



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 15th SEPTEMBER 2024

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Evangelii Gaudium Day, a Sunday celebrating the joy of the Gospel.

We are all missionaries called to spread the Good News of Jesus to other people. We are invited to model our lives on the pattern of Christ and share in the suffering and cross of Christ who died and rose to glory.



TODAYS READINGS:

Isaiah 50:5-9 - The Suffering Servant of Israel points towards the Messiah and the cross which Jesus Christ will carry to Calvary. The prophet Isaiah trusts that the Lord will come to his help.

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

James 2:14-18 - Faith leads to good actions; love in action is the mark of the Christian.

Mark 8:27-35 - Jesus tells his followers that they will have to carry their cross and lose their lives in love to serve him.

“Who do people say that I am?”.

Jesus took his disciples to the area of Caesarea Philippi in northern Israel near Banias. In that place there was a cave dedicated to Pan, the Roman god of fields and forests, Faunus, half goat, half man-god. From the cave a stream flowed, which was the source of the Jordan River. Farther up the hillside, a temple had been built to honour Caesar, the Roman Emperor, who was regarded as a god. Against this pagan background, Jesus asked his disciples what people were saying about him. They told him the popular notions of the Messiah: ‘a king of David’s line’, ‘a conqueror who would destroy his enemies and restore Israel to power’. Then Jesus put the question to them, “Who do you say that I am?” And through the gift of faith, Peter realized that Jesus, a simple carpenter from Nazareth, was the Messiah, the One who would bring salvation to the world. Jesus then explained the true meaning of being God’s anointed one: He would suffer, be put to death on a cross, but would rise again. Peter could not comprehend a suffering Messiah and he reproached Jesus for saying this. But Jesus rebuked Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things”. Peter was allowing Satan to cloud his understanding and impede God’s will. Anyone who wished to follow Jesus must take up the cross and share in Jesus’ struggles and sufferings.



TUESDAY:	17 TH 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.
TUESDAY:	17 TH SEPTEMBER 2024 – FR BRIAN & FR MICHAEL – LAST DAY AT ST FRANCIS.
SATURDAY:	21 ST SEPTEMBER 2024 – ANNUAL DIOCESAN MASS FOR ALTAR SERVERS AT BRENTWOOD – 1:30PM.
SUNDAY:	29 TH SEPTEMBER 2024 – REPOSITORY AFTER ALL SUNDAY MASSES IN THE LARGE HALL.
SUNDAY:	29 TH 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

THE PARISH ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING WILL
TAKE PLACE ON
29TH SEPTEMBER FROM
10AM ONWARDS.

Everyone, including the various Groups within the Parish, are welcome. It will be an opportunity for the people of the Parish to meet the new Friars.

GROVE CRESCENT ROAD IS
NOW A ONE-WAY STREET:

To access the Church by Car, you **MUST** enter from the Great Eastern Street end of Grove Crescent Road, and exit via Grove Crescent Road onto The Grove.

CONFIRMATION 2024/2025

Application Forms for Confirmation Candidates are available at the back of the Church, from the Parish Office and can be downloaded from the Web. Please that they are handed into the Friary Office or to one of the Friars in an envelope marked "Confirmation Application 2025" The Closing Date for applications is:
11th October 2024.

THE REPOSITORY

The Repository will be in the Large Hall (not at the back of the Church) on **29th September 2024** after all Sunday Masses. Candles, Rosary Beads, Church Art Calendars 2025, & Boxes of Christmas Cards. Cash Only please. Thank you

1224 - 2024

800th Anniversary of the Stigmata
800th Anniversary of the Arrival of the first
Franciscan Friars in England.

Tuesday 17th September 2024. 6pm Mass of Thanksgiving and Celebration - Bishop Alan Williams SM, followed by a reception in the Hall.

GARDENERS

The Monday and Friday Gardening Group is looking for new recruits for gardening and all kinds of odd-jobs. A couple of hours on a Monday or Friday morning (or both!) in a congenial environment – what could be better! Let the Parish Office know of your interest or ask at the back of the Church.



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.**

FUNERAL MASSES AT
ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI.

Mr. John Joseph Whelton, R.I.P.
at 12: 15pm Monday 23rd September 2024
and
Mr. Michael Mervin Jerome Weekes, R.I.P.
at 12:15pm on Friday 27th September 2024.

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

Fr Reu Galoy, 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