

15th April 2021



St Francis Church
you're welcome here

St Francis Church, Valley Park (virtually)

Weekly newsletter



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Fancy a cuppa?

Hospitality has always been apart of what we do and who we are at St Francis. So it's a particular delight to let you know that we're opening up an outdoor Café, in the church garden, next week. Of course it will be in line with Covid guidelines. We've been apart for a long time and getting to know each other again (or indeed for the first time!) is a priority as a church family, over the coming months.

Some of us won't be ready yet, and that's fine! Come when you are. To give options, we'll open for an hour on Mondays 11am - 12 for adults only, and then again on Wednesdays 9 - 11am when everyone's welcome. It'll be simpler fare than usual (for a donation only,) table service, and please stick to social distancing, bring a mask to move when moving around, and give your name for Track and Trace.

As you know it's our annual meeting a week on Sunday (April 25th) at 1115 after our service, and I've attached our annual review in case you missed it last week. Do join us as we look back, but also as we start to look forwards, too.

We'll be thinking a bit about the future (and reflecting on the past) at our next Connect meeting, next week on April 21st at 8pm on Zoom (and with worship first at 7.15pm), as we spend time reflecting on how church looks in this next season. Looking forward to seeing you there!

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Church News 1

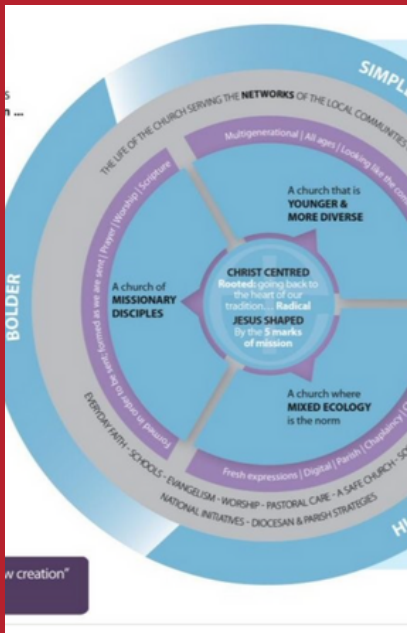
Connect

April 21st 8pm - on Zoom (usual link) - a chance to gather instead of usual house group meetings or just to connect mid week. Come and reflect on where we've been, where we are and where we're headed: how do you see us 'buidling back better'? What can't change and what can't stay the same?!

Join us from 7.15pm to start the evening by encouteering Jesus in a Take Time meditation.

Take Time

We'd usually be meeting for Take Time at 8pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. This month we're going to join together in Connect, but you won't miss out! We'll enjoy Take Time from 7.15pm before Connect on the usual church link.



Café's Back!

In the Church garden. Please wrap up warm, bring a mask, table service only, simple teas and coffees for a donation only, names kept for Track and Trace, please don't come if you're ill, keep to social distancing.

Monday April 19th 11am - 12 Adults only

Wednesday April 21st 9 - 11am All welcome!

Christian Aid Week: May 9th - 16th

Look out for more details on how you can donate in later newsletters - but in the meantime would anyone from St Francis like to do a reading at the Service to launch the week on the afternoon of May 9th? Contact admin@sfpv.org.uk.



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Church News 2

Annual Church Council Meeting

This will be at 1115 after our morning service on April 25th, on Zoom. Do join us as we review 2020 (it was quite a year!), look ahead and elect folk to the new Church Council. Interested in being on Council? Email Sarah, and please check you're on the electoral roll!

If you're on the electoral roll you'll be receiving the agenda and other papers early next week.

Could you be a school governor?

We have 3 vacancies for foundation governors - Governors who have a Christian faith and would like to use it in this vital ministry. Governors bring their wisdom and experience to enable the school - and thereby the children - to flourish! Whilst it takes a bit of time and commitment, full training is given. You'll make a difference to a whole school! Contact Sarah for more details.

Unbelievable? The Conference

A conference thinking about how to tell the greatest story ever told, with fantastic speakers. Graham Shankland thoroughly recommends it too!
Sat May 15th, 2 - 8pm online. Details:
<https://www.unbelievable.live>

Mens Weekend Away

Date for your diary: September 17th - 19th 2021 at Houghton, nr Arundel. Contact Peter Rhodes:
PeterRhodes.21@BTinternet.com for more details.



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Worship this week.

Services this week

April 18th: Third Sunday of Easter

8.45am Said Communion in the church building

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

10am: Virtual Morning Worship - usual Zoom link.

Speaker at both services: Revd Mary Thomas

Leader at 0845: Sarah McClelland

Leader at 1000: Steve Williams

Reading: Luke 24 :36-48 'What makes Jesus real?'

Live on Outreach radio this week? Yes.

Monday April 19th: Morning prayer back in the church building at 10am

Services in the church building

It's brilliant to be able to share communion together in person again! Please book in as above, enter the church through the main door (through the lych gate and garden), wrap up warmly, 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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Valley Park 'Twin my vaccine' campaign

*Had your job? Maybe both?
What a relief!*

Help the rest of the world to get one too.

Donate to the Valley Park Campaign. through St Francis Church. Absolutely all funds to Unicef's Vaccinaid campaign.

