

**The Church of St Francis**  
**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**8<sup>th</sup> May 2022**



**'My sheep hear my voice.  
I know them,  
and they follow me.'**

**John 10: 27**

**GOOD NEWS!**

**Today we welcome Zoe and her family as she is baptized into the Christian faith and the family of the Church.**

**We hold Zoe in our prayers as she begins her journey of faith.**



**PRAYER FOR PEACE**

God of Peace and Justice,  
we pray for the people of Ukraine  
and all those other places in the world torn apart by war, terrorism and violence.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,  
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace,  
for wisdom, discernment and  
compassion to guide their decisions



## **FOR OUR PRAYERS**

**We pray for those who have asked for prayer: Sharon; Joyce; Maureen; Alex & Amanda.**

**Praying too for all those who are managing long term issues including: Alan & Maureen; Shirley and Richard; Kathryn, Willow, & Edward; Megan & Jeanette; Riley and his family; Sheila W; Charlotte, Maegan & Carson; Rosemary; Cynthia & David; John and Jane; Rosie, and Pete; Shirley.**

**We continue to pray for Woodside House Care Home; Omnia; and Hebron House.**

**We remember those who have died in recent days, among them: Maureen; Jill; Raymond; praying for those who loved them and for all who mourn the loss of a loved one or a friend.**

**The Church of St Francis  
Heartsease**



**Heavenly Father**

**We ask your blessing upon us.  
Hold the Heartsease Community,  
and all the world,  
in your arms of love.**

**Be with us.**

**Give us your strength,  
peace, and healing grace.**

**Watch over us,  
protect us from harm;  
and keep in safety**

**all those who care for the sick  
and attend to our needs,  
in Jesus name we pray.**

**Amen**

## **COLLECTS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ  
is the resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin  
to the life of righteousness,  
that we may seek those things  
which are above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen  
Risen Christ,  
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:  
teach us to hear your voice  
and to follow your command,  
that all your people  
may be gathered into one flock,  
to the glory of God the Father. Amen



## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Merciful Father,  
you gave your Son Jesus Christ  
to be the good shepherd,  
and in his love for us  
to lay down his life and rise again:  
keep us always under his protection,  
and give us grace to follow in his steps;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## **READINGS FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**THE WORD  
OF GOD**

You may notice that we do not always use all the readings in our Sunday service – we include them in the bulletin for you to reflect upon them throughout the forthcoming week.

## **PSALM 23**

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd; ♦ therefore can I lack nothing.

<sup>2</sup> **He makes me lie down in green pastures ♦ and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup> He shall refresh my soul ♦ and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; ♦ for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup> You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; ♦ you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.

<sup>6</sup> **Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, ♦ and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

**Glory to the Father,  
and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now,  
and shall be for ever. Amen**

### **Acts 9:36-end**

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity.

At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs.

Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.'

So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them.

Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.'

Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up.

Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive.

This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

### **REVELATION 7: 9 - end**

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing,

'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?'

I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.'

Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;

for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'



## SERVICES NEXT WEEK ALL WELCOME

**Mon: Morning Prayer – 9am**

**Tues: Morning Prayer – 9am  
Evening Prayer – 5pm**

**Weds: Morning Prayer – 9am  
Holy Communion [BCP] – 11.30am  
Evening prayer – 5pm**

**Thurs: Morning Prayer – 9am  
Evening Prayer – 5pm**

**Sun: Holy Communion  
10.30am**

## HOME COMMUNION



If you or someone you know lives in the parish of St Francis and would like to receive the Sacrament at home because of illness or mobility difficulties, please contact Revd Janet. Tel: 07368 832294

### John 10:22-30

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon.

So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense?

If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.'

Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep.

My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.

I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.

What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand.

The Father and I are one.'

## BEGINS NEXT WEEK



**15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> MAY**

## WHAT'S ON AT ST FRANCIS NEXT WEEK...

**LET IT GROW**  
EVERY WEDNESDAY  
@ 9am – 11.30am



Weeding, Sowing, Planting,  
&  
10.15 am Tea And Cake Break  
LOTS OF FRESH VEG TO BE PICKED  
COME AND GET IT!

**THURSDAY MORNING  
IS COFFEE MORNING**  
In the Church Lounge  
10am – 12pm  
EVERY WEEK



**ALL WELCOME**

**Why not pop in and catch up with  
some old friends – and maybe  
even make some new ones!**

## NextDoor@St Francis GOOD NEWS CAFÉ



**NOW OPEN!**

Coffee Express Latte, Cappuccino, flat white,  
Espresso, Hot Chocolate etc.  
All £1.50 per cup

**10am – 12pm  
EVERY  
FRIDAY  
&  
SATURDAY  
MORNING**

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**10am – 12pm**

Find us in 'Next Door @ St Francis'  
94 Rider Haggard Road. NR7 9UQ

## CAN WE BE OF HELP?

**ST FRANCIS CHURCH**  
**HEARTSEASE**  
96 – 98 RIDER HAGGARD ROAD



**IF YOU**  
**OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW**  
**IS IN NEED OF A HELPING**  
**HAND WITH FOOD ETC.**

**WE WILL DO OUR BEST**  
**TO HELP**  
**CALL OUR 24HR**  
**ANSWERPHONE**  
**01603 431259**  
**[or call/text**  
**07368 832294**  
**Mon – Thur 10am – 5pm]**



### ST FRANCIS CONTACT DETAILS:

- Vicar:** The Revd Janet Wyer  
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**cma**  
Heartsease  
Community Money Advice

Find out how we can help you with:  
Debt  
Budgeting  
Benefits  
Phone calls & online access  
All services are free

Book an appointment 07765 739987  
Or [heartseasecmacentre@outlook.com](mailto:heartseasecmacentre@outlook.com)

Nextdoor @ St Francis  
94 Rider Haggard Road

Volunteers also welcomed

Supported by:  
Company of Actuaries Charitable Trust Fund  
Paul Bassham Charitable Trust

