

The Link

ST FRANCIS • OLD SARUM • LONGHEDGE

SEPTEMBER 23



hello
SEPTEMBER

WHAT'S ON AT HOPE CHURCH

Prayer Walk and Harvest Lunch

MISSION FOCUS

Mothers' Union

WHAT'S ON AT ST FRANCIS

Community Show

Contacts

St Francis Church
Hope Church

Role	Name	Phone	Email
Vicar	Jean de Garis	01722 334214	vicar@st-francischurch.org.uk
Curate	Mary Terry	01722 349 886	mary@st-francischurch.org.uk
Curate	Joe Stone		joe@st-francischurch.org.uk
Hope Church	Priscilla Venables		oldsarum@st-francischurch.org.uk
Parish Office	Jane Franchi	01722 413644	admin@st-francischurch.org.uk
Bookings Enquiries	Alan Goldie	01722 329114	asac.goldie@gmail.com
Children & Family	Katie Ollivierre	07899 962057	family@st-francischurch.org.uk
Youth	Sophie Stokes	01722 413644	youth@st-francischurch.org.uk
Church Warden	Chris Taylor	01722 338312	st.francis.warden@gmail.com
Church Warden	Tom Wilkins		tomchurchwarden@gmail.com
Treasurer	Mark Venables		treasurer@st-francischurch.org.uk
Safeguarding St F	Karen Scott		safeguarding@st-francischurch.org.uk
Safeguarding Hope	Jean Filtness		Jeanfiltness@gmail.com

Worship at St Francis

REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

9.30AM FRIENDLY TRADITIONAL SERVICE

11AM FAMILY SERVICE WITH CHILDREN'S GROUPS

REFRESHMENTS ARE SERVED FROM 10.30AM

3rd September

Avoid Stumbling

Romans 12.9-end Matt 16.21-end

BIBLE FOCUS 7PM

10th September

Journey 1: Abram risks setting out

Hebrews 11.8-16 Gen 12.1-9

7PM 1ST SUNDAY BIBLE FOCUS

7PM 3RD SUNDAY ENCOUNTER

(ENCOUNTER ALTERNATES WITH ST PAUL'S CHURCH)

17th September

Journey 2: Jacob's journey of reconciliation

Matt 18.21-35 Gen 33.1-11

ENCOUNTER AT ST PAUL'S CHURCH 7PM

24th September

Journeys in Mission 3: Missions

1 Peter 2.9-12 Mark 16.14-20

EVENSONG AT ST LAWRENCE

Every second Sunday in the month at 6pm St Lawrence at Stratford-sub-Castle holds an Evensong Service which is supported by the St Francis choir. It is a joint service to which all parishioners from all our 3 churches in the benefice are very welcome, as they are any Sunday at 10am.



www.st-francischurch.org.uk

Letter from Mary, the Curate

During the summer, a walk across the fields from Broadchalke village took me to discover for the first time the Chalke Valley Watercress Farm. It was quite an extraordinary sight seeing watercress being cultivated on this scale. Apparently the farm was started in 1880 and is now run by the sixth generation of the same family.



Here are some fun facts about watercress:



- Hippocrates, the father of medicine, is said to have located his first hospital close to a stream to ensure fresh watercress to help treat his patients.
- Greek soldiers were given it as a tonic before going into battle and the 16th Century herbalist Culpepper claimed it could cleanse the blood.
- It is brimming with more than 15 essential vitamins and minerals. Gram for gram, it contains more iron than spinach, more vitamin C than oranges and more calcium than milk.
- Liz Hurley has been rumoured to drink seven watercress smoothies a day.

For some strange reason this superfood has spent decades being pushed to the side of a plate as nothing more than a decorative garnish.

I wonder how often we miss other nuggets of treasure that are within sight, but not recognised and perhaps overlooked. The Bible records how Jesus used everyday examples to explain what the kingdom of heaven was like – a shepherd searching for sheep, a woman looking for a lost coin, a father longing for the return of a wayward son – and many others.

At St Francis Church we believe that there is a Creator God behind this world we live in; a God who loves and treasures all that it contains – which includes us – and we love trying to explore the many different ways that love is revealed. We also believe that it is possible to learn to know this God and to walk this life alongside him. If that sounds as incredible as the nutritional value of watercress – well, so be it. This world is full of surprises; the key is to keep our hearts and minds open to the wonders!

I'd be delighted to chat more with you if you would like. And maybe we could drink a watercress smoothie at the same time.....?

