



1st July 2021

St Francis Church, Valley Park (virtually)

Weekly newsletter



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Congratulations, Joe!

Joe will be ordained priest at Winchester cathedral this Saturday evening - what better than to watch on line before the big match at 8pm?!

Becoming a 'rev' is a two stage process, with a year as a deacon where the emphasis is on serving and reaching out into the community, followed by ordination as priest. As a priest Joe will now be able to preside at communion.

Cliff and I were ordained priests exactly 4 years ago today. For me, the words in the service that best summed up what being a priest meant were these:

'May God, who anointed the Christ with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, anoint and empower you to reconcile and bless his people.'

Of course while some are called to the specific role as church leader (or of course, prison chaplain 😊), as believers, we are all priests - meaning that we all have direct access to God through Jesus. We're all called to the work of reconciliation (to God and each other), and to blessing God's people.

As we celebrate Joe's specific calling to ordained priesthood this weekend, let's not forget our own calling to help others know God's love and purpose for their lives.

**Watch Joe's ordination
live on Saturday 3rd
July, 7pm**

On the Winchester
cathedral website:
<https://www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/service-live-stream/>

Please note - there are 2
services of ordination on
both Saturday and Sunday.

What's On at St Francis

Three phases of returning to the church building:

Phase 1: June 27th – July 18th inclusive

- Welcome back junior church & creche
- Parents invited to join the service live in the building

Phase 2: July 25th - August 29th inclusive

- Same principle; no junior church but provision for 0-11s
- parents continue to enjoy worship and we look to welcome back more adults in August - watch this space.

Phase 3: September 5th onwards

- aim for full return of congregation to church building, with full provision for junior church, welcomers coffee etc.

NB we'll be continuing to livestream every week at 10am, going forwards, however many of us there are in the building!

And we will add in a later communion and time to worship altogether, once we've settled in again.

Take Time

Our next meeting of Take Time is at 12pm on Wednesday July 7th, on our usual church Zoom link.

New times for café!

In the Church garden and worship area. Table service only, simple teas and coffees for a donation only. We've subtly changed the times to reflect current attendance:

Monday July 5th **11am - 12:30** Adults only

Wednesday July 7th **9 - 10.30am**. All welcome!

Sarah's holiday

Cliff and Sarah will be away 8th - 30th July. More details page 8.

Fair Trade

Angela would love to assist you with your order - do contact her:

Tel: 02380271150, Email: angelarwmorris@gmail.com

2021 Mens Weekend:17th-19th September

at South Downs Bunkhouse, Houghton near Arundel, West Sussex

Please book up as soon as possible: contact Peter Rhodes for booking and any questions at all: PeterRhodes.21@BTinternet.com. 07985 067761.

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Generous Ju-ly?

At the end of our series of Talks on 'Generous June' I asked if you would review your giving to the church. That might mean putting it down or up or starting to give regularly.

We are so grateful to all who give - we can't do this without you! - and especially that here at St Francis, we are good at responding to specific requests. Like every organisation though, we set a budget in the first quarter of the year. Ideally our regular giving would cover budgeted expenses. That's where we struggle - every month our income is below that budgeted. Of course that means, rightly, that we need to cut our cloth accordingly - and keep letting you know the needs we have. If you'd like more detail, our treasurer prepares a report for our Council meetings and those minutes are available for all to see - just ask.

If you would like to consider setting up regular giving, our bank details are as follows:

Name of organisation: St Francis Church

Sort Code: 522118

Account number: 69441499

Just a reminder that the money you give enables:

Ministry and mission: services of worship, junior church, craft bags and activities, Messy church, creche, youth group, alpha courses, other courses, obstacle courses (theoretically), supporting families around funerals, welcoming families at baptisms and giving them gifts, providing worship for the school. pastoral support for staff, contributions to lessons, training others in ministry including BCMs, LLMs, chaplains, eco-warriors, prayer warriors, pastoral ninjas, GP chaplains, Take Timers, safeguarders, lead ministers, curates, a totally fab administrator, cleaner, running a café and offering as much hospitality as is reasonably possible to as many as possible

Maintaining and heating (and painting) a building that not only gives us a place to meet and worship (pandemics notwithstanding) but also gives so many opportunities to bless our community as it's used by the school/ community association/ patient participation group/ café/ countless pastoral encounters

Tech support like AV, our social media presence, website, database, paying copyright licence fees, resources for sung worship, Zoom subs, videoclips for worship and teaching

Other churches and charities near and far to also flourish in their mission, too.

