



28th July 2022

St Francis Church, Valley Park

This week's Newsletter

In the newsletter this week:

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Giving at St Francis p7; Points for prayer p8; Who's Who p9.

Worship at St Francis on Sunday 31st July: Trinity 7

8.30am: Said communion service. Leader Revd Allen Edwards; Speaker Steve Williams

10am: Morning worship with thanksgiving. Leaders and Speaker: Steve Williams

Live streamed on our usual link (p 5); Creche and Junior CHurch, and coffee and refreshments available after the service.

Monday August 1st: No Morning Prayer

Next week August 7th:

8.30am: Said communion service. Leader & speaker: Joe Sweetnam

10am: Worship for All Ages, café style: Leader & speaker: Sarah

Monday August 8th, 12pm: Communion at Café

All about chairs!

Can you help? 0930 on Saturday August 6th

As we have an all age café style service on Sunday 7th we'll need to move the chairs around tables. It won't take long and the more the merrier (and quicker!) If you're able to pop down and shift some chairs with me please drop me an email: rev@sfvp.org.uk - it'd be very much appreciated.

Putting chairs back after cafe/ other event?

There's now a guide to where to put them - under the light switches/ on the organ. Thanks for your help in keeping the worship area ready for worship! Where the chairs go exactly is a work in progress! Comments? Please email Sarah.

Items for this newsletter.

Please email to Sarah by Wednesday evening rev@sfvp.org.uk. All items of church family news welcome - especially more 'holiday postcards!' (p2&3)

28th July 2022

Postcards from the wardens

Hi Church Family,

We are having a great time here in sunny Cornwall. We have certainly lucked in with the weather and managed bodyboarding every day! We've been to St. Michael's Mount and are off to the Minack Theatre tomorrow evening.

Anyway must go as dinner is almost ready.

See you all soon.

Debbie & Izzie xx



TO: St Francis Church,



CANVA STORIES

Hey Church Family, I am having a wonderful time in Sweden celebrating midsummer with my friends. We had a lovely time doing the frog dance and other traditional dances with the amazingly friendly Swedish people. The weather has been beautiful I've even got a bit of a tan.

See you all soon, Blessings –
Caroline



TO: St Fran

28th July 2022

Postcards from the wardens



Hello, just returned
from a fab short road
trip to Siran in the
south of France. There
was a lovely boulangerie
in the village, yum!
Fi and Andy Grove

TO: St Fran

Greetings from West Runton Holidays Snowdonia Adventure. This is the group - 20 teenagers from the widest possible mix of backgrounds, some with strong faith and some with none, all loved dearly by God - and 8 leaders. Hopefully you can see me....look closely and you'll see Katie. She's been doing a super job leading the spiritual programme and driving one of the minibusses, and it's been such a huge privilege to share in seeing this. Other leaders and campers (now with deep committed faith - 2 of these campers have given brilliant breakfast talks to the whole holiday) were children on the Viney Hill camp Alison & I used to lead, and is now led by Phil and Emma Grove, ably supported by Fi & Andy - showing just how invaluable this early opportunity also is!

Best wishes, Peter



What's On

Sundays at 10am: Junior Church in the summer

Creche will continue at 10am. There'll still be junior church but with a slightly different format over the holidays - come and see, if you're primary school age! And if you're a little older we'd love a bit more help - could you help on just one Sunday in late July/August? Contact Fiona: fionagrove63@gmail.com.

Wednesdays 9 - 1030am: Summer Café for kids

It's a great place to bring children and grandchildren - and just hang out, whether you've come with littler ones or not! We'll continue to have craft throughout the summer - and there's space to play in the garden!

Mon Aug 1st, 11-1230: Café

Pop in and catch up!

Wed Aug 3rd, 9 - 1030am: Café

- with toddler craft.

Sun 31 July 3pm: Canada Common Open Air Service

An ecumenical Open Air Service led by churches in the Wellow area will be held on Canada Common, by the Chapel (postcode SO51 6DH). The service will include well known hymns and the theme is Jubilee with Richard Sercombe from Wellow Christian Centre giving the talk. There will be an offering with the money going to Romsey Foodbank. The service will be followed by a picnic – tea and coffee will be provided but please bring your own food and a chair if possible – though there will be some chairs available. If the weather is inclement, the service will be in the Chapel. It will be wonderful to see our friends from around the Circuit.

Sat August 6th 2-4.30pm Romsey Methodist Church Cream Tea

Continue the platinum jubilee celebrations with a cream tea in aid of Action for Children.

September 11th 4pm: Confirmation Service

The Bishop joins us for a service of confirmation and to licence Sarah as vicar of the parish (she's currently priest in charge - long story). Interested in being confirmed? Let Sarah know rev@sfvp.org.uk

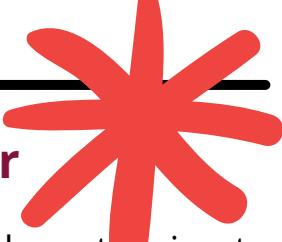
Basics Bank

Please keep the donations coming! Find out what's most needed here:

<https://eastleighbasicssbank.co.uk>

You can leave donations at church or the vicarage in Raglan Drive or 1 Tweed Close, and most local supermarkets have a box if you are shopping in person.

Save the date! Mens Weekend 2022: 7th - 9th October



Men's Weekend will take place Friday 7th to Sunday 9th October. We'll be returning to the delightful South Downs Bunkhouse, nestling in Amberley at the centre of the South Downs Way. These weekends are a great opportunity to get to know other men in the church, and enjoy some excellent walking and scenery. Food is always superb, and the accommodation (for a bunkhouse...) is excellent. Whilst the emphasis is on sharing time together, there will be a thought-for-the-day over breakfast on Saturday, and a short service on Sunday before we head out for the day's walk. All men are welcome, even (particularly!) if not very involved in the church, and it's a great opportunity to invite friends. Bring your sons too. Cost will be £100, all costs included.

