



## Dates for your Diary:

### December

#### St Francis Fellowship

18<sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm

#### Christmas Eve:

Holy Communion 10.00am

Crib service 4.00pm

Midnight Communion 11.00pm

**Christmas Day:** 10.30am

### January

#### Christingle 14<sup>th</sup> January

This service is in aid of The Children's Society. There are collection boxes at the back of church for the Society if you would like to take one to put loose change in ready to bring to the service.

### Contact details:

Rector – Revd Stefanie Hodges – Tel 504228 (Unavailable at present)

Curate – Revd Diane Peters – Tel 532796

Newsletter – Sallie Garrod – Tel 504839 or email [sallie.garrod@gmail.com](mailto:sallie.garrod@gmail.com) or [admin@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk](mailto:admin@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk) by Wednesday 9am please

Hall manager/lettings – Val Holt – Tel 852764

Vulnerable Adults – Eike Ndiweni – email [Eike.ndiweni@gmail.com](mailto:Eike.ndiweni@gmail.com)

Stewardship – Mike Hammond - Tel 562661 email [m\\_hammond@talk21.com](mailto:m_hammond@talk21.com)

## ST. FRANCIS PARISH CHURCH, WESTBOROUGH

### Notice sheet for Sunday 17th December 2017

Welcome to everyone joining us for our Holy Communion Service this morning. We are pleased to be welcoming Mother Kathryn Twining who is leading our service today.

Please do join us in the hall after the service for a cup coffee and a chat.

### Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent

God for whom we watch and wait

You sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:

Give us courage to speak the truth,

To hunger for justice,

And to suffer for the cause of right,

With Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Readings

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-end Page 749

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24 Page 1188

John 1:6-8, 19-28 Page 1063

### Please pray:

- For Stefanie's ongoing recovery
- For Doris, Dawn M, Mary, Pam, Maureen and the Ndiweni family and all who are unwell at this time. If you would like to, please put the names of those you pray for on the prayer tree, they will also be prayed for during Morning Prayer in church
- For all who have responsibility for caring for others and particularly for families finding this time of year difficult

# Notices

## Thank you!

Thank you to everyone involved in the Carol Service. The music, the readings and meditations were a wonderful introduction to the most marvellous event of all – the birth of our Lord, Jesus in Bethlehem 2000 years ago. All wonderfully supported by the delicious mulled wine and mince pies!

A big “Thank you” to James and Thomas Funeral Directors on Woodbridge Hill who very kindly donated 100 mince pies for our Carol Service.



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**A brilliant Christmas Lunch** was shared on Monday – thank you to Val and the team – it was much enjoyed.

## Reverse Advent Calendar

Here at St Francis we are reversing the Advent Calendar tradition and instead of taking something out of the calendar, we are putting something in! Our calendar has 4 boxes, one for each of the 4 weeks in Advent. Please could you bring something to contribute. Items donated are going to the Women’s Refuge and to Unaccompanied Child Refugees; both local charities

Items to put into the boxes are:

*chocolates, biscuits, tinned foods,*

*stationary - pens, pencils, colours, colouring books,*

*toiletries – shower gel, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand cream etc.*

Together we can do great things for our community!



## St Francis Fellowship

**Tomorrow** - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30 in the hall  
Christmas Music with Fred Smith  
Everyone welcome!

## Christingle Service

Our Christingle will be held on January 14<sup>th</sup> and, as usual, the proceeds will go to the Children’s Society. Collecting boxes are on the table at the back of the church if you would like to take one away ready to bring back for the Service.



## Book Group

The next Book Group will be meeting on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January at 7.45pm. We are reading ‘The Cat Who Could Read Backwards’ by Lillian Jackson Braun. Unfortunately we are unable to get this from the library. For those who have access to the internet it can be purchased quite cheaply on Ebay or Amazon. All readers are very welcome.

## Stamps

There is a collecting box at the back of the church for used stamps. Dawn M is collecting them for the Leprosy Mission – so save the stamps from your lovely Christmas cards!