



Dates for your Diary:

November

Tots' Play and Praise every Tuesday in term time at 10.00am

Coffee Morning every Wednesday in term time – open to all 9.15 to 11.15am

Community Shop Saturday 30th November 11am – 1pm

December

Tots' Play and Praise every Tuesday in term time at 10.00am

Coffee Morning every Wednesday in term time – open to all 9.15 to 11.15am

Advent Course Sunday 1st December after the Morning Service or at 6.00pm

Men's Breakfast Saturday 7th December 8.45am

Advent Course Sunday 8th December after the Morning Service or at 6.00pm

Holy Communion Monday 9th December 12.00pm

Lunch Club Monday 9th December 1.00pm

Carol Service Sunday 15th December 4.00pm

Advent Course Sunday 15th December after the Morning Service or at 6.00pm

St Francis Fellowship Monday 16th December 2.30pm

Advent Course Sunday 22nd December after the Morning Service or at 6.00pm

Crib Service Christmas Eve 4pm

Midnight Communion Christmas Eve 11.00pm

Christmas Day Service 10.00am

Community Shop Saturday 28th December 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 Garrod – Tel 504839 or email sallie.garrod@gmail.com

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

ST. FRANCIS PARISH CHURCH, WESTBOROUGH

Notice sheet for Sunday 24th November 2019

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 Sunday Next Before Advent: Christ the King

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:

Jeremiah 23: 1-6 Page 783

Colossians 1: 11-20 Page 1182

Luke 23: 33-43 Page 1060

Please pray:

- Continue to pray for our Government in this challenging time and for the forthcoming General Election. Pray for wisdom for Christian Politicians and for ourselves as we decide who to vote for.
- For Carol in Royal Surrey Hospital, a slow and challenging recovery. For all those we know who are sick in mind, body or soul. May they turn to the Father for his patience, comfort and healing through their challenging times.
- For the members of our PCC as they meet on Tuesday to discuss plans for the future.
- For those in our families & communities who have still to come to know the Lord. May our love for them encourage and strengthen us to pray and give us courage to speak to them.



This week is the last Sunday in the liturgical calendar known as 'Christ the King Sunday'. The week prior to the beginning of Advent the awaiting of the coming King.

This special day was introduced by Pope Pius X1 Although it was originally a Roman Catholic Holiday – known as the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe – it has since been adopted by denominations throughout the Christian world.

Following the WW1 turbulent times were all around, People were begging to throw Christ out of their lives and there seemed like no prospect of Peace. Secularism was ever increasing,

Pope Pius XI instituted the holiday as a balance against what he saw as an ever growing secularism and to introduce Christ into the hearts of followers to acknowledge Jesus Christ as the "King of all kings"

His hope that this feast would have various effects.

That nations would see that the Church has the right to freedom, and immunity from the state (*Quas Primas*, 31).

That leaders and nations would see that they are bound to give respect to Christ (*Quas Primas*, 32).

In the modern world "king" language is not popular, in a chaotic and unjust world that seems to scorn any kind of authority, Pope Pius X1 also prayed that this celebration would see the faithful gain strength and courage from the celebration of the feast, as we are reminded that Christ must reign in our hearts, minds, wills, and bodies. (*Quas Primas*, 33)

We thank God that there are many Christians who hold fast to Christ as their King, where we can praise a loving and merciful - and just - king of the universe of all, not just on some Sundays but everyday of their lives.

Singing Group

Come and join our new Singing Group for an enjoyable time learning new hymns. We meet on Mondays at 7.30pm - **no experience needed!!**

Heralding the King

In all the busyness of our Christmas preparations it's good to stop for a while and think again about what it is all about. Every Sunday during Advent we have the opportunity to meet together to find out more about 'Heralding the King'. This will be a very worthwhile way to prepare for the coming season.

We will have two sessions each week, one following the Morning Service and the other at 6.00pm and you are invited to come to whichever one you would prefer. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church.

Gas Pipe Repair

It is great to know that the gas pipe has now been renewed. We have been advised that, in order to prevent any further damage, we need to paint the remaining pipe with red oxidised paint – a very simple and quick job to do. We have the paint but we need someone to do the painting! If you could help, please speak to Stefanie or Diane. The paint is in Marie's cleaning cupboard so please approach her for the key. Thank you!!

A letter from the Besom. We wanted to email as each year Christians Against Poverty and Besom love to be able to give Christmas Hampers to individuals and families that we have met over the year. The homes that we help are some of the poorest and most marginalised in our communities and it is wonderful to be able to bless them in this way.

We wondered if members of your Church would like to make up some hampers - this is often best done in a small group - and also if they would like to be involved in delivering them to local homes which is a lovely thing to do.

We have attached a small flier which could be included or adapted to include in a Church notice sheet and also a leaflet giving information on how to make up a hamper. We prefer to receive hampers by 8th December so that we have enough time to give them away Last year we were able to help

- women that have escaped domestic violence
- some who have been homeless
- people in debt
- homes who are not able to make ends meet each month
- those who are very isolated and alone
- those suffering from ill health.

If you would like to be involved we could co-ordinate it and do it as a 'Church' Please let Stefanie know if you are able to contribute.