been completed for establishing a solar farm to supply all the electricity at the Mission and the diocese has become actively involved in gold mining, which is on the increase in Zimbabwe.

The diocese is also involved in improving access to water through drilling and equipping boreholes, including one in St Andrew's parish.

Additionally the church plays its part in supporting the local community, with 300 food hampers distributed in the diocese, 100 vulnerable households supplied with seed maize and fertiliser and 23 families in Gweru supported both spiritually and physically following displacement by flooding caused by Cyclone Elois.

The former St Patrick's Clinic has now opened as a hospital, run by the diocese, and this is one of the projects which the Croydon-Zimbabwe Link has been supporting financially in recent years.

Revd Ronald Chikuyo, whom we were just beginning to get to know as Ignatius Makumbe's successor at St Andrew's, has now been moved to St Chad's in Shrugwi as part of an exciting plan to plant a mission church near one of the mining projects mentioned earlier. Before leaving, his wife, Constance, gave birth to a baby son, Giovanni, born in July last year, a brother for daughter, Darlene, now aged around three.

As I write this, I am acutely aware of how much of what might be regarded as the responsibility of government or industry is undertaken by the church – clearly a daunting responsibility, but also an opportunity to demonstrate God's love in offering care to the wider community. Do keep Zimbabwe, and especially St Andrew's, in your prayers.

Richard

Greetings to all at St Francis' Church from Sister Abba

Thank you so much for all your prayers and support for the Eye Clinic in Jachie, Ghana. Your recent overseas mission financial support has been invaluable in providing them with extra personal protection equipment for staff and patients and also extra hand washing stations and gel. Sr Abba has been able to provide emergency cover and reduced clinic activities during the pandemic, and also continues to carry out surgery with locum ophthalmologists every two weeks. She is still praying for a replacement permanent ophthalmologist as the previous contract finished last year.

Sr Abba has managed to keep all her staff during the pandemic and divided them into teams to facilitate this. It has been especially challenging to maintain social distancing and keep everyone safe! The local Anglican church St Andrew's continues to provide the usual services with lots of singing and dancing and apparently they don't wear masks either.

Sr Abba spent some time in January visiting the children she supports in the school for the blind in Acropong (5 hours away).

The photo shows her with a lady called Nana who has recently graduated as a teacher and is about to start her new job in the Western Province. Nana was born blind into the royal family in Jachie, but rejected by her parents as blindness is regarded as a taboo there, even sadly amongst the educated.

Some good news and hope for the future. Last week Sr Abba and all her staff had the first AstraZeneca-Oxford vaccine with the second dose booked for one month's time.

Thank you all once again and please continue to remember Sr Abba and the Anglican Eye clinic in your prayers.

Best wishes and blessings to you all.



Sister Abba with Nana

(Provided by Gill Taylor-Ingle)

