



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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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”



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

17 MAY 2026

READ First Reading: Acts 1;12-14

Responsorial Psalm: I believe I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:13-16

Gospel Reading: John 17:1-11a

You will be my witnesses

Before ascending to heaven, the Lord Jesus told his disciples that, with the coming of the Holy Spirit, they would be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. In the second reading, Paul prays for the Ephesians that they may live out their faith in the Lord, who now sits at the right hand of the Father. In the gospel, Jesus gave a similar call to teach and make disciples of all nations.

REFLECT: "You will be my witnesses." We are called to be the Lord's witnesses in our private and public lives: Christian witnesses and teachers in our homes, workplaces, and community, following the Lord's command wherever we go. We don't need to become priests or religious brothers and sisters. You and I can witness to the Lord through our love when others need us, our patience when they annoy us, our forgiveness when we are wronged, our honesty amid corruption, and our perseverance when we want to give up. Our lives express much more eloquently than our words when it comes to witnessing and teaching. Witnessing for Jesus and teaching others about Him means sharing our faith and love with them. It involves giving them the one treasure we possess: the Lord.

RESPOND: Share your time, talent, or resources with someone in need today.

Prayer: Let me be your faithful witness, Lord so that others may see you in me.

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: 12:15pm
Wed - 07:00pm
Sat - 10:00am
- **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**
Wed: 01:00pm – 06:00pm
Sat: 10:30am – 11:30 am
- **Reconciliation**
Wed: 05:00pm - 06:00pm
Sat: 10:30am - 11:30am, 05:00pm - 05:45pm & by Appointment
- **Novena/Rosary**
Tue: St. Anthony 12:45pm
Wed: Franciscan Crown 01:30pm
Divine Mercy 03:00pm
Mo. of Perpetual Help 05:00pm
Holy Rosary 06:00pm
Sat: Morning Prayer 09:40am

FRANCISCAN JUBILEE YEAR

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

MASS INTENTIONS Sunday 17 MAY 2026 – Saturday 23 MAY 2026

Sun	17 MAY 9AM	RIP/ANNIV (Belated) (F) RUTH PHILLIPS
Sun	17 MAY 10:15	RIP ANNIV (F) VERONIQUE SMITH-WILLIAMS & RIP PAUL ALEXANDER
Sun	17 MAY 12 Noon	SR - DOMINGO NANTES
Mon	18 MAY 12:15	RIP - (F) ARSENIA DE VERA
Tues	19 MAY 12:15	BD - MELANIE MOMAH

Wed	20 MAY 12:15	SI - EMILIA MANGONE
Wed	20 MAY 7PM	<i>BISHOP ALAN WILLIAMS</i>
Thur	21 MAY 12:15	RIP (M) LUCIANO IANNICELLI
Fri	22 MAY 12:15	WA JHERYL & RACHEL & BD - RACHEL
Sat	23 MAY 10AM	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
Sat	23 MAY 6PM	RIP (M) MARTIN HONE & BD - SARAH McKIERNAN

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

**SECOND COLLECTION 17 MAY 2026
WORLD COMMUNICATIONS**

**PENTECOST SUNDAY – 24th May '26
Parish Intercultural Sunday Large Hall.**

To celebrate the above, we invite you to Bring & Share food, bring the flag of your country (One Foot in size only), and where possible, wear the national dress of your country. We will have a **sign-up sheet to register for the above**, at the back of the Church. Please ensure you register your name for this celebration.

MESSAGE FROM C.A.F.O.D

We have received the following message from CAFOD: "Thank you to all parishioners at St Francis of Assisi for your generous support of CAFOD this year, and thank you for being there for our global family."

You also have the thanks of the Friars.

**THE CAR PARK – PENTECOST
SUNDAY 24th May 2026.**

As this is going to be a very busy day what with First Communions, Confirmations and our Pentecost Multi-Cultural Feast, we would ask that if at all possible, you **DO NOT** bring your cars. Thank you all for your understanding.

Parish coach pilgrimage to Aylesford

on Sunday 28 June - price £20 - Children £5 - call Sarah on 07778 868827 to book

St Francis Knight's and Bubbly Club St

Francis Social on 4 July - a St Francis themed event. Tickets £15 per adult, £5 per child under 12. On sale now at the back of the church. Come and enjoy the feast.

**Parish seaside outing to Dovercourt
on Saturday 15 August** - Price £20 - Children £5

-call Sarah Price can be subsidised for anyone unable to pay full price - Call Sarah on 07778 868827 to book

**2026 ADDITIONAL SCHEDULE OF
MASSES – May**

**27 MAY 2026 SAINT AUGUSTINE OF
CANTERBURY (Wednesday) Feast Holy Mass -
12:15PM and 07:00PM**

**28 MAY 2026 OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE
ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST (Thursday) Feast Holy
Mass - 12:15PM and 07:00PM**

FRANCISCAN JUBILEE YEAR

**Blessed the religious who
treasures up for heaven (Mt. 6. 20)
the favours God has given him
and does not want to show them
off for what he can get out of the
it.**

Words of St Francis.

**HOME VISIT 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.

**The Cover of our Tabernacle
During Franciscan Jubilee Year**

Our Lady of the Angels – Portiuncula. The Portiuncula, meaning "little portion," is a 4th-century chapel near Assisi, Italy, that serves as the spiritual heart of the Franciscan Order. Restored by St. Francis of Assisi in 1208, it is where he founded the Order of Friars Minor, welcomed St. Clare, received his calling to poverty, and died on October 3, 1226.

Key Significance of the Portiuncula:

Birthplace of Franciscanism: The tiny chapel is located inside the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels and is where Francis received his first followers. The "Pardon of Assisi" Indulgence: In 1216, Pope Honorius III granted a plenary indulgence to anyone who visits this chapel, a privilege now extended to all churches worldwide on August 2nd, known as the Feast of Portiuncula.

Symbol of Poverty and Rebuilding: After repairing it, Francis and his brothers lived there in poverty, following the command to "repair My Church,"

Marian Devotion: The chapel is dedicated to St. Mary of the Angels and was central to Francis's devotion to the Mother of God. Today, the site remains a major place of pilgrimage for peace and repentance, often called "a place of the soul" that signifies the Franciscan vocation of brotherhood and simplicity.



**MAY THE GOOD LORD BLESS YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT & LOVE OFFERING
FOR THE FRANCISCAN JUBILEE YEAR ACTIVITIES**

The donation box is located below the image and of St. Francis of Assisi.