

12th August 2021



**St Francis Church**  
you're welcome here

# St Francis Church, Valley Park (virtually)

## This week's newsletter



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## Living with Covid

Our new guidelines last week meant that for the first time since the start of the pandemic we were able to share wine at communion (in individual cups, drawing on our Methodist and URC roots), and sing together in worship, albeit behind masks. These were significant and joyful steps. And also we were able to enjoy the technology we've all become used to, actively participating in the service through zoom as well as in person - a 'hybrid' service!

I promised to put together frequently asked questions about our Covid guidance this week - but there weren't any questions - a good indication, I trust, that we're all happy to progress as we're doing at the moment. Don't hesitate to get in touch if you do have any questions and concerns.

Here's a reminder about where we're at:

- Our priority is to do our best to keep each other safe, whilst looking to enjoy worshipping God together as and when we can.
- We recognise that for many of us, it's too soon to return to church in person, and that may remain so for months to come.
- We're delighted to have opportunities to get together safely through café; for our children to be together, and to worship together through Zoom.
- We envisage a slow return to the building (potentially over many months), everyone at their own pace, while continuing to make use of the mixed economy of online and inbuilding worship and fellowship, keeping safety a priority.

## **Living with Covid: St Francis Church guidelines for August 2021:**

- We can sing again inside, in our 10am service - behind masks please.
- We're extending an invitation to all who would like to come to services, to come. No need to book!
- We're continuing to live stream services. If you want to be sure not to be seen on camera, please sit in the back right quadrant of church as you face the front.
- Please continue to wear masks in the building
- Please continue to keep 2m distance and ask before coming closer for any reason
- We'll continue to keep a record of attendees at cafe and services
- We won't be returning seats to rows yet, but will have chairs in groups which you are welcome to move to sit in groups as you choose
- We'll keep the building well ventilated (bring a jumper!)

### **Communion:**

We will continue weekly communion at 0830; whilst the plan is to share it at 10am again, that won't be for another few months as we see how Covid numbers go when schools return.

We will use individual wine glasses. Bear with us as we make arrangements! We will keep with wafers for now. Gluten free wafers and non alcoholic options available - if possible please let me know in advance.

**And of course we'll be continuing to livestream every week at 10am, going forwards, how ever many of us there are in the building!**

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## News and What's On at St Francis

### Scam texts and Emails

There are lots around at the moment, with a number purporting to be from me (Sarah) - usually asking for help, money or vouchers. I will never do that (at least not in that way!!). Do just delete and if in any doubt please check me before answering.

### 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 August 9th 11am - 12:30 Adults only

Wednesday August 11th 9 - 10.30am. All welcome - crafts and games for children.

Do you have a hobby you could share with the rest of us - colouring/ crochet wetc?

Feel free to bring it along!

### Take Time

Is taking August off!

### Fair Trade

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

Tel: 02380271150, Email: [angelarwmorris@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:PeterRhodes.21@BTinternet.com). 07985 067761.

### 2021 Race for Life, 18th September: St Francis team!

If you're free on Saturday 18th September how about joining us on Southampton Common in the afternoon? The "Pink Panters" team will be "Racing for Life" for the fourth year running (or walking!), to raise money for Cancer Research UK. You can walk/stroll/run, or a mixture of all three. It takes around 45 minutes at an average walking pace, but you can take as long as you like. The course description says, "the surface is relatively flat and on tarmac throughout so is lovely and gentle!"

It's happening on the same weekend as the Men's Weekend at St Francis Church, so some of the men may be otherwise occupied- but the event is open to men and boys as well as women and girls, so please do invite any of your friends or family who might want to join in. Children are welcome too. It's really good fun with a great atmosphere, and we're hoping to get together after the event to relax and celebrate too.

This is the link to our "Pink Panters" Just Giving page (the team will be expanding as people join):

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/team/the-pink-panters-10>

This is the link to the Southampton Race for Life 5K entry page where you can enter, set up your own "Just Giving" page and join up with the Pink Panters team:

<https://raceforlife.cancerresearchuk.org/find-an-event/the-common-5k-2021-09-18-1345>

Many of us have had personal experience of family, friends or ourselves having cancer, including over this past difficult year, so it'll be even more special to be able to take part again.

Contact Katie Warner if you need any more information.

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## Can you help?

### Churches together in Chandler's Ford - can you help?

Churches Together in England is the national ecumenical instrument supporting and encouraging churches from a wide range of traditions to work together in unity.