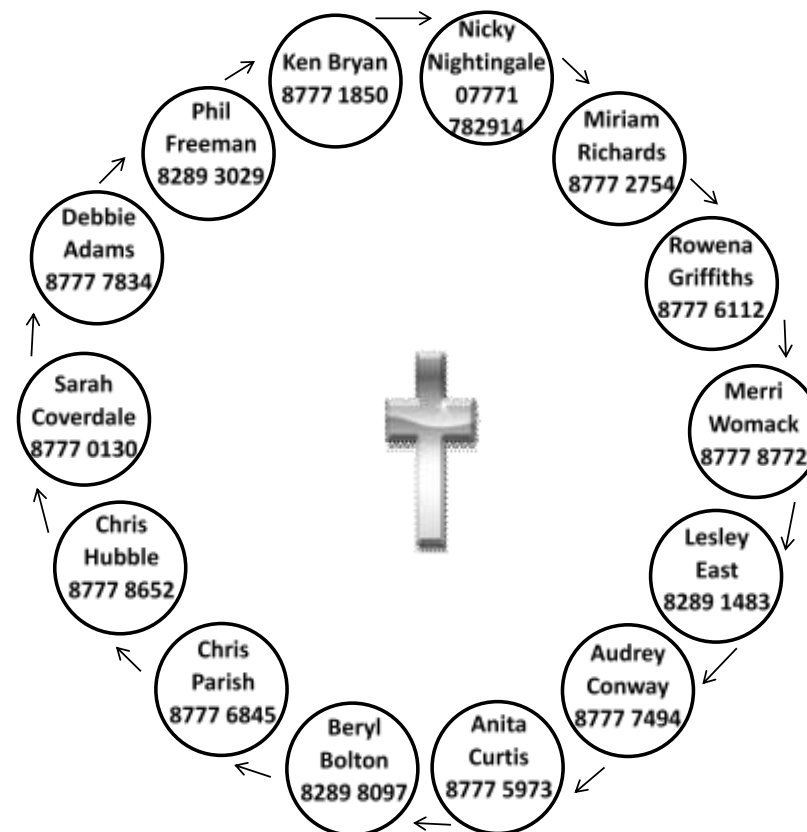
St Francis' & St Mary's Prayer Chain

Many people find they are given strength and peace of mind when they know that they, or their loved ones, are being prayed for – and the more people who are praying for someone, the better!

If you would like prayer for yourself, please call anyone on the chain below and they will pass a message on around the circle. If you would like prayer for someone you know, please get their permission first.

If you would like a name added to the intercessions list in our services (which will be on-line as well as in-person), please state this when you make contact.

Hazel





Bishop Richard writes . . .

As we emerge slowly from the grip of the Coronavirus pandemic with all its impact in terms of grief and loss, exhausted health and care workers, collapsed businesses, missed education, concerns for the future of our churches, and real weariness, perhaps the biggest challenge of all is yet to come.

I do not mean by this the possibility of yet another wave of infection, but rather the need to re-frame much of how we live. There has been considerable talk, thought and action under the heading of “building back better” or “re-imagining” our lives, or the “new normal”.

The pandemic has undoubtedly exposed many of the deep fractures and fault lines of our lives and world and not least in the areas of economic, racial and environmental justice and equality. There is deep thinking going on about what it means for all of us to live well, what the “good life” actually consists of. This offers a tremendous opportunity which we need to embrace wholeheartedly. The whole of the month of March falls during Lent, which offers us a potentially fruitful time to do just this.

Lent is a season in our Christian year in which we are particularly called to examine our lives, seek forgiveness of God and others for our sins, and amend our lives more in line with the two great commandments to love God and to love our neighbours as ourselves.

Sometimes our Lenten practices can be reduced to a rather negative giving up of minor luxuries, but it is properly something which lies at the heart of Christian life. This is summed up by the word repentance, which not only means saying sorry but also involves a real reorientation of our lives in accordance with God’s way of love. It is something we need to do not just in Lent, but each day of our lives.

One important element of Lent is to remember the time spent by Jesus in the wilderness, which itself recalled the wilderness time of the people

of Israel before they entered the Promised Land. Although it was a time of much deprivation and isolation, it was also a time to remember the primacy of worshipping God, and not the many idols we create; of trusting above all else in God’s saving love working in our lives rather than simply our own human efforts; and of the importance of our spiritual life as well as our material well-being. It was undoubtedly a hard time, but also one of real growth. In short, we can learn and develop much in our “wilderness times”.

This year the enormous impact of the pandemic, which in some ways might be seen as a “wilderness time”, reinforces and emphasises the importance of this process of repentance and reorientation. We need to resist the very real and understandable temptation simply to revert to exactly how things used to be pre-pandemic.

There will, of course, be much we do want to regain and especially our social contact, but there are also many aspects of 21st-century life that need to change radically if we are to see a world of greater equality, justice, opportunity and flourishing, not just of human life, but of all God’s creation.

Lent offers us a real opportunity to re-set our lives, and especially our relationship with God, ourselves, each other and our world. As we move through this season and into Holy Week and Easter, let us pray that our lives, and that of our Church and World, will be ever more deeply shaped by the saving love of God made known in Christ’s life, death and resurrection.

✠Richard Kingston



The Dean of Southwark has written the following prayer which you may wish to use

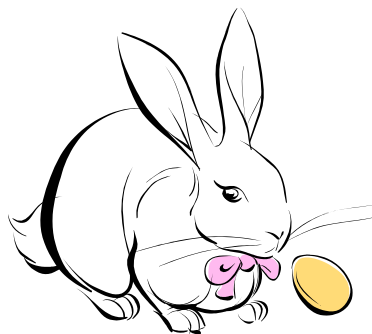
Please pray for all who are involved in the response to this crisis worldwide.

