

Weekly Worship

Fountain of life...



Sunday 23rd August 2026

12th Sunday after Trinity

Every 1st &
3rd Sunday

**Holy
Communion**

Every 2nd
Sunday

**Café
Church**

Every 4th
Sunday

**Service
of Word**

On Zoom

**All Age
service**

Welcome to St Francis Church

This week is an all age service. We are taking part in traditional Nigerian Christening for baby Nathan with a churching/thanksgiving service for his mom Eunice.

This week's readings

Isaiah 51 1-6

Romans 12 1-8

Matt 16 13-20

Collect

God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us: remind us of your goodness, increase your grace within us, that our thankfulness may grow, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**We welcome Natalie Galer who will be preaching
Pelumi will be leading the service**

Just for St Francis

What's happening next in August 2026

Date	Event (Time)
23	Traditional Nigerian Christening of baby Nathan Arhawho and thanksgiving for his mother Eunice
24	Vital meeting for everyone at St Francis to hear and give feed back on Pelumi's vision for the future.
26	7.30 Whole church Prayer Meeting
30	Family Sunday

What you missed last week

Jo used the Canaanite woman's persistent faith to show that God's grace is boundless, calling the church to embrace complete inclusion

The Table is Bigger Than You Think: Lessons on Radical Grace

God's grace and welcome are expansive, breaking through social and spiritual barriers to include everyone

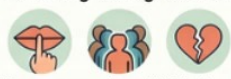
THE CANAANITE WOMAN: FAITH WITHOUT BORDERS



The Ultimate Outsider

As a Canaanite, she was a traditional enemy and a national/religious outsider to Israel.

Persisting Through Silence



She overcame Jesus' initial silence, the disciples' rejection, and deep feelings of exclusion.

The Sufficiency of a "Crumb"



She trusted that even a tiny fraction of God's grace was enough for healing.

RADICAL INCLUSION: EXTENDING THE TABLE



A House for All Nations

Fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy, God's house has become a place of prayer for everyone.



No One is Beyond Reach

Grace is greater than any past failure, brokenness, or perceived lack of "belonging."



Breaking Down Modern Barriers

We must remove traditions or habits that inadvertently send newcomers and "outsiders" away.

BARRIER VS. REALITY: GOD'S GRACE

THE BARRIER

National/Social Status



Past Mistakes/Failures



Feeling Like an Outsider



THE REALITY OF THE TABLE



A house of prayer for all nations



Grace that is greater than our sin



A seat specifically prepared for those who don't belong



Parish Notices

Special Meeting

Monday 24th August

This coming Monday is very important for all those serving God at St Francis.

Pelumi will be taking us through his vision for our church and the plans he has to achieve them in the next few years. We have a chance to tell him our views and how we can be involved.

Safeguarding

We are committed to safeguarding as an integral part of ministry and mission, promoting a safer culture and the welfare of all people safe at St Francis Church. We have adopted the Church of England's 'Promoting a Safer Church Policy for children, young people and vulnerable adults.

If you have any concerns, please contact the Minister (Pelumi), the Warden (Robert) or the Parish Safeguarding Officer (Steve)

We would love to hear your testimony, God-incidents or coincidences that you have witnessed or experienced, please submit your entry of 150 words to: testimonies@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk

You may choose to remain anonymous, however, please note: by submitting your story, you agree we can share your testimony via the print and digital platforms of St Francis Church



Please pray for growth

God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your Church, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, joy to our worship and power to our witness. Help St Francis, St Clares and Emmanuel Churches to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

Giving at St Francis Church

Jesus gave his life for us, everything we have belongs to him. We show our thanks by giving our time, money and resources/ St Francis needs our long term financial support

If you would like to set up a standing order, please use the details below:

Account Name: St Francis & St Clares Parochial Church Council

Sort Code: 40-22-26

Account Number: 91303368

Reference: Giving/[SURNAME]

If you would like to make a secure one-off donation as a thank you for God's blessings, please use the payment point in church or scan the QR code



*If applicable, please also tick the Gift Aid box.
God bless you.*

Newsletter Contributions & Enquiries

For contributions or enquiries on Baptism, marriage etc, please contact Valerie by phone (01483571018) or in person on Wednesdays from 12-4:00pm or via email: admin@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk

Minister: Rev'd Oluwapelumi Adeyemi minister@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk
Tel: 07508254495

Assistant Minister: Rev'd Diane Peters curate@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk
Tel: 07889638710

Deputy Church Warden: Robert Stevenson churchwarden@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk

Assistant Warden & Bookings Manager: Val Holt (day off: Wednesday)
hallbookings@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk

Pastoral Care: pastoralcare@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk

Treasurer: Seth Johnson treasurer@stfrancisstclareguildford.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Stephen Schofield

Email: safeguarding@emmanuelchurch.co.uk Tel: 07421443031 (9am – 3pm)



GUILDFORD
EMMANUEL
ST FRANCIS
ST CLARE