Blessings

Mary

Rev Mary Terry

mary@st-francischurch.org.uk

0773 220 3452

what's coming up

SUNDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER, 10AM | ALL AGE WORSHIP

Join us as we explore the 'I AM...' claims of Jesus, starting today with 'I Am He (the Messiah) - Salvation', John 4:1-26.

THERE'LL BE LOTS OF GAMES, FUN AND CREATIVITY FOR ALL AGES

SUNDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER, 10AM | MESSY CHURCH

It's church but not as you know it.

Church is way more fun when it's messy!

Our theme this week is 'John The Baptist'.

There'll be lots of activities, creativity and games for everyone.

SUNDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER, 10AM | SUNDAY GATHERING

At our Sunday Gatherings we look into a theme.

There's a talk for the adults and kids go to their group.*

This week our Theme is 'I AM the Bread of Life - Survival',
John 6:25-51.

SUNDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER, 10AM

PRAYER WALK AND HARVEST LUNCH

This week we will be out and about in the local community,
followed by a Harvest Lunch in the Community Centre.

All welcome.

TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS | CONNECT GROUP

Connect Groups are held in homes and are an informal space to chat and get to know one another and discover more about faith, the Bible and God.

Please get in touch if you would like more information.

***Hope Kids** is a group that is tailored to 3 - 7 year olds
with lots of fun, creativity, and stories.

At the time of writing, Hope Church is having its usual 2-week August break but, before this started, we had a church picnic in the Community Centre. If the weather had been fine, we would have been outside on the Green by the Centre but there were simply too many showers to chance it. However, a good time was had by all, the children playing with a variety of indoor games and toys and the adults enjoying a hot drink, biscuits and a chance to chat.



Hope Church Picnic 30th July

The week before this, Jean de Garis visited us to finish our course of sermons on The Lord's Prayer.

Hope Church resumes on 20th August with the first of two sessions on evangelism, followed by a series of talks on the "I Am" claims of Jesus and what these mean for us.

Much work is going on in the background towards the appointment of someone new to take over as church leader(s) from Will and Sophie Burditt. An important role in this is being played by the Hope Navigation Group, who are meeting monthly to plan and make sure the work of the church continues as before. At present the Group consists of:-

- ❖ Joy Wilkinson, who organises our Messy Church and helps with Hope Kids. She is working closely with Priscilla Venables, our new administrator, and with the Community Centre. She also oversees our Prayer Huddles.
- ❖ April Hall, who helps in ways that are too many to mention. At the moment, she is organising an Autumn Prayer Walk and Harvest Supper.
- ❖ Tom Rendall, who is our church Treasurer.
- ❖ Danni Malone, who often leads our services and helps with some of the admin.
- ❖ Jean Filtness, who is the church's safeguarding lead.

Jean de Garis also attends our meetings, as well as Priscilla and Jane Franchi, the Operations Manager for St Francis Church.

HOPE CHURCH NAVIGATION GROUP



Joy



April



Tom



Danni



Jean



Ladybirds Pre-School

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.



Ladybirdssp1@gmail.com 01722 502234



WHAT'S ON AT ST FRANCIS



FRIDAY CAFE

The Cafe is open every Friday from 9.30 - 11.30am 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.



STRICTLY COME LADIES



SEPT 15th - BRING AND SHARE MEAL

Bring a plate of food to share - hot or cold, sweet or savoury and join us in the Beatrice Room at 7.30pm for a chance to catch up after the holidays. Everyone welcome, bring a friend or neighbour.

For more information: contact Jenny Pankhurst Tel: 328761 April Hall Tel: 414296 or Jacky Macleod 07981789601

ST FRANCIS COMMUNITY SINGERS



If you like singing come and join us at St Francis on **Mondays from 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 (first session free). Please contact Di Webb on 07733 433615 or the Church Office for more information.

Term-time only - Restarts on 4th September



50S AND BEYOND

We hope you can make one of our next events which are coming soon. Don't forget to invite family, friends and neighbours; the more the merrier!

Wednesday, September 6th, 6:30pm

Meet us at the Old Castle Harvester, Old Castle Road for dinner.

For reservations and more information, please contact Kris Richardson Smith at kris@richardson.net, 01722 500274 or 07963 500331.

We are a St Francis based fellowship and service group, focused on people 50+ in age. The events are open to all. To find out more, or to be added to the email distribution list, contact kris@richardson.net or any of the event organizers.



**Let Justice
and Peace Flow**
Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River
Amos 5: 24

Salisbury Christian Aid is holding a
special service for Creationtide

Sunday 10 September, 6pm

St Thomas's Church

**Speaker: Patrick Watt,
CEO of Christian Aid**



Creationtide Sep 1st – Oct 4th
(festival of St Francis).