Loving God,
Source of healing and comfort,
Fill us with your grace,
That the sick may be made whole,
That those who care for us may be strengthened,
That the anxious may be calmed,
And those most vulnerable be protected
In the power of Spirit
In the faith of
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

June/July Magazine

Items for inclusion in the next magazine are needed by Sunday 9 May
Please email them to Margaret Green or telephone her to make alternative arrangements.

Tel: 01793 537888 or email: magletitiagreen@hotmail.com



Subscription for the Parish Magazine in 2021

During 2021 there will be six editions of the magazine, each covering two calendar months, costing 50p each. It helps us if you are able to subscribe for the year, at a cost of £3.00 (or £7.50 for a postal subscription). Please complete the form below and return it with a cheque or cash to your magazine distributor or Nicky Nightingale or David Wada (Church Treasurer).

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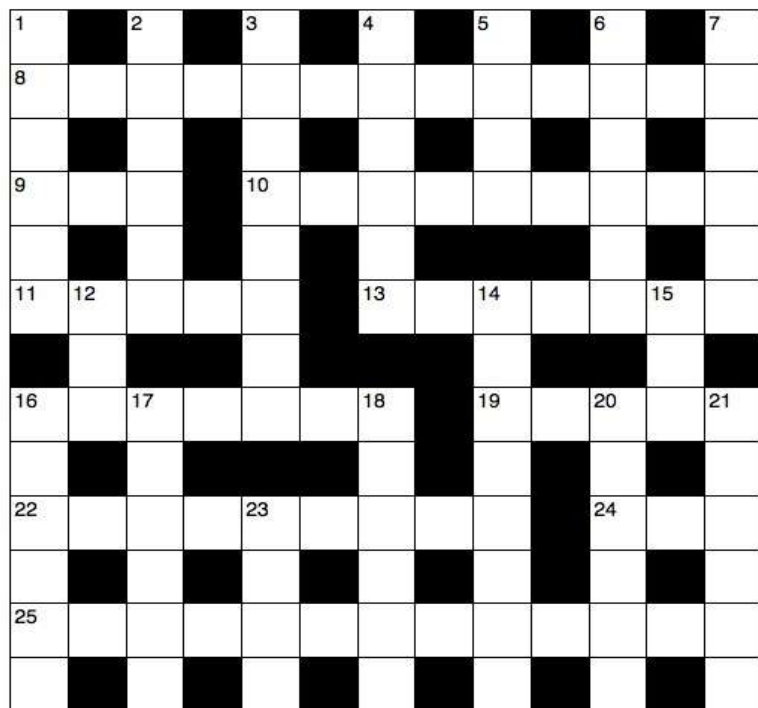
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** Please delete as applicable*

(Cheques made payable to St Francis' Church, West Wickham)



Bible Crossword for April/May



Clues

Across

- 8 'He poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the —' (Isaiah 53:12) (13)
- 9 'When they had sung a hymn, they went — to the Mount of Olives (Matthew 26:30) (3)
- 10 Comes between Galatians and Philippians (9)
- 11 'Your heart will — and swell with joy' (Isaiah 60:5) (5)
- 13 Muslim holy month (7)
- 16 Ten ears (anag) (7)
- 19 Under (poetic abbrev) (5)
- 22 How Abram described himself to God when he complained that his inheritance would pass to a servant (Genesis 15:2) (9)

- 24 'Go to the — , you sluggard' (Proverbs 6:6) (3)
- 25 Debar from receiving Communion (13)

Down

- 1 My — for His Highest (Oswald Chambers' best-known book) (6)
- 2 Festival of the resurrection (6)
- 3 'His sons will prepare for war and — a great army' (Daniel 11:10) (8)
- 4 'Let not the — string his bow' (Jeremiah 51:3) (6)
- 5 Name of the River Thames in and around Oxford (4)
- 6 'From then on Judas watched for an opportunity — — him over' (Matthew 26:16) (2,4)
- 7 'But Christ is faithful — — — over God's house' (Hebrews 3:6) (2,1,3)
- 12 Long-handled implement used to till the soil (Isaiah 7:25) (3)
- 14 Order to which monks and nuns devote themselves (8)
- 15 Appropriate (Proverbs 15:23) (3)
- 16 I, uncle (anag) (6)
- 17 'They gave him — — of broiled fish' (Luke 24:42) (1,5)
- 18 'Weren't there three men that we — — and threw into the fire?' (Daniel 3:24) (4,2)
- 20 Mountain where Noah's ark came to rest (Genesis 8:4) (6)
- 21 'Don't you know that friendship with the world is — towards God?' (James 4:4) (6)
- 23 Prominent architectural feature of large cathedrals such as St Paul's (4)



