

The Parish of St Francis Xavier's
Parish Newsletter, 11th October 2020, 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
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LAUDATO SI, OUR COMMON HOME

As a parish we are taking a big step forward towards embracing Laudato Si, Pope Francis' call to ecological conversion. At the heart of ecological conversion are love of God, of people and the natural world, of which we are part. We are blessed in our area with a foundation of Christian connection with nature. St. Cuthbert is renowned for his relationships with animals, birds, sea and hills. John Muir, the father of National Parks in the USA, first experienced nature around his hometown of Dunbar. John understood that everything is connected, and that God is found in everything. How can we fall in love with nature anew this autumn and connect to God through it? Here are just a few suggestions.

- Pray outdoors, or bring cones or leaves into your place of prayer, and appreciate the shortening days by praying by candle-light.
- Feel the beauty and oneness of everything at sunrise and sunset. Look at the moon, stars and planets, and feel your place in the cosmos and in the love of God.
- Walk in the woods and feel the ground beneath your feet, see the beautiful colours of the leaves, notice how the woods smell, and hear the sounds around you.
- Watch the geese flying as they call to each other and give each other wind resistance on their long journeys, praying to the Holy Spirit, whose symbol is the wild goose.
- See God in salmon leaping, when they return to the river of their birth, from vast distances across the ocean.

Please also join us at our liturgy launching the new Laudato Si Circle in the parish, a monthly get together of parishioners of all ages who want to pray and act for our common home. This **liturgy on our Stewardship of Creation** will take place on **Saturday October 31st at 12pm St Francis Xavier's** and will also be streamed online.

Presentation for Fr William – for the rest of October there will be an opportunity to contribute to a collection for Fr William, who is settling well in Kilsyth.

Alpha Online – we are so excited to be starting Alpha again, and thank you to everyone who has registered so far. It's not too late to sign up, or to ask a friend to come with you – Alpha is open to everyone, and has helped us as a parish to reconnect with people who were dipping their toes back in church life, need to explore faith without committing, or those who have questions or want to learn how to talk about their faith more easily. Everyone is welcome! So many people are starting to really struggling and missing community. Why not ask someone you know, then come yourself. It's a beautiful way to support people and to help us become the **invitational Church** we are becoming. No cost, no pressure. What matters is that we do the inviting, God does the rest. Visit alpha.org to find out more.

For the Thursday sessions starting on 22nd at 8pm please register here:
<https://falkirkcatholics.churchsuite.com/events/Oesxjgmkn> – just click on the link.

Fr Jamie is hosting a Men's Alpha starting on Wednesday 28th at 8:00pm Book here:
<https://falkirkcatholics.churchsuite.com/events/emvpfcdh>

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults –Do you know a friend or family member interested in exploring the faith? Please ask anyone interested to contact us on office@falkirkcatholics.org. Perhaps you'd be able to join them as they explore – the faith has never been more relevant, community has never been more important, the gospel values have never been more needed.

Due to **Funeral Mass on Thursday 22nd**, there will be no public Mass at St Francis Xavier's that day.

Rosary for Memorial of St John Paul II – Legion of Mary are offering the rosary all day on Thursday 22nd, the memorial of St John Paul II and invite all parishioners to take part. Prayer begins at 7am for twelve hours – just pray when you can. The Legion are covering the hours, so your prayer will be added to theirs.

Attending Mass Please continue to book online for weekend Masses at www.falkirkcatholics.org/booking . Booking closes 8 hours before Mass. We ask everyone to continue to book with consideration of others.

Leadership Team - Following on from the great success of our Uniform Exchange, and as part of our Laudato Si Eco efforts as a parish, we would like to ask everyone to help us prepare for a **Toy Exchange**, where families can donate or choose from donated toys in great condition in time for Christmas. The exchange is planned for November, but could you please start thinking ahead now – have you toys your children have outgrown which other children would love? And the exchange will be open to everyone from the local community, so please help us to spread the news.

Getting to Know St Mark

A Zoom event on the gospels of St Mark for Year B will take place at 7pm on Monday 19 October. ‘Getting to Know St Mark’ will be presented by Fr Andrew Garden, and anyone who attended his talk last year can witness to the way Fr Andrew opens up the whole gospel in an accessible, joyful way. Details on registration for this free event are on the Archdiocese’s Facebook page and website: archedinburgh.org/new-events.

Deaths – Please pray for the recently deceased, especially Elizabeth (Beth) Kerkhov, Rosina Kane and Pamela Stephen *Requiescant in Pace*.

Anniversaries

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

Agnes Grant, William Paterson, Elizabeth Beattie, Charles Harley, Mary Morrow, John Manson Renton, Norah Curtis, Bill McKenna, George Gorman, Margaret Andrew, Michael Lynagh, Sarah Paterson, Paddy Smith, William McGuckin, Bill McFadden, George Byres Murray, Pauline McGoff, John Mullen, Kay Kennedy, Margaret Short, Elizabeth McSheffrey, Anne Mitchell, Edward Bain, Maureen Gallacher, Baby Sharon Harrower, Phyllis Bell, Isabella Mitchell, James Aitken, Denis Pius Gallagher, Sarah Little, Frank Carr, Patrick Geoghehen, John Young, Laurence O’Neill, Rose Clark, Theresa McQuade, May Lynda, Brian Marshall.

Finance

Offertory Collection October 4th £1552.17/ Standing Orders £ 300 (avg)

Mass Schedule

Weekly Schedule Day /Date	Feast	Time	Church	
Sunday 18th October		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier’s	Mass
		11:00 am	St Anthony’s	Mass
		12 :00 pm	St Francis Xavier’s	Mass
		1.30 pm	St Francis Xavier’s	Polish Mass
		7:00 pm	St Francis Xavier’s	Mass
Monday 19th October		9:30 am	St Anthony’s	Mass
		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier’s	Mass
		6:00 pm	St Francis Xavier’s	Rosary & Benediction
Tuesday 20th October		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier’s	Mass
Wednesday 21st October		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier’s	Mass
Thursday 22nd October		9.30am	St Anthony’s	Mass
		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier’s	Mass (Not public)
		7:00 pm	St Francis Xavier’s	Novena & Benediction
Friday 16th October		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier’s	Mass
Saturday 17th October		9.30am	St Anthony’s	Mass
		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier’s	Mass
		6:30 pm	St Francis Xavier’s	Vigil Mass