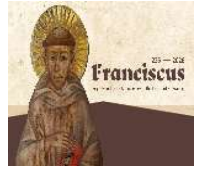




THE PILGRIM

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"

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

18 OCTOBER 2026

READ

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1,4-6

Responsorial Psalm: Ascribe to the Lord glory and power.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:15-21

Recognize our responsibilities in society without compromising our faith.

In today's readings, Isaiah emphasizes God's sovereignty, proclaiming that He empowers Cyrus to fulfill His purpose, showcasing Him as the one true God. In the second reading, Paul expresses his gratitude to the Church in Thessalonica for their faith, love, and hope, recognizing the power of the Gospel in transforming lives. Meanwhile, in the Gospel, Jesus skillfully navigates a trap set by the Pharisees regarding paying taxes to Caesar by reminding them to give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God, highlighting the relationship between earthly and divine responsibilities.

REFLECT: In Matthew 22:15-21, Jesus ably addresses a challenging question about paying taxes, emphasizing the balance between our duties to earthly authorities and our ultimate commitment to God. His response, "Render unto Caesar what is Caesar's, and unto God what is God's," calls us to recognize our responsibilities in society without compromising our faith. As children of God, we are invited to honor Him through our actions and decisions as we navigate the complexities of our worldly obligations. By fulfilling our responsibilities with integrity and demonstrating our faith in everyday life, we reveal our identity as God's children and reflect His values and love to the world around us.

RESPOND: Am I faithful to my societal obligations? It is not yet too late to do so.

Prayer: Lord, help me bear witness to you today in all I do.

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/vfk8vsc1>

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/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 18th October 2026 – Saturday 24th October 2026

Sun 18 OCT 09:00 AM RIP (M) AMADO JAMISOLA
Sun 18 OCT 10:15 AM RIP/ANNIV (F) NORA HANLEY
Sun 18 OCT 12:00 PM SI – BRIAN MAUGHAN & FAMILY
Mon 19 OCT 12:15pm RIP – (F) LYNDA HALYBURTON

Tues 20 TH 12:15PM FMU

Wed 21 OCT 12:15PM FMU
07:00PM SR/GH – POPE LEO X1V
Thu 22 OCT 12:15PM FMU
Fri 23 OCT 12:15PM RIP/BD (M) THOMAS BRAMBLE, ALSO
THE CORRIET, CABEY, BRAMBLE & ELLIS
FAMILIES.
RIP (M) CHUKWUBUKA EZIGWE
PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

Sat 24 OCT 10:00AM RIP(M) CLIFTON SPRINTER

Sat 24 OCT 06:00PM

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 are **available at the back of the Church, and the Parish Office**. 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 on 18th October.

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**.

THE CALL TO BE HUMAN: *What does it mean to be a free moral agent?* A talk to be given by Fr Martin Boland. Wednesday 21st October 7.00 – 8.00 p.m. in the parish centre of Our Lady of Lourdes, Wanstead all welcome. www.ourladyoflourdes.com

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.adaywithmry.org/>

The Bi-Annual Concelebrated Requiem Mass at St. Patrick's Cemetery, Leytonstone E11 4HL will be on
Monday 9th November 2026 at 11.30 am

THE THIRD OF THE FIRST COMMUNION MEETING SUNDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 2026 AT 1:50PM IN THE CHURCH. This meeting is for the Parents/Guardians and Candidates who submitted their Application Forms
Parents/Guardians are to STAY with their Children, not just drop them off. Thank you.

SECOND COLLECTIONS - 18 OCTOBER IS FOR PRISONERS & SUNDAY AND 25TH OCTOBER WILL BE WORLD MISSION DAY.

170th Anniversary Year History of St Edward the Confessor Catholic Church, Romford. This new booklet is full of facts and insights about one of the oldest parish churches in the Diocese. The cost is £7 including postage. If you would like a copy please email romford@brcdt.org