The Link

ST FRANCIS • OLD SARUM • LONGHEDGE



WHAT'S ON AT HOPE CHURCH

Sunday Party June 5th

MISSION FOCUS

Juba School

WHAT'S ON AT ST FRANCIS

Friday Cafe Strictly Come Ladies

Contacts

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Sundays at St Francis:

Church Values

5th June Jubilee 9.30am ONLY Serving Others Phil 2.1-11 / Mark 10.35-45

12th June 9.30am and 11am Creativity Exodus 35.20-35 / Colossians 3.15-17

19th June 9.30am and 11am

Everyone matters

1 Cor 14.26-32 / Mark 1.40-45

7PM ENCOUNTER EVENING

26th June Church Camp - 9.30am at St Francis 11am at camp Sharing Ourselves 1 Thes 2.6-12 / John 6.5-13

Service Times

Regular Sunday Services:

9.30am Friendly traditional service

11am Family service with children's
groups (NOT running at St Francis on
5th and 26th this month).

Refreshments are served at 10.30am

For more information about St Francis go to www.st-francischurch.org.uk

Cover Photo Credit: Jacob King/PA Wire/PA Images



The Platinum Jubilee weekend celebrating the Queen's 70 years on the British throne

is upon us, and the Nation is ready to celebrate this incredible woman and her achievement in many different ways. Up and down the country preparations have included baking scones, retrieving bunting from the loft, closing roads for street parties, even creating hats for pillar boxes.

Royal fans have dusted off their commemorative crockery, while others

have rushed to online auction sites to get their hands on a piece of history. Who would have thought that searches for 'Queen salt and pepper shakers' tripled on Ebay? In a creative marketing move, Heinz Kraft are renaming HP Sauce as HM Sauce, while Salad Cream is becoming Salad Queen. Now there's something to look out for on the supermarket shelf!



The original concept of Jubilee comes from ancient Israel and a decree given to Moses by God that the people should celebrate and mark every 50 years by releasing people from their debts, returning property to those who had to sell it because of financial difficulties, and releasing slaves. It was a year where liberty and freedom were celebrated, where everyone got to rest and start the new year with a clean slate. Jubilee was an opportunity to stop and look at the big picture, remember what is important, that God loves all he created, and that the human race are custodians of the earth rather than owners.

Queen Elizabeth II has consistently and publicly acknowledged this God, often in her Christmas speeches, but also in her example of joyful, persevering, life-affirming, generous-hearted, unstinting, wise service on behalf of others. As she said in one of her speeches, 'God sent his only son to serve, not to be served. He restored love and

service to the centre of our lives in the person of Jesus Christ'. Before her Coronation, she prayed that 'God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him, and the nation, all the days of my life'.



Those prayers have been answered, and although we may not celebrate in quite the same way as ancient Israel, perhaps we can use this Platinum Jubilee time to ponder on the examples of Jesus Christ and our Queen, and be inspired to discover for ourselves a life of Godly love and service.

Every blessing
Rev Mary Terry
Curate, St Francis Church
curate@st-francischurch.org.uk





what's coming up

SUNDAY 5TH MAY, 10AM | SUNDAY PARTY

Join us as we celebrate the Jubilee and Pentecost. There'll be lots of games, fun and creativity as we celebrate together in our service.

SUNDAY 12TH JUNE, 10AM | MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church is messy and loads of fun! There will be the usual craziness, creativity, food and craft all in a safe and welcoming environment for you and your household to enjoy. Sign up via our Facebook.

SUNDAY 19TH + 26TH JUNE, 10AM | ALL AGE SERVICE

Sunday 19th 2-6 year olds will have the opportunity to go to Hope Kids. Sunday 26th is our all age service where we'll be exploring how we handle emotions through stories, activities and fun.

SATURDAY 13TH AUGUST, 2-5PM | SUMMER FUN DAY

Save the date! It's going to be another fun packed day with loads of activities, food and stalls for all the family.