Crossword Solutions for February/March

O		H		I		E		O		O		A
C	R	O	S	S	E	X	A	M	I	N	E	D
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	B			S				L				W
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S	O	V	E	R	E	I	G	N	L	O	R	D
H		E		E		T		G		W		E

Sudoku for April/May

	5	7		8	9	2	1	
3			7			9		6
	4	9	2					
	6		1				3	
	1						8	
	9				3		5	
					1	8	2	
9		1			4			5
	3	4	5	6		7	9	

Sudoku Solutions for February/March

1	5	8	9	4	6	7	2	3
2	6	4	3	8	7	9	1	5
9	3	7	5	1	2	4	6	8
4	1	6	8	5	9	3	7	2
5	9	3	2	7	4	6	8	1
8	7	2	6	3	1	5	9	4
6	4	5	1	9	8	2	3	7
7	2	1	4	6	3	8	5	9
3	8	9	7	2	5	1	4	6

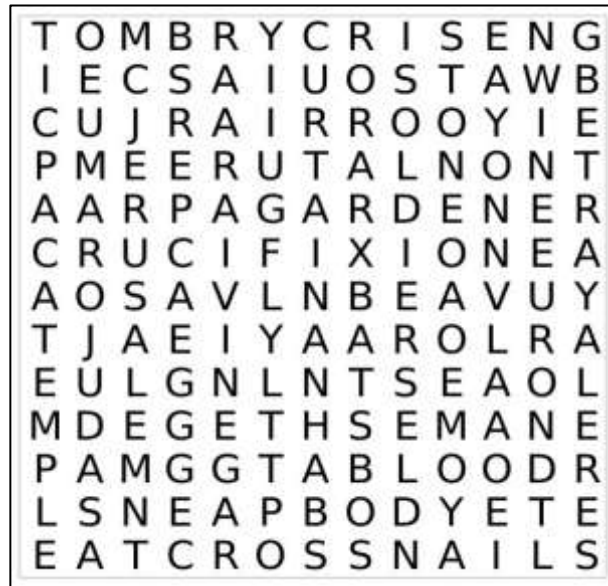
Word Search Clues for April/May

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah! April brings us to Easter – the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ – the triumphant highlight of the Christian year. As St Paul pointed out, unless Jesus really did rise again, our faith is useless, and we may as well forget any hope of heaven or eternal life.

Words to Find		
Angel	Gardener	Risen
Betrayal	Gethsemane	Soldiers
Blood	Jerusalem	Stone
Body	Judas	Temple
Bread	Mary	Tomb
Cross	Nails	Trial
Crucifixion	Passover	Vinegar
Curtain	Pilate	Wine

Word Search for April/May

7



Word Search Solutions for February/March



Easter Quiz

- Who plays Hannah Brown in the 1948 American musical film *Easter Parade*?
- Where is the venue of the most famous Easter egg roll in the world?
- Easter Island belongs to which country?
- What is the Sunday before Easter called?
- In 1873 which company introduced the first chocolate Easter egg in Britain?
- Which governor of the Roman province of Judaea presided over the trial of Jesus?
- Which poet wrote the poem *Easter, 1916*? (It describes the poet's emotions regarding the events of the 1916 Easter Rising.)
- Which light fruit cake, with two layers of almond paste or marzipan, is traditionally eaten during the Easter period?
- What was the name of the hill where Jesus was crucified?
- The Saturday before Palm Sunday is named after which biblical character?
- At the Last Supper, which food did Jesus liken to his body?
- Which Russian jewellery firm is famed for designing elaborate jewel-encrusted eggs?
- On what Christian holy day are hot cross buns traditionally eaten?
- How many pieces of silver did Judas trade the life of Jesus for?
- What was Simon of Cyrene made to do by the Romans?
- Who directed the 2004 American biblical drama *The Passion of the Christ*?
- Nick Easter is a former professional sportsman in which sport?
- Which Christian holy day of prayer and fasting falls on the first day of Lent?
- At Easter, the British monarch distributes small silver coins known as what?
- A sign was affixed to the top of the cross stating "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews" which according to the Gospel of John was written in which three different languages?