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Developing your gifts - get fired up!

This coming autumn term the Winchester School of Mission will be offering four BCM programmes. BCM aims to equip and inspire lay people who feel a calling to, or have already stepped into, an area of ministry in their local church.

We would particularly like to bring to your notice the opportunity to take BCM Youth & Children's Ministry as this BCM is only available on an occasional basis.

A number of people at St Francis have taken part and found them really enjoyable, an opportunity to meet like-minded people and further equip themselves to serve where they feel called. Do contact Wendy for further information below, and then do have a chat with me as the School of Mission ask for Council approval.

For dates and to register your interest contact
wendy.atkinson@winchester.anglican.org

BCM Worship (Into God's presence):

For those who have a desire to lead God's people into God's presence. The training will cover the core skills required to lead worship in your church/community and on completion carries an authorisation to lead non eucharistic worship more than once a quarter at the discretion of your incumbent.

BCM Youth & Children's Ministry:

This is primarily for those who are leading any form of youth or children's ministry in the church. The training will provide you with a range of creative ideas for building a strong ministry team.

BCM Prayer Champions (Creating a climate of Prayer):

This aims to equip you to encourage prayer in your church and community. It will build your personal confidence in prayer and offer you a variety of ideas to help others grow in prayer.

BCM Creation Care (Practical Stewardship):

This is for those who want to help their church steward the world's natural resources. It will consider the theology of our calling to care for God's creation, as well as exploring practical steps churches can take.

For most prisoners, the hardest period of their lives starts the day they are released.

Some ex-prisoners are returning to south Hampshire and have asked for a Christian volunteer to support them.



Statistics show that, on average, 46% of ex-prisoners will re-offend within one year of release. **BUT** – this figure reduces significantly if someone takes a personal interest in their rehabilitation. Ex-prisoners benefit from emotional support, practical help and wise guidance. Having a 'mentor' can help them rebuild their lives and give hope for a different outcome. **A little of your time (2-3 hours/week) can change the direction of a life.**



Area churches are working with a Hampshire Christian charity to bring **hope** to those living in our **local community** who are truly marginalised and **feel like outcasts**. There is currently a waiting list of those requesting support.

COULD YOU HELP? Volunteer mentors inevitably find that service in this work is a fulfilling part of their own faith journey. If you want to explore the idea of using your life skills in this vital ministry, please consider attending an **Open Evening on Zoom** in late June / early July (with no commitment) to find out more. To receive more information about the event please send your request via the website: www.newfoundations.cc (See **FAQ** page to answer your initial questions or contact Cliff cliff@cliffandsarah.co.uk or 07753224078.

"And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'" (Matt. 25:40)

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Worship this week.

Sunday July 4th: Trinity 5, Joe's first communion

8.30am Said Communion in the church building

Please book in by emailing rev@sfpv.org.uk

10am: Virtual Morning Worship - usual Zoom link.

Speaker at both services: Joe's guest: Revd David Hutton

Leader at 0830: Joe

Leader at 10am: Sarah

Reading: Mark 6: 1-13

Live on Outreach radio this week? NO

12pm: Joe leads outdoor communion (for those booked in), following on from our 10am service. Come prepared for showery weather and bring your own picnic for afterwards. And comfy outdoor chairs if you like, or use church ones.

Monday July 5th, 10am: Morning prayer in church building

Services in the church building

It's brilliant to be able to share communion together in person! Please book in as above, enter the church through the main door (through the lych gate and garden), dress for the weather, wear a mask and don't come if you're ill. We'll keep a record of your name for 3 weeks in line with government guidance.

Link for services

Here's the super quick link that takes you to all of our Zoom services and events:

www.bit.ly/SFCzoom

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Points for prayer this week

From the World Council of Churches: Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda

Please pray for:

- a cessation of ethnic animosities and violence, and increased understanding between ethnic and religious groups
- an end to the rape and practices of genital mutilation of girls and women
- governments to respect the will and best interests of their people and the human rights of all
- natural resources to be preserved and the land saved from further desertification.

