

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S

KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE WITH PARISH NEWS

TRINITY SUNDAY

7TH 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



Another week has gone by and we are still not much further forward in our fight against the Covid-19 pandemic. There has been some relief that we can now meet up with another household, albeit outdoors and still keeping 2 meters apart. God willing, the restrictions will continue to be eased in the coming weeks. In the meantime I encourage you to comply with the regulations and safety measures that are being asked of us.

Reopening our churches



On Thursday evening I had the first meeting of our strategy group to begin our planning for when we can open our churches again. I am hoping by the end of June. To facilitate the reopening we will need an army of volunteers to make sure the buildings are cleaned and disinfected on a regular basis. We will set up volunteer recruitment in due course. Please note that this work will have to be done by people under the age of 70 with no underlying health conditions. Unfortunately that excludes many of the fabulous team who regularly clean our churches.

Livestream



As you know for the past four years, we have been using MCN media to host our Livestream of Mass from St Francis Xavier's. The reliability of this service has been very poor at times, such as last Sunday when we lost service on one of the most important feasts of the church calendar. We will therefore be discontinuing 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 or [Vimeo.com/falkirkcatholics](https://vimeo.com/falkirkcatholics).

Anniversaries



Please remember all those whose anniversaries occur this week: Eleanor McLaughlin, Owen Gormley, Helen McCarron, Elizabeth Cumming, Patsy Murray, Lindsay Gentleman, Eddie Gallagher, Frank Kotrys, Joseph Harvey, William Ferrie, Peter Harris, Peggy Gray, Margaret Smith, Mary (Moore) Skrukwa, Mary Cullen Allison, Anne-Marie Taylor, Pat Fallagher, Lauren Bain, Edmund Summers, Slavica Vrsakko, Margaret (Pearl) McFeat, Edward Curran. May they rest in peace.

Funerals



Please pray for those who have died recently:

William Lawrence R.I.P. Funeral service at Falkirk Crematorium on 9th June

Violet Stewart R.I.P. Funeral service at Falkirk Crematorium on 15th June at 9:30 am.

Parish Database



Thank you to all those who have already registered on the new parish database. Could I kindly ask that if you not have not already registered, please do so as soon as possible. In the coming weeks we will begin to reopen our churches for private prayer and eventually the celebration of Mass. However, this will involve a great deal of planning, trying to figure out how to accommodate everyone in the church buildings. This task will be made easier if we have a more accurate database of everyone in the parish. Please register anyone who is likely to attend Mass at www.falkirkcatholics/connect. Alternatively, please phone 01324623567 to register.

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 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

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 11:00 am

Pope Francis



In 2018, Pope Francis marked the feast of the Holy Trinity stressing the personal love and interest God has in each one of his children, saying the Lord is not ever far away, but is an attentive and loving father to all. "God does not want so much to reveal to us that he exists, but rather that he is the 'God with us,' that he loves us, is interested in our personal story and cares for each person, from the smallest to the greatest," the pope said May 27.

Even though God is in heaven, he is also on earth, Francis said, adding that because of this, "we don't believe in a distant, indifferent entity."

"On the contrary, (we believe) in the love that created the universe and generated a people, became flesh, died and rose for us, and as the Holy Spirit transforms everything and brings it to fullness."

The feast of the Trinity, Francis said, is not only an invitation to contemplate and praise Jesus Christ, but it is also an opportunity to celebrate "with ever-new wonder the God of love, who freely offers his life to us and asks us to spread it in the world."

He then turned to the second reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans, in which the apostle speaks of how Christians are sons of God, and are able to call him "abba," meaning "father."

St. Paul, the pope said, experienced first-hand the deep transformation of the God of love, who allows us to not only call him "Father," but more personally, "dad," and who gives us the ability to call on him "with the total confidence of a child who abandons themselves in the arms of the one who gave them life."

Through his action in each person, the Holy Spirit "makes it so that Jesus Christ is not reduced to a person of the past, but that we feel close to him, our contemporary, and that we experience the joy of being beloved children of God," Francis said.

He noted that Christians are not alone, he said, because the Holy Spirit was sent to guide and accompany them. And thanks to both the presence of the Spirit and the strength he offers, "we can realize with serenity the mission that he entrusted to us: to announce and bear witness to his Gospel to everyone and so dilate communion with him and the joy that comes from it."

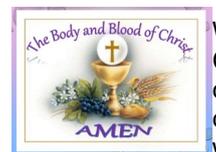
Pope Francis closed his address saying the feast of the Holy Trinity "makes us contemplate the mystery of a God who incessantly creates, redeems and sanctifies, always with love and for love, and to every creature that welcomes him, he gives the gift of reflecting a ray of his beauty, goodness and truth."

Parish Leadership Team



The parish leadership team continue to meet every week. 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

First Holy Communion



We keep in our prayers the boys and girls of the parish who were due to receive First Holy Communion over the next couple of weeks. 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.