Creationtide or the Season of Creation is the period in the annual church calendar, from 1st September to 4th October, dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life. Salisbury Christian Aid Committee invite you to a Creation Celebration Service at St Thomas's Church on **10th September at 6pm**. The guest speaker is Patrick Watts – CEO of Christian Aid. This topic is increasingly relevant as the world has recently experienced global warming and numerous adverse climatic events. This service is therefore highly topical and deserving of support.

YOUTH THIS AUTUMN

YRS 6-9

- *FRIDAY SOCIAL IN THE LOUNGE
6PM TO 7.30PM*
- *SUNDAY AM STARTING IN CHURCH
@ 11AM HEADED TO THE LOUNGE
FOR BREAKFAST AND DISCIPLESHIP*

YRS 6-13

- *2X FORTNIGHTLY GROUPS GOING DEEPER IN FAITH
STARTING TUESDAY 05/09 6.30PM TO 8PM OR SUNDAY 10/09 5PM TO 6.30PM*
- *ENCOUNTER EVENING - OCTOBER 15TH - FAMILY MEAL IN THE CHAPTER ROOM 6PM
JOINING THE REST OF THE CHURCH FAMILY FOR AN ENCOUNTER EVENING AT 7PM*

YRS 10-13

- *FRIDAY NIGHT YOUTH IN THE LOUNGE
7.30PM TO 9PM*
- *SUNDAY AM STARTING IN CHURCH @
11AM HEADED TO THE BEATRICE ROOM
FOR BREAKFAST AND DISCIPLESHIP*
- *SUNDAY PM DISCIPLESHIP IN THE
LOUNGE @ 7PM (FAMILY MEAL EVERY
3RD SUNDAY)*



NewWine

26-30 July & 1-5 August 2023

Kent Event Centre, Maidstone

Lots of St Francis families camped together at the Kent Showground for this year's New Wine conference. It was worth dodging a few rain showers! The young people had great fun in their groups and the adults had lots of interesting talks to listen to as well as some great music. Highlights included Pete Greig talking about prayer, The Bishop of Kensington, Emma Ineson, talking about the importance of failure and Bible teaching by Simon Ponsonby.



BOOK CORNER

This month we are looking at books to encourage our teenagers as they move on to college, university and the world of work.



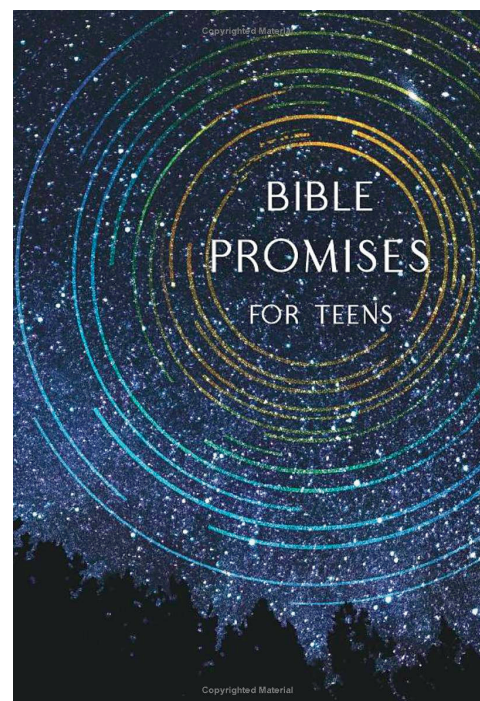
Every day, another Millennial becomes an adult. For many young people, the transition is a bumpy one, fraught with opportunities to make mistakes and bad choices. The clear expectations they had at home or in school are gone, and they may feel unprepared to face what comes next.

But sometimes we make it harder than it has to be. Combining entertaining stories from his own experience, insights from the Bible, and compelling evidence from research, "JP" Pokluda lays out a roadmap for how to navigate life as an adult, addressing topics like

- friendships and dating
- career and money management
- interpersonal conflict
- controlling anxiety
- recovering from addiction
- and discovering your purpose on this earth

Anyone struggling to find a footing in the world of adult life will welcome this witty, non-patronizing guide.

Do you ever need guidance for a big decision or a word of encouragement for your next steps? The Bible is the place to find both. On the days you doubt your faith. On the days you're not sure how to pray. On the days when you need wisdom on how to fix a relationship or build your faith. The Scriptures inside Bible Promises for Teens were chosen to lift you up and cheer you on. Here are God's promises for you. With a modern yet compact design, Bible Promises for Teens is an affordable, giftable, and accessible way to share God's Word and promises with any teen in your life.



