

Please feel free to take this booklet home with you



**THE PARISH OF
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
BARKINGSIDE**

A parish church in the Catholic tradition of the
Church of England, part of Redbridge Deanery in the
Barking Episcopal Area of the Diocese of Chelmsford

**16th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY - YEAR A
20 September 2026**

*A warm welcome to all newcomers and visitors to St. Francis Church
Please do join us for refreshments after the 10.15am Mass*

TODAY'S SERVICE

10.15am Parish Mass

Today's Celebrant and Preacher is Bro. Sam SSF

Collect of the Day

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

A reading from the book of Jonah 3.10 – 4.11)

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, ‘O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.’ And the LORD said, ‘Is it right for you to be angry?’

Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered.

When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, ‘It is better for me to die than to live.’ But God said to Jonah, ‘Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?’ And he said, ‘Yes, angry enough to die.’ Then the LORD said, ‘You are concerned about the bush, for which

you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?’

Psalm 145 (1 - 8)

R. The Lord is near to those who call upon him.

I will exalt you, O God my King, and bless your name for ever and ever. Every day will I bless you and praise your name for ever and ever. **R.**

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; there is no end to his greatness. One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power. **R.**

I will ponder the glorious splendour of your majesty and all your marvellous works. They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will tell of your greatness. **R.**

They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; they shall sing of your righteous deeds. The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and of great kindness. **R.**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians
(1.21 - 30)

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am

convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well — since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
(20.1 - 16)

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a land-owner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager,

“Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.”

When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” So the last will be first, and the first will be last.’

Post Communion Collect

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord **Amen.**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: -

...the sick and suffering and those who care for them, those who are alone, isolated and vulnerable, and especially for

Connie Barnes, Vicky Berrill, Helen Forbes, Brian Good,
Judy Harvey, Liz Leatherbarrow, Stevan Piper, Graham Sandy,
Sofia Savvas, Adrian Shelton, Pauline Sheridan, Christine Street,
Norman Street, Anita Watts, Heather Wheeler, Mary Vadsala.

PLEASE ADVISE DAVID L. OF ANY ALTERATIONS.

....the recently departed,

... those whose anniversaries of death occur this week, including:

20th John Cott

22nd Violet Oliver

23rd Ben Dowding, Derek Horsley, Addie Gomm

26th Emma Hutchinson, Connie Hopkins

... all those living or working in: Maypole Crescent, Merlin Grove

A COPY OF READINGS for 4 October (Karen) is now available. Please collect from the back of church.

GARDEN WORKING PARTY is this coming Saturday 26 September to tidy the area around the front of the church before the Patronal Festival.

We hope to start at 10.00am, for a 90minute session.

Are there a couple of volunteers to make tea or coffee, please: offers to David L.

PCC REMINDER The next meeting is scheduled for 7.30pm Wednesday 7 October

OTHER SERVICES THIS WEEK

Sun 27 Sept. **17th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**
10.15am Parish Mass

SOME FUTURE DATES AT ST. FRANCIS **FOR YOUR DIARIES**

Sun 4 October **PATRONAL FESTIVAL**
10.15am Parish Mass

Sun 11 October **HARVEST FESTIVAL**
10.15am Parish Mass

PARISH CONTACTS

Vicar (position vacant)

Churchwarden

Mr. David Lyon,
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Parish Safeguarding Officer

Mrs. Ucheoma Ugoji
e-mail: ucheor@talk21.com
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PARISH OFFICE

Weddings, Baptisms, Confirmations
and Confessions
Please contact Mr. David Lyon as above