



# THE PILGRIM

## St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church



Official Bulletin published by the Parish Office, 160 The Grove, Stratford, London, E15 1NS  
Tel No: 02085341964 | Email: stratford@friar.org | Website: www.stfrancisassisistratford.com | Office Hours: Mon-Fri 09:30-15:00  
"A fraternal and hearty welcome to the new members of our Parish Community and all visiting sisters and brothers"

### 22<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

31 August 2025

**READ First Reading:** Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

**Responsorial Psalm:** In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a

**Gospel Reading:** Luke 14:1, 7-14

Sirach teaches us to act with discretion and humility. Hebrews describes Christ as the Mediator of the New Covenant that admits us to the heavenly Jerusalem. Jesus teaches his ambitious guests that they are to act humbly, and to honour those who are pushed to the margins.

**REFLECT:** Sirach says that the wise person "reflects on proverbs," but pride has made those invited to dinner in today's Gospel to forget to reflect on Sirach's words, "the greater you are, the more you should humble yourself." The guests are trying to show their greatness by jostling for the place of honor, not realizing that they lose honor in their zeal to grab it from someone else. Jesus reminds us that no matter how accomplished or successful we are, we should always acknowledge our limitations and the dignity of others. Therefore, we are not to presume to take the place of honour when we are the guest, and we are to invite others who are often neglected.

**RESPOND:** Volunteer to help at a homeless center or soup kitchen or devote greater attention to a neighbour who needs some help.

**Pray:** Pray before the Blessed Sacrament, meditating on the reality before you. Think of what you have "come near": Christ himself in the presence of the angels.

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 31 August 2025 - Saturday 6 September 2025

Sun	31 AUG 9:00	SI (F) KARI BECKMAN	Wed	3 SEPT 12:15	SI (M) MARTIN LUU
Sun	31 AUG 10:15	BD (F) ANNETTE HODDY	Wed	3 SEPT 7:00	RIP (F) LORI MEYER
Sun	31 AUG 12:00	SI (M) BRIAN DAVIS	Thu	4 SEPT 12:15	SI (M) RONALD PENA
Mon	1 SEPT 12:15	BD/RIP (F) BREEDA ALLEN	Fri	5 SEPT 12:15	RIP (F) REBECCA MARIA HENRY
Tues	2 SEPT 12:15	SI (F) DORIS EGAN	Sat	6 SEPT 10:00	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
			Sat	6 SEPT 6:00	SI (M) IGNACIO SALVADOR

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

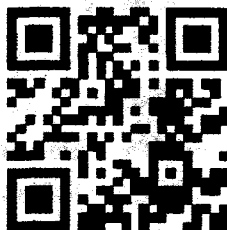
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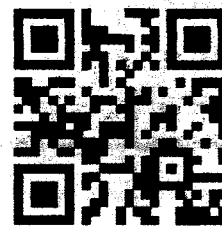
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<https://tinyurl.com/4weu2mh6> or  
<https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VbA3Xba6xCSIP3JJiaOI>



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>



**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION APPLICATIONS FOR 2025/2026**

The Applications Forms for next year's First Communion intake **will be available after Mass today, at the back of the Church, and from the Parish Office.** Please ensure you return the applications **BEFORE THE 8TH SEPTEMBER 2025** to the Parish Office with a photocopy of the child's Baptism Certificate, in an envelope marked **"HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION – 2025/2026"**. Thank you.

**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.

***Divine Mercy***

***Prayer and Healing Mass***

Join the Community and parishioners of St Josephs Church in prayer on **Friday, 5th September 2025** for a special day of devotion to Divine Mercy. The address is: **St Josephs Catholic Church, 68 Grange Park Road, Leyton, E10 5ES.**

Prayers will begin with the Divine Mercy Prayer in the morning at 9:30am, followed by a Divine Mercy Healing Mass at 7:00 PM. All are welcome to come and experience this time of grace and spiritual renewal.

**S.V.P GROUP -**

**DAY OF RECOLLECTION -  
SAT. 27TH SEPTEMBER 2025.**

There will be a day of recollection for the SVP Group in the Large Hall, 10:30am to 4pm. Mass and talk led by Fr George Smulski, OFM. If you are interested in the social work of the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP), then you are warmly invited. Bring a picnic lunch.

**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

**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.

**Ingatestone Hall Tea & Tour**

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is excited to invite you to a special day exploring the beautiful Ingatestone Hall! Join us for a private guided tour led by Lord Petre or his son, giving you a rare glimpse into this stunning 16th-century Grade I listed manor house. The tour lasts about 1½ hours, and afterwards, you'll be treated to tea and cake in the parlour — a lovely way to relax and chat!

**Date:** Thursday, 11th September

**Times:** 10.30 am and 12.30 pm (two tour options)

**Tickets:** £25 per person — you can reserve yours here:

<https://eu.jotform.com/form/251772844632361>

**Note:** Please be aware that access is limited due to the historic nature of the building, which may not be suitable for individuals with mobility challenges

If you'd like more info, please get in touch with Julie:

Email: [jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk) / 07912277413.