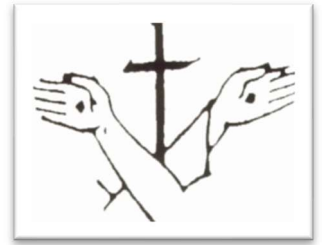
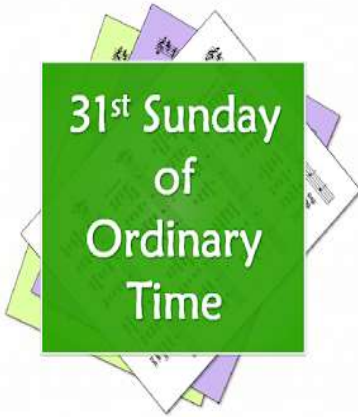




St Francis of Assisi Parish Newsletter “Laudato, Si”



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



31st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 31ST OCTOBER 2022.

“Today salvation has come to this house,” Jesus tells Zacchaeus. We gather so that we too may experience the Lord’s salvation and healing in this house.

Today’s Readings:

WISDOM 11:22-12:2: Our patient God is a lover of life, whose spirit fills all things.

Response to the Psalm:

I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:11-2:2:

Paul prays that God will make us worthy of our call.

LUKE 19:1-10: Zacchaeus meets Jesus, who comes to seek out and save people who are lost.

Only Luke tells the story of Zacchaeus the tax-collector whose determination enabled him to find salvation in Jesus. Zacchaeus was short in stature but lofty in his resolve to meet the Lord. The little man wasn’t able to see over the crowds surrounding Jesus. So he perched up a sycamore tree hoping to catch a glimpse of him as he passed through Jericho on his way to Jerusalem. Jesus told Zacchaeus that he would be a guest at his house, and he was overjoyed. When the crowd heard this, they complained about Jesus’ habit of dining with sinners. As the chief tax-collector, Zacchaeus had the opportunity to acquire more than he was entitled to receive, but he promised to make restitution for everything that he had gained by unjust means. He even went beyond what the law demanded by promising to give half of his earnings to the poor. Jesus told Zacchaeus that he was a true “son of Abraham,” worthy to inherit God’s promise of salvation. The Lord is merciful and overlooks our sins, the book of Wisdom proclaims. Let us entrust ourselves to that mercy.



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.

**THE SACRAMENT OF
HOLY COMMUNION - 2023.**

On **SUNDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2022** there will be an **Introductory Meeting at 2pm in the Church** for all the parents/guardians who have made formal applications, and their children. **Please do not attend this meeting IF YOU HAVE NOT MADE A FORMAL APPLICATION** for next years' Sacrament.

**THE SACRAMENT OF
CONFIRMATION - 2023**

The application forms for next years' Confirmation Candidates are available at the back of the church, on line & at the Parish Office. The forms **MUST** be returned to the Parish Office by **Saturday 5th November 2022.**



**SOLEMNITY OF ALL
SAINTS – HOLY DAY.**

**TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 1.**

*Holy Mass at 12.15pm
and 7.30pm.*

**"Rejoice and be glad,
for your reward will be
great in heaven".**

God has called us all to
be saints. This feast of
All Saints reminds us of

the struggle involved in this but challenges us to respond to this call to holiness in our daily lives. Saints are made holy by the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit. After their death, some Christians are officially recognised by the Church as "Saints" for their exemplary sanctity. These individuals are models of a virtuous life. They give us hope for the blessed state that we all strive to attain. The spiritual union between all the faithful, living and dead, is called the "Communion of Saints."

Today we honour ALL the saints – canonised and uncanonised.

Safeguarding: The Stratford Friars are taking part in our safeguarding training this couple of weeks. We, as a Friary and as a Parish must keep this matter constantly before our eyes. We must all contribute to making a Culture of awareness and protection of the vulnerable.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

13th November – Sacrament of Holy Communion
Introductory Meeting 2pm at the Church – parents & children (only for those who have made a formal application for Holy Communion in 2023).

Confirmation 2023 – Application Forms to be returned to the Parish Office by 5th November '22.

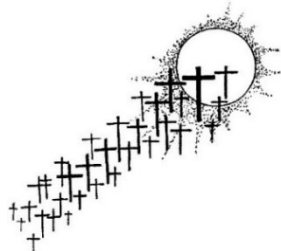
THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE

**FAITHFUL
DEPARTED**

**WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 2,
ALL SOULS DAY**

*Holy Mass at 12.15pm
and 7.30pm.*

All Souls' Day is a day



commemorating all the faithful departed.

Odilo, abbot of Cluny, established All Souls' Day in the eleventh century.

All during November Mass is celebrated each day for all the our departed on the November Dead List.

Please pray for the people of Ogbaru, Nigeria

Scores of people lost their lives last week trying to flee flooding in southern Nigeria. The victims were residents of an inundated area of Anambra State who had crammed into a boat in an effort to reach safe ground. The boat ran into submerged trees and rooftops, and was soon overpowered by the waves. Only nine of the estimated 85 people on board are known to have survived; most of the other 76, including many children were missing, presumed dead. Nigeria has been battling its worst floods in a decade, caused by weeks of heavy rain, and exacerbated by the release of excess water from Lagdo Dam in Cameroon. At least 300 people have died, and 100,000 have been displaced; and thousands of hectares of farmland have been destroyed.

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 the Blessed Sacrament until 11:30am.

Confession: 10:30am – 11:30am & 5pm – 5:45pm

**Sunday: 6pm Saturday,
9am, 10:15am, 12 noon &
4:30pm(Ukrainian).**

Friars in Residence:

Fr Patrick Lonsdale, OFM (Guardian).

Fr Michael O'Grady, OFM (Parish Priest)

Fr Brian McGrath, OFM.

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.co.uk