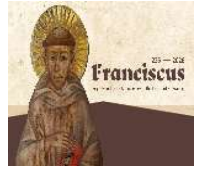




THE PILGRIM

St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church E15 1BJ

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"A fraternal and hearty welcome to the new members of our Parish Community and all visiting sisters and brothers"

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 11 OCTOBER 2026

READ First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10a

Responsorial Psalm: In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for length of days unending..

Second Reading: Philippians: 12-14, 19-20

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:1-14

Responding in faith is necessary.

The prophet Isaiah describes a future feast where God will wipe away tears and eliminate death, symbolizing hope and divine restoration. The second reading reveals Paul's contentment in all circumstances, emphasizing reliance on God's provision and offering encouragement to others in faith. In the gospel, the parable of the wedding banquet illustrates God's invitation to all people, highlighting both acceptance and rejection of His call. These passages emphasize God's abundant grace, the importance of responding to His invitation, and the assurance of His provision in our lives.

REFLECT: The gospel reading illustrates God's open invitation to salvation is extended to all, symbolizing His grace and desire for humanity to join Him at the heavenly banquet. However, this invitation comes with an expectation: responding in faith is necessary. Everyone is called to accept and embody God's grace through their actions and commitment to follow the Lord. The man without proper attire signifies the necessity of transformation-faith must be coupled with a genuine response to God's call. To be worthy of the Father's feast, we must actively engage in our journey with our brothers and sisters, embracing a life that reflects the Lord Jesus.

RESPOND: What does the Lord ask of you today? Act on it.

Prayer: Lord, help me be attuned to your voice daily and grant me the grace to respond appropriately.

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/ytk8vsc4>
or <https://stfrancisassisistratford.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/0029VbA3ba6xCSIP3JJiaOI>



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 11th October 2026 – Saturday 17th October 2026

Sun	11 OCT 09:00 AM	RIP – (M) MICHAEL CONNOLLY
Sun	11 OCT 10:15 AM	RIP – (M) SEAMUS O'CONNOR
Sun	11 OCT 12:00 PM	SI – BRIAN MAUGHAN & FAMILY
Mon	12 OCT 12:15pm	SI – EMILIA MANGONE
Tues	13 OCT 12:15PM	RIP – LUCIANO IANICELLI

Wed	14 OCT 12:15PM	BD – JANET IANICELLI
	07:00PM	BISHOP ALAN WILLIAMS
Thu	15 OCT 12:15PM	FMU
Fri	16 OCT 12:15PM	FMU
Sat	17 OCT 10:00AM	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

Sat	17 OCT 06:00PM	RIP/BD (f) – ANA CRAVEIRO
		RIP (F) MARGARET DENNIS

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

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 celebrant after Mass or at another appropriate time.

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. FRANCIS'S DEVOTIONAL HEALING OIL

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

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported our Feast Day celebration of St. Francis of Assisi. With 385 people attending, it was a joyful and spiritually enriching celebration for our parish community.

Though there is always room to improve, the Mass remained prayerful and solemn. Our readers were well prepared, and the presence and service of our young altar servers were especially appreciated. Special thanks to the All St. Francis Choir for leading simple yet solemn singing that encouraged the whole congregation to participate.

For our bodily nourishment, we thank everyone who generously shared food for our simple agape, especially the Secular Franciscan Order and volunteers from various parish groups who helped distribute it. Through your kindness and service, everyone went home nourished in spirit and with a full stomach!

Every minister, volunteer and parishioner helped make this celebration meaningful. **Thank you for sharing your time, gifts and faith. May the spirit of St. Francis continue to inspire us to live as sisters and brothers and serve with joy!**

CONFIRMATIONS 2027

Confirmation Application Forms will be available at the **back of the Church on 11th October, and the Parish Office on 12th October**. Please return the completed forms in an envelope marked "Confirmation Application 2027" to the Parish Office. The Closing Date for Confirmation Applications is **2nd November 2026**.

THE REPOSITORY will be open after all Sunday Masses:

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**.

A Day With Mary is taking place at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 7 November 2026 (9.45am to 5.00pm). The Most Reverend Richard Moth, Archbishop of Westminster will be the Celebrant & Preacher at 10.30am Cathedral Mass on that day. Further information is available at <https://www adaywithmary.org/>

THE SECOND OF THE FIRST COMMUNION MEETING SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2026 AT 1:50PM IN THE CHURCH. This meeting is for the Parents/Guardians and Candidates who submitted their Application Forms

JOB VACANCIES: An exciting opportunity has arisen to lead two of our local schools. Applications are invited for the positions of Head Teacher at St Francis' Catholic Primary School and Head Teacher at St Michael's Catholic Primary School. We are looking for inspirational and dedicated leaders who will help our schools and their pupils continue to flourish. Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy Trust, working in partnership with the Diocese of Brentwood, is seeking 2 dynamic, passionate, and inspirational Head Teachers to lead two of our vibrant primary schools in Newham, St Michael's and St Francis'. Building upon our solid foundations, replacing the existing executive head model with 2 Head Teachers, we are looking for committed practicing Catholics with the drive, vision, and pedagogical expertise to lead us into our next exciting chapter of excellence. For further information about these vacancies, including details of how to apply, please visit the website for Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy. The deadline to apply is Monday, 12th October at midday. Visits to both schools are warmly welcome.

Maranatha at Upminster 15 October

2026: Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus! All are warmly invited to an evening of prayer, praise and worship, including Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, where we come together to encounter the Holy Spirit and share fellowship in a Catholic context. At St Joseph's Catholic Church, Upminster RM14 2SY on **Thursday 15th October 2026 7:00pm to 9:00pm**, with refreshments afterwards. Not been to Maranatha before - why not come and see?

SECOND COLLECTIONS: 11TH OCTOBER – HARVEST FAST DAY. 18TH OCTOBER – PRISONERS SUNDAY.