In Chandlers Ford we have brought together Christians over many years through initiatives such as Lent Groups, Joint Services and Carol singing and collaborated to reach out to the community through among other things, the Chandlers Ford Chaplaincy and Street Pastors and a presence at events such as the Hiltingbury Extravaganzas.

We hope to continue this collaboration, demonstrating our Christian Unity and care for our community but need your help! **We are now in urgent need of a secretary**, and would also welcome the support of new representatives from our churches. All are welcome! The Secretary role is not too demanding, - in mainly consists of keeping and circulating minutes of meetings 4 times a year, and occasionally circulating other information to the churches.

For more information please contact David Gurr, treasurer, or [saragoodhead@btinternet.com](mailto:saragoodhead@btinternet.com)

### Chandler's Ford Workplace Chaplaincy

Do you have a heart for people? Do you value our local businesses? What about bringing your faith into the workplaces of Chandler's Ford?

The Chandler's Ford Chaplaincy has warm relationships in these places, and signposts support to the stressed and enquiring, working in our community.

Why not explore whether you could join our teams, as new opportunities are opening? Training and support provided. Contact Jackie Richardson at [office@cfchaplaincy.org.uk](mailto:office@cfchaplaincy.org.uk) or on 023 8026 0674.

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# Valley Park Community Association - what's on

SATURDAY 14TH AUG  
2021

3PM - 5PM

LOCATION - ST FRANCIS SCHOOL FIELD JUST  
BEHIND THE SCHOOL, WALK TO THE RIGHT  
OF CAR PARK, DOWN A PATH TO THE GATE.

## FAMILY SPORTS DAY



CHEER FOR YOUR FAMILY  
AND FRIENDS

Amazing Prizes including -  
Meal Voucher from Cleveland Bay  
FotoGenix voucher worth £125  
Golden Gecko Climbing voucher worth £30



Valley Park  
Litter Picking  
Thursday 19th  
August 2021

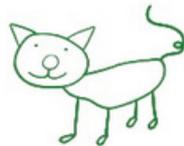
At Valley Park  
Community Centre.

10am - 12.30pm

Charity 900526



Have your  
picture on  
the front  
of The  
Voice!



KIDS,  
LET'S GET  
CREATIVE!



Summer Holiday's :  
Draw a picture of  
your favorite animal.



As you draw, think  
about all the things that  
make them special.



Send your picture to  
cec@valleyparkcommunity.co.uk

Closing Date 15 August 2021



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## Worship this week.

Sunday August 15th: Trinity 11

**8.30am** Said Communion in the church building

**10am:** Virtual Morning Worship - usual Zoom link.

Speaker at both services: Sarah

Leader at both services: Sarah

Theme: Olympics: The athlete - perseverance

Reading: Hebrews 12: 1-12

Activities for 0-11 year olds at our 10am service

Live on Outreach radio this week? YES

No morning prayer on Mondays in August

### Services in the church building - August 2021

Feel free to just come, no need to book.

Please wear a mask and keep to social distancing.

We'll keep a record of your name for 3 weeks

### Link for services

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

[www.bit.ly/SFCzoom](http://www.bit.ly/SFCzoom)

Catch up later!

Don't forget you can catch up on our 10am service on Facebook  
from Sunday pm or our website from Monday.

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# Points for prayer this week

**From the World Council of Churches:** Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger

- those impoverished who lack basic needs and rights, that these will be met
- desperate children and others who turn to crime or begging or become enslaved
- effective response to the frequent droughts and hunger in this area
- more stable political rule in these countries to stem violence and provide for all.

## **Our local Community:**

Please pray for :

- those who live on Glendowan Road, Bowland Rise
- For all those on our prayer network
- For all on holiday
- For all young people receiving results and making decisions about their future
- That our café might be a place of welcome, connection and reconnection in our local community

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## St Francis Church information



**St Francis Church**  
you're welcome here

Answerphone		02380271152
Facebook		@stfrancisvp
Website		<a href="http://www.stfrancis-valleypark.org.uk">www.stfrancis-valleypark.org.uk</a>
Instagram		stfranchischurchvalleypark
Zoom		<a href="http://www.bit.ly/SFCzoom">www.bit.ly/SFCzoom</a>
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](http://www.stfrancis-valleypark.org.uk)

[rev@sfp.org.uk](mailto: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.