

Newsletter- July 2025

Dear friends and fellow disciples,

"Lazarus, come forth... and bring your suitcase with you!" You won't find these words in this exact way in John 11, but our Lord did say these words. Well, at least to our own Br. Lazarus.

This month, we find ourselves at a strange and sacred intersection of sorrow and joy, exits and entrances, old habits passing away and new beginnings. Sadly, Brother John Baptist, our temporary professed brother, will be leaving our community and will be stepping into the next chapter of his life. Stepping into whatever wild and wonderful things God is calling him to next. In his goodbye letter to all he wrote, "I am confident that God's will is being done...My time in London has truly been a gift from God and a blessing that I will carry with me." We will miss his kindness and his prayerfulness.

Br. Paul, who is a temporary professed friar in the U.S.A, will be joining our friary in August. He is the tallest living friar in the world...well possibly! Fr. Juniper is now assigned to St. Columba Friary in Derry, while Fr. Tansi will be heading north to St. Pio Friary in Bradford. Fr. Francesco, who will be migrating south from St. Columba Friary in Derry, will be the new Local Servant of our friary. Yes, I know. It's a bit mad and a bit emotional, but it's also entirely Franciscan! July is traditionally dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus. This is a fitting theme this month as friars are literally "poured out"! Change is messy. Love isn't tidy. It doesn't always fit neatly into a box! It pours out and flows freely.



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Oh yes, Br. Lazarus. Br. Lazarus will be with us through the month of July. He is a seminarian in New York who will be spending his summer break with us. Like Lazarus in John 11, Christ is always calling us forth into new life, new missions, and new beginnings. Resurrection, after all, is about new life springing up in unexpected places! Transitions remind us of the deeper truth that resurrection is an ongoing process.

After the feast of Saint John the Baptist on June 24, the daylight slowly begins to wane. The sun begins its gentle retreat. It's a quiet signal that a shift is taking place - a new season begins. But Christ remains our Light. As St. John the Baptist said, "He must increase, but I must decrease" (Jn 3:30). Jesus' light is constant, piercing, warm, and eternal. It never dims!

We ask for your prayers as we navigate the tides of transition, knowing that in these moments, God is doing something beautiful and holy. Please pray for all the friars. Those departing, arriving and staying. And, of course, please continue to pray for the mission of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal.

We look forward to being with you at the Discipleship Day on July 5. See you there!

Your brother in Jesus and Francis Fr. Tansi



ANNOUNCEMENTS (1/5)

✓ <u>Discipleship Day| July 5 | 11am-4.30pm</u>

Discipleship Day Schedule

11 am: Holy Mass (not 10am!)
(please note that we are unable to provide parking at the friary this month because the friary compound will be used for the barbecue!)

Barbecue

4:30 pm: Clean-up/ Departure

✓ BARBEQUE!

BRING SOME/SHARE SOME!!

PLEASE BRING ALONG MEATS TO BARBEQUE, YOUR FAVOURITE HOMEMADE DISH, SALADS TO SHARE, DESSERTS TO DELIGHT IN, SNACKS TO ENJOY AND DRINKS TO KEEP US HYDRATED ETC

Parking Permits:

Please note that we are unable to provide parking at the friary this month because the friary compound will be used for the barbecue!

NEW WEBSITE!

Our <u>new website</u> <u>https://www.franciscanfriars.co.uk/</u> is now up and running. **This is now our main mode of communicating information.**

We have now discontinued the use of our Facebook pages. Please visit our website if you would like to keep in touch with us.



ANNOUNCEMENTS (2/5)

Consent Forms:

If you would like to receive this newsletter each month via email, please sign up on our website https://www.franciscanfriars.co.uk/friary/london-st-fidelis
Alternatively, you can contact Fr. Bernard on 0207 474 0766 or send an email to london@gmail.com in order to receive and fill in a consent form.

Rosaries:

If you would like to help with **donating rosaries for our Discipleship Day evangelization team**, please contact **Fr. Tansi** on 0207 474 0766.

Transitions and appointments: :

- Fr. Juniper is now assigned to St. Columba Friary in Derry, while Fr. Tansi is assigned to St. Pio Friary in Bradford.
- Br. Paul, who is a temporary professed friar in the U.S.A, will be joining our friary in August.
- Fr. Francesco is assigned to London and will become the new Local Servant of our friary. He arrives in mid-August.
- Fr. Francesco's assistant (Local Vicar) will be Fr. Charles. Fr. Michael remains our European Regional Servant, while Fr. Bernard is now his assistant (European Regional Vicar).
- Fr Emmanuel has been appointed the new vocations director for Europe.
- Br. Lazarus will be with us through the month of July. We welcome Br. Lazarus, Fr. Francesco and Br. Paul!
- Soul Food: Fr. Bernard will be present at Soul Food on July 10 at 7pm, while Fr. Emmanuel will also be present there on July 24 at 7pm to help with adoration & confession.



ANNOUNCEMENTS (3/4)

Friar Benet's Kitchen:

We run Friar Benet's kitchen on **Tuesday**, **Wednesday** and **Thursday** from 11:00am to 1pm.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, we start our day by preparing and cooking the meal for our guests at about 9am and finish with clean-up and prayer together at about 2pm.

On Wednesdays, we begin our day at about 9:30am. We offer clothes donated by our local communities and friends, during which tea, coffee and pastries are available.

We finish with clean-up and prayer together at about 1:30pm.

We already have some amazing volunteers, but are always grateful to welcome new ones.

If you have time and energy and want to be part of this work of Mercy, *please* contact Fr Charles-Benoit on 0207 474 0766 or send an email at fbk.cfr.london@gmail.com

Clothing needs:

We are always grateful for donations of clothing to our soup kitchen. Here are our current needs if you would like to donate to our clothing pantry.

CLOTHING NEEDS

- > Jumpers/Hoodies (Size: S/M/L/XL) > Tee-shirts (Size: S/M/L/XL)
- > Joggers/Tracksuits bottoms (S,M,L,XL) > Jeans (Size: 28 to 36)
- > Jackets / Fleece Jackets (Size: S/M/L/XL) > Socks

OTHERS

- > Toiletries (shower gel, deodorant, razor)
- > Bleach and Bleach spray > Anti-bacterial hand wash > Laundry detergent (liquid).

<u>Drop-offs can be done on soup kitchen days (Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9am-2pm).</u>

If you wish to come outside of these hours, please call the friary (020 74740766) to arrange a drop-off time.



ANNOUNCEMENTS (4/4)

DONATIONS:

If you want to help us out by making a donation, you may do so:

-by scanning the QR code



Thankyou

OR

- Online: https://bit.ly/cfrstfidelis

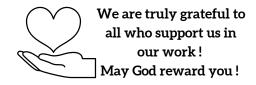
OR

-by making a **Direct Transfer**:

The Community of the Franciscan Friars

Sort Code: 40-13-22

Account Number: 11568574



✓ <u>Thank you:</u> We are truly grateful to all who have supported us in our work through the past year! May God greatly reward you!

✓ Next Discipleship Day:

As usual, there will not be a Discipleship Day in August. Due to the March for Life, which will take place on September 6, the Discipleship Day in September will not be on September 6, but on September 13. Please join us!

"Behold, I make all things new - Rev 21:5.



