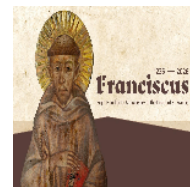




THE PILGRIM

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"

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME AND WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS & THE ELDERLY.

26 JULY 2026

READ First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-6a, 7-12

Responsorial Psalm: O Lord, how I love your law!

Second Reading: Romans 8:28-30

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:44-52

The true treasure.

Solomon, is depicted as a man who requested the gift of wisdom to discern between good and evil, and govern God's people effectively. God granted him his request and everything necessary to be a good king. Meanwhile, in his letter to the Romans, St. Paul states that God justified and glorified the believers of the Lord - those who love God, and are called by Him according to His plan. In the gospel, Jesus shares three parables emphasizing the wisdom to choose the hidden treasure and the pearl of great price - the Reign of God in our life.

REFLECT: What would you ask if God entered your dream tonight and invited you to request one thing? Would you ask for wealth or success in your career or business? Would you have the wisdom of Solomon to seek God's reign in your life? Is Christ so important that you are prepared to follow Him closely? These are the questions we need to face. Being a faithful follower of Christ is not just one of many good things in life. Instead, it is the Only Good, the True Treasure - the one thing that should define our way of living and the choices we make.

RESPOND: Offer your time or talent to help those in your community.

Prayer: Lord, grant me the grace to choose Your will in my life consistently.

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

MASS INTENTIONS Sunday 26 July 2026 – Saturday 1 Aug 2026

Sun	26 JULY 9AM	RIP (M) - CHUKWUEBUKA EZIGWE	Wed	29 JULY 12:15	GH/SR - THERESA MARRON AND SI - JANE HIGGS
Sun	26 JULY 10:15	FMU	Wed	29 JULY 7PM	DAVID COLLINS, OFM
Sun	26 JULY 12 Noon	RIP - ALAN WILLIAM MORAN	Thur	30 JULY 12:15	FMU
Mon	27 JULY 12:15	FMU	Fri	31 JULY 12:15	FMU
Tues	28 JULY 12:15	FMU	Sat	1 AUG 10AM	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
			Sat	1 AUG 6PM	BD - FR BRIAN McGRATH, OFM FROM ST BONAVENTURE'S SCHOOL

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://stfrancisassistratford.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/4weu2mhl6>
or <https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VbA3ba6xCSIP3JJia0I>



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>



FRANCISCAN JUBILEE YEAR

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God. (Mt 5:9). They are truly peacemakers who are able to preserve their peace of mind and heart for love of our Lord Jesus Christ, despite all that they suffer in the world."

Writings of St Francis

Franciscan Jubilee Pilgrim Stamp Available

Pilgrims visiting our parish may receive the St. Francis of Assisi Pilgrim Stamp. If you would like your pilgrim passport stamped, please approach the priest celebrant after Mass or at another appropriate time.

Franciscan Mission Union

Please Visit the FMU Office!

As you make your way to or from the parking lot, we warmly invite you to stop by the **Franciscan Missionary Union (FMU) Office**, conveniently located below the Sacristy.

The FMU Office is our link to the Franciscan missions throughout the world. We invite you to become a **Mission Partner** in whatever way you are able, helping to support the Church's missionary work and the ministry of the Franciscans.

Our friendly volunteers will be delighted to welcome you, answer your questions, and assist you.

Thank you for your generosity and support. May the Lord richly bless you and your loved ones.

St. Anthony of Padua,
the Patron Saint of the Franciscan Mission,
pray for us!

Our Franciscan Jubilee Campaign is ongoing!

Join us in bringing hope to those in need by helping us provide **clothing, nutritious meals for children, and clean water**. Kindly drop off your donation at the **FMU Office**. Thank you for your generosity and support. May God bless you abundantly!



**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 of
St. Francis of Assisi

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026/2027

The Application Forms will be available at the back of the Church, *and from the Parish Office*. The Programme of Meeting Dates will follow shortly.

Please note that in a change from last year, **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION WILL TAKE PLACE, FOR ALL CANDIDATES, ON THE FEAST OF CORUS CHRISTI – SUNDAY 30TH MAY 2027 – AT 2PM.**

Safeguarding Notice:

- 1) Please accompany your children if they need to use the toilet at Mass. The toilets are accessible to the general public when the church is open and we have experienced anti-social behaviour at the toilet and car park area. Please protect your children.
- 2) Please do not take photographs during Mass or other services without the priests permission. On occasions where photography is permitted in the church, please ensure it is only your child or group that is captured. Photographing parishioners without their permission is not allowed.

Thank you for helping to keep our Parish safe.

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

Fr Brian's 100th Birthday

There will be a parish celebration for Fr Brian's 100th Birthday on Saturday 1st August following 6pm Mass. **Please sign the card at the back of the church. Please bring food to share (and if possible, let us know what you are bringing by adding yourself to the list at the back of the church). Bring your own alcoholic drinks.**

Come and join in on the evening.

ST FRANCIS LEPROSY GUILD & CAFOD EMERGENCY APPEAL FOR MYANMAR.

We wish to extend our sincerest thanks to all our Parishioners for the success of the above appeals.

St Francis Leprosy Fund raised	£576.79
The CAFOD Myanmar Fund raised	£411.96

Once again, our thanks to you all for your generosity.