



Dates for your Diary:

December 3rd - Service of Prayer for Healing 4.30pm

Christmas:

Carol Service 10th December 6.30pm

Christmas Eve:

Holy Communion 10.00am

Crib service 4.30pm

Midnight Communion 11.00pm

Christmas Day: 10.30am

Christingle 7th January 4.30pm

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 or admin@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk by Wednesday 9am please

Hall manager/lettings – Val Holt – Tel 852764

Safeguarding (children and vulnerable adults) – Eike Ndiweni – email Eike.ndiweni@gmail.com

Stewardship – Mike Hammond - Tel 562661 email m_hammond@talk21.com

ST. FRANCIS PARISH CHURCH, WESTBOROUGH

Notice sheet for Sunday 26th November 2017

A very warm welcome to everyone joining us for our Holy Communion Service this morning. Please do join us in the hall after the service for a cup coffee and a chat.

Collect for Christ the King: The Sunday next before Advent

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.

Readings

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Page 866

1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11 Page 1188

Matthew 25: 14-30 Page 994

Please pray:

- For Stefanie's ongoing recovery
- For Doris Grainger, Dawn Murrell and all others who are unwell at this time. Please remember to put the names of those you pray for on the prayer tree, they will also be prayed for during morning office
- Revd Helen Poole recovering from surgery
- For all who have responsibility for caring for others
- For our young people and all those involved with their learning and their care.
- For Mason who was Baptised last week and his family
- For the people of Zimbabwe and for peace and true justice to prevail in the future particularly remembering Joe and his family of whom some still live there

Notices



Our young people are important!

Please could you consider putting your name on a rota to sit in the back room with the youngsters during a service. It could be 1 or 2 people together and would only be once every few weeks. It would be a great help for the youngsters attending our services and would enable the parents to participate more fully in the service. The children would remain the responsibility of their parents.

If you think you could help with this very valuable work please give your name to Sue Hammond who has kindly offered to create a rota of helpers. Our young people and their parents are a very important part of our church family.

Thank you

Thank you to all the PCC and DCC members who attended the meeting last week



Book Group

The Book Group is meeting this Tuesday at 7.45pm. We are reading 'The largest baby in Ireland after the famine' by Anne Barnett. All readers are very welcome.

Service of Prayer for Healing next Sunday - December 3rd

at 4.30pm. Everyone welcome



What does Believing look like to you?

When we witness an extraordinary event, even though we are seeing it, it does not always mean that we believe it.

As we have watched our T.V screens this week at the toppling of Robert Mugabe, do we really believe it has happened and will hold out. Sometimes the more unbelievable the event, the more difficult it is to grasp what we are seeing.

Over the last decade we have witnessed the Tsunami's, Earthquakes, where hundreds and thousands of people died while others live through the devastation of such horrific disasters. The magnitude of events such as these take time to sink in.

Seeing does not always equal believing. Seeing can actually make the believing all that more difficult to sink in.

The disciples were privileged that Jesus revealed many signs to them so that they would understand God through what Jesus did. Yet many times the disciples did not understand the messages. Jesus taught.

For Christians today, believing means to not see and yet still believe. Faith is just this.

God has revealed just enough through his Son Jesus Christ in order for the multitudes to believe back then, as well as now in our modern era.

The beauty of it all is that there is still more to come. Believing in the love of God revealed and shown abundantly around us means to embrace God's Peace. For when we believe, we find peace amongst the challenges that life may bring. As we reflect – let's ask our Lord God to teach us to always believe in His love and grace. Helping us to see the works of His love in our lives that we may radiate that to others, that they may come to believe.