

Weekly Mass Schedule

Due to the Corona Virus, all public worship continues to be suspended until further notice.

Please pray and worship with us online. We would urge those comfortable with technology to reach out to family and neighbours and to show them how to stay connected with the community in this way. Keep Mass as normal as possible, following its rhythms, saying the responses out loud, sharing in the hymn singing.

We live stream the Mass daily, including our Sunday liturgy, at 10am, on www.falkirkcatholics.org and on our Face Book page, Falkirk Catholics.

We encourage you to pray the Rosary. The Legion of Mary prays the Rosary daily at 4pm, and invites you to join them on Zoom. Anyone interested should contact the office on:

office@falkirkcatholics.org and you'll be sent the Zoom ID and password, as well as scripture/prayer cards for the different mysteries.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will continue, and will be streamed after the Friday Mass at approximately ten thirty on the parish website and on Facebook.

Confessions are available on request. We ask you to carefully consider the risks to both yourself and the priest.

Act of Spiritual Communion:

Please be aware you can pray this prayer in the absence of receiving the Eucharist:

“My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart ... I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.”

The Parish of

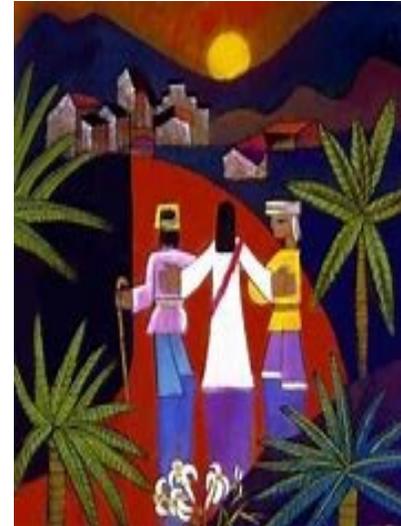
St Francis Xavier's, Falkirk

The Church of St Anthony, Rumford

Third Sunday of Easter, 26th of April 2020, Year A

'Lord Jesus, explain the Scriptures to us. Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us. Alleluia!'

Acts 2:14,22-33; Psalm 15(16):1-2,5,7-11; 1 Peter 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35



Today's readings allow us to reflect on the presence of Christ in our lives and in the Mass. We long for Him in the Eucharist, but today He himself, journeying with his disciples to Emmaus, shows that He is also *really present* in Scripture. He lovingly explains to his disciples the places in God's story where His life, His death and Resurrection are foretold. It's so important now for us as Catholic Christians, deprived of Christ in the Eucharist, to take hold of this truth that Christ is present in His Word. It is Christ who speaks to us when we read and hear it, His Spirit within it which has the power to transform us. *Thank you, Lord, for making Yourself present to us in your Word, giving us new vision and new hope.*

PARISH CONTACTS

Very Rev. Jamie Boyle V.E. (Parish Priest)

Rev. William McQuillan (Assistant Priest)

Rev. Kenneth Anyanyeya Atia

Deacon Rev. Kenneth Mununga

Anne Buhmann (Pastoral Assistant)

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St Francis Xavier's is a parish of the Archdiocese of St Andrew & Edinburgh.
A Charity registered in Scotland Number SC008540

Please remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Tim Nolan, Catherine Henery, Andrew Thomson, Kevin Jordan, Ian Hendry, Mary Marucidass, Fr Willie Henery, Robert Donaldson, Frank Richardson, James Buchanan, Gerard Summers, Theresa Kane, C Black, Theresa Callaghan, Agnes Gorman, John Short, Peter Brady, Maureen Allan, George Wilson, Bridget Harvey, Duncan Cram, Bernard McElroy. **May they rest in peace.**

Please pray for the recently deceased.
Rosemary Docherty R.I.P.

Covid 19 has forced us to press pause and assess how to adapt and respond. As a parish. The leadership team has been talking about what God is calling us to. The loss of the Eucharist focussed our minds on the *other ways* we can encounter Christ. A 'Teach me how to pray' course was set up. We started investigating Alpha online, also for our friends, family and workmates who have big questions at this time. What is emerging is a new focus on the **Word**.

We want to be like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, encountering Him on our personal spiritual journey. And we want to do it *together*, so we stay in community. So the plan is that we are going to meet in 'living room churches' via Zoom, WhatsApp, Messenger etc—a modern day version of the early Church that met in their homes. Every small group will be given the resources they need to make it work, just the Sunday gospel, and simple questions that everyone can respond to *out of their own experience*. That way there are no 'wrong answers'. The resources will be posted on various platforms every week. You can gather in your own natural church or friendship groups and invite others to join you. We will also need people willing to 'host' meetings for people who don't yet have a group. The hope is that we start in two weeks and we will have a Zoom meeting for anyone who is interested in helping make this work. Click the link to register. <https://falkirkcatholics.churchsuite.com/events/ojuubs4i> This is a significant change to how we function as a parish. A chance for deeper community for all, and to grow together in our relationship with God.

Please continue to pray for our parish at this very special moment.

Alternative ways of giving and supporting the work of the parish.

Text-to-give: Text "give" to the following number +44 7723 493474

You will receive a link to register your card details. Once set up, all you need to do is text the amount you wish to donate to the number above. There is an option to set up recurring payments too.

Visit www.falkirkcatholics.org and click the green "Give" button.

There is a small fee to use the above methods.

If you wish to give directly through your bank please use the following account details:

Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh Sort Code: 83-06-08 Acc no: 10417107

NEWS & EVENTS

This week our **'Teach me how to pray'** course taught us to pray using our imagination, placing ourselves in a bible scene and allowing the Holy Spirit to reveal more about our relationship with Jesus. We learned too about the value of 'repetition' in prayer, about going back to the strongest point of our prayer to see what else the Holy Spirit wants to reveal. To find out more, download the **Pray as You Go** app which offers lots of guided meditations.

Did you know that the Greek for opportunity is *krisis*? Ours is a huge parish. In it groups form naturally; everyone 'gets' that deeper community can only happen in smaller groups where people are able to be known. We are asking everyone to help us build community by joining an online group to talk together about the Sunday gospel. Small discipleship groups were the norm as our Church began. We would love it if those groups who already gather together naturally stay together and continue to meet online. Just let us know who you are, and try working with the resources the parish provides when you gather, so that we are praying together as a parish.

The ideal group size is no more than eight people. Bigger groups might want to go into smaller groups for this prayer time.

Don't let uncertainty about technology keep you from forming a group. Just gath

er some friends and we can help anyone unsure about Zoom etc get started. For anyone who isn't already connected to an existing parish group, please help us to help you by getting in touch on 623567, or email office@falkirkcatholics.org. We will be delighted to connect you with a group that's being set up.

Call to action! Help us build community (there's a theme here!) through social media! Feel free to **comment on Facebook posts, engage with posts, comment on each others' posts and share parish posts** to your own feeds. We want to hear from you all!

The Kids bulletin is available here: <https://thekidsbulletin.com/> and thank you so much to our **children's liturgy which posts every week** on our FB page, Falkirk Catholics.

The priests can respond to emergency calls only. They will endeavour to administer the **Sacrament of the Sick** in danger of death. **Funeral** attendance is restricted to immediate family.

Saints' days: Thursday 30th is the Feast Day of St Catherine of Siena. Saturday 2nd May is the memorial of St Athanasius, doctor of the Church.