

**The Parish of St Francis Xavier's**  
**Parish Newsletter, 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020, 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Tel: 01324 623567 email: [office@falkirkcatholics.org](mailto:office@falkirkcatholics.org)**  
**Website: [www.falkirkcatholics.org](http://www.falkirkcatholics.org)**

**LAUDATO SI, OUR COMMON HOME, THE CLIMATE CRISIS**

Following on from our Global Healing films, we would love for everyone in the parish to really get behind this initiative. In the coming weeks we will be sharing resources, ideas and information to help us remember that care for the planet and each other is a huge part of our faith, and a beautiful way we can give witness to God's love. In his 2015 Laudato Si letter to the world, Pope Francis talks about the ecological crisis the world is facing and asks us to acknowledge the immensity and urgency of the challenge. He calls us to talk personal responsibility for what we have done to the planet and to do all we can to reverse the crisis before it's too late. He states that no action is 'too little'. In this section of the newsletter over the coming weeks, we will be suggesting small steps each of us could take. We encourage you to pray with and for creation. Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October is the Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi. Perhaps you could remind yourself of the story of this beloved saint, and his great love for all creation? And to show we can start with something small, let's talk about teabags...

96% of tea drunk in the UK comes from teabags. 36 billion cups of tea are drunk each year in the UK

At the moment most teabags are made from non-biodegradable plastic - there are alternatives so next time you shop for teabags, look for a label that says the bags are biodegradable. The bags can then be disposed of in your food caddy and will not go into landfill. If your favourite tea still comes in a non-biodegradable bag, why not contact the maker to see what they are doing about this?

To mark the end of the season of creation the prayer group will be praying a special Stations of creation on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 4:00pm. You can join them on the following zoom link.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82410112835?pwd=VFZzSVRJOVovTG85QUJFK2dCZ01Vdz09>

Next week two **Masses of Reconciliation** will be celebrated for the children making their First Confession, (Wed for St Francis Xavier children, Thursday for St Andrews children). Due to numbers these Masses unfortunately cannot be public. Mass will take place at St Anthony's on the **Friday** as both priests are needed to hear confessions on the Thursday.

**Attending Mass** The booking system is working well – please continue to book online for weekend Masses at [www.falkirkcatholics.org/booking](http://www.falkirkcatholics.org/booking) . Booking closes 8 hours before Mass. We ask everyone to continue to book with consideration of others, and suggest alternate weeks, so everyone has the opportunity to come to Mass whilst the Sunday obligation is still lifted. To help accommodate everyone, if you could come to another Mass through the week please consider doing so.

**Leadership Team** We spoke this week about what makes our community meaningful – it is clear that in the pandemic the sense of 'belonging' is deeper than ever for lots of people, and we really need to celebrate that! But it's also clear that we won't be able to gather as a full community for the foreseeable future. Lots of us have been feeling a bit low as the 'second wave' started to worsen. So how do we stay together, and invite others to authentic community, where we are known and loved? The importance of belonging to a **Small Group** is coming to the fore. Lots of natural groupings exist in the parish already, and have embraced 'Zoom' to stay together. If you need any help meeting online, please phone 623567 and we will be very happy to help you get set up. But we would like to help lots more people get access to a small group and to the strengthening faith available through them. Please contact [office@falkirkcatholics.org](mailto:office@falkirkcatholics.org) or call the number above. If you belong to a small group that is already meeting, could you reach out to others and invite them in? The Holy Father urges us to embrace 'new structures' as parishes; our Fed by the Word groups meet in a simple way to speak about how the gospel applies to our lives. Why not join us by contacting the office email or the number above? Just grab a friend and 'come see' – no obligation, just come as you are, we are all learning together!

Following on from the success of our Uniform Exchange, and as part of our 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?

### Anniversaries

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

Helen Corrigan, Eliza Dick, Catherine McLellan, Clive Thomas Allen Donaldson, Sr Bernadette of Jesus, Michael Grady, Annie Winters, Ella McClintock, Annie Alison, Isobel McAllwood, Francis Peter, Mary Swords, Anne Hart, Mary Ballingham, James Pow, Richard (Dick) Fyvie, Frank O'Donnell, Peter McGuckin, Felix Moore, Benito Nicandro Caramando, Patrick Meighan, Patricia Gallagher, Charles Callaghan, Charlie Flynn, Michael Harvey, Agnes Bishop, John McBride, June McGuire, Charles Boyle, Margaret Russell, George Fyvie, Catherine Haggerty, Robert McGuinness, Barbara Turner, Margaret Wylie, Martin McAllister.

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults** – Covid 19 has opened up so many things and people are responding to questions in a new way, or find they have no answers to the bigger questions in life and are seeking. Do you know a friend or family member interested in exploring the faith? Please ask anyone interested to contact us on [office@falkirkcatholics.org](mailto:office@falkirkcatholics.org). Perhaps you'd be able to join them as they explore – and please don't worry about being a 'good enough' Catholic. God knows your heart.

### Baptisms

Our final Baptism Course meeting takes place tomorrow October 5<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm online. Please register on [office@falkirkcatholics.org](mailto:office@falkirkcatholics.org) for our next course, which will start on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October, for three consecutive weeks. The evenings follow a film/discussion format and run for about an hour. We look forward to welcoming you!

### Finance

Offertory Collection 27<sup>th</sup> September £1141.57 / Standing Orders £ 300 (avg) / SCIAF £367.80

### Mass Schedule

Weekly Schedule Day /Date	Feast	Time	Church	
<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<i>27<sup>th</sup> Sunday Year A</i>	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	
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October</b>		9:30 am	St Anthony's	Mass
		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's	Mass
		6:00 pm	St Francis Xavier's	Rosary & Benediction
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October</b>		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's	Mass
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<i>Our Lady of the Rosary - Memorial</i>	10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's	No public Mass
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October</b>		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's	No public Mass
		7:00 pm	St Francis Xavier's	Novena & Benediction
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October</b>		9.30am	St Anthony's	Mass
		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's	Mass
<b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October</b>		9.30am	St Anthony's	Mass
		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's	Mass
		6:30 pm	St Francis Xavier's	Vigil Mass