

The Parish of St Francis Xavier's
Parish Newsletter, 20th September 2020, 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Tel: 01324 623567 email: office@falkirkcatholics.org
Website: www.falkirkcatholics.org

LAUDATO SI, OUR COMMON HOME, THE CLIMATE CRISIS

The films and discussion we are offering for the Season of Creation got off to a great start on Wednesday, with several young parishioners involved. We will be showing the second of our films on Global Healing on Wednesday 23rd September, over Zoom, with another opportunity to discuss our own 'conversion' and the needs of the parish as we live out our Christian duty here. It's not too late to sign up. The films are suitable for all ages; please come and invite your children and grandchildren to join us. Email office@falkirkcatholics.org to register. A Zoom link will be sent to you a few days before the meetings. There are also wonderful resources available on <https://seasonofcreation.org/> for anyone wanting to find out more, especially about our response as a Church.

Newsletter We are very conscious of everyone's safety during the pandemic. So if you receive a newsletter through the post, but are able to access it online, please let us know on office@falkirkcatholics.org. And as with every other piece of paper we handle, please wash your hands after reading.

Attending Mass

We would love to see more families at mass, especially those whose children are preparing for First Holy Communion. You can book online at www.falkirkcatholics.org/booking. Booking closes 8 hours before Mass. Once again can I appeal to you to book with consideration of others. Prior to lockdown we had over 1000 people coming to Sunday Mass, now that number is restricted to 250 over 5 Masses. So please try to book alternate weeks and give others a chance to come to Mass. Masses on Tuesdays are now exceeding 50 communicants; if this were to continue we would need to reintroduce the booking system for weekdays. We hate to turn the faithful away; if you can come to another Mass through the week please consider doing so.

Mass at St Anthony's Circumstances allowing, Mass will now be celebrated on Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, due to the priests' days off being rescheduled to accommodate parish needs and the reduction in priests.

Leadership Team The team has continued to meet every Monday, to discuss and plan for possibilities in the 'new normal', as well as evaluate the work done so far. This has included in recent weeks the safe re-opening of our parishes, our candidates and catechumens being welcomed into the church in a beautiful liturgy, the Gift that was the Holy Spirit course, Online Alpha, and our Season of Creation input. We are now revisiting the values we had set out as a parish before lockdown, to determine ways we can continue to build and grow in this new place. Please pray for the team and Fr Jamie as we continue to work together.

Anniversaries

Please remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Rosemary Cullen, Patrick McElroy, Rosina McIntyre, John Stirling, Rose McGinley, Mary Theresa Ferguson, Catherine Coyle, John Kennedy, Grace Dodds, Kasimierz Sobolewski, Michael Francis, Elizabeth Howe, Daniel Ward, Ann Turnbull, Kathleen Duffy, Michael Moore, Francis McGuire, Rodrick Coull, Adelina Jannetta, Peter Kane, Nicol Campbell, Gerry Carbury

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults –Do you have a friend or family member open to exploring the faith? Do you sense an interest in the things of God, or a need in the person to seek Him? Please pray for the opportunity to speak to the person. We have a warm, friendly group in our RCIA team, some of whom are converts themselves, waiting to gently walk anyone seeking towards joining the Church at Easter. Anyone interested can contact us on office@falkirkcatholics.org. Perhaps you'd be able to join them every week as they explore?

Baptisms

We are offering our Baptism Course for parents and godparents on the following consecutive Mondays online: starting tomorrow, Sept 21st, the 28th and October 5th, all at 7pm. Please register on office@falkirkcatholics.org and you will be sent a Zoom invite. The evenings follow a film/discussion format and run for about an hour. We look forward to welcoming you!

Confessions

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday Mornings after Mass until 11:30 am. In order to maintain social distancing, the sacrament will be celebrated in the sacristy.

Aged & Infirm Clergy Fund

Thank you for your contributions – a total of £750 was collected. If you can give and haven't yet had the opportunity, please donate online by visiting the Archdiocesan Website and clicking "Donate" www.archedinburgh.org

SCIAF

SCIAF has asked us to have a special collection during the month of September. This will take place this week, starting today. Donations can be given at all Masses.

Use of Church Halls

At present there is no indication of when we will be able to resume using the church halls. There are still many restrictions in place which don't allow us to open it. Thank you for your continued patience.

Pope Francis - Care for each other

Speaking to the faithful gathered on Wednesday, the Pope stressed that in order to come through this pandemic it is necessary to "to look after and care for each other." "We must support those who care for the weakest, the sick and the elderly," he said, because they "play a vital role in today's society, even if they often do not receive the recognition and remuneration they deserve." This care, Pope Francis went on to say, "must also address our common home" "All forms of life are interconnected", he continued, "and our health depends on that of the ecosystems that God created and entrusted to us to care for."

Mass Schedule

Weekly Schedule Day /Date	Feast	Time	Church	
Sunday 20th September	25 th	10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's	Mass
	Sunday	11:00 am	St Anthony's	Mass
	Year A	12 :00 pm	St Francis Xavier's	Mass
		7:00 pm	St Francis Xavier's	Mass
Monday 21st September	St Matthew	9:30 am	St Anthony's	Mass
		6:00 pm	St Francis Xavier's	Rosary & Benediction
Tuesday 22nd September		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's	Mass
Wednesday 23rd September	St Pius of Pietrelcina- Memorial	10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's	Mass
Thursday 24th September		9.30am	St Anthony's	Mass
		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's	Funeral Mass
		7:00 pm	St Francis Xavier's	Novena & Benediction
Friday 25th September		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's	Mass
Saturday 26th September		9.30am	St Anthony's	Mass
		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's	Mass
		6:30 pm	St Francis Xavier's	Vigil Mass