



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),

Postal Address:

The Friary, 160 The Grove, Stratford, London E15 1NS

The Parish Office:

Open Monday to Friday 9:30am – 3:00pm

Parish Secretary:

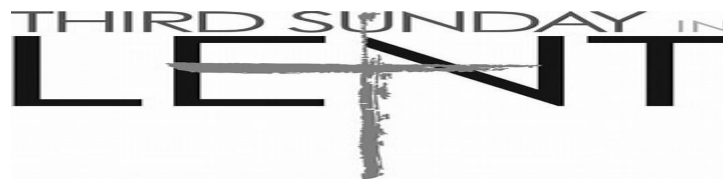
Kathleen Allen

Pastoral Assistant:

Derek Hoddy

Tel: 0208 534 1964

Email Address: stratford@friar.org Website: stfrancisassisistratford.com



Third Sunday of Lent

Lent is a time to reprioritise the place of Jesus Christ in our lives and to turn more deeply to him, trusting in his mercy and love.

Today's Readings

Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15: The Lord hears the cry of his people's suffering and sends Moses to lead them to the promised land.

1 Corinthians 10:1-6. 10-12: Be vigilant in living the life of faith.

Luke 13:1-9: Jesus calls us to repent and patiently waits for our response.

In Jesus' time, there were people who hoped for a triumphant Messiah who would re-establish Israel as a great power. They found Jesus' teaching about the cross a bit difficult to accept. Jesus pointed out recent disasters that they believed were the consequence of sin. In one incident, Pontius Pilate's men killed some Jewish Galileans in cold blood while they were offering sacrifice in the Jerusalem temple at Passover. In another case, several construction workers were accidentally killed when a water tower fell on them. These individuals, like those dying in Ukraine today, did not die because of their own sins. Although they were innocent of wrongdoing, they nonetheless suffered the reality of evil in the world.

Saint Patrick's Breastplate:

(The Feast Day was Thursday 17th March 2022))

Christ with me, Christ before me,

Christ behind me, Christ in me,

Christ beneath me, Christ above me,

Christ on my right, Christ on my left,

Christ when I lie down, Christ when I arise,

Christ in the heart of every person who thinks of me,

Christ in every eye that sees me,

Christ in the ear that hears me.

Dates for your Diary:

Sat 9 April: **Biblical Formation Day**

Sat 18 June: **Day for Altar Servers**

Sat 24 Sep: **Evangelisation Day**

Sat 29 Oct: **Day for Ministers of Communion**

Sat 26 Nov: **Day for Lectors.**

All sessions at St Francis Hall, Stratford are open

to all Newham & begin after the 10am Mass

On the Formation Day on the Bible Mauro Ianicelli

& Fr. John Jesus will lead the introduction to St. Luke's Gospel.

(Of special interest to Lectors as well as Minister of Communion).

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

CAFOD.

Thank you for giving to CAFOD's Lent Appeal. Your generous gifts will ensure that CAFOD's local experts like Sr. Antonia in Sierra Leone can support families with training in growing and making healthy food. Your small act of love this Lent will make a big difference to many communities affected by extreme hunger and children suffering from malnutrition.

The next "Enquirers' Evening" for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 5 April at St Edmund of Canterbury Church in Loughton.

The speaker will be Mgr Kevin Hale. For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org

THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTION: What does it mean to talk about Christ as our Redeemer? Input will be given by Mgr. John Armitage on Sunday 20th March 4.00 – 5.00 p.m. via Zoom. To join this Zoom meeting simply forward a contact email to adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org. For more information go to www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

NOTICE TO EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS. Please be good enough to let Des Huddy know - (via the Parish Office) - which Mass you attend, to enable him to set up Schedules.

INVITATION FROM THE KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA & THE "BUBBLY CLUB". You are invited to an evening of Fun & Games on **Saturday 30th April 2022** at St. Francis Church Hall at 7:30pm. Disco – Racing – Music. **TICKET PRICE £10 PER ADULT.** Food will be Catered by the Bubbly Club Master Chefs. Soft Drinks & Bingo tickets included.
Please bring your own alcoholic drinks.

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.

