



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”



4TH SUNDAY OF LENT – MOTHERS DAY 15 MARCH 2026

READ: First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7,10-13a
Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14
Gospel Reading: John 9:1-41

Jesus is the light of the world.

Samuel is portrayed in the first reading as the prophet searching for the Lord's chosen king of Israel. He found David, the one God chose, and he anointed him. In the gospel, Jesus healed the man born blind. The blind one receives the light of faith in Jesus, while those who could see clearly and were educated in the Law remained spiritually blind and did not recognize the Lord. Meanwhile, Paul emphasized in his letter to the Ephesians that those who believe in the Lord are no longer in darkness but have become children of light.

REFLECT: The man born blind undergoes a three-stage journey of faith in the Lord. First, he sees Jesus as a mere man (v.11). Then, he recognizes Him as a prophet (v.17). Finally, he worships Him as Lord (v.38). This is in contrast to the Pharisees who are experts of the Law and their faith tradition but remained blind to the Lord's presence in their midst. Like the blind man, our faith in the Lord also has to grow, moving from mere knowledge to sincere trust and to true worship. Jesus is the light of the world, opening our eyes to truth. May we, too, walk this path of faith, seeing Christ and his revelation more clearly each day.

RESPOND: Pray for those who are physically blind and persons with disabilities.

Prayer: Lord, help us see you and your presence so we can honestly believe and trust you.

Source: Bible Diary 2026, 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**
- 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)
- Youth Mass – 1st Sunday of the Month at 10:15am.
- Daily Mass**
Mon - Fri: 12:15 pm
Wed: 6:30 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 -06:00 pm
 Saturday Morning Prayer -09:40 am

FRANCISCAN JUBILEE

The Church is OPEN
every WEDNESDAY

after the 12:15pm MASS for
ADORATION and PRAYER

MASS INTENTIONS Sunday 15 Mar 2026 – Saturday 21 Mar 2026

Sun	15 MAR 9:00	SI (F) MAUREEN BRAZIER AND SI (F) MERCY MOMAH	Wed	18 MAR 12:15	RIP (F) KATHLEEN DROMEY
Sun	15 MAR 10:15	ALL MOTHERS ON MONTHERS DAY	Wed	18 MAR 6:30	MINISTER GENERAL MASSIMO FUSARELLI, OFM
Sun	15 MAR 12 Noon	SI (M) OWEN HINDLEY AND GH (M) AMADO JAMISOLA	Thur	19 MAR 12:15	RIP (F) CATHERINE CARTY
Mon	16 MAR 12:15	SI - MAEVE & TOMMY O'TOOLE	Fri	20 MAR 2:15	FUNERAL MASS Claude Lon-Ho-Kee
Tues	17 MAR 12:15	RIP (F) SISTER HALOGUE MELLETT	Fri	20 MAR 7PM	RIP (F) MARY SINLAY
			Sat	21 MAR 10:00	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
			Sat	21 MAR 6:00PM	SI - MELANIE MOMAH & FAMILY

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

Go green! Access our Digital Newsletter online for a sustainable and eco-friendly way to stay informed. Scan the QR code below or visit:
<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/4weu2nh6> 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.diocesefofbrentwood.net/donations>



FRANCISCAN JUBILEE YEAR

Echoes from the Heart of St Francis of Assisi

“When there is Love and Wisdom, there is neither Fear nor Ignorance. Where there is Patience and Humility, there is neither Anger nor Annoyance. Where there is Poverty and Joy, there is neither Cupidity nor Avarice. Where there is Peace and Contemplation, there is neither Car nor Restlessness. Where there is fear of God to guard the dwelling, there no enemy can enter. Where there is Mercy and prudence, there is neither Excess nor Harshness.”

Writings of St Francis

PILGRIMAGES TO ASSISI

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2026

September 18 – 22 2026 (24 People Max)

Chaplain – Fr Desire, OFM

October Pilgrimage Cancelled

COST £550.00 ALL INCLUSIVE.

Please see posters
at the back of the Church for details.

THE PASSOVER SEDER MEAL

“I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I shall not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God.” Luke 22:15–16

✠ Parish Lenten Activity ✠

📅 28 March 2026 (Saturday)

🕒 7:00 PM

📍 Parish Large Hall

🎟 £20.00 per person

⚠ Limited to 80 participants only

Tickets will be available next Sunday.

A sign-up sheet for reservations will be placed
at the back of the church.

Come and join us for an evening of fellowship and
reflection this Lenten season.

We look forward to seeing you!

HOME VISITS TO HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS.

Do you know any of our Parishioners who are sick and/or housebound, and would like Holy Communion and/or Confession? Please contact the Parish Office with the details of the person concerned, and a visit by a Priest will be arranged.

Holy Week & Easter Triduum

Sat 28	March	12pm	Stations of the Cross in the Park.
Sat 28	March	7pm	Passover Seder Meal
Mon 30	March	12:15	Holy Mass
		7pm	Reconciliation
Holy Tues	31 March	12:15	Holy Mass
Holy Wed	1 April	12:15	Holy Mass
Holy Thur	2 April	7pm	The Lords Supper/ Washing of Feet
		8pm – 10pm	Altar of Repose
Good Friday	3 April	10am	Children’s Stations of the Cross
		3pm	Start of Novena to the Divine Mercy
		3:25	Veneration of The Cross.
Holy Sat	4 April	10am	Morning Prayer
		10:20	Divine Mercy Novena Prayer.
		10:30	Reconciliation & Confession.
		8pm	Easter Vigil.

NO 6PM MASS.

Easter Sunday 5 April 9am, 10:15am & 12 noon

Sun 12 April – Divine Mercy 9am, 10:15 & 12 noon

Mon 6 April – Fri 10 April Divine Mercy Novena

Prayer will be incorporated at 12:15 Mass.

Sat April 11 – Divine Mercy Novena Prayer will be
incorporated at 10am Mass.

*You are warmly welcome to join us for a **Lenten Retreat on 21st March at Our Lady of Compassion Upton Park.** The Retreat begins with the Holy mass at 10 am followed by two talks: Talk 1: Remembering St. Francis – 800 years of the Spirit of Renewal by Fr. Yusuf Bagh OFM. The second Talk is given by our Scripture scholar, Fr. Adrian Graffy on The Raising of Lazarus. We will have time for Adoration and Confessions from 2pm-3.30pm. The Retreat concludes with a Benediction at 4pm. See you soon!*

DEANARY ALTAR SERVERS FORMATION & CELEBRATION DAY

The Formation Day will take place at
St Anthony’s Church, Forest Gate on 21st March 2026
from 9:30am to 4:30pm. Full details are on the poster
at the back of the Church.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN THE OLYMPIC PARK

Saturday 28th of March 2026. Meet at 12pm the Aqua
Centre opposite the Saddlers Wells Theatre in the
Olympic Park Stratford. Everyone Welcome.