



Newsletter- October 2026

Dear brothers and sisters,

May the Lord give you His peace!

This month, our Discipleship Day falls on the eve of the Feast of Our Holy Father Saint Francis... on its 800th anniversary! This is a very special time! So I decided to share with you the words our General Servant (the head of the CFR) Fr John-Anthony wrote for the community:

"We are just days away from celebrating the 800th anniversary of the transitus of our holy father, St. Francis. This marks a milestone in our beloved Franciscan patrimony and, at the same time, invites a needed interruption of our regular routine.

In preparation for this day, I feel a strong invitation from the Poverello to "ask." To ask him to help us live this life well and to take care of our various needs. I understand that many of us beg his intercession daily, and that we have been faithful to the Church's call this past year to keep Francis before us as a shining example of Gospel living. But I want to encourage all of us to find some time in these next few days to sit in the silence of solitude with Francis and ask him for what we really need. Eight hundred years ago, Francis went from founder to intercessor of the Order. I can't help but imagine his joy when we go to him as sons and ask him for what is on our hearts. Our world, our Church, our Community, and each of us are in need of a great deal. Things are certainly changing around us as we experience a technological revolution in our society.

In the midst of all this noise and change, let us—those who have been chosen to follow Francis—slow down enough to glimpse the brilliance of our holy father and seize the opportunity of this moment. Let us ask him to intercede for us, to help us discern what is needed, and to teach us once again how to live the Gospel with simplicity, courage, and joy."

My dear brothers and sisters, I shared those words with you because there is power in corporate prayer... the more of us come to an agreement to pray for a specific purpose, the more we are guaranteed that it will be granted! Why? Because Faith is the conviction that the one who made the promise is trustworthy and will fulfill it! And if we pray for something that we know is in line with God's will we will pray with greater faith! So if many of grow in conviction to pray for a specific intention, how much faith will this generate?! And therefore, how powerful our common prayer will be!





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Moreover, during his visit to France, Pope Leo encouraged the faithful (us) to witness and intercede for the world that is in such great need of what St Francis brings: an incarnational fraternal way of living the Gospel! Incarnational means concrete and direct; the opposite of virtual!

Brothers and sisters, we just witness the end of life bill be defeated! I have no doubt it was the fruit of countless and fervent prayers! As Our Lady said in Pontmain in 1870 to parishioners who were discouraged and question the effectiveness of prayer: "But pray, for my Son allows Himself to be moved!"

May the feast of Our Holy Father St Francis stir in each one of us a desire for greater zeal in announcing the Gospel through our life and our prayerful intercession for one another that we may grow in fraternal communion and thus witness to the world the reality of the world to come!

Fr Charles-Benoit.

PS: Here is an opportunity to put all this in practice: You will notice that Fr Francesco will be absent this coming Saturday... It is because he went back to Australia to be with his mother Kathy who is in very poor health at the moment. So please pray for Kathy Gavazzi and her family (Fr Francesco's family). Thank you.





FRANCISCAN FRIARS
of the RENEWAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS (1/5)

Alert!!!!

This month, the Discipleship Day will take place at the church of St John the Evangelist in Islington, near Angel's Tube Station.

Schedule

1:30am: welcome

1:45 pm: Praise and Worship

2:00 pm: Mass of the day

3:00 Tea and coffee brake

3:15 pm: Teaching on St Francis relevance for today's world

4:15 Adoration with Evening Prayer and finished by Benediction

5:15pm: end of the afternoon program

Dinner time... but not at the church! There is a vigil mass at 6 pm!

There are plenty of places to find food in the vicinity.

7:30 pm Transitus





ANNOUNCEMENTS (2/5)

✓ Friar Benet's Kitchen:

- We are open 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!





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!

- ✓ **November Discipleship Day:**

We will be back at the Friary! It will take place on Saturday 7th November, and we'll resume our usual schedule:

11:30am: Rosary & Holy Mass

1:30 pm: Lunch

2:30 pm: Presentation on The Way of St Francis,
Fraternal love and correction

3:30 pm: Adoration, Evening Prayer & Benediction

5pm: Clean-up/ Departure

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available during the day.

More information to follow. Please join us!



FRANCISCAN FRIARS
of the RENEWAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS (5/5)



Transitus

The 800th anniversary of the Transitus of St. Francis of Assisi—his death and "passing" from earthly life—is commemorated on October 3, 2026

St John the Evangelist Church
39 Duncan Terrace London N1 8AL | 1.30pm

"Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death, from whom no one living can escape. Woe to those who die in mortal sin. Blessed are those whom death will find in Your most holy will, for the second death shall do them no harm".

