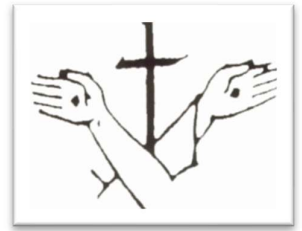




St Francis of Assisi Parish Newsletter "Laudato, Si"



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

22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time – 28th August 2022



True greatness is humble and lies in our willingness to care for people who are vulnerable and less able to fend for themselves -people who can't repay us.

Today's Readings

Ecclesiasticus: 3:17-20. 28-29: Greatness and humility should walk together.

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM: *In your goodness, O God, you prepared a home for the poor.*

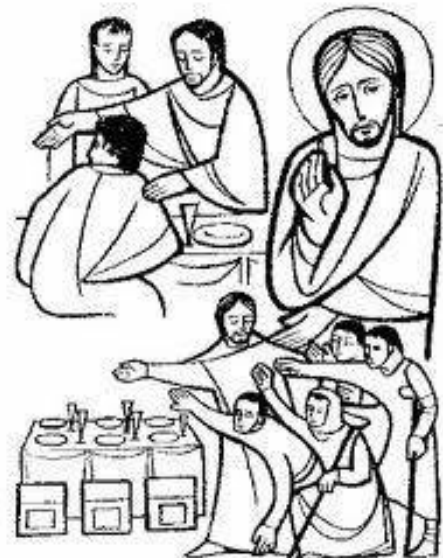
Hebrews 12:18-19. 22-24: We are called to a heavenly kingdom, not an earthly one.

Luke 14:1. 7-14: We are blessed if we are prepared to look after the needs of people who are unable to repay us.

**"When you hold a banquet,
invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind"**

Jesus was invited to share the Sabbath meal at the home of a leading Pharisee. Noticing the competition for the seats of honour at table, he used the opportunity to teach a lesson on humility to both host and guest. He suggested that the guests take should the lowest place. If the host moved them up to a higher position, they would be honoured, and they wouldn't be embarrassed by being asked to take a lower position.

Jesus reminded the host not to invite only wealthy and important people to his home; he should open his doors to the weak and powerless who were without earthly power (the *anawim*). Although these poor were in no position to repay their host for his generosity, he would be richly rewarded at the "resurrection of the just"



Can you imagine what it would be like if banquets were held in honour of the poor and deprived instead of the rich and famous? How would this change us? How would it change the world?

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: **First Holy Communion Application Forms to be returned to the Parish Office by 19th September 2022. 16th & 17th October – The Relics of St, Bernadette at Brentwood. 18th & 19th October – The Relics of St, Bernadette at Our Lady of Lourdes, Wanstead.** All of the following sessions at St Francis Hall, 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.

**MASS ON BANK HOLIDAY -
MONDAY 29TH AUGUST 2022 -
WILL BE AT 10AM.**

**10 KEY QUOTES EVERY CATHOLIC SHOULD
REFLECT ON:**

from Pope Francis' apostolic letter on the
liturgy,

"Desiderio desideravi".

The pope's newest apostolic letter reflects on
the meaning of baptism, our understanding of
mystery, inadequate liturgical approaches, the
art of celebrating the liturgy and more... 'I
have longed to eat this Passover with you
before I suffer ...'

9: The role of the priest

The priest himself should be overpowered by this
desire for communion that the Lord has toward
each person. It is as if he were placed in the middle
between Jesus' burning heart of love and the heart
of each of the faithful, which is the object of the
Lord's love. **To preside at the Eucharist is to be
plunged into the furnace of God's love.**

10: A call to abandon polemics

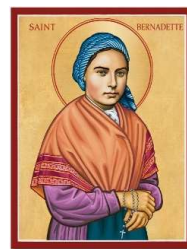
*Let us abandon our polemics to listen together to
what the Spirit is saying to the Church. Let us
safeguard our communion. Let us continue to be
astonished at the beauty of the Liturgy. The
Paschal Mystery has been given to us. Let us allow
ourselves to be embraced by the desire that the
Lord continues to have to eat His Passover with us.
All this under the gaze of Mary, Mother of the
Church.*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023

Application Forms are available at the back of the
Church, on the Website, and from the Parish
Office. The closing date
**FOR ALL APPLICATIONS IS
MONDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2022**

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).

**THE PILGRIMAGE OF
ST. BERNADETTE'S RELICS**



The pilgrimage of St. Bernadette's relics offers us a
welcome opportunity to bear active witness to our
Faith, joining with one another across our many
communities to encounter God's love and find spiritual
emotional and psychological healing and renewal. The
relics will be at **Brentwood on 16th & 17th October 2022**,
and at **Our Lady of Lourdes, Wanstead on 18th & 19th
October 2022**. The Reservation System is now open
and can be accessed via stbernadette.org.uk/the-tour/



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

Monday to Friday 12:15. 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

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: stratford@friar.org
Website: stfrancisassisistratford.com