



# St Francis of Assisi Parish Newsletter *“Laudato, Si”*



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



## **25th Sunday of Ordinary Time – 18<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

Today's readings show us that holiness and justice go hand in hand. Acting justly towards those who are poor and doing justice in our day-to-day lives are not options. They are an integral part of what it means to be a person of faith, serving the God who is the source of all justice and compassion.

### **Today's Readings**

**Amos 8:4-7:** The prophet speaks in blunt terms. Religious observance without concern for justice towards people who are poor is nothing but empty show.

**Response to the Psalm:**     **Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.**

**1 Timothy 2:1-8:** Prayer is essential, not only in individual terms but as the obligation of the whole community. It is important for the common good that we take our responsibility to pray seriously, even when we cannot see the results.

**Luke 16:1-13:** The parable of the dishonest steward appears baffling at first sight. But the key is in the final comment: whoever is faithful in little is faithful in much; and whoever is dishonest in little will be dishonest in much.

## *Count Your* **BLESSINGS**

***You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.***

One of the important themes in Luke's Gospel is the right use of material goods. In the parable of the dishonest steward, Jesus contrasted the **shrewdness** of worldly people in planning for the future with the apparent **indifference** of the children of the kingdom. In the story, a steward mismanaged his master's funds. Faced with the loss of employment and knowing that he was unused to physical work and too proud to beg, he devised a scheme. He forfeited his own commission, thereby reducing the amount owed by the debtors, thus ingratiating himself with both debtor and master. Jesus praised the enterprising steward for acting prudently, but he challenged his own disciples to consider whether they were as wise in the use of their goods as those who acted without the guiding light of the Holy Spirit. Jesus warned his disciples that they could not serve both the god of materialism (*money*) and the God of the universe. You can't be a servant of God and a slave to material goods at the same time.

### **Our Lady of Walsingham 24<sup>th</sup> September.**

O gracious Lady, glory of Jerusalem, Cypress of Sion and Joy of Israel, Rose of Jericho and Star of Bethlehem, O gracious Lady, our asking do not repel, in mercy all women ever thou dost excel. Therefore, Blessed Lady, grant then thy great grace, to all that thee devoutly visit in this place. Amen.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> October – *The Relics of St. Bernadette at Brentwood.*  
18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> October – *The Relics of St. Bernadette at Our Lady of Lourdes, Wanstead.* 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2022 – *Games Night and Dance courtesy of The Knights of St. Columba & The Bubbly Club at St. Francis Large Hall***

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

### **Fr. Donal, OFM**

Fr. Donal has been appointed Guardian of the Franciscan Community and Friary in Glasgow – he leaves to take up his new appointment on **Wed. 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022**. He continues also with Vocations Ministry and OFS Assisting. We wish him a safe journey, and every blessing. Pax et bonum.

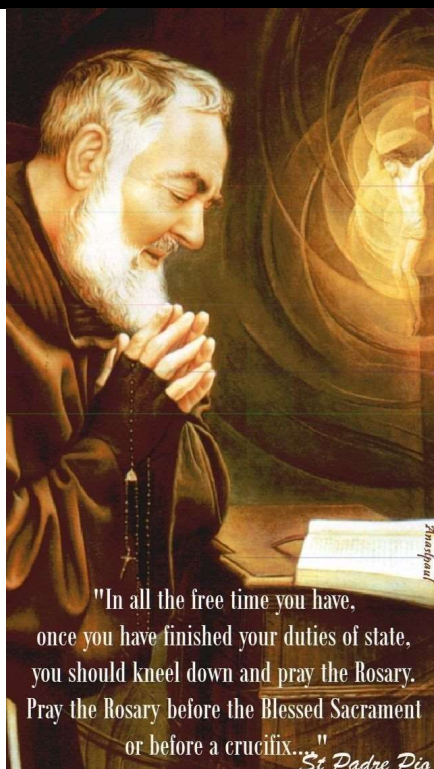
### **FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

As we prepare ourselves to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis on 4<sup>th</sup> October, CAFOD has produced a number of resources to help us prepare spiritually and prayerfully. These include a daily Novena, reflections and prayers. They can be found on the **CAFOD website** [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)

### **MARRIAGE PREPARATION:**

Please note, for those couples thinking of getting married, we require **at least 6 months notice** in order to prepare, both sacramentally and with regard to the necessary paperwork. This is especially important if you are thinking of getting married abroad. We would strongly suggest that you make an appointment as soon as you are considering getting married.

### **FEAST DAY OF ST. PADRE PIO - 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER:**



### **BANK HOLIDAY**

**19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022**

### **FUNERAL OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II**

In view of Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2022 being designated as a Bank Holiday,  
**Mass will be at 10am.**

**St Bonaventure's YEAR 5 & 6 PARENTS**  
**OPEN EVENING** For Year 7 Admission September 2023  
6th October 2022, 6 - 8pm  
OPEN MORNINGS 10th - 13th October, 9:30 - 11:30am  
 **SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER INTEREST**  
Follow us online on    

### **FUNERAL MASS AT ST FRANCIS CHURCH, STRATFORD.**

**FRIDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 12:15 –  
FUNERAL MASS FOR MS. CYNTHIA DEFOE.  
R.I.P.**

### **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 Blessed Sacrament until 11:30am. **Confession:**

10:30am – 11:30am & 5pm – 5:45pm

**Sunday:** 6pm Saturday,  
9am, 10:15am, 12 noon &  
4.30pm (Ukrainian)

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

**Invitation:** The Francian Community invite enquiries from young people aged 18-35 years interested in the religious and/or priestly life? If interested, please contact : Fr. Donal, as well as via email: [brdonalofm@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:brdonalofm@yahoo.co.uk)  
(Franciscan website: [friar.org](http://friar.org))