



THE PILGRIM

St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church E15 1BJ

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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"

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

27 SEPTEMBER 2026

READ

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28

Responsorial Psalm: Remember your compassion, O Lord.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:28-32

Obedience isn't about empty promises or appearances.

In the first reading from Ezekiel, God corrects the idea that His ways are unfair, stressing that each person is accountable for their own choices—those who turn from sin will live. In the second reading, Paul urges the community in Philippi to live in unity and humility, following the example of Christ, who emptied Himself and became obedient, even to death on the cross. In the Gospel, Jesus tells a parable of two sons—one who says no but obeys and one who says yes but does not. True righteousness is shown not in words but in actions and sincere repentance.

REFLECT: Jesus presents to us in the Gospel the story of two sons—one who first refuses to work in the vineyard but later goes, and the other, who agrees to go but never does. Through this parable, Jesus reminds us that what matters most to God is not what we say but what we do.

Obedience isn't about empty promises or appearances—it's about responding with our hearts and lives. God always invites us to His vineyard, calling us to love, serve, and grow. Even if we have said "no" in the past, it's never too late to say "yes" through our actions. True faith is lived, not just spoken. It is shown in loving acts, not in empty promises. Let's choose to be faithful to God.

RESPOND: Help a needy brother or sister today.

Prayer: Lord, give me the grace to live a life of integrity.

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 – 11:30am
- 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:

[orhttps://stfrancisassisi-stratford.com/newsletters](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://t.me/1wuy2n1h6>
orhttps://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VbA3ba6xCSIP3JJja01



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://t.me/1wuy2n1h6> orhttps://www.diocesecofbrentwood.net/donations



MASS INTENTIONS Sunday 27 September 2026 – Saturday 3rd October 2026

Sun	27 SEPT 09:00 AM	BD - CLEMENTINA AKPEDE	Wed	30 SEPT 12:15PM	RIP (M) RICHARD HENRY PERKINS
Sun	27 SEPT 10:15 AM	BD - CONSTANCE MOMAH		07:00PM	Novena Mass - Filipino Community
Sun	27 SEPT 12:00 PM	SI - THE FAMILY OF CLEMENTINA AKPEDE Novena Mass - Knights of Columba	Thu	01 OCT 12:15PM	TG/GH - LEBROC ALAN
				07:00PM	Novena Mass - Deana & Godfrey D'Souza
Mon	28 SEPT 12:15PM	FUNERAL MASS - LILIA GASTON	Fri	02 OCT 12:15PM	FMU
	07:00PM	Novena Mass - 1st HCom. Catechists		07:00PM	Novena Mass - Readers & Bubbly Club
Tues	29 SEPT 12:15PM	BD - JERARD CABEY	Sat	03 OCT 10:00AM	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
	07:00PM	Novena Mass -			Youth Gathering
			Sat	03 OCT 06:00PM	TG - JENNY
					Novena Mass - OFS

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

"St Paul tells us, "this letter kills, but the spirit gives life (2Cor. 3:6)". A man has been killed by the letter when he wants to know quotations only so that people will think he is very learned and he can make money to give to his relatives and friends."

Words of St Francis of Assisi

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
Sept 25-Oct 03 Novena Masses

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

During each Novena Mass, an individual, family, or organisation may serve as an Offeror/Sponsor by presenting the bread and wine at the Offertory. Sponsors are also invited, if they wish, to support our parish improvement projects, including the purchase of new images of St Joseph and St Francis and the replacement of the kneeler coverings.

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 our 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

St Bonaventure's School is holding its Open Evening for parents with students in Years 5 and 6 on Thursday 1 October at 6 pm. The school recently celebrated impressive GCSE results, with over a third of all grades awarded at 7 or above across all subjects. Also, it has been rated Outstanding in all areas by the Catholic Schools Inspectorate and was recognised as one of the happiest schools in Newham by The Sunday Times 2025 report. If you are considering St Bonaventure's for your child, this is a great opportunity to visit the school, meet staff and find out more about life at the school. To register, please complete the form here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1DR4EUEu->

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 a the Franciscans in their mission. Thank you all.

ADDITIONAL MASSES

29 September – 07:00PM

Michael, Raphael & Gabriel, Archangels.

THE REPOSITORY

The Repository will be open after all *Masses on Sunday 11th October 2026* at which time *Christmas Goods* will be available as well as the usual goods, e.g., Boxed Christmas Cards, Church Art Calendars and Nativity LED Candles. **CASH ONLY PLEASE**. All items are also available at the Parish Office. Christmas Mass Card will be available from the Parish Office only.

REMINDER TO COMPLETE THE ORGANISATION

REGISTRATION FORMS. Would all our associations, please ensure you complete a form. The forms are available from the back of the Church and the Parish Office. Thank you.

Freedom in Christ Conference on Saturday 3rd October from 1-3pm at Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Square, South Woodham Ferrers, CM3 5JX. Discover five keys to genuine freedom in Christ and to experience His amazing love, joy, and peace. Many of us, despite our best efforts, struggle with the same sins and feel hopeless in our search for freedom. Come and discover how the Lord can bring healing and freedom from spiritual bondages such as addictions, fear, anger, envy, lust, greed, and unforgiveness. God bless you!

BCYS Rooted 2026 – Years 7-9/ Years 10-13
Rooted – Saturday 24th October for years 7-9 / Sunday 25th October for years 10-13: A brand-new day of faith, friendship and adventure for young people with the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service, at Walsingham House. With inspiring talks, workshops, outdoor activities, team challenges and prayer, it's a great opportunity to meet other young Catholics and grow in faith. For more information and to apply, please visit www.bcys.net/events. Thank you so much for helping us share these opportunities with young people, families, catechists and parish communities. Your support in promoting our events makes such a difference and helps us reach more young people across the Diocese.

FUNERAL MASS

28 September 2026 at 12:15pm - LILIA GASTON, R.I.P.