Hope Church has had a busy time over the last few weeks, with the main highlight being the Easter Egg Hunt on 16th April. This took a different form from previous years, being confined to the field next to the Old Sarum and Longhedge Community Centre and involving extra challenges, such as an egg and spoon race. The Easter Bunny made his usual appearance, one of the challenges being to collect a carrot from him. Over 100 children took part, with their parents, rounding off the afternoon with the tea and cake provided. The weather was warm and sunny, and a happy time was had by all.



Since then, we have had some well-attended services where we have been able to welcome several new faces. The children have particularly enjoyed barbecuing marshmallows and making bread "turtles", while the adults have just reached the end of a series of talks by Will on the book of Luke.

Messy Church continues to be popular and new faces are appearing there too. In April the theme was the story of David and Goliath and the children made slingshots which they used to attack a huge model of Goliath. Do come and join us – you'll be sure of a warm welcome!

WHAT'S ON @ ST FRANCIS

STRICTLY COME LADIES

Come along to St Francis at 7.30pm on Friday 17th June to learn about Flower Arranging without Oasis. Bring your own container / vase / bowl (with or without grid), some flowers and greenery. Jenny Pankhurst will bring various different alternatives to oasis - netting, pinholders etc and show us how to work with them. Take home your beautiful arrangement!!! We would love to welcome some new faces to our meetings - open to all ages. For more info email jacky.macleod1@ntlworld.com

50s

50s and Beyond is a St Francis based fellowship and service group, focused on people who are 50+ in age and open to all. We seek to provide a wide programme of fellowship activities, coupled with practical service opportunities to benefit the church and community. Check out the What's On tab at www.st-francischurch.org.uk or the St Francis Link for information about our next event in July. Contact Kris at kris@richardson.net to be added to the email distribution list.

Check out the What's On tab at www.st-francischurch.org.uk for upcoming events

ST FRANCIS COMMUNITY SINGERS



If you like singing, come and join us at St Francis on Mondays 3.00pm - 4.00pm
Tea and biscuits beforehand at 2.30pm.
We have a super, well qualified, young bubbly leader who always gets us laughing! It's all very informal No audition! £5 a session
For more information call Di on 07733 433615

Mothers North Christian care for families

8th June - We meet at St Francis on the second Wednesday of every month at 9.45 to start at 10.00, followed by coffee at 10.40 and communion at 11.00. Do join us in the Beatrice Room for all or part of the morning.



Ladybirds Pre-school is your local childcare setting that has long established ties within our community located in St Francis Church hall. We are a free flow setting, this allows the children to decide where they want to learn, be it in our indoor area where their imaginations and creativity are inspired or in our exciting outside space.

We currently have spaces so please get in touch using the contact information below if you would like more information or to arrange a visit.





Zumba

Dance yourself fit to a fusion of Latin and international music, combined with a heart-pumping cardio workout that's easy to follow and fun to do! St Francis Church Hall, Beatrice Road – Wednesday 9.45-10.45am / £7. For class details contact Lisa Brewer 07941307683. Licenced Zumba instructor.



SAVE THE DATE - Saturday 10th September 2022

St Francis Church, Beatrice Road, Salisbury

We are looking for new committee members. This is a great community show for all ages and abilities and its time to have some different faces involved with some new ideas and enthusiasm.

We are also looking for Patrons who would like to support the show.

For more information call Susan Carey on 01722 324811

DON'T FORGET FRIDAY CAFE AT ST FRANCIS - SEE DETAILS ON BACK PAGE!

-IT'S TIME TO GET TEDDY OUT OF THE BOX! •

TEDDYBEARS THURSDAY TODDLER MORNING 10AM GROUP





Infant Massage

@ St Francis Church Hall

Baby massage helps baby to feel securely attached, more loved, valued and respected, reducing crying and emotional distress, giving relief from wind, colic, constipation and teething discomfort.

Baby massage increases relaxation, facilitates longer sleep and helps baby to develop body awareness and coordination, whilst helping parent care givers to gain a deeper understanding of baby behaviour, crying and body language.

