



Celebrating the

spirit
of 
francis
instrument of peace

*Singing in tune
and living in
harmony with
Mother Earth!*

Five days celebrating the life and wisdom of the world's first environmentalist, Francis of Assisi, whose example and teachings are, perhaps, more vital today than ever through conversation, social action, the arts, and a celebration of our open spaces and community volunteers with Franciscans Brother Samuel SSF and Sister Sophia Rose nCSF.

Join us for a joyful, inspiring and thought-provoking celebration of St Francis' 800th anniversary. Bringing together people of all ages across our communities and inspired by St Francis' deep love for God's creation, our theme, 'Singing in Tune and Living in Harmony with Mother Earth,' invites us to celebrate the beauty of God's world, reflect on our responsibility towards it, and discover how we can make a difference together.

We begin with a celebration of St Francis' Canticle of the Creatures, followed by a community supper and an introduction to St Francis' life and ministry, but there really is something for everyone with children and young people at the heart of the programme. Weather depending, they will enjoy woodland worship, creative activities, and opportunities to share their hopes and concerns about climate change. Young people will be able to make their voices heard while enjoying hotdogs and seasonal treats on the Thursday evening, and our connection with nature will come alive through tree planting and a trip to the community orchard and allotments as well as other outdoor events, so pack a picnic and enjoy an evening nature trail and bat watching session.

Families can also get creative by learning how to turn household waste into bug hotels and animal sculptures while discovering how small acts of kindness and social responsibility can make a huge difference for our wildlife and community spaces.

There will be plenty of opportunity for food, music, and laughter, as well as community and harvest suppers, a concert, craft workshop and, of course, much tea and cake!

A pet-blessing service, prayers for peace, and moments of quiet reflection will help connect with God through St Francis' enduring message of compassion for creation and care for one another, ending with a celebration and thank you to our community volunteers who help our communities to flourish as we learn to 'sing in tune and live in harmony with Mother Earth.'

Programme of Events

Wednesday 9th September	17.00-17.45 hrs	'The Canticle of the Creatures' opening celebration with Brother Samuel and Sister Sophia Rose	St Laurence
	18.00-20.00 hrs	Bring and share community supper with a talk about St Francis' life and ministry	St Laurence Room
	20.15 hrs	Compline – a short, said service of evening prayer	St Laurence
Thursday 10th September	08.15-08.45 hrs	Morning Prayer	St Laurence
	09.00-09.30 hrs	School assembly / 'Woodland Worship' with presentation of the Great Horwood Guides and Brownies 'ECO' awards	Great Horwood CofE School
	11.00-12.30 hrs	Public tour with tree planting, blessing of the community orchard and allotments with biodiversity awareness talk	Winslow community orchard & allotments
	14.00-15.00 hrs	Harvest Celebration for Swan House and Swan Court	Swan House
	16.30-17.15 hrs	Pet-blessing service with collection for the Medical Detection Dogs charity, and a dog/cat food collection for the St Laurence Food Cupboard	St James'
	17.30-18.00 hrs	Evening prayer	St James'
	19.00-20.00 hrs	'Caring for our future' open Q&A session for young people over hot dogs and seasonal treats	Great Horwood Scout Hut
Friday 11th September	08.15-08.45 hrs	Morning Prayer	St Laurence
	10.20-11.30 hrs	School Assembly and visit	Winslow
	11.45-12.45 hrs	Blessing of the memorial garden and medical detection dogs	MDD Centre Gt Horwood
	14.00-18.00 hrs	'Brother Sun and Sister Moon' community art display	Winslow Public Hall
	15.00-16.00 hrs	'Influence and Impact: How St Francis has shaped the work of A Rocha UK' with Polly Eaton	
	16.00-16.30	Tea and refreshments	

Friday 11th September (continued)	16.30-17.00	Round panel discussion and call for action with our guests and local conservation groups	Winslow Public Hall (continued)
	17.00-18.00 hrs	Film: 'Finding Harmony'. Learn more about His Majesty King Charles vision and pioneering work on conservation	
	19.00-21.00 hrs	Bring a picnic for an alfresco supper with nature trail and bat watch led by Carla Boswell	Winslow Arboretum
Saturday 12th September	08.15-08.45 hrs	Morning Prayer	St Laurence
	09.00-10.30 hrs	Sunrise and simplicity: breakfast for community & peace builders	The Bell Hotel
	11.00-15.00 hrs	Family craft workshop. Come and repurpose household waste to make a bug hotel or animal sculpture over burgers and hotdogs and learn all about the Winslow Womblers!	St Laurence Room and churchyard
	15.00-16.00 hrs	Assisi, ecumenism and world peace. Prayers for a broken world led by Christians Working Together in Winslow	St Laurence Church
	18.00-21.00 hrs	Harvest supper and concert led by the Winslow Concert Band, followed by a little bit of pomp and circumstance!	Winslow Public Hall
Sunday 13th September	09.30-10.30 hrs	Harvest Festival	St Laurence
	11.15-12.15 hrs	Harvest Festival	St James'
	13.30-15.30 hrs	'Hearts of Service' volunteering fair and celebration of our community volunteers	St Laurence Room
	18.00-19.00 hrs	Creationtide Praise and Worship led by Winslow Christian Fellowship	St Laurence
Saturday 19 th September	19.30 hrs	People's Emergency Briefing – come and learn more!	Winslow Public Hall