



# St Francis of Assisi Parish Newsletter

*“We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what h  
fallen apart and to bring home those who have lost th  
way”.*

*St. Fra*



## **ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH**

Grove Crescent Road, Stratford, London, E15 1BJ

### **11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time & Fathers Day**

**18<sup>th</sup> June 2023**



God cares for us with infinite compassion. The Lord gathers us together as one family in our celebration of the Eucharist that we may be refreshed and renewed. We may stray like lost sheep, but God always searches us out to bring us back.

#### **Today’s Readings:**

**Exodus 19:2-6:** The Lord makes Israel his very own people, a consecrated nation.

**Response to the Psalm:** We are His people, the sheep of His flock.

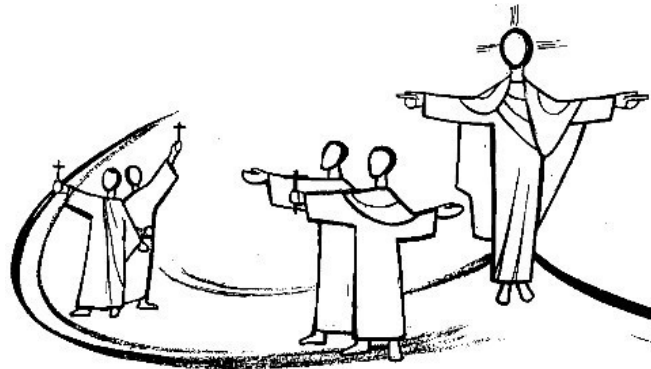
**Romans 5:6-11:** Christ has reconciled and saved us through his death.

**Matthew 9:36 – 10:8:** Jesus sends out his disciples to labour in his harvest.

#### **“He summoned the twelve and sent them out”**

**“As you go, make this proclamation: ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand’”.**

As Jesus went about teaching and healing, he proclaimed that the kingdom of God had arrived. Jesus was moved with compassion because the people were like “sheep without a shepherd”. The people were longing for God, and the religious leaders had nothing to offer them. Jesus asked his disciples to pray that the “Lord of the harvest” would send out labourers to care for God’s people. The divine shepherd and harvest-master needed human cooperation. Jesus chose twelve ordinary men to be his apostles. The word “apostle” literally meant one who was “sent out”. Those Jesus called to share his authority and mission had no wealth, no special education, no social standing. Yet Jesus sent them to announce God’s reign to the “lost sheep of the house of Israel”. The miracles that accompanied their proclamation were signs of God’s reign. The gift that they received was to be freely shared with other people.



**Dates for your Diary:** **NOW UNTIL 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023**– The National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, exhibition exploring ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI. **TO CELEBRATE THE 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRANCISCANS IN STRATFORDSUN. 18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE - REFRESHMENTS AFTER ALL MASSES IN THE LARGE HALL.**

**WEDNESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE THANKSGIVING MASS – 7PM. 10<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023 – BI-ANNUAL REQUIEM MASS AT ST PATRICK’S CEMETERY AT 11:30AM.**

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 earthquakes



*21 June 1873 three Franciscan Friars, (asked to go to Stratford in the East End of London by Cardinal Manning) arrived at the Grove, Stratford. 21 June 2023 and 150<sup>th</sup> year Holy Mass will be Celebrated*

*in*

*St Francis Church at 7pm.*

*Followed by a Reception in the Hall.*

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Special refreshment in the Hall after all Masses**

### ORDINARY TIME

is called "ordinary" because the weeks are numbered. Ordinary Time is in fact the ordered life of the Church—the period in which we live our lives neither in feasting (as in the Christmas and Easter seasons) or in penance (as in Advent and Lent), but in watchfulness and expectation of the Second Coming of Christ There are two periods of Ordinary Time. These vary depending upon when Easter falls in each particular year. The total number of weeks of Ordinary Time in any given year is 33 or 34.



The righteous man walks in his integrity; **His children are blessed after him.**

PROVERBS 20:7



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### REQUIEM MASS

Biannual Concelebrated Requiem Mass  
St Patrick's Cemetery,  
Leytonstone

Monday 10 July 11.30am.

*Pray for our beloved dead.*

Franciscans - OFM

### Uniform for St Bonaventure's

We are looking for any unused school uniform to give to current students. If you have any of the following items in **good** condition, they would be much appreciated. Black or brown school blazers, black or brown v neck jumpers, white shirts, black school trousers, school shoes, ties or school PE kit - these should be for boys aged 11 to 16. These can be dropped at the school reception on Boleyn Road or to the Parish Office. Thank you in advance

### St Francis at National Gallery

Major Exhibition

**6 May to 30 July**

**10am to 6pm**

**FREE**

*Well worth a visit!*

### Communion Ministers Reflection & Training Day.

*Day for all Ministers of Holy Communion in the Newham Deanery. All invited to a Day at*

**St Francis Church**

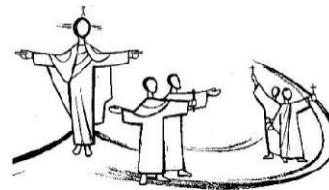
**Stratford E15 1BJ**

**Saturday 24 June. Begin with Morning Prayer (9.40 am); Mass (10am) and end early afternoon.**

**Bring packed lunch. Tea etc provided.**

**Ministers of Holy Communion.**

**"He summoned the twelve and sent them out".**



The seven Parishes of the Newham Deanery are drawing up a leaflet to be distributed to every household within the Deanery, giving all

the Mass times (including different language Masses and Masses in different rites. We need volunteers to get together a small group to organise the distribution to every household in St Francis Parish.

The first task will be to go through the list of street names and check that it is complete (you can use Google searches for this!) and then to organise your group and all the Mass-goers to take the leaflet to each door in the Parish. This is a work of primary evangelisation. If you would like to be part in this initiative, please discuss it with one of the Priests – or leave your details with the Parish Office.

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**

**Fr Yusuf Bagh, 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: stfrancisassisistratford.com**