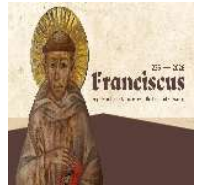




THE PILGRIM

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"

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 6th September 2026

READ First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

Responsorial Psalm: O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-10

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:15-20

Love fulfills the Law.

God commissioned the prophet Ezekiel to serve as Israel's sentinel, delivering His warnings to them. Meanwhile, in the second reading, Paul explained to the Romans that love fulfills the Law, conveying the precept, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." In the Gospel, Jesus instructs His disciples on how they should behave as members of the Church.

REFLECT: What motivates us to do the things we do? What keeps us moving each day? St. Paul provides us with a teaching that synthesizes the Mass readings for today and explains the reason behind our actions: love. This is not merely an emotion or a sentimental feeling but a commitment to do good for others. In our lives as members of the Church, love ought to be the power that drives us to connect with others and strive for their well-being. It is also the reason behind our efforts to correct our brothers and sisters.

RESPOND: Perform a loving act today: instead of judging a brother or sister, pray for the wisdom to help them follow the right path.

Prayer: Lord, may my actions towards my neighbor always be motivated by love and nothing else.

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**
Vicar

• 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

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://stfrancisassisi-stratford.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/4weu2mh6>

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>



MASS INTENTIONS Sunday 6 September 2026 – Saturday 12 September 2026

Sun	6 SEPTEMBER 9AM	RIP (M) CHUCKWUEBUKA EZIGWE BD (F) MIRANDA AFFAT	Wed	9 SEPT 12:15	BD – MAURO IANNICELLI BD – (F) MELIA SIMON
Sun	6 SEPTEMBER 10:15	BD – FR DESIRE AND RIP (F) VERONICA CHISHUMBWU	Wed	9 SEPT 7PM	FR DAVID COLLINS AND TG ST THERESA & ST ANTHONY FOR ALL THE HOLY SOULS 1ST BD – SERA ROSE MASCARENHAS
Sun	6 SEPTEMBER 12PM	40TH WA – RUBY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF STENIO & GLORIA MUNGLEY - SPECIAL BLESSING. AND RIP (M) RAYMOND DEMPSEY	Thur	10 SEPT 12:15	
Mon	7 SEPTEMBER 12:15	RIP RIP/ANNIV (F) CLARA FERNANDES AND RIP PETER MUTSEMI	Fri	11 SEPT 12:15	FUNERAL MASS – ALFRED ALESANDER
Tues	8 SEPTEMBER 12:15	SI (First Month of Birth) ATTICUS STERLING ONG EDWARD	Sat	12 SEPT 10AM	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
			Sat	12 AUGUST 6PM	RIP (M) –SEAMUS O'CONNOR

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

"But there is one thing of which we can boast;
we can all boast of our humiliations (2 Cor 12:15)
and in taking up daily the holy cross of our Lord
Jesus Christ"

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.

Be Aware. Be Active. THE 2026 FEAST OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Theme
From Memory to Mission;
From Charism to Commitment

Launching of the Activities
leading to the Feast Day Celebration
Sept 17, 2026 @ 7PM
Stigmatisation of St. Francis

Sept 25-Oct 03 Novena Masses

Your presence and support matters.
Donation envelopes are available at the back of the Church
or you may go to the Parish Office

Feast Day Mass, 04 Oct 2026 @ 10:30AM
His Excellency Miguel Maury Buendia, DD
Papal Nuncio to Great Britain
Presider and Homilist

Keep watch for more information

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
aHEOffice. 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

SECOND COLLECTION FOR NEXT SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER IS FOR THE CATHOLIC EDUCATION SERVICE.

Fr. Desire's birthday is on the 6th of Sept. 2026. We will have a simple birthday celebration for him after the 12:00NN Mass at the Parish Large Hall. Kindly bring food to share with other parishioners.

From this day on, we will give identity to our halls, the large hall will be **Porziuncola Hall**. While the small hall will be **San Damiano Hall**.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026/2027

The 14th September (NEXT MONDAY) is the LAST Day on which Parents/Guardians can submit the Application Forms completed, and back to 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.

R.C.I.A. (Journey of Faith) – Introduction Meeting

A meeting will take place on **Wednesday 9th September 2026 at 7pm** at the Friary.

ST ANTHONY'S DEVOTIONAL HEALING OIL

There are bottles of Healing Oil available at FMU Office and the Parish Office **for a donation of £5.** Your donation will help support the Franciscans in their mission. Thank you all.

REGISTER YOUR ORGANISATION

To help us organise and strengthen our parish faith community, all active parish organisations are kindly requested to register. Registration forms are available at the back of the church or from the Parish Office. Please return the completed form to the Parish Office **no later than 28 September 2026.**
Thank you for your cooperation!

CATHOLIC TEACHING IN THE WORLD OF AI.

Pope Leo has recently published *Magnifica Humanitas*, an encyclical letter on 'safeguarding the human person in the time of artificial intelligence'. The Holy Father writes: 'In the era of artificial intelligence, when human dignity is threatened by new forms of dehumanisation, ours is the pressing duty to remain profoundly human.' Fr Hugh MacKenzie, chaplain at Westminster Cathedral, is an expert on AI. He will be giving a presentation on the topic on Saturday 26th September 2026 at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest in Gidea Park, beginning at 11 am. The event is in-person but is also available live-stream from www.whatgoodnews.org. The talk will be of particular interest to our young people, with their IT competence.

FUNERAL MASS – FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2026 ALFRED ALEXANDER, RIP

