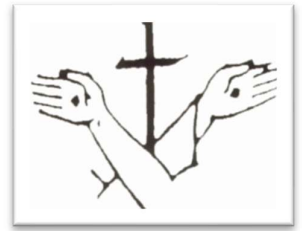
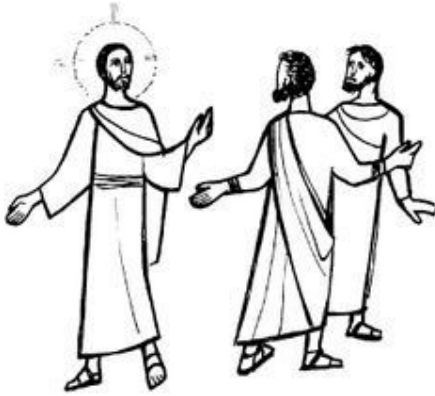




St Francis of Assisi Parish Newsletter “Laudato, Si”



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH
Grove Crescent Road, Stratford, London, E15 1BJ



Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C – 26th June 2022

Jesus’ call to follow him asks us to give him “not less than everything”. His is not a call to a half-hearted, lukewarm commitment, but to be dedicated to the generous service of other people. Jesus calls us to follow him, but warns that responding to that call will be costly. Let us ask forgiveness for the times we have failed to answer his call in our lives.

Today’s Readings

1 Kings 19:16. 19-21: Elisha leaves behind his parents and his farming lifestyle and follows the itinerant prophet Elijah as his servant.

Responsorial Psalm: Oh Lord, it is You who are my portion.

Galatians 5:1. 13-18: We are called to be free, not to a life of selfishness and sin, but to one of generous service of other people.

Luke 9:51-62: Following Jesus requires a wholehearted commitment.

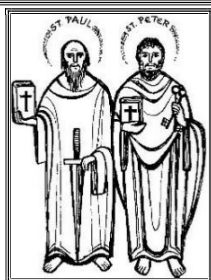
“Jesus resolutely took the road for Jerusalem.”

**“Once the hand is laid on the plough,
no one who looks back is fit for the Kingdom of God “**

On his journey to Jerusalem, where he’s going to face suffering and death, Jesus sent messengers on ahead to a Samaritan village to prepare for his arrival. The Jews regarded the Samaritans, a mixed ethnic and religious group, as heretical; and in turn, the Samaritans often refused hospitality to Jewish pilgrims on their way to Jerusalem. When James and John responded angrily to the Samaritan’s lack of hospitality, Jesus reprimanded them. Why? Because following his way of non-violence is more important than any race or ethnic group. He had come to save everyone, not only people who narrow-minded people judged to be worthy of salvation. As Jesus proceeded on his journey, some would-be disciples asked if they could follow him. Jesus made it clear that his pathway is not an easy one. God's call was urgent, and Jesus' disciples must be willing to renounce **everything** for the sake of the kingdom.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: Mon. 27th June 22 – 7pm – Parish Council in the Hall. Tues. 28th June – Ukrainian Classes.
Wed. 29th June Feast of Ss. Peter & Paul Masses at 12:15pm and 7:30pm. Mon. 11th July 2022 - 11:30am – Mass for the Dead at St. Patricks Cemetery, Leyton. *All of the following sessions at St Francis Hal, Stratford are open to all Newham Parishes & begin after the 10am Mass* **Sat 24 Sep: Evangelisation Day.** **Sat 26 Nov: Day for Lectors**

Pray for those who have died, and whose Anniversaries occur around this time, also, please pray for the sick, and, remember the People of Ukraine



Wednesday this week – 29 June – Masses at
12:15pm and 7:30pm

**Saints Peter and Paul, apostles
HOLYDAY**

Peter and Paul are the two great heroes of the Apostolic Age - Peter for leading the first Christian communities and binding them in unity, a role that springs from his profession of faith in Caesarea Philippi, and Paul for travelling throughout the Roman Empire as the Apostle to the Gentiles, ensuring that the Gospel could be heard by everyone. They both ended up in Rome, the heart of the Empire, where they both crowned their lives of witness by shedding their blood for Christ. As the ancient hymn for this feast day ("Decora Lux aeternitatis") says: *"Rejoice, O Rome, this day; thy walls they once did sign. With princely blood, who now their glory share with thee. What city's vesture glows with crimson deep as thine? What beauty else has earth that may compare with thee?"*

In celebrating the death of these apostles and martyrs, we celebrate the triumph of life and death offered fully to God. Rome had the two great leaders of the Church. O Roma felix! O happy Rome!

**The Diocese of Brentwood Schools
Singing Programme**

Choral Director

A new and exciting post, which is part of the National School Singing Programme.

Closing date for applications is 12 noon on Monday 4 July 2022. See Diocese of Brentwood website:

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR BAGS
OR BELONGINGS UNATTENDED IN
THE CHURCH.**

Invitation: The Franciscan Community invite enquiries from young people aged 18-35 years interested in the religious and/or priestly life? If interested, please contact Fr. Donal as well as via email: brdonalofm@yahoo.co.uk (Franciscan website: friar.org)

YEAR OF THE FAMILY: The 10th World Meeting of Families is taking place in Rome this coming week, with a programme of talks and liturgies which will be live-streamed via Vatican media channels. Our Diocese is marking the close of the Year of the Family at the annual Mass for Marriage and Family Life in July, which Bishop Alan will offer for the intentions of all families in the Diocese. If you would like a particular intention to be placed before the altar at this Mass, please complete the prayer request form which can be found on the new Marriage and Family Life pages of the Diocesan website, where you will also find more information about the World Meeting of Families: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/marriage-family-life>

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: I have a list of 42 Eucharistic Ministers, of which, only 15 have responded to my appeals to contact me – I know some have left the Parish. At present I have:-
Sat. 6pm Mass – 2 Ministers, Sun. 9:00am Mass NO ministers, Sun. 10:15am Mass – 9 Ministers, & Sunday 12:00 Noon Mass – 2 Ministers, plus, 2 Reserve Ministers. Four or five people have come forward asking to become Ministers, and training is being arranged. Please would you let me know whether or not you wish to continue to be a Eucharistic Minister. I can be contacted via the Parish Office, or, please speak to a Steward after Mass. Thank you. Des Hoddy – Pastoral Assistant.

Friars in Residence: Fr Patrick Lonsdale OFM (Guardian), Fr Donal Walsh OFM, Fr Brian McGrath OFM, Fr Michael O'Grady OFM (Parish Priest),
Address: The Friary, 160 The Grove, Stratford, London E15 1NS
Parish Office: Monday to Friday 9:30am -3pm
Parish Secretary: Kathleen Allen
Pastoral Assistant: Derek Hoddy
Tel: 0208 534 1964 Email: stratforcl@friar.org Website: stfrancisassisistratford.com

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH
Grove Crescent Rd, Stratford, E15 1BJ
Masses

Monday to Friday 12:15pm.
Tuesday, after Mass, St Anthony Novena.
Saturday: Morning Prayer: 9:40am Mass 10am followed by Holy Hour Adoration of Blessed Sacrament until 11:30am.
Confession: 10:30am — 11:30am
Sunday: 6pm Saturday
9am, 10:15am, 12 noon & 4.30pm (Ukrainian)
Confessions: Sat: 10.30 - 11.30am & 5 – 5.45pm