



St Francis of Assisi
Parish Newsletter
800 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE
FRANCISCANS ARRIVAL IN THE UK.



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Grove Crescent Road, Stratford, London, E15 1BJ

SUNDAY CYCLE: B (MARK)

WEEKDAYS CYCLE: II

SUNDAY 4th AUGUST 2024

18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus takes us seriously and promises us life. He gives us the Eucharist as food for our journey through e

TODAYS READINGS:

Exodus 16:2-4. 12-15 -In the desert, the Israelites forgot the blessings of escaping from slavery, and instead grumbled that they were hungry.

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM: **The Lord gave them bread from heaven.**

Ephesians 4:17. 20-24 - We are called to a new life in Christ.

John 6:24-35 - The people whom Jesus fed followed him in the search for more bread, not realising that they should have been looking for bread which would last forever.

“I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never thirst”.

After the miraculous multiplication of the loaves, the people searched for Jesus. He told them that they were looking for perishable food and were missing the true nourishment that God had given them. Like the living water “welling up to eternal life”, Jesus provided food that “endures for eternal life”. The people did not need to work for this food; they only needed to believe in the one God sent to them. The people demanded a “sign” such as the manna that Moses gave them in the desert. Jesus was himself the sign, the true expression of God's providential presence. Jesus is the bread of everlasting life who satisfies the spiritual hunger of the soul. John tells us that he said these things “while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.”



MONDAY:	5th AUGUST 2024 – FUNERAL MASS PATRICK FRANCIS DONNELLY, R.I.P.
SATURDAY:	31st AUGUST 2024 – BLESSED TANSI PILGRIMAGE TO MOUNT ST BERNARD ABBEY. SEE POSTERS.
WEDNESDAY:	11th SEPTEMBER 2024 – JOURNEY OF FAITH – SEE NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS.
TUESDAY:	17th SEPTEMBER 2024 – MASS OF CELEBRATION & THANKSGIVING HERE AT ST FRANCIS AT 6PM WITH BISHOP ALAN WILLIAMS, S.M. 800 YEARS OF THE FRANCISCAN IN ENGLAND.
SATURDAY:	21st SEPTEMBER 2024 – ANNUAL DIOCESAN MASS FOR ALTAR SERVERS AT BRENTWOOD – 1:30PM.
SUNDAY:	29th SEPTEMBER 2024 – PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AFTER 12:15 MASS.

Pray for those who have died, and those whose Anniversaries occur around this time, also, please pray for the sick, also remember the People of Ukraine, and all countries where there is war. We also pray for peace in the Holy Land.

New Parishioners & Visitors **WELCOME !**

We are delighted to welcome new members to our parish community! Whether you have recently moved into the area, or are visiting, we hope you find our parish a warm and welcoming place. Please make yourself known to one of the Priests after Mass.

FUNERAL MASS **MONDAY 5TH AUGUST 2024** **AT 12:15PM**

Patrick Francis Donnelly, R.I.P.

MASS OF CELEBRATION **& THANKSGIVING -** **17th SEPTEMBER 2024 AT**

6PM. There will be a Mass here at St Francis on the above date, with Bishop Alan Williams, S.M., to celebrate the 800-year anniversary of the Franciscans in the UK, also, refreshments in the Large Hall afterwards. Everyone welcome.



“Experiencing the Holy Year in all its pastoral richness,”

will only happen, the Pope says, “if we are capable of recovering a sense of universal fraternity and refuse to turn a blind eye to the tragedy of rampant poverty that prevents millions of men, women, young people and children from living in a manner worthy of our human dignity,” especially migrants and refugees forced to flee their homes. “May the voices of the poor be heard throughout these months of preparation for the Jubilee, which is meant to restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone.”



The Diocese of Brentwood invites all its **Altar Servers and their families** to the annual Diocesan Mass for Altar Servers at on **Saturday 21 September 2024 at 2pm** Principal celebrant Rt, Rev. Alan Williams S. M. Bishop of Brentwood

JOURNEY OF FAITH

Are you, or someone you know, thinking about becoming a member of the Catholic Church, OR wish to renew your faith, OR explore you faith further? Then The Journey of Faith is for you. Introductory session will be on **Wednesday 11th September 2024**. Contact The Parish Office, and ask for Des Hoddy, Extension 313, for further information.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025

The **Application Forms** for First Holy Communion next year are available at the back of the Church, from the Friary Office and On-Line. Please ensure you read the covering letter, and ensure the applications have a **copy of the child’s Baptism Certificate**, and that they are handed into the Friary Office or to one of the Friars **in an envelope marked “Holy Communion Application 2025”**. The Deadline for the Application is **24th September 2024**.

BROADSTAIRS PARISH OUTING **10TH AUGUST 2024**

Notice to all those who have booked their place: Please be at the Church by 8:45am. The Coach will be leaving promptly

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 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.co.uk