WORDSEARCH

For some reason, the Church gives thanks for angels in September. The 29th is the feast day of Michael and All Angels. Since the days of Genesis, these messengers of God have been sent many times to intervene for the good in human affairs. Angels guarded the Garden of Eden, they led Lot away from Gomorrah, they helped Gideon, they stopped Balaam, they closed the mouths of lions for Daniel, and, most important, the archangel Gabriel was sent to tell Mary that she would mother the Messiah. Angels sat in the empty tomb of Jesus, and told of His Resurrection. Revelation is teaming with angels, sent on all sorts of missions by God in the last times. Today, many Christians in the world's hot spots report having had angels help them when in mortal danger.

Thanks
 Angels
 Church
 Feast
 Michael

All
 Genesis
 Messengers
 God
 Sent

Intervene
 Garden
 Eden
 Lot
 Gideon

Balaam
 Mouths
 Lions
 Daniel
 Archangel

Gabriel
 Mary
 Mother

Teaming
 Revelation

danger



MISSION FOCUS



Mothers' Union started in 1876 by Mary Sumner to create a network of women to support mothers of all social classes raising their children in Christian faith. Her vision grew into an international Charity of 4 million members worldwide, supporting parents and promoting stable Christian family life. MU international campaigns are particularly concerned with the plight of women: overseas projects cover literacy and development, parenting, finance, and actively campaigning against the exploitation, abuse and sexual violence towards women. MU is represented at the United Nations and lobbies and advises the

UK government

Local groups are at the heart of MU. Prayer is the foundation of all we do and meeting in fellowship is central in our work to support local church and community. The MU Branch at St Francis formed in 1967 becoming very active locally. We became a Prayer and Fellowship Group in 2018, meeting monthly at 10.00am on the second Wednesday in the Beatrice Room at St Francis. We welcome you to join us as we meet to pray and discuss a wide variety of topics.

We support MU locally, nationally, globally through prayer, donations and practical help. Mothers' Union Salisbury Diocese active outreach includes: providing low-cost holiday accommodation in our 6-berth caravan at Rockley Park Poole, supporting families' units in Guy's Marsh and Erlestoke Prisons, providing Christmas presents for prisoners' children through the Angel Tree Project. Popular craft projects include stoles for priests in Sudan, baby blankets for the neonatal unit at Salisbury Hospital, Baby Bundles for Spurgeons supporting families in Wiltshire. Our unique "Virtual Baby" project has run for 12 years - currently in 9 schools in the Diocese. We have strong links with Salisbury Women's Refuge and actively support the 16 Days of Activism Campaign against Gender-based Violence in November.

We warmly welcome you to join us at St Francis, or our mid-day monthly MU Cathedral service 26th September.

For information contact Carrie Walsh (Trustee) 07970 284 629 carolynblanch@me.com or Carole Long, St Francis MU leader 07743 853 505.

www.mothersunion.org has a link to our Salisbury page, although currently under revision.



GOD CAN USE EVERYTHING WE GIVE HIM

The story is told of a man in charge of building a great church, who was pestered by an apprentice who wanted to design the glass for one of the windows. Finally, he agreed that the apprentice should be given one very small window. BUT – the apprentice would have to provide all the materials himself.

Undaunted, the apprentice carefully swept up all the stray bits of coloured glass that had been discarded and set to work. Slowly, and with great care, he pieced together a window of rare beauty. When the church was finally opened, many people stopped to stare in wonder at his small, but so beautiful, iridescent window.

Our lives can be like that - no matter how small we may feel, or that we have only scraps to offer to God, He can still help us use every bit of time and energy and love we do have, to build a life that is beautiful, and which will reflect the glory of God to others.



ALABARÉ EVENTS – QUIZ AND FIREWALK!

Local charity Alabaré provides support and accommodation for people who are vulnerable, homeless or at risk of becoming homeless across Wiltshire and the South West. I'm delighted to announce that we are holding two very different events in the Salisbury area in the autumn which we hope will appeal to a wide audience!

On the evening of Tuesday 19th September, why not test your general knowledge by joining us at 7pm at Chafyn Grove School for the next of our very popular quizzes.

Teams of up to 6, £6 per person. Cash bar and raffle.

