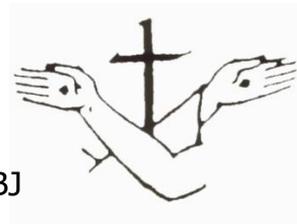




# St Francis of Assisi Parish Newsletter



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: £ 1,821.99  
S/O: £ 160.00  
Total: £ 1,981.99

### **Coffee shop at Trinity**

After 9.00am Mass on  
1<sup>st</sup> 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**

Next draw – End September.

### **Newsletter Notices**

**To be left in Friary by Tuesday**

### **TRADCRAFT STALL**

There will be **NO Tradecraft Stall**  
**on Sunday**

**3<sup>rd</sup> September**, however, there will  
be on Sunday **10<sup>th</sup> September** after  
both Masses.

### **WOULD YOU LIKE A CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR?**

If so then take one of the leaflets at  
the back of church entitled 'The  
Universe' and it will tell you what  
to do.

## **SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017 TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (CYCLE A)**

**First Reading:** (Jeremiah 20:7-9). There seems to be a fire burning in my heart.

**Second Reading:** (Romans 12:1-2). Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice.

**Gospel:** (Matthew 16:21-27). "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine....."

**Reflection:** Suffering is a reality in human life, but, when you are in love, it seems slight!

**Response to the Psalm:** For you my soul is thirsting O Lord, my God

### **FATHER JORGE WRITES - THANK YOU**

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all of you as members of our Parish. There have been a lot of wonderful moments in which I experienced the joy of serving you. I also offer my apologies and ask your forgiveness if my actions at any point were not the testimony of a follower of Christ. May God reward you and bless you always.

If you want to keep in contact by normal post this is my address. Jorge Ortiz, Columbia University Station, P.O. Box 250877, New York, NY 10025, USA

### **FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION**

The first **Introductory Meeting for Parents** only, who have already handed in the Application Form, will be **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm** in the Parish Hall, under the Church.

### **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 a particular aspect of the Catholic faith, the opportunity to ask questions and discuss points and also 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. We know of people who have shown interest during the year but have not responded yet. The starting date will be announced in the newsletter later but it will be in September.

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH**

This meeting is scheduled to take place on next Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> September. The meeting will be in the large hall and bring something to share so we can have lunch together. All parishioners are welcome but we hope that the various groups in the parish will send representatives.

### **LAUNDRY ROTA**

Can you please collect Rota for Minister of Holy Communion Laundry? Many thanks.

### **THOSE WISHING TO MARRY**

Those wishing to prepare for marriage are reminded that the bishops have asked that they give 6 months notice of their intention. This time is needed for the obtaining of documents and processing them if the wedding is to be held abroad. More importantly, time is needed for the couple to think and pray about the sacrament they will celebrate together.

### **CONFIRMATION 2018**

If you, or one of your family, is interested in joining a group of parishioners wishing to be prepared for the Sacrament of Confirmation, please write your name, address, date of birth, email address and your telephone/mobile number, and hand it into the Parish Office in an envelope marked "**CONFIRMATION APPLICATION**". Applicants should be going into Year 12, attending a Sixth Form College or at work.

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK MONDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER TO SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017

Monday	12.15pm	Holy Souls	Saturday	10.00am	Prudence Roderick – R.I.P.
Tuesday	12.15pm	Priests Intentions	Saturday	6pm	Priests Intentions
Wednesday	12.15pm	Sheila Joy – R.I.P.	Sunday (Trinity)	9.00am	Sheila Joy – R.I.P.
Thursday	12.15pm	Holy Souls		10.15am	<b>PEOPLE OF THE PARISH</b>
Friday	12.15pm	Fr. Jorge		12.00 Noon	Sister Bernie - Birthday

**Please pray for our sick.**

**Please also pray for all our dead, especially Florentino Mesina,** and for everyone whose Anniversary occurs around this time.

*May their souls rest in God's love and peace.*

### LOURDES, SUMMER 2017

Turn your computer on, and enjoy the “virtual pilgrimage.” Video clips of 2-10 minutes capture the flavour of the recent Diocesan pilgrimage, including all the homilies, and interviews with Bishop Alan and Fr Bob Hamill. You can find these via [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net) or search “Virtual Pilgrimage – Lourdes 2017” on YouTube.

### WORLD YOUTH DAY, PANAMA, JANUARY 2019.

If you will be in year 12, or aged 17-27, in January 2019, then join the BCYS group travelling to Costa Rica and Panama for an encounter with 2 million young people from all over the world, and the Pope. This is truly a “once in a lifetime” experience and an amazing opportunity to discover and celebrate faith in Latin America. For more information, visit [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net) or email [frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org) by 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

### **EXTRACT FROM POPE FRANCIS' AMORIS LAETITIA**

#### **Proclaiming the Gospel of the family today**

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’ (Evangelii 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 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.

#### **WE CELEBRATE MASS**

1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:Stratford@friar.org)