This is an enjoyable opportunity for one 2 one time with your baby

Joy Harrison 07828 793680 info@bebejoy.co.uk www.bebejoy.co.uk







The Bridge Youth Project supports the spiritual and mental wellbeing of students in over 25 schools across Wiltshire. In Salisbury secondary schools they now have 4 chaplains placed within the school communities for 2 days a week. During April, Sophie (Chaplain at Wyvern St. Ed's School) ran an enrichment week where students were invited to explore Christian faith aided by The Sense, a touring gap-year band from Youth for Christ. The band ran performances, lessons, collective worships and workshops where students were able to engage critically with and experience Christian faith practices.



To top the week off the band ran a performance at St. Francis Church (photographed) which was well attended. As well as tucking into refreshments and enjoying a game or two of table tennis, attendees enjoyed the performance with lots of dancing and singing. The band shared some of their experiences of having a Christian faith, which was well received and prompted great questions and conversations.

St. Francis Youth runs safe and inclusive spaces to explore christian faith with young people. To find out more please contact Sophie Stokes (Youth Worker): youth@st-francischurch.org.uk and keep an eye out for a Bridge Chaplain in your school!

MISSION FOCUS



In 2005 a school was dreamed of in Sudan – a troubled country emerging from civil war. Two years later, the prayers and money raised by St Francis church helped bring this school to life.



Many of the initial 61 pupils of **Juba Diocesan Model Secondary School** were in their 20s, as is the case now. The war had disrupted their education, many had lost family members and many - especially girls – struggled to study alongside their domestic responsibilities. Seventeen years later, JDMSS - offering "Quality Education with Christian Values" - has developed into one of the best secondary schools in the country.

In the meantime, South Sudan – independent from Sudan since 2011 and now one of the poorest countries in the world - has seen disruption, drought, political unrest, violence and further civil war. Inflation rates have spiralled, with increasing need for food aid – an apple costing 3 South Sudanese £ 8 years ago is now 250SS£!

Despite the high cost of building materials, donations from overseas as well as from charities, churches and generous individuals have enabled the school to build more classrooms, a house for the headmaster (improving school management and security), a science lab (recently extended) and a perimeter wall (keeping pupils safely in and trouble out).



One particularly significant development is the Girls' Boarding House. UNICEF recognises that Girls' education strengthens economies ... contributes to more stable, resilient societies ... is about girls feeling safe ... but across South Sudan, whilst 156,000 girls started primary school in 2018, only a little over 5,000 reached the final year of secondary school. JDMSS has a 50:50 boy:girl ratio; the girl boarders are spared daily commutes through Juba's hazardous streets or from further afield.

Trouble continues for South Sudan, particularly on its northern border with Sudan. 2022 has brought killings, looting, burning, destruction of livestock and food stocks, also ethnic cleansing. Almost 9 million people (around ¾ of the population) are "in need" – a serious humanitarian crisis. One fears for the future of South Sudan. With 960 pupils now on the JDMSS "roll" - many supported by the sponsora-pupil scheme which ensures that not only the wealthy benefit from the education there - we hope and pray that the school can contribute to a better future for their country.



JDMSS is part of the Salisbury Diocese Sudans Link. Further information: jenny@familywilson.plus.com

OUT AND ABOUT IN THE PARISH – THE ST FRANCIS MILESTONE

If you have ever sat on the grassy bank at the west end of St Francis Church, or even just walked along the road past it, you will probably have noticed a large slab of what looks like concrete set into the bank. It is about 0.7 metres tall and it is actually made of limestone, not concrete. There is a bench mark on the north face of the stone, which can be seen quite clearly but the west face, which used to have lettering on it, has now been eroded so that only the date "1748" can still be traced faintly near its base.

Since March 1990 this stone has been classed as a Grade II listed building. It is, in fact, one of a series of milestones to be found between Salisbury and Amesbury along the A345. This road was turnpiked by the Marlborough and Salisbury Trust in the 1750s, so the milestone predates this by a few years. The St Francis milestone is the first of the milestones to be encountered on a journey out of Salisbury, as it is exactly one mile from the city centre (the market place). Next time you travel along the A345 to Amesbury see how many of these milestones you can spot.



