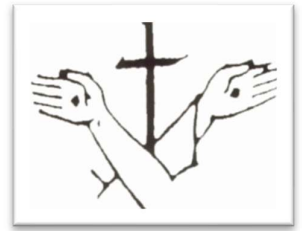
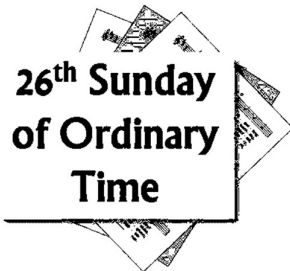




# St Francis of Assisi Parish Newsletter *"Laudato, Si"*



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



## **26th Sunday of Ordinary Time – 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

Each Sunday is a celebration of the Easter mystery, the centre of our Christian faith. We gather in the presence of our risen Lord, who is here among us, as he promised his disciples he would be when they come together.

When we prepare to celebrate our Sunday Eucharist, we always begin by admitting our shortcomings in living up to our calling as disciples of Jesus; we ask the Lord's forgiveness, but more importantly, grace and strength for the week ahead.

### **Today's Readings**

**Amos 6:1. 4-7:** The prophet denounces the complacency of wealthy people who live a life of luxury and pleasure, while ignoring the dangers into which the society around them is falling.

**Response to the Psalm:**    **My soul, give praise to the Lord**

**1 Timothy 6:11-16:** The writer encourages the young leader of the community to take Jesus as his example and so live up to the demands and responsibilities of his position.

**Luke 16:19-31:** Jesus tells the story of the fate of the rich man and the beggar Lazarus, warning his listeners of the danger of neglecting those who are in need of help and assistance.

**"If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead"**

Jesus addressed a parable to people who were rich in material goods yet ignored the needs of the poor. In the story, a wealthy man feasted in luxury while Lazarus, a poor man, was outside his house, lying in agony, suffering from disease and starvation. When the two men died, their fortunes were reversed. Lazarus was taken to the "bosom of Abraham", where the just awaited resurrection, while the rich man ended up in torment in the netherworld (Hebrew, Sheol) the underworld which received the dead). Jesus isn't saying that wealth is bad, and poverty is good. But where the rich are worse is in eyesight. We **see** – but we **don't see!** We reach **out** – but we never reach **across**. That's why it's hard, as Jesus said, for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven. The rich man pleaded with Abraham to send someone to warn his family lest they ended up sharing a similar fate. But Jesus said, if they did not listen to "Moses and the prophets" (the scriptures) they would not believe anyone else, even if that person should rise from the dead (Jesus' own resurrection)



**Tuesday 27 September**



Owing to the DEANERY MEETING there will be **no Mass or St Anthony Novena** in St Francis **on Tuesday this week**. Those making the Novena may take it up the following week.

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR BAGS AND VALUABLES UNATTENDED DURING MASS.**

### **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)

### **CAFOD Family Fast Day – World Food**

**Crisis Appeal:** Millions of families are facing a food crisis that could be the worst in living memory. As each day goes by, the situation worsens. As people of faith we must act. Your donations can help CAFOD's local experts to provide emergency food supplies to families in the worst affected countries in East Africa and support communities around the world working hard to put food on the table. Please give today or start a monthly gift to CAFOD. Use the envelope for our parish collection or go to [cafod.org.uk/fastday](http://cafod.org.uk/fastday).

**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.* Games & Dance Night 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2022 in the Large Hall. See posters at the back of the Church.

### **MESSAGE FROM FR. DONAL.**

As you may know, I have been asked to take up a new appointment and ministry in the Friary in Glasgow, Scotland, after only four years among you. We are all on a journey in our life doing the Lord's will and as Franciscan Friars we are to be willing to go where we are asked and needed to spread the Gospel of Jesus. I bid you 'farewell, not goodbye' hoping to see you again in the future. I thank you all for being wonderful examples of love, prayer and service as Catholics and Christians. I send you my love and prayers asking you to remember me in your prayers. God bless you.

**Fr. Dónal, OFM**

**St Bonaventure's YEAR 5 & 6 PARENTS**  
**OPEN EVENING** For Year 7 Admission September 2023  
6<sup>th</sup> October 2022, 6 - 8pm  
OPEN MORNINGS 10<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> October, 9.30 - 11.30am  
 **SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER INTEREST**  
Follow us online on    

### **REQUIEM MASS FOR QUEEN**

**ELIZABETH II** will be celebrated by Bishop Alan Williams in **Brentwood Cathedral** on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 1130a.m

**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 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 Hoddy

Tel: 0208 534 1964 Email: [stratford@friar.org](mailto:stratford@friar.org)

Website: [stfrancisassisiatratford.com](http://stfrancisassisiatratford.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))