

# ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S

KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE WITH PARISH NEWS

12TH SUNDAY YEAR A

21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2020

At the parish of St. Francis Xavier's,  
we are a joyful, inclusive community on fire with the love of God, each growing in our personal relationship with Christ.  
As His missionary disciples,  
inspired by His Holy Spirit and nourished by our worship, we use our talents freely to serve others  
and take the life-changing message of the Gospel into the world.

## Top stories in this newsletter



View from the Sanctuary



Livestream



Reopening Our Doors



Funerals & Anniversaries

## View from the Sanctuary



Hello everyone, I am sure we are all delighted to be moving into phase 2 of the route out of lockdown. This will allow us a bit more freedom to meet with other people and of course, we will be able to open our church buildings for private prayer. These are small steps on the way to a new normal in both our faith and private lives. As yet we do not know when we will be allowed to celebrate public Mass or Baptisms.

## Reopening our churches



From Monday 22nd June we will be allowed to open the doors of churches for "Private Prayer". The churches will be open at the following times.

St Francis Xavier's— Monday to Friday 11 am - 12:00 pm Sunday 6:00pm - 7:00 pm

St Anthony's—Mondays & Fridays 11 am -12 pm Wednesdays 7pm - 8 pm, Sundays 2 pm -4 pm

Please note that numbers are limited to just over 30 people in each church at any one time.

Please follow the guidelines and any instructions from the Welcoming Ministers.

When coming to church to pray you will be required to wear a mask or a face covering. Please bring one with you.

## VOLUNTEER



If you would like to volunteer to be part of our new Welcoming / Cleaning Ministry please see the link below for more information. <https://www.falkirkcatholics.org/covid-19/>

We will be relying on the availability of volunteers to keep our church doors open.

## Livestream



We have now discontinued our contract with MCN. I am at present waiting on a quote from a more local company for better cameras and hosting of our livestream. In the meantime please view the daily livestream at [www.falkirkcatholics.org/livestream](http://www.falkirkcatholics.org/livestream) or [Vimeo.com/falkirkcatholics](https://www.vimeo.com/falkirkcatholics).

## The Gift



In the coming weeks I will be launching an online course on the Holy Spirit. This course has been produced by Café—Catholic Adult Faith exploration. An inspiring and practical series aimed at people of all ages to help them encounter the Holy Spirit and empower them to share their faith. The teachings are relaxed, personal and informative, rooted in the Bible, the Catechism, Evangelii Gaudium and reflections on the Holy Spirit from Pope Francis. More details to follow next week.

## Anniversaries



Please remember all those whose anniversaries occur this week:

Agnes Welsh, Peter Wood, Monica Henderson, Paul Francis Scott, Molly Ayscough, John Coyle, Kitty James, Morag Grey, Isobel Hill, Andrew Tennant Jnr, Andrew Tennant Snr., Margaret McDonald, Peter McDonald, Margaret Hill, Michael McGinley, Thomas Purdie, Mary Marshall, Margaret Peters, Mary Watson, Kathy Sneddon, Margaret McPherson, Winifred Scott, Geroge

Bennie, Theresa McNally James Bell, Elda Evangelisti, Mary Josephine Silcock, Fanny McGeever, Hugh Kane, John Collins, May they rest in peace.

## Funerals



Please pray for those who have died recently:

John Sloan R.I.P.      Norah Erskine R.I.P.

## Phone Ministry



Our team of volunteers are regularly calling a large number of our senior parishioners. If you know of anyone who is missing out on getting a phone call then please let us know so that they can be added to our list. Likewise, if you know someone who can't access the newsletter online, please let us know so that we can send out a copy in the post.

## Weekly Schedule



**Mass will be celebrated every day at 10:00 am**  
**Rosary & Benediction on Monday at 7:00 pm**  
**Divine Mercy will be recited on Tuesdays after Mass**  
**Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help & Benediction on Thursdays at 7:00 pm**  
**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays after Mass until 12:00 noon**

## Pope Francis



The theme for the 4th World Day of the Poor (15th November) is "Stretch forth your hand to the poor. Pope Francis insists that even amid hardship we must continue to trust in God." The Pope points out that, "prayer to God and solidarity with the poor and suffering are inseparable." He also notes that "time devoted to prayer can never become an alibi for neglecting our neighbour in need." "Generosity that supports the weak, consoles the afflicted, relieves suffering and restores dignity to those stripped of it, is a condition for a fully human life," Pope Francis says.

"The power of God's grace cannot be restrained by the selfish tendency to put ourselves always first." The Pope laments a frenetic pace of life that leads people into a "whirlwind of indifference". He adds that it is only when something happens that upsets the course of our lives do our eyes become capable of seeing the goodness of the saints "next door". Devoting a significant part of his message to the Covid-19 pandemic, Pope Francis draws attention to the many "outstretched hands" in the form of doctors and nurses who have been caring for patients in these difficult months. He also commends the outstretched hands of administrators, pharmacists, priests, volunteers and others who have given of themselves day and night and without fanfare. "The present experience," says the Pope, "has challenged many of our assumptions. We feel poorer and less self-sufficient because we have come to sense our limitations and the restriction of our freedom." "The loss of employment, and of opportunities to be close to our loved ones and our regular acquaintances, suddenly opened our eyes to horizons that we had long since taken for granted." However, Pope Francis stresses, "now is a good time to recover 'the conviction that we need one another, that we have a shared responsibility for others and the world'." In a word, he continues, "until we revive our sense of responsibility for our neighbour and for every person, grave economic, financial and political crises will continue."

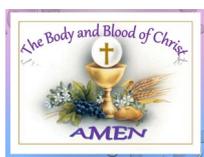
In the coming weeks I will be inviting our parish community to discern the best ways in which we can "Stretch forth our hand to the poor." especially as a response to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

## Parish Leadership Team



The parish leadership team continue to meet every week. This week we also met with our coach, Bill. Please get in touch if there is anything you think we can do to develop the faith and spiritual life of our parish. [office@falkirkcatholics.org](mailto:office@falkirkcatholics.org) We would especially like to hear your thoughts on how we should reach out to the community post Covid-19.

## First Holy Communion



We keep in our prayers the boys and girls of the parish who were due to receive First Holy Communion this week. At this stage we do not know when we will be able to celebrate the Sacrament with the children in a suitable manner. We pray too for our RCIA candidates, the children waiting to be baptised and the couples who have had to postpone their weddings.

## Finance



The archdiocese has set up an online giving platform to allow those who are able to continue to give financial support to their parish and also other causes. The link below will take you to the diocesan donations page where you can donate to a specific parish or a cause such as Communication, SCIAF or the Aged & Infirm clergy fund.

[https://donor.secure-operations.com/detailed/donate?charity\\_id=1086319&type=2](https://donor.secure-operations.com/detailed/donate?charity_id=1086319&type=2)

## Parish Database



If you have not already done so, could you please make sure that everyone in your household is registered on the parish database? <https://www.falkirkcatholics.org/connect/>