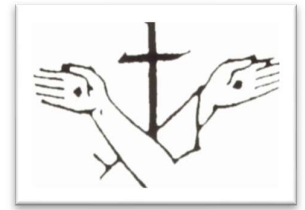




St Francis of Assisi Parish Newsletter

"Laudato, Si"



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH
Grove Crescent Road, Stratford, London, E15 1BJ

Masses:

Monday to Friday 12:15pm

Tuesday, after Mass, Novena to St. Antony of Padua.

Saturday: Morning Prayers: 9:40am

Mass: 10:00am followed by Adoration of Blessed Sacrament until 11:30

Confession: 10:30am – 11:30am

Evening Mass: 6:00pm

Confession: 5:00pm – 5:45pm

Sunday: 9:00am, 10:15am & 12 noon.

Friars in Residence: Fr Patrick Lonsdale OFM (Guardian), Fr Donal Walsh OFM,
Fr Brian McGrath OFM, Fr Michael O'Grady OFM (Parish Priest),
The Friary, 160 The Grove, Stratford, London E15 1NS
Postal Address:
The Parish Office: Open Monday to Friday 9:30am – 3:00pm
Parish Secretary: Kathleen Allen
Pastoral Assistant: Derek Hoddy
Tel: 0208 534 1964 **Email Address:** stratford@friar.org **Website:** stfrancisassisistratford.org

SUNDAY 13th MARCH 2022 – 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT



2nd Sunday of Lent

As Catholics, we're all called to fix our eyes on Christ and to trust in his promise to be with us on our journey of faith. On the mountain of transfiguration, the disciples heard God the Father's voice telling them to listen to Jesus. Let us ask mercy for the times when we have failed to listen to him.

Today's Readings

Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18

God offers the promise of a future full of hope to Abram, who shows himself to be a person of faith.

Philippians 3:17 – 4:1

We are called to remain faithful in our following of Christ.

Luke 9:28-36 On the mountain, Jesus is revealed to his disciples in his glory.

As Jesus set out for Jerusalem and to the cross, he went up the mountain, taking three of his closest companions to pray with him. The mountain was a place where Jesus regularly went to pray in the Old Testament, it was on Mount Sinai where God's revelation came to Moses the lawgiver, and to Elijah the prophet on Mount Horeb (another name for Sinai).

Like Moses on the mountain, Jesus' face became radiant with his encounter with God. Moses and Elijah appeared alongside Jesus, and together they spoke of Jesus' "exodus," his saving death whereby he would liberate people from sin.

Peter's desire to remain on the mountain in "tents" was a reminder of the wilderness journey to the Promised Land when the people dwelt in branched huts. The Feast of Tabernacles, or "Booths" (Sukkot), commemorates this event. At the end of the book of Exodus there is an account of the completion of the tabernacle and the words: "Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle". Jesus is the tabernacle of God's presence, and God's glory was manifested in a cloud that overshadowed him. Jesus is God's chosen one, God's beloved Son. He is a prophet like Moses to whom the people must listen.

Pray for those who have died, and whose Anniversaries occur around this time, also, remember the People of Ukraine.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Every Friday at 7:30pm throughout Lent

The Marriage & Family Life Directorate, Brentwood have sent through the following:

Beginning Experience Weekend

If you are single again following divorce, separation or the death of your partner, a residential weekend to help you to heal will be held from 8th to 10th April 2022 at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. If you would like more details, please ring Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 07795-498445 or email besouthofengland@gmail.com

"Laudato, Si" at St. Francis.

13th – 19th March 2022 – Waste & Recycling.

Saturday 19th March at 11am, a Neighbourhood Litter Pick. We would start & finish at St. Francis of Assisi Church. Litter Picker Sticks will be provided. Please bring your own gloves, and dress appropriately for the weather.

Thank you for your support.

JOB VACANCIES:

St John's RC Special School, Woodford Bridge is recruiting for: **SEN Class Teacher, SEN Class Assistants, Finance Assistant, and Assistant Caretaker (full time 52 weeks.** Vacancies at **St Bonaventure's: Support Staff Vacancies at St Bonaventure's** - Deadline to apply is Friday 18th March 2022 at 12 noon. **Learning Support Assistants required. Full details – on St. Francis of Assisi Website.**

NEWHAM CATHOLIC DEANERY CATHOLIC BIBLE CONFERENCE Saturday 9th April 2022 from 10am – 4pm at St. Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1BJ.

Theme: *Gods Word Today. Alive & Active.* Mauro Ianicelli & Fr. John (Parish Priest at St. Antony's, Forest Gate) will be introducing you to the most amazing book ever written.

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words; be silent and listen.



2021 Synod 2023
For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission

Prayer:

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With you alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts.

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful: do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partially influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.
Amen.