Please contact PeterRhodes.21@BTinternet.com to book a place or to find out more. Places are limited so don't delay! Hope you can join us.

Peter Rhodes

Marie Curie Blooming Great Tea Party: thank you!

Hilary Course writes: thank you to everyone who baked and to everyone who came along and supported us.

The final total was £481.32 - every £20 pays for one hour of vital nursing care in the comfort of their own home for someone living with a terminal illness.

New Safeguarding Officer at St Francis Church

After serving us fantastically well, Helen Kelso has stepped down from the role of safeguarding officer, and Linda King (in the photo, left) has now taken over - as agreed by Council last night. We're so grateful to Linda for taking on this vital role, and for all the work she's already been doing in making sure safeguarding is our top priority.



Links for Services

Link for services: Here's the super quick link that takes you to all of our Zoom services and events: 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: <https://stfrancis-valleypark.org.uk>

Where are our ministers this week?

- Mary Thomas is on sabbatical
- Joe & Kelly Sweetnam and family, Nick & Christine Grew and Cliff and Sarah are all at New Wine Christian festival, with others from the church family. Thank you Allen and Steve for leading our services on Sunday!



You're invited!

Jenny & George are getting married at St Boniface Church, Chandler's Ford at 12:30PM on the 3rd September 2022. They are delighted to extend the invitation to the St Francis congregation who would be very welcome to come along! Please drop George an email if you are planning to attend the service - george.taylor93@gmail.com



Giving at St Francis Church



We believe that financial giving is a response to God's generosity to us, and a responsibility of regular members of our church family. We rely entirely on your donations to keep the church going and are especially dependent on regular giving through bank accounts, as this enables us to budget appropriately. We're able to substantially increase your gift if you pay tax, as we can reclaim the gift aid.

If you would like to set up regular giving, there are standing order forms at the back of the church, or they're available from our treasurer Andrew Grove: treasurer@sfvp.org.uk

We appreciate that you might not be in a position to give regularly at the moment. If you prefer, there's a basket for offerings on the table opposite the entrance door for cash, and you can donate online via our website or just here:

Donate here

Maybe you aren't in a position to donate at all at the moment. If that's you, thank you for reading this far, and please know that you are no less valued as a part of our church family. Please continue to pray for us, and let us know if you have specific material or prayer needs that we can help with at this time.

As a church we're about so much more than asking for money! And we also want to fulfill our call to be a blessing to each other and our surrounding community. Thank you so much for your part in that.

Points for prayer this week

Prayer (Collect) for 7th Sunday after Trinity

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

From the World Council of Churches: Republic of Congo, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe

- democratic fair elections and political stability in this region
- economic development that benefits all the people, especially those living in poverty
- preservation of the wildlife and the land
- the witness of the churches and other faith groups in the midst of the challenges
-

Our local Community:

Please pray for:

- The residents of Thetford Gardens, Crummock Road, Leven Close
- For Peter and Katie Rhodes as they lead at Christian activities camp (p5)
- For our most definitely ongoing plans to employ a Children & Families Minister
- For the schools in our parish as term ends, and for all teachers, parents and children for a refreshing summer break.
- For our local GP surgery as they struggle with staff shortages due to ill health, for the doctors, staff and practice manager, and chaplaincy work we share.
- That our café might be a place of welcome and connection ilocally
- For those considering confirmation
- For parishioner Florence Harrison (3), and her family (Mum Jess, Dad Tom, big sister Lucy) as Florence has a stem cell transplant at Great Ormond St.

St Francis Church information



St Francis Church

you're welcome here

Answerphone



02380271152

Facebook



@stfrancisvp

Website



www.stfrancis-valleypark.org.uk

Instagram



stfrancischurchvalleypark

Zoom



www.bit.ly/SFCzoom

Twitter



@FrancisValley

YouTube



St Francis Church Valley Park

Church Council as of 3/4/22

Church Wardens: Fiona Grove and Debbie Reed

Pro (Deputy) Warden: Peter Rhodes and Caroline Gough

Gift Aid secretary: Geoff Roberts

Safeguarding officer: Linda King

safeguarding@sfvp.org.uk

Church Council Secretary: Jan Southern

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

Church Council Members: Rogerio Ramos, Dunni Ajayi

Plus 5 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: Post vacant

Who's Who

Church Administrator:

Caroline James

admin@sfvp.org.uk , Tel:
02380271152

Church Cleaner:

Ann Daly
(usual time to clean:
Saturday afternoon)

Junior Church Lead:

Debbie Reed -
juniorchurch@sfvp.org.uk

Youth Contact: Cliff McClelland -
youth@sfvp.org.uk

Pastoral Lead and Prayer Chain:

Fiona Grove -
pastoral@sfvp.org.uk

Home Groups: Nick Grew
nick1806grew@gmail.com

Lead minister: Sarah McClelland - rev@sfvp.org.uk
(Usual day off Friday)

Curate: Joe Sweetnam -
curate@sfvp.org.uk (Day off Friday)

Methodist minister: Rev Sue Keegan von Allmen

URC contact: Rev Dr Sarah Hall (Group Minister, South-West Hants Group of URC Churches.)



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@sfvp.org.uk

T: 023 8048 6298

Usual day off: Friday

Please note: I will have limited access to emails while at New Wine conference July 29th - Aug 3rd. Thanks for your understanding.