



# 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: £1,921.51  
S/O: £ 160.00  
Total: £2,081.51

### **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 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017 TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Cycle A) HOME MISSION SUNDAY**

**First Reading:** Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7 Forgive your neighbour and your sins will be forgiven

**Second Reading:** Romans 14:7-9 Alive or dead we belong to the Lord

**Gospel:** Matt 18:21-35 I do not tell you to forgive seven times, but seventy-seven times

**Reflection:** Without forgiveness we are trapped in our sin.

**Response to the Psalm:** The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

*Monday* is the Memorial of St Joseph of Cupertino, *Wednesday* is Memorial of St Andrew Kim Tae-Gon, Korean Martyrs, *Thursday* is the Feast of St Matthew the Evangelist, *Saturday* is the Memorial of Padre Pio.

### **DIOCESAN COLLECTION - HOME MISSION SUNDAY**

The Home Mission Office exists to help the Church throughout England and Wales to share the joy of the Gospel. It can seem daunting to share such a personal part of our lives as our faith in Jesus Christ. However, we could pray for the people we carry in our hearts to encounter Him for themselves. Prayer cards and prayer maps for families can be ordered from [home.mission.org.uk](http://home.mission.org.uk). If you would like to pray for the spread of the Good News on a regular basis, please sign up for our newsletter via [homemission.org.uk](http://homemission.org.uk) Please consider contributing to today's Second Collection. The money received from this collection ensures that the Catholic Faith Centre is resourced and is able to respond to those who have questions about the Catholic Faith. It is possible to donate online at: [catholicnews.org.uk/Home/Donate](http://catholicnews.org.uk/Home/Donate)

### **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 this Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September in the Small Hall under the Church.

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

There was a very disappointing attendance at this meeting last Sunday. Anyone visiting the parish and seeing it would have come to the conclusion that we are no longer a going concern. Those who did come made the meeting worthwhile. I don't think many people understand that the Church is not the reserve of the clergy but depends of fruitful co-operation between laity and clergy. Sam Ayertey of the Knights of St Columba agreed to come onto the Council as did Mary Simmons representing our young people. Dawn Carter-Darby agreed to continue as chair. Please pray for the work of Council as they well feel that they don't have much support. Father Michael

### **JOURNEY OF FAITH STARTS FOR 2017/2018**

We will gather in the Friary on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September for the first session of our Journey in this year. We start at 7.30 p.m. on the dot so please set out in good time. Come to the door on the The Grove not to the church and there will be someone there to greet you.

If you have not made contact with Father Michael yet you can still come and see if this is what you are looking for.

### **ST FRANCIS OVER 50'S CLUB**

We are starting an over 50's Club for men and women, this will be held on Friday mornings 10.00am to 12 Noon at the Friary and will commence on the 13<sup>th</sup> October 2017. There will be various activities including exercises etc. For further information, please contact Claire Thorn on 07960 856307 or the Parish Office on 020 8534 1964. All are Welcome.

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER TO SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017

Monday	12.15pm	Sheila Joy – R I P	Saturday	10.00am	Prudence Roderick – R.I.P.
Tuesday	12.15pm	Merlyn Seymour - INTENTIONS	Saturday	6pm	Valerija Nagaitiene – R I P
Wednesday	12.15pm	Sheila Joy – R I P	Sunday (Trinity)	9.00am	HOLY SOULS
Thursday	12.15pm	Charles Bradley - RIP		10.15am	<b>PEOPLE OF THE PARISH</b>
Friday	12.15pm	Jhery Cabey - BIRTHDAY		12.00 Noon	Stella Ngozu-Chukwu Oguike

**Please pray for our sick:**

**Please also pray for all our dead, Recently Dead:** Sr Irene Stern. **Anniversaries:** Charles Bradley.

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

### **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**

This Sunday 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

### **MARRIAGE CARE**

Marriage Care Ilford is looking for a volunteer to carry out PR work for Marriage Preparation. Training will be given. Please e-mail Glenda on: [marriagecareilford@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:marriagecareilford@hotmail.co.uk)

### **YOUNG PEOPLE HEADING FOR UNIVERSITY**

should look at [www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk](http://www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk) to locate their particular Catholic chaplaincy.

### **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.

### **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

### **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)