



Newsletter- September 2026

Dear brothers and sisters,

May the Lord give you His peace!

"It's late! Fr Charles! Come on, we need the Newsletter to be sent last week!" No one said this! It was myself to myself! Here we are in September, with the joys and the stress of new beginnings, a new school year, coming back from vacation restarting our usual activities, our daily routine. There could be a mixture of emotions, excitement and apprehension. Excitement about new things, new fresh start but also apprehension about the unknown, will I be able to face my new duties. It is the right time to involve Our Father! Him who is ever the same and ever new! Asking Him to be present to you. He created you, gave you all the talents, gifts and gaps that you have! Ask Him to guide you. That you may know how to use those gifts. That you may bear the abundant fruits He wants you to bear. That you may glorify Him through those fruits.

On this Jubilee year of St Francis, let us take the opportunity to draw closer to him who on his deathbed was concerned about starting anew, afresh! "Brothers let us start again because up to now we have done but little."

At St Fidelis Friary, we definitely experience a new beginning; out of the six friars living here last year only half are still here, but all three with a new role and new responsibilities. Fr Francesco as our new Regional Servant is discovering the ins and out of charity rules and regulations, Safeguarding policies and how to implement them, moderating trustee meetings and the like. I am rediscovering the joys and challenges of being a local servant. Fr Emmanuel is taking on the direction of Friar Bennet Kitchen helped by Br Benedict who will take care of the practical needs of its daily functioning. It is not just the personnel changes; we took advantage of the changes and the smaller number of brothers during the summer to repaint the bedrooms... I think it was first time since we arrived 26 years ago!





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We pray that the Lord will be with you in this period and assist you in any of the transition, new beginning and restarts you'll have to face.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr Charles-Benoit





ANNOUNCEMENTS (1/5)

September 12 Discipleship Day Schedule

11:30am: Rosary & Holy Mass

1:30 pm: Lunch

2:30 pm: Presentation on *The Way of St Francis*

3:30 pm: Adoration, Evening Prayer & Benediction

5pm: Clean-up/ Departure

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available during the day.

✓ LUNCH: "BRING SOME/ SHARE SOME"!

Everyone is invited to bring along something for lunch, which may be able to be shared with others. We will have a team of "disciples" to prepare/ arrange the lunch beforehand. This should allow for a more leisurely and fraternal gathering for our midday meal.

✓ 'Transitions and appointments:

Fr Bernard is now assigned to St. Columba Friary in Derry, while Br. Paul is assigned to St. Pio Friary in Bradford. Br. Benedict, who is a temporary professed friar from the U.S.A, has now joined our friary. Fr Michael is taking a well-deserved sabbatical before being assigned back to the US. Therefore, Fr. Francesco is now the new Regional Servant for the four friaries in Europe and I, Fr. Charles, have been appointed as the new Local Servant of our friary. Fr. Charles' assistant (Local Vicar) is. Br. John Bosco, returning from Bradford after seven years!

✓ March for Life:

The annual March for Life will take place on Saturday, September 5th. Please join the friars and thousands of others as we pray and witness to the sanctity of all human life, from conception until natural death. For details, go to: <https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/>





ANNOUNCEMENTS (2/5)

✓ 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 Emmanuel** 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)

Drop-offs can be done on soup kitchen days (Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9am-2pm). If you wish to come outside of these hours, please call the friary (020 74740766) to arrange a drop-off time.





ANNOUNCEMENTS (3/5)

✓ New Website:

Our new website (<https://www.franciscanfriars.co.uk/>) is now up and running. This is now our main mode of communicating information. Please visit our website if you would like to keep in touch with us.

✓ 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/>). Alternatively, you can contact Fr. Bernard on 0207 474 0766 or send an email to london@gmail.com to receive and fill in a consent form.

✓ Parking Permits:

If you travel by car, you may park within the friary compound, however, space is limited, it will be on a first come-first served basis!

✓ A few final words from our two new saints:

"Our soul is like a hot air balloon. If by chance there is a mortal sin, the soul falls to the ground. Confession is like the fire underneath the balloon enabling the soul to rise again. . . It is important to go to confession often."
Carlo Acutis

"Sadness is looking at ourselves, happiness is looking towards God"
St. Carlo Acutis

"Two cigars...one for St. Peter and one for St. Paul; it's a double feast day today!"
St. Pier Giorgio Frassati

"Jesus is with me. I have nothing to fear."
St. Pier Giorgio Frassati





ANNOUNCEMENTS (4/5)

- ✓ **DONATIONS:** If you want to help us out by making a **donation**,
you may do so: -by **scanning the QR code**



Thank you

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



We are truly grateful to
all who support us in
our work !
May God reward you !

- ✓ **Thank you:**
We are truly grateful to all who support us in our work.
May God greatly reward you!

✓ **October Discipleship Day:**

In honor of the 800th anniversary of St Francis' death, our Discipleship Day on October 3rd, will take place at St. John the Evangelist church in Angel. It will start at 1:45pm and will finish with the celebration of the Transitus of Our Holy Father Saint Francis. More information to follow. Please join us!



FRANCISCAN FRIARS
of the RENEWAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS (5/5)

Discipleship Day 12 September

**Fraternal love and
correction**

**"...be transformed
by the renewal of
your mind..."**

Rms 12,2

All are welcome!

Start at 11.30am

**Franciscan Friary,
St Fidelis Friary, Killip Cl, London E16 1LX**