

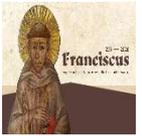


THE PILGRIM

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”

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

22 March 2026

READ First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

Responsorial Psalm: With the Lord there is mercy, in him is plentiful redemption.

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

Gospel Reading: John 11:1-45

Never to lose hope, even in hopeless situations.

Ezekiel prophesied of a renewed people shaped by God's spirit to live their covenant with Him. St. Paul explains that we can fulfill God's will with the Holy Spirit dwelling in us. The gospel of John gives us the greatest of all the signs that Jesus did: the raising of Lazarus.

REFLECT: The raising of Lazarus encourages us never to lose hope, even in hopeless situations. It is never too late for God to renew an individual or a community. But how can we collaborate with God to experience His power? The answer is not simply faith, as none of the characters in the story believed that Jesus would or could raise Lazarus; rather, it lies in practical obedience to this wonder-working God and in following His will. The characters in the story obey the Lord's commands fully, so Lazarus was restored to life. Perhaps some of us are entrapped by the death of sin. Others may find themselves in despair or the bondage of sinful habits and attitudes. Jesus is ready for a miracle. But are we prepared to cooperate with Him? The answer lies in our hearts.

RESPOND: Let us unbind (forgive) those who wronged us and allow a new relationship to blossom.

Prayer: Lord, give me a heart that will cooperate with your will.

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.
- 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: 6:00 pm**
- Sat: Morning Prayer: 9:40 am

FRANCISCAN JUBILEE

The Church is OPEN every WEDNESDAY after the 12:15pm MASS for ADORATION and PRAYER

MASS INTENTIONS Sunday 22 MARCH 2026 – Saturday 22 MARCH 2026

Sun	22 MAR 9:00	RIP (F) KATHLEEN DROMEY	Wed	25 MAR 12:15	RIP (F) SISTER HALOGUE MELLETT
Sun	22 MAR 10:15	RIP (F) MAUREEN KEITH nee REDMOND		25 MAR 6:30PM	POPE LEO XIV
Sun	22 MAR 12:00	RIP (M) EFFIONG ASUQUO ESSIEN (rebooked) AND GH (F) MONA KENNEDY	Thu	26 MAR 12:15	RIP (F) KATHLEEN DROMEY AND BD (F) CLAIR THORNE
Mon	23 MAR 12:00	RIP (M) FINNBAR MURRAY AND RIP (M) MICHAEL McNAMARA	Fri	27 MAR 12:15	RIP (F) SISTER HALOGUE MELLETT AND GH (F) CLAIR THORN
Tues	24 MAR 12:15	RIP (F) CATHERINE CARTY AND RIP (M) JOHN ROWLEY	Sat	28 MAR 10:00	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH AND RIP (M) RAYMOND DEMPSEY
			Sat	28 MAR 6:30	RIP (M) - URBALDO PALAGI & RIP/BD (M) GRAZZIANO PALAGI AND TG (F) CLAIRE THORN AND TG (F) CONSTANCE MOMAH

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

FRANCISCAN JUBILEE YEAR

Echoes from the Heart of St Francis of Assisi

We are also bound to fast and avoid vice and sin taking care not to give way to excess in food and drink and we must be Catholics. We should visit churches often and show great reverence for the clergy, not just for them personally, for they may be sinners, but because of their high office, for it is they who administer the most holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Writings of St Francis of Assisi

PILGRIMAGES TO ASSISI SEPTEMBER 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

REDISCOVERING THE ROOTS OF THE EUCHARIST

"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

A CATHOLIC CELEBRATION

✠ Parish Lenten Activity ✠

📅 28 March 2026 (Saturday)

🕒 7:00 PM

📍 Parish Large Hall

🎫 £20.00 per person

⚠️ Limited to 80 participants only

Tickets are available 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!

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
	6:30	Adoration
	7:15	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.	

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.

LENTEN APPEAL – ST FRANCIS LEPROSY GUILD.

As part of our Lenten Appeal, we are celebrating the 800 Year Anniversary to the Death of St Francis. Our Lenten Appeal will be for the St Francis Leprosy Guild. There will be a box at the back of the Church for you to place your donations all during Lent. As always, we thank you sincerely for your generosity.

**THE 2ND COLLECTION TODAY WILL
BE FOR THE S.V.P.**

ST BONAVENTURES' STUDENT PILGRIMAGE TO ROME PART 1:

The staff at St Bonaventure's School would like to express their sincere thanks to everyone in the parish community who so generously supported the recent school pilgrimage. Your kindness and donations made it possible for the students to take part in an experience that they will remember for the rest of their lives. The students had an extraordinary time in Rome. For more on this wonderful experience - see next week's Newsletter for Part 2.