

## Dates for your Diary:



### January

**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 – do come and join us!**

<b>Book Group</b>	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 8.00pm
<b>Holy Communion</b>	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January 12.00pm
<b>Lunch club</b>	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January 1.00pm
<b>St Francis Fellowship</b>	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2.30pm
<b>Community Shop</b>	Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> January 11am-1pm

### February

**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 – do come and join us!**

<b>Men's Breakfast</b>	Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 8.45
<b>Holy Communion</b>	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 12.00pm
<b>Lunch Club</b>	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 1.00pm
<b>St Francis Fellowship</b>	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2.30pm
<b>Community Shop</b>	Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 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](mailto:Eike.ndiweni@gmail.com)

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

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## ST. FRANCIS PARISH CHURCH, WESTBOROUGH

### Notice sheet for Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020

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 Second Sunday of Christmas

God our Father, in love you sent Your Son  
that the world may have life:

lead us to seek Him among the outcast and find Him in those in need,  
for Jesus Christ's sake

## Readings:

Jeremiah 31: 7-14 Page 792

Ephesians 1: 3-14 Page 1171

John 1: [1-9]10-18 Page 1063

## Please pray:

- For Carol doing well but still in the Royal Surrey, Charles (Chas) and Mike Ellis,
- For Adam, a man in our community looking for work.
- For all of those for whom Christmas has been difficult - pray for peace, hope, joy and friendship in the coming weeks
- For those around us, for Family, Friends and Neighbours that they may come to know and accept Christ as their Saviour, through us, this coming year.

## As we start the New Year...

Over Christmas I met with a lady who was very sad, she said 'I am fed up of pretending, Fed up of putting on a brave face. I don't know who I am anymore.

It reminded me of some wise words I once read of Rick Warren

*'The truth is when you don't know who you are, you're living for other people's approval'*

But God offers us so much more he wants us to live in the true identity that He has given us.

The Bible tells us the famous story about someone who chose to live in his God-given identity the story of Moses.

Moses was the greatest leader in the entire Old Testament. He led the Jews to freedom after 400 years of slavery in Egypt. He received the 10 commandments of God.

But Moses started life as a slave. As an infant he was placed in a basket and placed in the river when his mother tried to save him from genocide. He was found by Pharaoh's daughter and raised as a prince.

### Hebrews 11: 24-27 - it's the rest of the story...

By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of the Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as a greater value than other treasures of Egypt because he was looking ahead for his award. By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger, he persevered because he saw 'Him who is invisible'

So what happened to Moses during those in between years? How did he transform from slave into prince?

How did he become willing to leave it all behind to lead God's people?

Well simply, he grew up, Moses asked all the questions that everyone asks at sometime in their life - 'Who am I? What is my life all about?'

Eventually, he settled on the answer:

He refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

He grew up and refused to keep living a lie.

He knew his identity and chose to live like God created him to be.

That showed spiritual maturity.

So how can you and I know our God-given identity?

By getting to know God better

The closer you get to God, the better your going to understand yourself. The more you understand your creator, the more you understand yourself, because you and I are his creation,

Like Moses, we all face of choice: to pretend to be someone we are not for the rest of our lives, Or to live as the person God created us to be.

If we choose to live as God made us, some people may not approve of us, but that won't really matter.

You'll know who you are and where you're going and therefore you'll have the approval of God.

How can you beat that!

May the year ahead through as if the closer to God and his purposes for us.

Blessings of Faith, Hope, Joy, Peace and love fill your hearts in the coming year.

*Stefanie*

## Out of the mouths of babes!!!

### Angels explained by children:

'I only know the names of two angels, Haak and Harold.' Gregory age 5

'Angels work for God and watch all the kids when God has to go and do something else.' Mitchell age 7

'Angels talk all the way while they're flying up to heaven the main subject is where you went wrong before you got dead.' Daniel aged nine

'Some angels are in charge of helping heal sick animals and pets. And if they don't make the animals get better, they help the child get over it.'

Vicki age 8