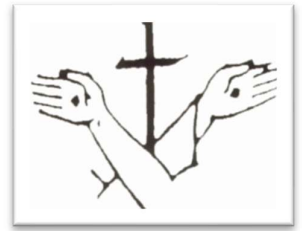




St Francis of Assisi Parish Newsletter "Laudato, Si"



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

Grove Crescent Road, Stratford, London, E15 1BJ

Third Sunday of Easter – 23rd April 2023

One of the loveliest stories in the Gospel. How the risen Lord joined two of his disciples on the road to Emmaus. He explained the Old Testament to them and revealed himself in the breaking of bread. Faith tells us that Christ has risen, but we distract ourselves from that great truth and fail to walk with him in this world.



Today's Readings:

Acts 2:14. 22-33: The humanity of Christ was raised to fulfil the deepest longings of Israel.

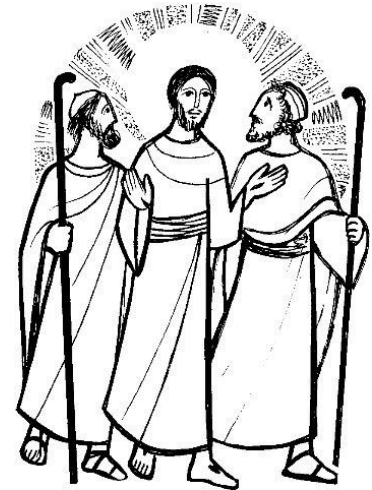
Response to the Psalm: Show us, Lord, the path of life.

1 Peter 1:17-21: Only the gifts of God are truly free, but the redemption is also the gift of a human being. This is why it was fitting that the Lord should pay a price for that redemption.

Luke 24:13-35: The Church is a conversation, as we share our faith. Sometimes we fail to allow the Lord into that conversation.

"With that their eyes were opened, and they recognized him"

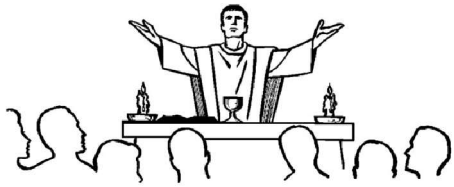
As two disciples returned to their home in Emmaus from their Passover pilgrimage to Jerusalem, they discussed the meaning of the events they had witnessed there. As they journeyed along the road, the Risen Christ appeared to them, but they mistook him for another pilgrim. They told the "stranger" that Jesus was a mighty prophet, but their hope that "he was the one to redeem Israel" was shattered at the crucifixion. They also told him of the rumour that some women went to the tomb and found it empty, but the apostles dismissed their story as nonsense. Jesus listened to their anguished tale, and then explained that God's plan had been revealed in Moses and the prophets (the Jewish scriptures) and that it was necessary that the Messiah should suffer so as to enter glory. At nightfall, the disciples urged Jesus to stay and share a meal with them. Though the disciples' eyes had been closed to Jesus' presence, they recognized him "in the breaking of the bread". Then he vanished from their sight. Unable to keep the good news to themselves, they rushed back to Jerusalem with great joy. There they discovered that the apostles had already experienced the Risen Christ. Although Jesus is physically absent, he continues to be with his followers through the Word and Eucharist. His resurrected body is a foretaste of what God intends for all of us.



Dates for your Diary: 1st MAY 2023 – MASS FOR MIGRANTS, 12PM AT ST ANTONY OF PAUDUA CHURCH, FOREST GATE, LONDON E7 9QB. 6TH MAY – 30TH JULY 2023– The National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, exhibition exploring ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI. TO CELEBRATE THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRANCISCANS IN STRATFORD: SAT. 17th JUNE – PICNIC IN THE OLYMPIC PARK (Weather Permitting). SUN. 18th JUNE REFRESHMENTS AFTER ALL MASSES IN THE LARGE HALL. WEDNESDAY 21ST JUNE THANKSGIVING MASS AT 7:30PM. 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.

THE MASS - No 5 (of a series)



**The Liturgy
of the
Eucharist:**
In the
Communion
Rite, we
receive as

one. We say the Lord's Prayer, exchange a sign of peace and kneel to prepare ourselves to receive Holy Communion, making sure that we are properly disposed to receive the Body and Blood of Christ, God's greatest gift that keeps on giving. "The Body of Christ: Amen. The Blood of Christ: Amen." How do we receive Holy Communion? We process forward to the Altar, bow before the Sacred Host and say 'Amen' when the minister says, 'The Body of Christ'. We normally receive on the palm of the hand and place it on our tongue straight away and consume it immediately. If we are receiving the Precious Blood, we bow before the Chalice and say 'Amen' when the minister says, 'The Blood of Christ'. We take the Chalice, consume the Precious Blood and return it to the minister. We then return to our place, kneel or sit, and make our thanksgiving. Do we have to receive Holy Communion from the Chalice? The Church teaches that the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ is present in both the Sacred Host and Precious Blood, and so there is no obligation to receive Holy Communion from the Chalice. However, the Church teaches that Holy Communion 'has a fuller sign when it takes place under both kinds, for in this form the **sign** of the Eucharistic banquet is more clearly evident and clearer expression is given to the divine will by which the new and eternal Covenant is ratified in the Blood of the Lord'. However, 'Christ, whole and entire, and the true Sacrament, is received even under only one species, and hence, as regards the resulting fruits, those who receive under only one species are not deprived of any grace that is necessary for salvation'.

ANNUAL MIGRANTS MASS

**12pm Monday 1st May 2023
at St Anthony's Forest Gate.**

Celebrant: Bishop Alan Williams;

Preacher: Fr Dominic Howarth.

Banner bearers assemble 11.15am at
St Bonaventure's School (refreshments provided)

JOB VACANCY:

St Patricks Cemetery, Leyton.

Part Time Cemetery Administrator – 10am to 2pm –
Monday to Friday.

Contact: Leo Bones, Cemetery Director

Email: cemeterydirector@secularclergy.org.uk



**At the National
Gallery,
Trafalgar Square.
Saint Francis of Assisi
6 May – 30 July 2023**

Ground Floor Galleries

The first major UK art
exhibition to explore Saint
Francis of Assisi: his life and
his legacy.

This special exhibition

presents the art and imagery of Saint Francis (1182–
1226) from the 13th century to today. This exhibition
looks at why this saint is a figure of enormous relevance
to our time due to his spiritual radicalism, commitment
to the poor, and love of God and nature, as well as his
powerful appeals for peace, and his openness to dialogue
with other religions.

From some of the earliest medieval panels, relics and
manuscripts to modern-day films and a Marvel comic,
the exhibition shines a light on how Saint Francis has
captured the imagination of artists through the centuries,
and how his appeal has transcended generations,
continents and different religious traditions. It brings
together paintings from the National Gallery Collection
by Sassetta, Botticelli, and Zurbarán with international
loans including works by Caravaggio, Josefa de Óbidos,
Stanley Spencer, Antony Gormley, Giuseppe Penone,
Andrea Büttner, and ;an exciting new commission; from
Richard Long.

This exhibition is curated by Gabriele Finaldi, Director
of the National Gallery and Joost Joustra.

*This exhibition occurs during the time
when we are celebrating the 150th
anniversary of the Franciscans coming to
Stratford*

(21 June 1873).

**THE EXHIBITION IS FREE ! 6 May – 30 July 2023
Open daily 10am–6pm. Friday until 9pm**

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

Address: The Friary, 160 The Grove, Stratford, 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: stfrancisassisiatratford.com