But if you are feeling more adventurous, we are holding our second Sponsored Firewalk on the evening of Friday 20th October at Alabaré's Old Sarum Development Centre! Back by popular demand, it's an incredibly empowering and motivational (if hot!) experience, when you will walk across hot coals whilst raising funds to support Alabaré. There will be an introductory session during the evening to prepare you for the walk itself and afterwards you will feel you can take on anything! Previous firewalker Claire says, "I took part in Alabaré's first Firewalk. The atmosphere was incredible! Yes, it was hot but the feeling of achievement was overwhelming."

You can find out more and book tickets for both these events from the website alabare.co.uk/get-involved/events or email Helen at supportercare@alabare.co.uk

Helen Inglis



WATERCRESS SMOOTHIE

Ingredients

- 85g watercress
- 160g mango, peeled & roughly chopped
- 110g cucumber, roughly chopped
- 1/2 an avocado
- 4 dried apricots
- 8g parsley
- 350ml water
- Nutmeg to finish

Method

Place all of the ingredients into a high-speed blender. Blitz until velvety smooth and drink immediately or chill and keep in the fridge for up to three days. Add nutmeg to taste before serving.



SIMPLE WATERCRESS SOUP

Ingredients

- One onion diced
- One potato diced
- A few handfuls (about 150g) of watercress
- 1 litre good quality chicken stock
- A teaspoon of butter and a splash of olive oil

Method

In a large saucepan on a medium heat, melt the butter and olive oil together and gently cook the chopped onion for 2-3 minutes, or until soft and translucent but not coloured. Add the other ingredients and simmer until the potato is cooked. Blend and season, to taste, with salt and freshly ground black pepper if required. (A spoonful of crème fraîche swirled through is also nice).



WILTSHIRE RIDE AND STRIDE

This is an annual, national sponsored event, organised locally by County Historic Churches Trusts. Wiltshire Ride + Stride has been going since 1984 and has raised over £1.6 million for the county's churches. 50% of the money raised goes to the participant's chosen church and the other half to the County Historic Churches Trust.

The next annual Ride & Stride will take place on **Saturday 9th September 2023**. Participants may be cyclists, walkers, horse-riders or drivers of mobility scooters. They can be of any age, but under-13s must be accompanied by an adult.

All denominations are welcome. Visit as many churches as you like, planning your own route. Seek sponsorship from friends, relations and colleagues, so much per church visited or a lump sum. For more information and to join the St Francis Team, contact Nigel Hancock on jonty592@aol.com or the website - wiltshirehistoricchurchestrust.org.uk/ride-stride

Café

Open for Cream Teas & Cakes

**The Reading Room
Stratford sub Castle, SP1 3LL**



SUNDAYS 2.30 – 4.30pm

6th AUGUST

3rd SEPTEMBER

**KITCHEN / GARDEN PRODUCE & PRELOVED BOOKS
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES**

(ALL PROCEEDS TO VARIOUS LOCAL CHARITIES)
LUNCHTIME CHRISTMAS CAFÉ – SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2023



Learn the Ukulele

Learn, play and sing along
to your favourite songs
in relaxed and friendly company

Monday afternoons

1.00 - 1.45. Beginners
2.00 - 2.45. Sing Along
3.00 - 3.45. Advanced

Why not come along for a free taster session
at

23rd Salisbury Scouts' Group Hall
Stratford Road, Salisbury, SP1 3JR

Email: sarumukeslg@gmail.com
Tel: 01722 414299



A Job That Gives Back

We are looking for wonderful people in Salisbury to help an older person to stay in their own home. Pay starts at £12 per hour with paid wait and travel time.

Call us to find out more 01722 443 559

or visit our website www.homeinstead.co.uk/salisbury-and-romsey



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. Licensed Zumba instructor.

UPHOLSTERY CLASS

New to St. Francis Church Hall

Traditional upholstery class starting this September, taught by Susanne, a practising professional upholsterer

A course is six weeks, to be held in term time on a Monday, with either a morning or afternoon session. If interested please email susanne@bysusanne.co.uk for an information pack



Are you grieving the death of a loved one or struggling with the long term effects of loss? A six session course will soon be running at St Francis. If interested, please contact Rev Mary Terry curate@st-francischurch.org.uk or 07732203452

Community Show

'Bake, Grow,
Make, Show'

SAVE THE DATE - Saturday 9th September 2023

St Francis Church, Beatrice Road, Salisbury

Do you enjoy baking? Got a good holiday photo? Have you been growing vegetables? Taken up a new hobby? Fancy having a go at flower arranging? Then have a go, all abilities and ages welcome

Schedules will be available July 2023 from
St Francis Church, 1 Assisi Road or Castlemere, Stratford Sub Castle.
For more information email emmalsquire@yahoo.co.uk

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