



THE PILGRIM

St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church (E15 1BJ)

Official Bulletin published by the Parish Office, 160 The Grove, Stratford, London E15 1NS

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"A fraternal and hearty welcome to the new members of our Parish Community and all visiting sisters and brothers"



23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

07 September 2025

READ First Reading: Wisdom 9:13-18b

Responsorial Psalm: *O Lord, you have been our refuge, from generation to generation*

Second Reading: Philemon 9b-10, 12-17

Gospel Reading: Luke 14:25-33

The Book of Wisdom reflects on the limits of human reasoning in contrast to the mind of God. Saint Paul's letter to Philemon discusses forgiveness and reconciliation. Jesus teaches us that following him involves the cost of self-sacrifice.

REFLECT: When I was ordained, my parents each wrote their own message on a greeting card. My Dad wrote, "We are proud of you, but only you will know the cost." They understood that accepting God's call to be a priest had its many joys but also its share of sacrifices, as one lays aside one's own plans, and accepts being sent to different locations. Underneath our individual vocations lies the general call to be the Lord's disciple. We all have sacrifices to make in following Christ, as the sincerity of our discipleship is expressed through acts of love and dedication for other in all sorts of circumstances. The cost of love is sacrifice, offering oneself for the good of another. This is the way of the Lord. The cost of this self-giving love is also counted in being willing to forgive, as this opens the door of new possibilities rather than simply rehearsing old grudges.

RESPOND: Do something for another that you have been putting off.

Pray: *Pray for reconciliation with someone who is at odds with you.*

Source: Bible Diary 2025, Claretian Publications Foundation, Inc, QC, Phil.

PASTORAL TEAM

- Fr. Reu Jose C. Galoy, OFM, Parish Priest
- Fr. Yusuf Bagh, OFM, Guardian
- Fr. Desire Niyonkuru, OFM
- Fr. Mariusz Linik, OFM

- Ms. Kathleen Allen, Parish Secretary
- Mr. Derek Hoddy, Pastoral Assistant

MASS TIMES

- Sun - 6.00pm (Sat), 9:00 am, 10:15 am, 12:00 pm, 4:30 pm (Ukrainian Mass)
- Mon - Fri: 12:15 pm, Wed: 7:00 pm, Sat 10:00 am

- **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**
Sat: 10:30 am - 11:30 am

- **Reconciliation**
• Sat: 10:30 am - 11:30 am, 5:00 pm - 5:45 pm & by Appointment

- **Novena/Rosary**
• Tue: St. Anthony: 12:45 pm
• Wed: Holy Rosary: 6:30 pm
• Sat: Morning Prayer: 9:40 am

MASS INTENTIONS Sunday 7 September 2025 - Saturday 14 September 2025

Sun	7 SEPT 9:00	GH (M) ANTONIO DE LEON
Sun	7 SEPT 10:15	RIP (F) DIANA STEPHENS
Sun	7 SEPT 12 NOON	SI (M) JAMES R. ENNIS
Mon	8 SEPT 12:15	SR (F) ORLA O'BRIEN & SI THE O'BRIEN FAMILY.
Tues	9 SEPT 12:15	RIP GREG HALUB'S LOVED ONES

Wed	10 SEPT 12:15	RIP (M) PETER FIELDS
Wed	10 SEPT 7:00	SI (M) TIMOTHY JENKA
Thu	11 SEPT 12:15	SI MR & MRS. W. KONDRATWICZ
Fri	12 SEPT 12:15	RIP (M) SHAUN BOYLE and BD & GH (F) MIRANDA PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
Sat	13 SEPT 10:00	
Sat	13 SEPT 6:00	SI (M) TERRY KEYES

TG - Thanksgiving, SI - Special Intention, BD - Birthday, WA - Wedding Anniversary, ST - Safe Travel, GH - Good Health, SR - Speedy Recovery, RIP - Death/Death Anniversary

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<https://tinyurl.com/vfk8vsc4> or
<https://stfrancisassisistratford.com/newsletters>



Stay up-to-date with the latest parish events and announcements - join our new WhatsApp Channel! Scan the QR code below or visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/4weu2mh6> or
<https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VbA3Xba6xCSIP3Jia0I>



Support our parish and its mission. Donate Now by scanning the QR code below or visiting the Diocese link (please remember to select our Stratford parish):

<https://tinyurl.com/36m53d54> or
<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations>



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

We are improving our sacristy according safeguarding standards and other minor improvements. Should you wish to financially help, you may talk to Fr. Reu or contact the parish office. Join and participate our parish-wide bible study session for 8 consecutive Wednesdays starting Oct.

1. Learning together the Bible is building foundation our inclusive and Synodal parish on the Word of God.

Kindly spread the word about the event on Sept 18 in the evening especially for single you adults: The theme of this lovely exchange is: Lay the foundations of your Catholic Marriage before meeting your spouse

PART TIME VACANCY FOR COOK/HOUSEKEEPER AT THE FRIARY.

The Friars at St Francis Church are looking for a Part Time Cook/Housekeeper. If you are interested in applying for this role, please contact the Parish Office with your name, contact details, and a brief summary of any experience you have had in the role. We look forward to hearing from all interested parties. Thank you.

Journey of Faith (R.C.I.A.): Are you interested in becoming a Catholic, know someone who is, or, do you wish to learn more about the Catholic Faith? There will be an Introductory Meeting on **Wednesday 10th September 2025 at 7pm in The Friary.** Contact the Parish Office, or just come along on the evening.

THE REPOSITORY

The Repository will be open again for all Masses on **Sunday 14th September 2025.** Church Art Calendars & Catholic Diaries for next year, together with boxed Christmas Cards - these will be available, along with the usual Rosary Beads Candles, etc. As always **CASH ONLY PLEASE.** Thank you.

ADDITIONAL SCHEDULE OF MASSES:

SEPT. 08, 2025 - THE NATIVITY OF THE BVM
(Monday) - Holy Mass - 12:15PM and 07:00PM

OCT. 04, 2025 - FEASTDAY OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI (Saturday) Holy Mass - 10:00AM

NOV 02, 2025 - ALL SAINTS
(Sunday) – **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**
Holy Mass 09:00AM, 10:15AM 12:00PM and 06:00PM

NOV 03, 2025 COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE
(Monday) - **FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS' DAY)** - Holy Mass - 12:15PM and 07:00PM

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH 18 SEPTEMBER 2025 - 6:30PM -

In the Large Hall - Formation Ministry Presents
Lay the foundations of your Catholic Marriage before meeting your spouse. This talk empowers young Catholic adults and engaged couples to build a strong foundation for marriage through spiritual preparation, emotional healing, deepening their prayer life, embracing healthy intimacy and chastity, and mastering effective communication—with practical examples, lived testimony, and an interactive Q&A to deepen understanding and growth.

See the poster at the back of the Church for full details.

Save the date for our Gala Autumn Festival on Saturday evening 28 October in our Church Hall.

This is an excellent way to get to know your fellow parishioners, enjoy some dancing and sample a feast of national dishes. All for £15 (Children 7-11, £5) Price includes all food, soft drinks and table snacks. The proceeds raised will be donated to cover the cost of replacing the lights in the Car Park, which are likely to cost us circa £2000. Tickets are on sale at the back of the church after all Masses or you can call Sarah on 07778 868827 or Marian on 07715 420629 to secure your ticket.