



St Francis of Assisi Parish Newsletter



Grove Crescent Road, Stratford, London E15 1BJ
Tel: 0208 534 1964

**THE PARISH OFFICE IS
OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY
9.30am-12.30pm**

OFFERTORY

Last Week: £1,834.24
S/O: £ 160.00
Total: £1,994.24

Coffee shop at Trinity

After 9.00am Mass on
1st Sunday of the Month.
Proceeds to SVP
Please come for a chat!

Novena of St Antony

Tuesdays after 12.15pm Mass

Rosary in Church

First Saturday of month
After 10am Mass

Charismatic Prayer Group

In Church Hall Sat 7-8.45pm

Newham General Hospital

Mass 12.30pm each Wednesday.

Lost Property Box in Sacristy

Drop in Bereavement Centre

For all who have suffered
bereavement
187 Grange Rd, Plaistow E13
Tel: 020-7511 6444
M: 0798 325 7502

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Saturday evening 5 – 5.30 p.m. the
Blessed Sacrament will be exposed
for quiet prayer and adoration.

300 CLUB

25/08/2017
No: 224
Mr A Nish

Newsletter Notices

To be left in Friary by Tuesday

WOULD YOU LIKE A CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR?

Pls take a leaflet from the back of
church entitled 'The Universe' and
it will tell you what to do.

Save the date!

Nigerian Independence Day
celebration on *October 1st*.
Everyone invited.

SUNDAY 27TH AUGUST 2017

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (Cycle A)

First Reading: (*Isaiah 22:19-23*) The keys are passed to another; the New Testament applies this text to Jesus.

Second Reading: (*Romans 11:33-36*) All that exists comes from him!

Gospel: (*Matthew 16:13-20*) "but you who do you say, I am?"

Reflection: Where else shall we go? Jesus has the words of eternal life.

Response to the Psalm: "Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands."

Monday is the Memorial of St Augustine, *Tuesday* the Memorial of St John the Baptist,
Funeral Mass for Florentino Mesina will be on *Wednesday* at 12.15p.m. May he rest in peace.

MASS ON BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY WILL BE AT 12.15

FR. JORGE'S FAREWELL

You may be aware that Fr. Jorge will leave our Parish at the end of the month. I am sure that his announcement last Sunday came as an unpleasant shock. We friars had known only a couple of weeks ago and we were disappointed as we expected him to be here for another year. We have found him a wonderful friar who shared with us the adventures he had all around the world in getting material for his thesis. He was very willing to help in the parish and did a lot of quiet work for people having difficulties especially with visas. It was his drive and determination that got us the electric gate which has made life much easier and secure around the church. It could be named "The Jorge Ortiz Memorial Gate." We wish him every grace so that he completes his work in New York. He is a big man in every way. To celebrate the time he has spent with us, as well as say our good-byes, we will come together as a Parish family *after the 12.15 Mass on Mon 28th Aug* in the Hall. Let us bring food and drink for this memorable occasion.

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION

Forms are available for collection in the church porch. Children to be prepared must be baptised Catholics, living in the Parish of St Francis and in Yr 3 or above by this September 2017. Please return the form with a **COPY** of the child's Baptismal Certificate to the Parish Office or to Sr Bernie, marked "First Communion Preparation" ideally by *Friday 1st September 2017*.

The first **Introductory Meeting** for parents who have already handed in the Application Form will be *Friday 8th September at 7.30pm* in the Parish Hall, under the church.

CONFIRMATION 2018

If you, or a family member, wishes to be prepared for the Sacrament of Confirmation, please hand name, address, DOB, email address and phone number into the Parish Office in an envelope marked "CONFIRMATION APPLICATION". Applicants should be going into Yr 12, at college, or at work. Closing date **Fri 1st Sept**. Latecomers will be postponed to next year.

JOURNEY OF FAITH 2017 -2018

This is an invitation to anyone who is not a Catholic but who is interested in finding out about the Catholic Church to join a group that will help them. Our understanding is that anyone who comes is inquiring and has not made up their mind one way or the other. In the group, there is a talk on an aspect of the Catholic faith, opportunity to ask questions and discuss and time for prayer. We meet on *Wednesday evenings at 7.30 p.m.* in the Friary. If you have a family member or friend who has shown an interest in the Catholic faith, please come with them to get them started. The starting date will be announced in the newsletter later but it will be *in September*.

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION LAUNDRY - PLEASE COLLECT ROTA

WORLD YOUTH DAY, PANAMA - JANUARY 2019

Join the BCYS group in Costa Rica and Panama for an encounter with 2 million other young people and the Pope. www.bcys.net or email frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org by *15th Sept*.

VIRTUAL DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE - 2017

Short videos of recent trip, including homilies and interviews. See www.bcys.net or YouTube.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK MONDAY 28TH AUGUST TO SUNDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 2017

Monday	12.15pm	Fr Jorge	Saturday	10.00am	Priest's intentions
Tuesday	12.15pm	HOLY SOULS	Saturday	6pm	Priest's intentions
Wednesday	12.15pm	Sheila Joy – RIP	Sunday (Trinity)	9.00am	Sheila Joy – RIP
Thursday	12.15pm	HOLY SOULS		10.15am	People of the Parish
Friday	12.15pm	Olive & Roland Goudoin - Intentions		12.00 Noon	Mr & Mrs Osinjolu – 10 th wedding anniversary

Please pray for our sick. Also, please also pray for all our recently dead, and for those whose anniversary occurs around this time. May their souls rest in God's love and peace.

