

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

**17th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY - YEAR A
27 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 is Fr. Bernard Eaton

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts
are restless till they find their rest in you:
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see
you face to face; 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 prophecy of Ezekiel (18: 1 – 4, 25 - 32)

The word of the Lord came to me:

What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is unfair.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is unfair.’ O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Psalm 25 (1 - 8)

R. Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies triumph over me.
Let none who look to you be put to shame, but let the
treacherous be shamed and frustrated **R.**

Make me to know your ways, O Lord, and teach me your
paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God
of my salvation; for you have I hoped all the day long.. **R.**

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from
everlasting. Remember not the sins of my youth or my
transgressions, but think on me in your goodness, O Lord,
according to your steadfast love. **R.**

Gracious and upright is the Lord; therefore shall he teach
sinners in the way. He will guide the humble in doing right and
teach his way to the lowly.
All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth to those who
keep his covenant and his testimonies. **R.**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians
(2: 1 - 13)

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation
from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and
sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having
the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
(21. 23 - 32)

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, ‘By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?’ Jesus said to them, ‘I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come

from heaven, or was it of human origin?’ And they argued with one another, ‘If we say, “From heaven”, he will say to us, “Why then did you not believe him?” But if we say, “Of human origin”, we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.’ So they answered Jesus, ‘We do not know.’ And he said to them, ‘Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. What do you think?’

A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, “Son, go and work in the vineyard today.” He answered, “I will not”; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, “I go, sir”; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?’ They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Post Communion Collect

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; 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:

27th Harry Trow

28th Marie Bean

29th Dorothy Cott

1 Oct John Druce, Annie Druce, Victor Hearn

2nd Emily Smith

3rd William Curry

... all those living or working in: Montfort Gardens, Neville Road

A COPY OF READINGS for 11 October (Rebecca) is now available. Please collect from the back of church.

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

OTHER SERVICES THIS WEEK

Sun 4 Oct. **PATRONAL FESTIVAL**
18th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
10.15am Parish Mass

SOME FUTURE DATES AT ST. FRANCIS
FOR YOUR DIARIES

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

PARISH CONTACTS

Vicar (position vacant)

Churchwarden

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PARISH OFFICE

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