



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:

SUNDAY 25TH AUGUST 2024

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The theme that holds the readings together today is faithfulness: faithfulness to God: choosing Jesus and being faithful to him, the one Simon Peter calls “the Holy One of God”. If we’ve that radical commitment to Jesus, although we may sometimes be unfaithful, we know that he is always faithful. Even if we go away, he loves us and gently calls us back to him. Let us come to him now in love and penitence, as we prepare to celebrate his coming to us in this Mass.

TODAYS READINGS:

Joshua 24:1-2. 15-18 Joshua asks the people to renew choose to serve the Lord always.

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Ephesians 5:21-32 St Paul speaks about marriage, obedience and fidelity, love and self-sacrifice.

John 6:60-69 Jesus, like Joshua, calls for his disciples to choose to remain faithful after some had gone away.

“Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life”.

Jesus' revelation that he was the “bread of life” (v.48) caused division between those who had faith in him and those who did not. The unbelievers murmured against Jesus' teaching, and some of Jesus' disciples doubted his words. Jesus did not retract his teaching but invited his followers to a deeper faith in this mystery that could only be understood through God's grace. If they could not believe that he was God's Word become flesh, what would they think when he ascended to his Father in glory? Jesus asked the twelve apostles if they too planned to leave him. Peter, the leader of the future Church, confessed his faith in the life-giving words of Jesus. There was no one else to whom he could go. The twelve apostles are mirrors of ourselves, flawed but graced human beings



MONDAY:	26TH AUGUST 2024 – IS A BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY – MASS WILL BE AT 10AM – NO 12:15 MASS.
TUESDAY:	27TH AUGUST 2024 – THE CHURCH CAR PARK WILL BE CLOSED – SEE NEWSLETTER FOR DETAILS.
SATURDAY	31ST AUGUST 2024 – WALSINGHAM HOUSE 40TH & 60TH ANNIVERSARY – SEE NEWSLETTER.
SATURDAY:	31ST AUGUST 2024 – BLESSED TANSI PILGRIMAGE TO MOUNT ST BERNARD ABBEY. SEE POSTERS.
SUNDAY:	1ST SEPTEMBER 2024 – THE REPOSITORY WILL BE OPEN AFTER ALL SUNDAY MASSES.
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.

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF
THE CAR PARK NEXT WEEK.

The Car Park will be **CLOSED FROM** Tuesday 27th August, up to and including Friday 30th August, open at the weekend 31st August and 1st September then closed again on Monday 2nd September. It will re-open on Tuesday 3rd September 2024.

THE SITE OPPOSITE THE
CHURCH is entering a new Phase.

Grove Crescent Road will be **ONE-WAY** from Tuesday 27th August 2024, entering from Great Eastern Street, and exiting in The Grove. You will be able to enter either from the Angel Lane end or from the Morrisons end. The road outside the Church will be narrow, and special arrangements will be made for funerals.

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
26TH AUGUST 2024.

Mass on Bank Holiday Monday will be at 10am – there will be **NO 12:15 Mass.**

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.



Food for thought

Once upon a time there were 4 people named **Everybody, Somebody, Nobody & Anybody.** When there was an important job to be done, **Everybody** was sure that **Somebody** would do it. **Anybody** could have done it, but **Nobody** did it. When **Nobody** did it, **Everybody** got angry because it was **Somebody's** job; **Everybody** thought that **Somebody** would do it, but **Nobody** realised that **Nobody** would do it. So it ended up that **Everybody** blamed **Somebody** when **Nobody** did what **Anybody** could have done in the first place.....

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.**

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.

THE REPOSITORY

The Repository will be open **after all Sunday Masses on 1st September 2024.** Candles, Rosary Beads, etc. Cash only please

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

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