CATHOLIC HISTORY WALKS

Wed 30th Aug 2pm and 6pm - a walk around the City of London, beginning at the Church of the Most Precious Blood, The Borough (Nearest Tube: Borough or London Bridge.)

Tues 4th Sept 6.30pm - Catholics and politics, St Thomas More, Guy Fawkes, Pugin, Parliament and the Abbey. Meet on steps of Westminster Cathedral. (Nearest Tube: Victoria.)

EXTRACT FROM POPE FRANCIS' AMORIS LAETITIA

A Big Heart

In addition to the small circle of the couple and their children, there is the larger family which cannot be overlooked. Indeed, “the love between husband and wife and, in a derivative and broader way, the love between members of the same family – between parents and children, brothers and sisters and relatives and members of the household – is given life and sustenance by an unceasing inner dynamism leading the family to ever deeper and more intense communion, which is the foundation and soul of the community of marriage and the family”. Friends and other families are part of this larger family, as well as communities of families who support one another in their difficulties, their social commitments and their faith...

...The Synod Fathers emphasized that Christian families, by the grace of the sacrament of matrimony, are the principal agents of the family apostolate, above all through “their joy-filled witness as domestic churches”. Consequently, “it is important that people experience the Gospel of the family as a joy that ‘fills hearts and lives’, because in Christ we have been ‘set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness’ (Evangeliium Gaudium, 1). As in the parable of the sower (cf. Mt 13:3-9), we are called to help sow seeds; the rest is God’s work. Nor must we forget that, in her teaching on the family, the Church is a sign of contradiction”. Married couples are grateful that their pastors uphold the high ideal of a love that is strong, solid, enduring and capable of sustaining them through whatever trials they may have to face. The Church wishes, with humility and compassion, to reach out to families and “to help each family to discover the best way to overcome any obstacles it encounters”. It is not enough to show generic concern for the family in pastoral planning. Enabling families to take up their role as active agents of the family apostolate calls for “an effort at evangelization and catechesis inside the family”.

“This effort calls for missionary conversion by everyone in the Church, that is, one that is not content to proclaim a merely theoretical message without connection to people’s real problems”. Pastoral care for families “needs to make it clear that the Gospel of the family responds to the deepest expectations of the human person: a response to each one’s dignity and fulfilment in reciprocity, communion and fruitfulness. This consists not merely in presenting a set of rules, but in proposing values that are clearly needed today, even in the most secularized of countries”. The Synod Fathers also “highlighted the fact that evangelization needs unambiguously to denounce cultural, social, political and

economic factors – such as the excessive importance given to market logic – that prevent authentic family life and lead to discrimination, poverty, exclusion, and violence. Consequently, dialogue and cooperation need to be fostered with societal structures and encouragement given to lay people who are involved, as Christians, in the cultural and socio-political fields”.

“The main contribution to the pastoral care of families is offered by the parish, which is the family of families, where small communities, ecclesial movements and associations live in harmony”. Along with a pastoral outreach aimed specifically at families, this shows the need for “a more adequate formation... of priests, deacons, men and women religious, catechists and other pastoral workers”. In the replies given to the worldwide consultation, it became clear that ordained ministers often lack the training needed to deal with the complex problems currently facing families. The experience of the broad oriental tradition of a married clergy could also be drawn upon.

ort to teenage mothers, children without parents, single mothers left to raise children, persons with disabilities needing particular affection and closeness, young people struggling with addiction, the unmarried, separated or widowed who are alone, and the elderly and infirm who lack the support of their children. It should also embrace “even those who have made shipwreck of their lives”. This wider family can help make up for the shortcomings of parents, detect and report possible situations in which children suffer violence and even abuse, and provide wholesome love and family stability in cases when parents prove incapable of this.

Finally, we cannot forget that this larger family includes fathers-in-law, mothers-in-law and all the relatives of the couple. One particularly delicate aspect of love is learning not to view these relatives as somehow competitors, threats or intruders. The conjugal union demands respect for their traditions and customs, an effort to understand their language and to refrain from criticism, caring for them and cherishing them while maintaining the legitimate privacy and independence of the couple. Being willing to do so is also an exquisite expression of generous love for one’s spouse.

WE CELEBRATE MASS

1st Mass of Sunday: Sat 6pm; Sun 10.15am (with Children’s Liturgy);
12.00 Noon and 6pm (Polish)
(Also Holy Trinity CoFE, Holloway Rd, E11: Sun 9am)
Weekdays: Mon to Fri 12.15pm. Sat. 10am
Holydays of Obligation: 8am; 12.15pm and 8pm.

WE CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Sat 10.30am to 11am and 5pm to 5.30pm.
Friars in residence: Michael Copps (Guardian & Parish Priest)
Francis Conway OFM, Fr Tony Baya OFM, Jorge Ortiz OFM, Bro Michael O’Grady OFM, **Parish Sister:** Sister Bernie
Postal Address:
The Friary, 160 The Grove, Stratford, London E15 1BJ
Tel: 020 8534 1964 **Email:** Stratford@friar.org