



# 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: £2,187.68  
S/O: £ 160.00  
Total: £2,347.68

### **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**

The Next Draw  
Will be on 29/09/2017.

### **Newsletter Notices**

**To be left in Friary by Tuesday**

### **TRAIDCRAFT STALL**

There will be Tradecraft Stall  
**Today 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 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017 TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Cycle A) EDUCATION DAY**

**First Reading:** (Ezekiel 33: 7-9) A call to repent

**Second Reading:** (Romans 13:8-10) love is the answer to all the commandments

**Gospel:** Matthew 18:15-20) "for wherever two or three are together in my name there am I  
in their midst"

**Reflection:** There is a sensible way of correcting someone who does wrong!

**Response to the Psalm:** "O that to-day you would listen to his voice! Harden not your  
hearts"

**Monday** is the Memorial of St Joseph of Cupertino; **Wednesday** is the memorial of St John  
Chrisostom. **Thursday** is the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, **Friday** the memorial of  
Our Lady of Sorrows, **Saturday** the memorial of St Cornelius and Cyprian

### **DIOCESAN COLLECTION**

This Sunday's Diocesan Collection will be for 'Catholic Education Service  
Next Sunday's Diocesan Collection will be for 'Home Mission Day'

### **TRAIDCRAFT STALL**

**Tradecraft Stall this Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September after both Masses.**

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

This meeting is scheduled to take place this Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2017. The meeting will  
be in the Large Hall and bring something to share so we can have lunch together. There will  
be reports from the Chair of the Parish Council and from your Parish Priest. We will invite  
your comments. All parishioners are welcome but we hope that the various groups in the  
Parish will send representatives.

### **SAY NO TO ARMS FAIR**

Tomorrow, Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September, there will be a Vigil to protest against the Arms Fair  
being held at the Ex Cel Centre on Victoria Dock. Pope Francis said recently, "Why do  
many powerful people not want peace? Because they live off war: the arms industry, so  
much sacrificed and war is waged in order to defend the money." Meet in Tidal Basin Road  
outside Royal Victoria DLR Station at 6.30 p.m. to walk to the Ex Cel Centre. The Vigil is  
from 7-8 p.m. Bring a candle and a jar to shield it as it is a windy area.

### **COMMUNION PREPARATION**

We have had the introductory meeting on Friday evening and so the programme has started.  
Please pray for the children and for their parents who are the first teachers in the ways of  
faith.

### **CONFIRMATION 2018**

If you, or one of your family, is interest 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. Interviews will be held after the 10.15  
Mass on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September in the Small Hall under the Church.

### **CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY BOOKS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AS EBOOKS**

Pick up a leaflet for more information from the table at the back of church.

### **GREEN PASTURES SESSIONS**

17<sup>th</sup> September, 8<sup>th</sup> October, 29<sup>th</sup> October, 12<sup>th</sup> November, 26<sup>th</sup> November and 10<sup>th</sup>  
December 2017

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER TO SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017

Monday	12.15pm	Sheila Joy – RIP	Saturday	10.00am	Prudence Roderick – R.I.P.
Tuesday	12.15pm	Holy Souls	Saturday	6pm	Golden Jubilee -
Wednesday	12.15pm	Priest's Intentions	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	Priest's Intentions		12.00 Noon	Diamond Jubilee

**Please pray for our sick:** Kathleen Quinn (Very sick – Nil by mouth)

**Please also pray for all our dead,** and for everyone who's Anniversary occurs around this time.

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

### TABLE TOP SALE

St Francis Church, Grove Crescent Road, Stratford, London  
E15 1BJ

on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2017 @ 11.00 – 1.30pm

Bring your family and friends, plenty of bargains to be found

### 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. The group is also open to baptised Catholics who for one reason or another were never brought up in the practice of the faith but who would like to correct this. 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. The starting date will be announced in the newsletter later but it will be in September.

### SACRED ART AND PRAYER GROUP

Would those interested in joining a "Sacred Art and Prayer Group" please contact the Secretary as soon as possible, leaving your name, mobile number and/or email address. This group has for objective growth in the knowledge of God and our faith and will also serve to embellish the Parish's liturgies in the form of artwork of one kind or another on Sundays and especially during the highlights of liturgical seasons. When sufficient numbers have been found, Fr Tony will contact you as for a first meeting.

### **EXTRACT FROM POPE FRANCES' 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)