



St Francis of Assisi

Parish Newsletter

"We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart and to bring home those who have lost their way".
St. Francis.



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Grove Crescent Road, Stratford, London, E15 1B

SUNDAY CYCLE: YEAR A (Matthew)

WEEKDAYS CYCLE: YEAR 1

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 30th July 2023

The desire of God the Father is that we become "true images" of his Son so that he may share the treasures of the kingdom of heaven with each one of us.

Today's Readings:

1 Kings 3:5. 7-12: Wisdom is a gift to be sought after.

Response to the Psalm: *Lord, how I love your law!*

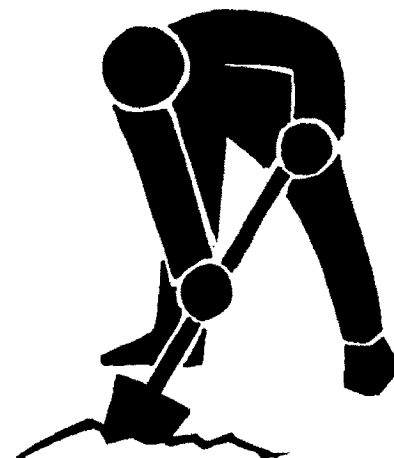
Romans 8:28-30: We are chosen to be "true images" of Christ.



Matthew 13:44-52: Jesus' parables give a picture of the true nature of the kingdom of heaven.

"The kingdom of heaven is like a net which was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind"

Jesus taught his disciples about the mystery of God's reign by means of parables. As future leaders of the Church, Jesus' disciples have got to interpret these ancient truths in the light of the gospel; they've got to proclaim the eternal reign of God. Sacrificing everything for the sake of the kingdom was central to Jesus' teaching. The world was attracted by its artificial "treasures" -- wealth, power, and prestige, but these would eventually pass away. Jesus' disciples were to "store up treasure in heaven," that which was of inestimable value and would last for all eternity. Wherever their "treasure" was, there would their hearts be also. Jesus also compared God's work to a dragnet cast into the sea, which brought forth both what was "worthwhile" and what was "useless." Likewise, God's judgment would ultimately reveal what was good and what was evil in the world.



He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

1ST - 6TH AUGUST 2023 - WORLD YOUTH DAY IN LISBON.

2ND-4TH AUGUST 2023 - VENERATIONS OF RELICS AT ST ANTONY'S FOREST GATE - SEE NEWSLETTER.

5TH AUGUST - WORLD YOUTH DAY AT HOME - SEE POSTER AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.

5TH AUGUST - Pilgrimage of Reparation & Prayer for the Sanctity of Life, to Walsingham Saturday 5th August, led by Archbishop Kevin McDonald. Website: www.prolifepilgrimage.org.

MONDAY 29TH AUGUST 2023 - BANK HOLIDAY - MASS WILL BE AT 10AM - NO 12:15 MASS.

MONDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2023 - CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION FORMS FOR HOLY COMMUNION 2024.

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024

Forms available at back of Church, on Website and from Parish Office.

CLOSING DATE: Monday 18th September 2023.

The Knights of St Columba National Relic Tour 2023.

The relics of St Columba of Iona, St Andrew the Apostle & St Margaret of Scotland can be venerated at St. Antony's Church, Forest Gate between the 2nd and 4th August – full details/timetables of services are on <https://ibb.co/VWMPSVv>

HOLY HOUR: For private prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: 10.30am – 11.30am every Saturday. Opportunity for Confession during the Holy Hour.



“Teach us to be generous,
good Lord; teach us to serve you as you deserve;
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to ask for any reward
- save that of knowing that we do your will. -
Prayer: Ignatius of Loyola, Feast Monday this week (31 July).

THANK YOU! The Friars would like to thank all the Volunteers for their hard work, not least the Gardeners who keep the grounds looking lovely! Thank you all.

Portugal (2nd August to 6th August 2023)

Four young people from St Francis Parish are representing us at World Youth Day in Portugal. Please keep them in your prayers.



POLITE NOTICE: We ask that Parishioners *do not* leave their domestic rubbish in our Car Park. Please take it home with you. Thank you.

Uniform for St Bonaventure's

School blazers, white shirts, black school trousers, school shoes, ties, PE kit etc in good condition. Drop off Boleyn Rd or at our Parish Office in the Grove.

VOLUNTEERS

Tea/Coffee/Sandwiches at Friary door – especially Thursday or Friday.



The Newham Deanery

Patron St Francis of Assisi,
* Canning Town, * East Ham, * Forest Gate, * Manor Park, * Royal Docks, * Stratford, * Upton Park.

We need a small group of volunteers to distribute a new 'info leaflet' in our 1/7th of the Deanery.

The Jumbalance Trust: New pilgrimage date: Lourdes 2023: 29 September – 6 October. £1,100. All Inclusive: travel, half-board accommodation and day-trips. Some help may be available and fundraising ideas.

For children, young people and adults who need assistance. Custom-built coach with all mod cons, wheel-chair access etc. Helpers needed, with or without experience.

Contact: Caroline Southgate 07775773805 or info@jumbalance.org.uk.

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

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