The St Francis milestone: the benchmark can be seen on the left side

While you are looking at the St Francis milestone it is also worth paying attention to the chalk downland flowers growing around it. The church has recently introduced a new mowing regime which favours the growth of chalkland flowers (now increasingly rare) and in the summer there are scabious, bird's foot trefoil and even, with luck, on orchid or two to enjoy.

WORDSEARCH

This year Her Majesty The Queen became the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee marking 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom, the Realms and the Commonwealth.

Celebrations will include The Queen's Birthday Parade (Trooping the Colour) on 2nd June when more than 1,400 parading soldiers, 200 horses and 400 musicians will come together. Beginning at Buckingham Palace, the Parade will move down The Mall to Horse Guard's Parade, joined by Members of the Royal Family on horseback and in carriages. The Parade will close with the traditional RAF fly-past, watched by The Queen and Members of the Royal Family from the Buckingham Palace balcony.

Platinum Jubilee Beacons: The United Kingdom's long tradition of celebrating Royal Jubilees, Weddings and Coronations with the lighting of beacons will also continue. Over 1,500 beacons will be lit throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories.

B G G R В O \mathbf{C} K

Majesty Queen First British Monarch

Platinum Jubilee Seventy Years Service

United Kingdom Realms Commonwealth Celebrations

Birthday Parade Trooping Colour Soldiers

Horses Buckingham Palace Balcony beacons

BOOK CORNER

Sarah Eberle's Psalm 23 Garden: design tips for a calm green space By various authors, Bible Society, £6.50

A full-colour book showcasing the splendid Psalm 23 Garden, designed by Sarah Eberle for Bible Society's entry into last year's RHS Chelsea Flower Show.

Sarah Eberle had previously won 17 gold medals at Chelsea and Hampton Court Flower Shows, and her Psalm 23 Garden won another gold medal as well as awards for Best Sanctuary Garden and Best Construction Award.

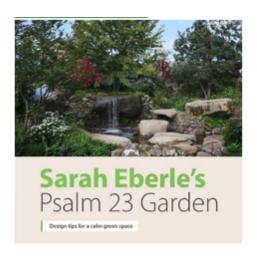
Psalm 23 is a beloved psalm in the Bible, invoking images of rest and refreshment. The first two verses of Psalm 23 are:

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.







Got a free hour or two? Has something been cancelled and you're wondering what to do? Worried the kids are going to be bouncing off the walls? Well, this is the book for you!

This is a collection of creative, fun and reflective things to do as a household. The ideas are flexible, practical, doable and don't require expensive resources, but are also engaging and interesting for all ages to do together. To accompany each activity there is a short Bible passage linking in with the theme, and a family-friendly prayer.





FATHER'S DAY

Fans of the popular Star Wars films were surprised when Darth Vader said to Luke Skywalker "I am your father." This unexpected disclosure paved the way for future surprises in the episodes that followed.

Many times, Jesus surprised His hearers with parables that had unexpected twists and turns. No doubt He astonished the disciples when He first called God 'Father' and went on to instruct them to pray saying "Our Father in heaven...". No one had called God 'Father' before!

Shortly before His arrest, trial and crucifixion, Jesus talked to His disciples about God the Father. He said: "In my Father's house are many rooms." This prompted Philip to ask: "Show us the Father, that is all we need." Jesus replied: "Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father."

Jesus knew this concept would be hard to grasp and so had to frequently speak about God as His Father. For three years the disciples had listened to profound teaching and witnessed miracles. They knew Jesus was different, but as His ministry drew to a close they were learning more about the special relationship that God had with Jesus.

On 19th June it will be Father's Day. This is an occasion to remember the role our dads are playing now or have played in our lives. Hopefully, we have good memories and recall times of loving care they showed to us.

Unfortunately, some people do not know their fathers, or they have been absent for long periods or may be neglectful, deceitful, or abusive. Sadly, some children and adults would rather not remember their fathers, having suffered some trauma or family breakdown.

fa.ther (fa'ther) n.

