

Dates for your Diary:



April

Lent Course

St Francis Fellowship

Lent Course

Maundy Thursday

Good Friday

Easter Sunday

Community Shop

Monday 15th April 11.00am

Monday 15th April 2.30pm

Wednesday 17th April 7.30pm

18th April Meal & Reflection 7.30pm

19th April Hour at the Cross 2pm

21st April 10.00am

Saturday 27th April 11am – 1pm

May

Men's Breakfast

Holy Communion

Lunch Club

St Francis Fellowship

Community Shop

Saturday 4th May 8.45

Monday 13th May 12.00pm

Monday 13th May 1.00pm

Monday 20th May 2.30pm

Saturday 25th May 11am – 1pm

Contact details:

Rector – Revd. Stefanie Hodges – Tel 504228

Curate – Revd. Diane Peters – Tel 532796

Hall manager/lettings – Val Holt – Tel 852764

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

Eike.ndiweni@gmail.com

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

Newsletter – Sallie Garrood – Tel 504839 or email sallie.garrood@gmail.com

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

ST. FRANCIS PARISH CHURCH, WESTBOROUGH

Notice sheet for Sunday 14th April 2019

A very warm welcome to everyone joining us for our Palm Sunday Service this morning. A special welcome to The Covenant Players

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



Holy Week

Collect for Palm Sunday

True and humble King, hailed by the crowd as Messiah;
grant us the faith to know You and to love You
that we may be found beside You on the way of the cross
which is the path of glory.

Reading

Luke 19: 28-38

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Please pray:

- Thank God for a good APCM last Sunday, continue to pray for his guidance as we continue to worship and serve in this parish
- For a world in turmoil and strife
- For our Government and all who make decisions on behalf of this nation, that they will turn to God for his guidance
- For those who are unwell and those going through particularly difficult times praying that the Holy Spirit will strengthen and encourage them in their time of need. That they may turn to him for healing and comfort.

We continue to pray for the churches in our Deanery. This week we pray for St Mary's and St Alban's, Worplesdon:

Please pray for the next stage of our church development plan, 'Living in Love, Moving in Power'

Thank you!

Thank you to Henrik and Brenda from the Covenant Players we are privileged to have them join us again as we celebrate Palm Sunday.

Thank you for all the contributions for our Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Especially to Eike and David, for their preparation for the meeting. My thanks also go to Sallie who stood as our electoral roll officer and collated all the information to set up our new roll and printed the APCM booklets. It gives a wonderful encouragement of all that takes place in St Francis Church. If you were not at the service last week and would like a copy of our yearly reports please speak to Stefanie
It has been amazing how much we have achieved together in the service of our Lord and each other and for the benefit of this community all, making St Francis a great place to belong. Thank you.

Congratulations to Satyah and Tracy who have now completed the Confirmation course and thank you to Aileen (and baby Leon!) for her encouragement and support by attending the course with them.

Holy week holiday adventure

Sadly we have had to cancel the Holy week holiday adventure this year. Let's pray that all the preparations will hold us in good stead for next year.

Maundy Thursday evening Service will be held this week, please put your name on the list if you are attending, this will help immensely with the numbers for food and seating arrangements. If you have not attended a Maundy Thursday meal before, please be encouraged to attend and bring a friend/family member with you, as we recall the Last night Jesus had with his friends.

We thank Val for organising the catering, unfortunately this year with Penny & Mike now in Cornwall leaves us short, if you are able to make a cake to help with the Supper, please could you let Val know. Thank you.

As we leave Lent and enter into Holy week, let's reflect on a Sonnet from Malcolm Guite, he invites us to walk with Christ, and let him walk with us on both an outer and an inner journey that leads to the cross and beyond.



Palm Sunday

Now to the gate of my Jerusalem,
The seething holy city of my heart,
The saviour comes. But will I welcome him?
Oh crowds of easy feelings make a start;
They raise their hands; get caught up in the singing,
And think the battle won. Too soon they'll find
The challenge, the reversal he is bringing
Changes their tune. I know what lies behind
The surface flourish that so quickly fades;
Self-interest, and fearful guardedness,
The hardness of the heart, its barricades,
And at the core, the dreadful emptiness
Of a perverted temple. Jesus come
Break my resistance and make me your home.

Walk of Witness

We recognise that the demographics of our community are changing at an increased rate. Much of our community is now occupied students and most away for the Easter Holidays, sadly therefore, we will not be doing the usual Good Friday 'Walk of Witness' around the Parish, however we will be giving out hot cross buns outside the Co-op from 10am – 11.00am, if you would like to join us, please let Stefanie know. We will come back to St Francis Church to share in Hot cross buns ourselves.

There will be an **Hour at the Cross Meditation** on **Good Friday** from 2.00pm – 3pm.

Easter Sunday Celebration, the heart of our faith journey, 10.00am

Thank you to Mary and Dawn as they teach us two new hymns for that special day.