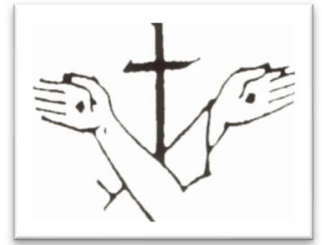




St Francis of Assisi Parish Newsletter “Laudato, Si”



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

Second Sunday of Easter – Feast of the Divine Mercy 16th April 2023



Our risen Lord makes himself known to his disciples by offering them his peace. Through this sign, he also channels the divine mercy that we celebrate today. Let us open ourselves to that peace and mercy transforming our lives. We give thanks to the Lord who has called us into his heavenly kingdom, and ask his mercy for our failings.

Today’s Readings:

Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47: The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles.

Response to the Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for His love has no end.

1 Peter 1:3-9: God the Father, in his great mercy, has given us a new birth as his sons and daughters, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

John 20:19-31: Jesus said to the disciples, “Peace be with you,” and showed them his hands and his side.

“Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed”

On the evening of the resurrection, the disciples were gathered in fear, behind locked doors. They were overjoyed when the Risen Lord appeared in their midst with a greeting of “peace” (Hebrew, Shalom). Just as God breathed life into Adam, the first living being the Son of God breathed the life-giving Spirit upon his disciples, sending them forth with the power to forgive sins. Thomas (called Didymus, meaning “twin”) was absent on this occasion and he refused to believe their testimony. His defiant words “unless I see” came from one who knew Jesus as an intimate friend. A week later, the Risen Christ appeared again, and this time Thomas was present. When Thomas touched Christ's wounds, he declared Jesus to be “My Lord and my God.” Jesus told Thomas that those who believed on faith were more blessed than those who needed visible proof.



Dates for your Diary: 22nd APRIL 2023 – HEALING SERVICE AT OUR LADY OF COMPASSION CHURCH – details on the Website. 22nd APRIL 2023 – EARTH DAY – to celebrate & promote environmental awareness. 29th JULY 2023 – PARISH COACH TRIP TO THE SEA SIDE - WALTON-ON-THE-NAZE – Watch for more info.

Pray for those who have died, and those whose Anniversaries occur around this time, also, please pray for the sick, and, remember the People of Ukraine. Our thoughts and prayers for the people of Turkey and Syria following the devastating earthquake.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



JESU UFAM TOBIE

Sr Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun, was God's instrument to proclaim Divine mercy toward every human being. Sr Faustina was inspired by a vision in which Jesus told her that a painting should be made of his image with the invocation "Jesus, I trust in you." She commissioned the painting in 1935. Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, then Archbishop of Krakow (later St. Pope John Paul II), began Sr Faustina's process of beatification. At her

canonization in 2000 (the first saint in the new millennium) the Pope designated the Second Sunday of Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday. The Pope's final days coincided with the Church's preparation to celebrate the feast he described as flowing from Christ's "most profound mercy," and which the Lord established. Speaking of the message contained in St. Faustina's Diary, the Pope called her "the great apostle of Divine Mercy in our time."

Saturday 22 April: Earth Day:

Earth Day is a global event that celebrates and promotes environmental awareness and action every year on 22 April. All individuals and institutions have a mutual responsibility to act as guardians of the earth, seeking the choices in ecology, economics, and ethics that will eliminate pollution, poverty, and violence, foster peaceful progress, awaken the wonder of life, and realise the full potential for the future of humanity. God created us in his image; in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them, saying: "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that move on the earth." (Genesis 1:27-28).



The Mass No 4 (of a series)



The Liturgy of the Eucharist:

WE OFFER WE RECEIVE WE OFFER: In the **Presentation of the Offerings** and the **Eucharistic Prayer**, we offer as one, taking part in the sacrifice of praise, for the Mass remembers the Last Supper as **Sacrament**, re-presents the Crucifixion as **Sacrifice**, and looks forward to the Resurrection as **Celebration**. What do we call the bread and the wine? Before the Consecration, when the Celebrant says 'Take this, all of you, and eat of it...' and 'Take this, all of you, and drink from it...' it is bread and wine. But after the Consecration it is the Body of Christ and the and the Blood of Christ under the appearance of bread and wine. So, we should call it 'the Sacred Host' or 'the Precious Blood'.

FOOD BANK

Trinity & St. Augustine would like to say "Thank You" to the people of our Parish for their donations, prayers and support. There is still an on-going need, especially for pasta, rice and tinned goods.

Thank you for your generosity.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy

For recitation on a chaplet or ordinary rosary beads, begin with the Sign of the Cross. Continue by saying one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and the Apostles Creed. Then on the OUR FATHER bead say the following words: "Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world." On the 10 HAIL MARY beads say: "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world." Continue around the chaplet. In conclusion, recite these words three times: "Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world." End with the Sign of the Cross.

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: Saturday: 10:30am — 11:30am & 5pm — 5:45pm
Sunday: 6pm Saturday, 9am, 10:15am, 12 noon & 4:30pm (Ukrainian).

Fr. Patrick Lonsdale, OFM (Guardian)

Fr Michael O'Grady, OFM (Parish Priest)

Fr Brian McGrath, OFM

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Parish Office: Monday to Friday 9:30am - 3pm

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