Scan the QR code or go to

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/ValleyParkTwin-my-Vaccine>



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Points for prayer this week

From the World Council of Churches:

Belarus, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine

We pray for:

- guidance, as these nations work to reconfigure political and economic structures
- compassion and integrity for all peoples in these nations with such diverse ethnic histories
- those who suffer from alcoholism, HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and other life-threatening diseases
- the large numbers of people who now live in poverty and are unemployed
- those in Belarus and Ukraine who suffer from the continued effects of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster
- those who struggle for democracy and truthfulness in the media.

Church Life:

Pray for the Wessex Synod of the United Reformed Church of which we're a part, and today for their Development and Support officers, Ray Stanyon in the north and Mary Thomas in the south. Mary is a member of our church family and is preaching this Sunday at St Francis.

For the wider community:

- For countries facing a third wave of Covid, including Brazil, India and Europe; for fair distribution of the Covid vaccine to all who need it
- For peace in Northern Ireland

Our local Community:

- Pray for the residents of Wheat Close, Rye Close, Cornfield Close
- For all we know who are unwell, especially those on our prayer chain.
- For all those who are struggling at this time financially, emotionally; those who are alone; those in care homes, and all frontline staff in the NHS, education, prisons, and all key workers.
- For schools as they return after the Easter break on Monday.


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Annual Church Meeting Information

NOTICE OF ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING Parish of St Francis, Valley Park.

(In this Notice, 'parish' means an ecclesiastical parish.)

- 
- Formal notice of our Annual meeting and annual 'vestry' meeting below and next pages
 - Electoral roll available to view in church building or electoralroll@sfvp.org.uk
 - Nomination forms available from admin@sfvp.org.uk or rev@sfvp.org.uk
 - 2020 accounts available to view in attached Review of 2020.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held virtually, on the usual Church Zoom link: www.bit.ly/SFCzoom on the 25th day of April 2021 at 1115am.

- For election of parochial representatives of the laity as follows –
To the Ecumenical Church Council: 5 representatives (2x 3 year term, 1x 2 year term, 2x 1 year term)
- For the appointment of the Independent Examiner or Auditor.
- For the consideration of:
 - (a) a report on changes to the Roll since the last annual parochial church meeting
 - (b) an Annual Report on the proceedings of the parochial church council and the activities of the parish generally;
 - (c) the financial statements of the council for the year ending on the 31st December preceding the meeting;
 - (d) the annual report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church or churches of the parish;
 - (e) a report of the proceedings of the deanery synod; and
 - (f) other matters of parochial or general Church interest.

Signed:



Minister of the parish

Notes on Annual Church Meeting:

1 Every lay person whose name is entered on the Church Electoral Roll of the parish (and no other person) is entitled to vote at the election of parochial representatives of the laity.

2 A person is qualified to be elected a parochial representative of the laity if –

(a) his or her name is entered on the Church Electoral Roll of the parish and, unless he or is under 18, has been entered there for at least the preceding six months;

(b) he or she is an actual communicant (which means that he has received Communion according to the use of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with the Church of England at least three times during the twelve months preceding the date of the election);

(c) he or she is at least 16; and

(d) he or she is not disqualified as referred to in paragraph 3 of these Notes.

3 (1) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a churchwarden or a member of a parochial church council, a district church council or a joint council if the person is disqualified from being a trustee of a charity (and the disqualification is not subject to a waiver which permits membership of a parochial church council, district church council or joint council).

(2) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council, a district church council, a joint council or a deanery synod if the person is included in a barred list (within the meaning of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006).

(3) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council, a district church council, a joint council or a deanery synod if the person has been convicted of an offence mentioned in Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 (with that expression being construed in accordance with Rule 71(2) of the Church Representation Rules).

(4) A person's disqualification under sub-paragraph (3) may be waived by the bishop of the diocese by giving the person notice in writing.

(5) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council if the person has been disqualified from holding office under section 10(6) of the Incumbent (Vacation of Benefices) Measure 1977.

43 A scheme is in operation in this parish which provides that any person entitled to vote in the elections of parochial representatives of the laity to the parochial church council or to the deanery synod or to both may apply on the appropriate form to the Minister of the parish (or other person signing below) for a postal vote. The completed form must be received before the commencement of the annual parochial church meeting.

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NOTICE OF OF A MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS Parish of St Francis, Valley Park.

(In this Notice, 'parish' means an ecclesiastical parish.)

A meeting for the election of churchwardens will be held virtually, on the usual Church Zoom link: www.bit.ly/SFCzoom on the 25th day of April 2021 at 1115am.

This meeting may be attended by:

1. All persons whose names are entered on the church electoral roll of the parish, and
2. All persons resident in the parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors by reason of such residence

Signed  Minister

**Donkey is inviting you to
join in the Valley Park
Easter Egg Treasure Hunt!**



Scan the QR code or go to this weblink:
<https://stfrancis-valleypark.org.uk/events>
April 2nd - 18th



Last few days!





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St Francis Church information



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Answerphone		02380271152
Facebook		@stfrancisvp
Website		www.stfrancis-valleypark.org.uk
Instagram		stfranchurchvalleypark
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

Church Wardens: Alison Rhodes and Fiona Grove

Pro (Deputy) Warden and Gift Aid secretary: Geoff Roberts

Plus 1 vacant prowarden post

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

Church Council Secretary: Post vacant.

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

Church Council Members: Debbie Reed, Graham Shankland, Phil
Watts, Rogerio Ramos, Liz Bolton.

Plus 2 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@sfpv.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.