



## Dates for your Diary:

### August

**Men's Breakfast**

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August 8.45am

**Lunch Club**

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> August 1pm

**Book Club**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August 7.45

**Community Shop**

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> 11am-1pm

### September

**Men's Breakfast**

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September 8.45am

**Holy Communion**

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 12.00pm

**Lunch Club**

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 1.00pm

**St Francis Fellowship**

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2.30pm

**Community Shop**

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 11am – 1pm

### **Summer Holidays!**

Please note that Revd. Diane Peters will be away for the next two weeks

### **Contact details:**

**Rector** – Revd. Stefanie Hodges – Tel 504228

**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

**Safeguarding for St Francis** – Eike Ndiweni-Muller, 07764 785600 or

[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 29<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

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

### **Collect for The Ninth Sunday after Trinity**

Gracious Father,

Revive Your Church in our day,

And make her holy, strong and faithful,

For Your glory's sake

In Jesus Christ our Lord

### **Readings**

2 Samuel 11: 1-15

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Ephesians 3: 14-21

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John 6: 1-21

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### **Please pray:**

- For Peggy, Maureen and Ned, Mary and Bob – for God's healing and peace
- For Archdeacon Paul and Bishop Andrew as they seek to lead and encourage God's people
- For Sarah Bennett as she prepares to train later this year to become a Pastoral Assistant
- For all families with young children as the long summer holidays start; that the break will be safe and enjoyable for parents, grandparents, carers and children
- For all struggling in the present heatwave

## True or false...?



### Unbiblical Statements

I have often had people quote statements that they claim to be biblical truths. These come from non believers as well as Christians.

Over the next three weeks let's look at some of them. What do you think?

One of the greatest gifts that God gave mankind was the Holy Bible because the Bible is literally God revealing Himself, and communicating Himself to mankind in written word. Anything and everything that we know about God comes from these Holy Scriptures, and they contain the totality of what we need to know about becoming a Christian, and everything that we need to know about [living the Christian life](#).

Orthodox Christianity teaches that the Bible was inspired and authored by the Holy Spirit of God using human instruments. It also believes that in its original languages of Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic; it is without error and fault.

However, there are many things that Jesus-following, church-going, Bible-believing Christians believe that are completely unbiblical. How does this happen? Often, we'll hear someone quote a statement that sounds nice to us, and we'll begin repeating it as though it's biblical truth without ever researching it in the Scriptures.

Not only are the statements unbiblical; most of them teach the opposite of what the Bible teaches.

Here is a list beginning with 3 popular unbiblical statements that Bible-loving Christians tend to believe:

### 1. God helps those who help themselves.

This statement is actually anti-Gospel. [Self-reliance and self-righteousness](#), or the attitude of trying harder and doing better, actually gets in the way of the work of God. Jesus saves those who die to themselves: "Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me'" (Matthew 16:24).

### 2. God wants me to be happy.

It's a common belief that God exists to be our "personal genie," waiting to give us our every wish. It's amazing how we will justify our sinful actions by saying, "God just wants me to be happy." [Happiness is tied to feelings and emotions](#) that are often based on circumstances, and those change all the time. God wants us to be obedient to Him, trust Him and know that everything He does is for our good, even if it doesn't make me feel "happy" in that moment. "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

### 3. We're all God's children.

Although God has created everyone...not everyone relationally belongs to Him. Only those who have repented of sin, placed their faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour, and possess the Holy Spirit of God inside of them can claim Him as their Father: "But you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!' The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God" (Romans 8:15b-16).

However, those who don't have Jesus as their Saviour, nor have the Holy Spirit of God inside of them, how can they actually belong to him. "And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience" (Ephesians 2:1 - 2). "By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother" (1 John 3:10).

More next week....