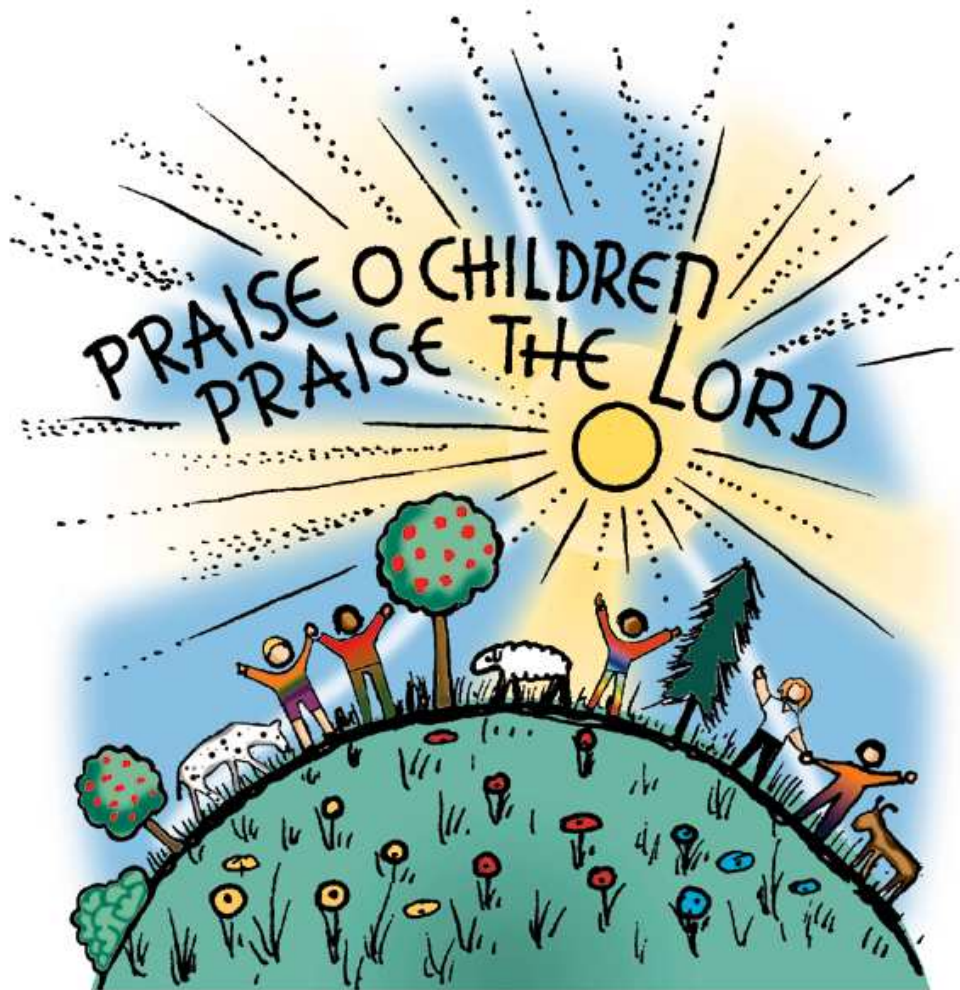


Bournville Parish Church ~ St Francis of Assisi

Children in Church



At St Francis Church we seek to welcome people of all ages and to help them to find their place within the life and worship here. This leaflet will tell you what is on offer to help you and your child feel at home.

Welcome

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs."

Mark 10.14

Jesus welcomed children and blessed them. We try to offer that same acceptance and welcome both to all the children who come here and the grown ups who bring them. We trust that through our worship together you will experience the presence and peace of God and that you will grow in faith and love for Him.

In Church

We all begin together every Sunday at the 10 o'clock service. There is a children's procession which leads in the ministers and any children can join in by gathering with the others at the back of the church near to the font. Children are always welcome to take part in any service, but there are also various activities that are intended specifically for children and young people. For those who are staying in the service there is a red box with toys and a shelf of children's books near the South door of the church (the left-hand-side as you look towards the back).

Crèche

A crèche space is available for parents and carers with babies or toddlers. This is in the vestry through the door on the left-hand-side of the church. There are toys to play with and the service is relayed through a speaker. Adults need to stay with the children in their care. Please feel free to make use of the crèche and you can go out and come back into the service as you need.

Sunday School Groups

Sunday school groups for different ages happen most weeks at St Francis (except when it is a family service or special occasion and Sunday school does not meet during the summer holidays). Each week there is time for worship, for learning and an activity; we sing children's praise songs, hear the Bible stories presented in a fun way and respond creatively by making things.

The Sunday School Co-ordinator is Janet Booth and all the helpers and assistants have undergone the necessary police checks. There are different age groups including a group for pre-school age children, two middle groups, a 'top' group for older children and there is also be a teenage group, 'Sacred Space', meeting twice a month during the 10 o'clock service.

The members of the Sunday School and their helpers make their way out to their groups once we have gathered together as a whole congregation by singing a hymn, greeting one another and saying an opening prayer.

Family Service

On the second Sunday of the month, the 10.00 a.m. service is a 'Family Service' which is designed to last for 45 minutes and to allow people of all-ages to worship together.

The Family Service is not a communion service but a celebration of Holy Communion follows at 11.00 a.m. for those who wish to stay.

Note that in November and December the Family Service is on the first Sunday of the month.

Children's Choir

The St Francis Church Children's Choir is led by Laura Godwin and sings at the 10.00 a.m. service on most weeks in term time. We rehearse on Friday evenings from 6.00 to 7.00 p.m. every week except in the school holidays. It is a great way to learn to sing and for children to help lead worship. There are opportunities to take part in concerts throughout the year and it is good fun too.

FAITH

Faith is the name of our youth group for 11-14 year olds (school year six upwards). It is led by Paul Northam our Outreach Youth Worker and meets on Sunday afternoons from 4.30 - 6.00 p.m. during term time. We play games, explore what Christian faith means for us, go out on trips, read the Bible and pray together.

How to get involved...

If you would like to know more about Sunday School either on behalf of a child or as an adult helper please contact the Parish Office on 0121 472 7215.