

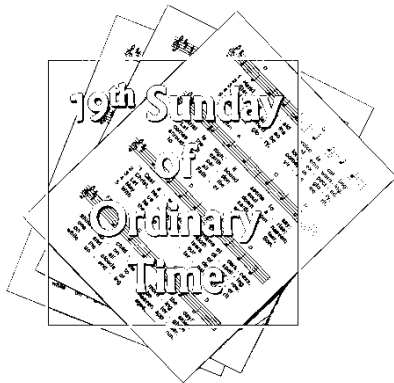


St Francis of Assisi Parish Newsletter "Laudato, Si"



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

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 7th August 2022



In today's Gospel Jesus goes to the heart of human fears and desires. Anxiety about, or unrestrained desire for, money, is often rooted in deep insecurity. God has given us an entire kingdom to call our own, and we've got no need to be afraid.

Today's Readings

Wisdom 18:6-9: The dark night of the Passover became light for God's children through faith and hope. They had to rely on faith, but it was that faith that marked them out as God's chosen people. A people threatened and vulnerable became strong in hope through their trust in God.

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

Hebrews 11:1-2. 8-19: Faith is the foundation of a life lived in hope, even for people who never live to see their ultimate hopes fulfilled. The scriptures give us many examples of hope-filled lives that built a future for God's people. Our security lies in our faith and hope in God's unshakeable love.

Luke 12:32-48: Jesus teaches us that what we cherish most is the sign of where our heart lies. God's heart is set on us, for we are God's priceless treasure. Setting our hearts on God's kingdom and its justice will lead us to the deepest union with Jesus and to building a world after his own heart.

**"You've got to be prepared, for, at an hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come"**

Be ready – at any time



The early Church expected the imminent return of Jesus Christ. In speaking of his second coming (Parousia), Jesus described himself as a master returning from a wedding and expecting to find his servants vigilant upon his arrival. Jesus made the unlikely comparison of himself to a thief in the night. He pointed to the uncertain hour of his return by telling his disciples to be prepared whenever he might come. The faithful servant who watched over the household (the Church) would be rewarded for their fidelity when the master returned. Unfaithful servants would be punished for their shameful behaviour. Jesus warned these future leaders of the Church that they would be held more accountable than those who acted out of ignorance. Christian leaders today must continue to exercise care for the Church, which has been entrusted to them. They should never leave a task undone that ought to be finished before Christ's return.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 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.

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR BAGS
AND VALUABLES UNATTENDED
DURING MASS. THANK YOU.**

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.**

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 ...'

3 Observing the rubrics

Let us be clear here: every aspect of the celebration must be carefully tended to (space, time, gestures, words, objects, vestments, song, music...) and every rubric must be observed. Such attention would be enough to prevent robbing from the assembly what is owed to it; namely, the paschal mystery celebrated according to the ritual that the Church sets down.

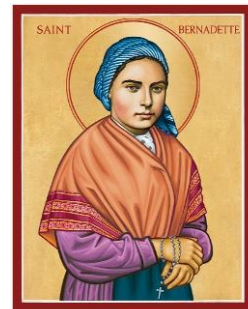
4 The liturgical reform and Vatican II

It would be trivial to read the tensions, unfortunately present around the celebration, as a simple divergence between different tastes concerning a particular ritual form. The problematic is primarily ecclesiological. I do not see how it is possible to say that one recognizes the validity of the Council — though it amazes me that a Catholic might presume not to do so — and at the same time not accept the liturgical reform born out of Sacrosanctum Concilium, a document that expresses the reality of the Liturgy intimately joined to the vision of Church so admirably described in Lumen gentium.

TO BE CONTINUED.

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/

BUBBLY CLUB

River Thames Boat Trip
26th August 2022

See next week's Newsletter for full details.

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

Monday to Friday 12:1 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