1. Protector, teacher and encourager.

2. Picks you up when you fall, brushes you off and lets you try again.

(See also: banker, hero, playmate, coach.)

It is good to know that God is not like this. Jesus came to reveal God as our Heavenly Father, who is loving, compassionate, merciful, forgiving, and caring. God is the model father who knows what is good for us and wants the best for us.

So, Father's Day can be a reminder that we are God's children, and that we can possess the blessings He has kept for us. In the story of our lives God has revealed Himself in a surprising way. He says to each one of us 'I am your Father'. Now that is something to celebrate!

THANK GOD FOR THE EVER-CHANGING CLOUDS

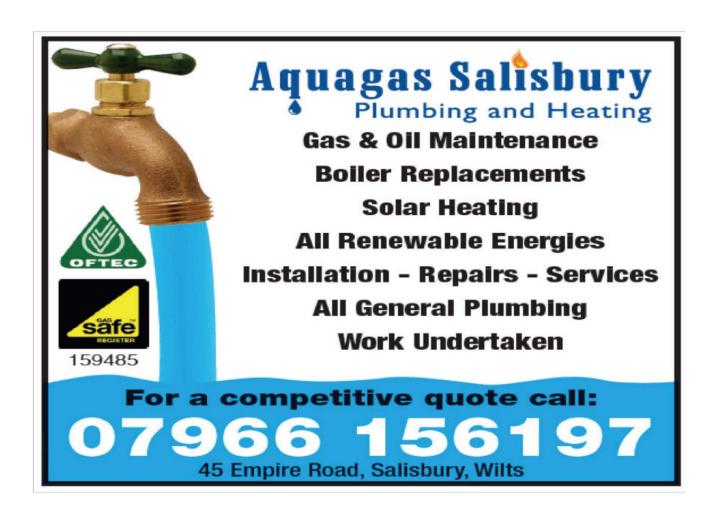


Clouds are truly amazing! It's all too easy to take them for granted, as they are nearly always with us. We probably pay most attention to them when they are particularly dark and threatening – and then we rush indoors to avoid the rain!

But clouds are worth studying in their own right. The highest ones – called cirrus or mares' tails – are light and wispy, just like a horse's tail wafting in the wind. They are made of ice and often form the tops of bigger clouds that have spread far up into the atmosphere where their moisture has frozen.

Then there are the fluffy cotton-wool shapes of cumulus. Sometimes these are very small and form lines across the sky, when they are known as a "mackerel sky": they usually mean bad weather is on the way. More often though, cumulus clouds are dotted about the sky with quite bit of blue sky between them: these are fair-weather clouds.

However, on days when there are there strong updraughts, cumulus clouds can rise and rise, growing bigger and bigger until they eventually turn into towering cumulo-nimbus clouds, which bring rain, hail and even thunderstorms. As someone who loves to paint, I often study the clouds, marvelling at their variety of colour and shape. Sometimes they appear so fantastical that I know that, if I were to paint what I actually see, nobody would believe what I had painted. And I'm sure we've all at some time looked at the sky and tried to imagine seeing animals, faces, cities etc in the clouds. It's a wonderful free show that God has made for us all. So let us thank God for the ever-changing wonder of clouds!



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The Cafe is open every Friday from 9.30 - 11.30 and is open to anyone, offering fresh filter coffee, tea, home-made cakes and biscuits, all for £1 per item, including free refills. We have customers of all ages and both men and women, so if you fancy a local, good, cup of coffee, why not try us, and meet some new friends at the same time. You will see the "Friday Cafe" boards outside the Church entrances, to show the way in. If you have any questions, please ring Penny on 01722 504326.



St Francis, a lively, growing, evangelical Anglican Church in the north of Salisbury with around 250 adults, youth and children meeting together every week.

As a church we have three priorities. We want everyone to:

ENCOUNTER God, the source of truth, light and love be EQUIPPED to live life in all its fullness ENGAGE deeply with the world so that we can be salt and light and make a difference in our community.

Check out our new webpage : www.st-francischurch.org.uk