Our wider world:

Please pray for :

- All those affected by the delay in lifting Covid restrictions
- All those affected by the third wave of Covid, especially young people and those self isolating and sick
- All those countries struggling with huge numbers of Covid patients and inadequate supplies of treatment
- Fair and speedy vaccine distribution
- Bishop Debbie as she leads Winchester Diocese, and Bishops Tim and David as they step back to discern the future until the end of August
- All those being ordained priest or deacon this weekend

Our local Community:

Please pray for :

- **t**hose who live on Bellflower Way
- For all those bereaved recently,
- That our café might be a place of welcome, connection and reconnection in our local community



Two Kevs and a tandem:

Lands End to John O'Groats (988 miles)

9th - 25th July 2021



We're a year late in celebrating Cliff's 60th by cycling from Lands End to John O'Groats. The plan is to take 14 cycling days, staying at B&Bs, with a couple of rest days along the way. We're doing it for the challenge and the adventure, but people kept asking us if we were fund raising – so we are now! We'll split the funds 50/50 between charities we're passionate about: Cliff raising funds for Care After Combat and Sarah raising funds for St Francis Church.

You can find fundraising details on https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/cliffandsarah-mcclelland?utm_term=JGqXjyV8e

Or scanning this with your phone camera, and clicking on the link:




- 25/7: Finish at John O'Groats
- 24/7: Crask Inn
- 23/7: Inverness
- 22/7: Glencoe (rest day)
- 21/7: Glencoe
- 20/7: Loch Lomond
- 19/7: Moffat
- 18/7: Keswick (rest day)
- 17/7: Keswick
- 16/7: Slaidburn
- 15/7: Warrington
- 14/7: Telford
- 13/7: Gloucester (rest day)
- 12/7: Gloucester
- 11/7: Street
- 10/7: Moretonhamstead
- 9/7: Boddinick
- 9/7: Start at Lands End

Follow our trip on our Facebook page: Cliff N Sarah McClelland








35 Raglan Close, Valley Park, SO53 4NH; us@cliffandsarah.co.uk

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St Francis Church information



St Francis Church
you're welcome here

Answerphone		02380271152
Facebook		@stfrancisvp
Website		www.stfrancis-valleypark.org.uk
Instagram		stfranchischurchvalleypark
Zoom		www.bit.ly/SFCzoom
Twitter		@FrancisValley
YouTube		St Francis Church Valley Park

Who's Who

Church Administrator:

Caroline James
admin@sfpv.org.uk , Tel:
02380271152

Church Cleaner: Ann Daly

(usual time to clean:
Saturday afternoon)

Junior Church Lead:

Debbie Reed -
juniorchurch@sfpv.org.uk

Youth Contact: Cliff

McClelland -
youth@sfpv.org.uk

Pastoral Lead and Prayer

Chain: Fiona Grove -
pastoral@sfpv.org.uk

Lead minister: Sarah

McClelland -
rev@sfpv.org.uk (Usual day
off Friday)

Curate: Joe Sweetnam -

curate@sfpv.org.uk (Day
off Friday)

Methodist minister: Sue

Keegan von Allmen

URC minister: Mark

Robinson

Church Council as of 25/4/21

Church Wardens: Alison Rhodes and Fiona Grove

Pro (Deputy) Warden: Debbie Reed (Plus 1 vacant prowarden post)

Gift Aid secretary: Geoff Roberts

Safeguarding officer: Helen Kelso - safeguarding@sfpv.org.uk

Church Council Secretary: Post vacant.

Treasurer: Andy Grove - treasurer@stfrancis-valleypark.org.uk

Church Council Members: Rogerio Ramos, Liz Bolton, Caroline
Emmins, Jan Southern

Plus 3 vacant posts

Deanery Synod Reps (ie Church of England Reps): Peter

Rhodes, Steve Williams and Brian King

Methodist Church rep: David Gurr

Plus 1 vacant post

URC Rep: Chris Hill.



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Would you like someone to pray with you?

God does extraordinary things when we pray. And prayer's not just a solitary activity, we're to pray for one another. Can we pray for you at the moment? Members of our prayer ministry team would be delighted to pray with you over the phone or on Zoom - please just ask; contact Sarah, Joe, or Fiona Grove in the first instance.

'Pray for one another, so that you may be healed.'

James 5: 16

Thanks for reading!

As ever this comes with my prayers and love in Christ.
Sarah

Sarah McClelland

Lead Minister, St Francis' Church.

A Local Ecumenical Partnership of the Church of England, Methodist Church and United Reformed Church.

Pilgrim's Close, Valley Park, Eastleigh SO53 4ST

www.stfrancis-valleypark.org.uk

rev@sfp.org.uk

T: 023 8048 6298

Usual day off: Friday

This message was sent BCC to all on our church mailing list. If you'd prefer not to receive further mailings please let me know.