On Easter Day

Easter lillies! Can you hear
What they whisper low and clear?
In dewy fragrance they unfold
Their splendour sweet, their snow and gold.
Every beauty-breathing bell
News of heaven has to tell.
Listen to their mystic voice
Hear, oh mortal and rejoice!
Hark, their soft and heavenly chime!
Christ is risen for all time!

Celia Thaxter, 1835-1894



Answers to Easter Quiz

1. Judy Garland; 2. The White House; 3. Chile; 4. Palm Sunday; 5. Fry's (J S Fry & Sons); 6. Pontius Pilate; 7. W B Yeats; 8. Simnel cake; 9. Calvary, or Golgotha; 10. Lazarus Saturday; 11. Bread; 12. Faberge; 13. Good Friday; 14. 30 pieces of silver; 15. Carry the cross for Jesus; 16. Mel Gibson; 17. Rugby; 18. Ash Wednesday; 19. Maundy money (distributed on Maundy Thursday, the day before Good Friday); 20. Hebrew, Latin and Greek.

ST FRANCIS' PRE-SCHOOL HELD IN THE CHURCH HALL

Our pre-school is registered for 24 children
between 2 and 5 years

Contact: Gillian Smith
Tel: 07582 518529 & 020 8464 3062
Email: stfrancispreschool@aol.com
URL: <http://stfrancispreschool.uk.com>



**GROUPS & ACTIVITIES AT
ST FRANCIS' CHURCH**

On Saturday mornings the church is open from 9.00 am to 10.00 am for quiet and prayer. From 10.30 am to 11.30 am refreshments are served and this raises money for Action Aid.

Contact Barbara Goodchild 8777 8782

The Church Halls. There are two halls available for hire – a large hall suitable for 30 people upwards and a small hall for up to 25 people.
Bookings Secretary: Katie Rees 8289 3846

Church Choir. The choir helps to lead the singing at Sunday services. It regularly sings anthems and there are special musical services at festivals. Rehearsals: 7.15 pm – 8.15 pm on Thursdays.
Contact Geoff Mussard 8650 8389

Men's Group. This meets on the second Monday evening of the month, alternately at St Francis' and St Mary's.
Contact Tim Shingler 8402 8286

Reading Group. This meets on the second Thursday morning of the month.
Contact Barbara Plummer 8289 3846

Matchbox Theatre. A well-established amateur dramatic society which includes members of St Francis' Church and performs in the church hall, usually three times a year.
Contact Mike Downing 8776 2732

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN THE CHURCH HALL

Cubs

Tuesdays from 6.15 pm to 7.45 pm
Contact Yvonne Bulman: yvonne.bulman@gmail.com

Scouts

Fridays from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm
Contact Hilary Moy, Group Scout Leader 07961 826814

Ravenswood Women's Institute

Fourth Thursday of the month from 7.45 pm
Contact Barbara Goodchild 8777 8782

West Wickham Market [Stalls & Refreshments]

Fridays from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm 8776 1603

Wednesday Market [supporting South East Cancer Help Centre]
From 9.00 am to 1.00 pm 8777 3005

Fitness Through Movement, Exercise & Dance

Tuesdays from 8.00 pm to 9.00 pm 8771 7896

Weight Watchers

Mondays at 6.30 pm and Tuesdays at 10.00 am

Sugar Craft & Cake Decorating

Thursdays at 8.00 pm (Six meetings a year)

Articles and items for the magazine are always welcome.

Any contributions can be left in the envelope at the back of the church [on the notice board] by the second Sunday of the month for inclusion in the next bi-monthly magazine [editions for Dec/Jan, Feb/March, etc]. Otherwise contact the Editor, Margaret Green, on 07931 537888 or by emailing her at magletitiagreen@hotmail.com.