



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.



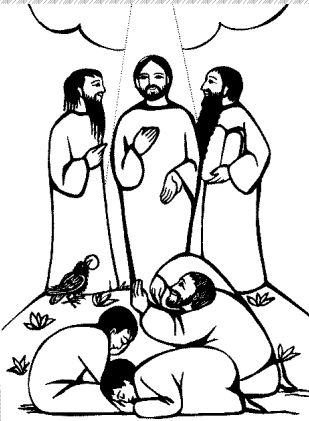
ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Grove Crescent Road, Stratford, London, E15 1B

SUNDAY CYCLE: YEAR A (Matthew)

WEEKDAYS CYCLE: YEAR 1

The Transfiguration of the Lord - 6th August 2023



Christ is the future of humanity because he is also its past. He came among us as a human being, but we did not really know what human beings could be until he came. He will be with us always.

Today's Readings:

Daniel 7:9-10. 13-14: The sovereignty of Christ is the sovereignty of humanity over death.

Response to the Psalm: The Lord is King, most high above all the earth.

2 Peter 1:16-19: The world seems dark, because we are called to a greater light.

Matthew 17:1-9: That Christ is the beloved Son of the Father is the most fundamental truth of all, and the key to the mysteries of our life.

“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him”.

Jesus had told his disciples that he would soon face suffering and death, but he said that they would not “taste death” until they saw “the Son of Man coming in his kingdom” Six days later, Jesus summoned his disciples to the mountain to reveal himself as having full authority “in heaven and on earth”. Mountains were a unique place of God's revelation. Jesus gives his law on a mountain: the Sermon on the Mount; he dies on Mount Calvary, and he brings three of his disciples to the top of this mountain—where he is transfigured before them. The appearance of Moses and Elijah alongside Jesus revealed that he is the new liberator and prophet, but also that suffering and glory are not mutually exclusive. On the mountain of the Transfiguration (*metamorphosis, a change in outward appearance*), Jesus’ face “shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light”. The disciples experienced a glimpse of Jesus’ Lordship as it would be fully manifest at the coming kingdom. Peter saw this moment as a sign of the Messianic age. He asked that tents be erected, such as those in which their ancestors dwelled during their journey to the Promised Land (Lev 23:39-42). While Peter was still speaking, the divine presence overshadowed them, declaring Jesus as God's “beloved Son.” To him alone must they listen.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

MONDAY 28TH 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.

29TH SEPTEMBER TO 6TH OCTOBER 2023 – JUMBULANCE – PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES.

MONDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2023 – CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION FORMS FOR CONFIRMATION 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.



11 August: St Clare: an Italian saint and one of the first followers of St Francis. Born Chiara Offreduccio in Assisi, Italy, July 16, 1194, to a noble family.

Deeply moved by the preaching of St. Francis of Assisi and was inspired to dedicate her life to God. At the age of 18, she left her family's home, and joined Francis and his followers, adopting a life of poverty and simplicity.

In 1212, she founded the Order of Poor Ladies, later known as the Poor Clares. Clare, and her sisters, were known for her extreme dedication to poverty, humility, and a special devotion to the Eucharist.

Clare became an important figure in the Church during her lifetime and even corresponded with popes and church leaders.

St. Clare died 11 August 1253, in Assisi, and was canonised just two years later.

VOLUNTEERS:

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



Newham Deanery are wanting to employ **A youth Coordinator** to build and develop a team in the Seven Parishes of Newham. 35 flexible hours per week; £25,000 p/a, fixed 2-year contract. Start: early October 2023. Send CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to frdanielkelly@bredt.org. Closing date: 11 September; interviews – week commencing 18 September 2023.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024

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

CLOSING DATE: Monday 2nd October 2023.

THANKYOU: To all those who helped plan and organise the day trip to Walton-on-the-Naze last weekend. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated by those who enjoyed the day out.

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



GIFT AID: Would the person using **Gift Aid Envelope Number 33**, please telephone the Parish Office to update our records. Thank you.

A Miracle in the Fire: The nuns at the Monastery of Panagia Ipseni in the mountains of Rhodes fought the flames with buckets of water from the kitchen to wet the surrounding. The group of eight sisters used buckets of water from the kitchen to protect the Holy Monastery near the east coast of Rhodes, from the flames, before sheltering in the Chapel where Sr Miriam, the Abbess, led the chant and the prayers. Hours later they emerged with only slight damage to the roof of the Monastery.

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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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