

**The Parish of St Francis Xavier's  
Parish Newsletter,  
Sunday December 27th, 2020, Feast of the Holy Family Advent Year B  
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Parish Clergy: Fr Jamie Boyle, Fr Sean Bradley, Deacon Kenneth Mununga  
Pastoral Assistant: Anne Buhrmann

**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.**

**View from the sanctuary**

As 2020 draws to a close I wish to thank everyone for pulling together throughout the pandemic. This has been an incredibly challenging year in many ways, and I pray that 2021 will see an end to Coronavirus. The year ahead will continue to be challenging as we seek to find new ways to be "church" in unprecedented times. Let us ask God for the Gift of his Holy Spirit to guide and strengthen us as a parish community so that we can continue to be God's presence in the world of today.

On behalf of Fr Sean and myself, thank you for your generosity and prayerful support.

**New Year's Masses – Click here to book for New Years Day Mass**

St Francis Xavier's and St Anthony's <https://forms.gle/Uh7StAfBL6FWzwdL6>

**The new Tier 4 restrictions** mean that only 20 people can attend Mass in the church. We will continue to offer places in the hall for livestreamed Mass, again 20 people allowed, so forty in total can attend daily Mass. For **weekday Masses** no booking system will be put in place; seats will be given on a first come, first served basis. We thank you for planning attendance around others' ability to attend also. For **Sunday Masses** the following booking system will now be necessary; a **google form** will be used to allocate Masses, as at Christmas. Everyone is asked to choose **one weekend Mass** out of the three lockdown Sundays which will be on the google form. Having completed the form, an email will then be sent out to inform you of your allocated place/Sunday. Please book with consideration of others, and thank you to everyone for keeping each other safe. (A reminder – no 'huddles' after Mass.) The forms will open on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> December at 9:00am and close on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> December at 6:00pm. All going well we hope to confirm your booking by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January.

Please use the following links:

St Francis Xavier's <https://forms.gle/iU2rGNAV26JMuP7s7>

St Anthony's <https://forms.gle/wwKBCZLjPPaLghc17>

This week in the house we have taken calls from parishioners feeling unsure about whether or not to come to Mass, or worried spiritually about not being able to attend Mass whilst shielding. A kind reminder that the Holy Father lifted the obligation to gather for Mass during the pandemic, and the obligation has not yet been reinstated. If you are in the 'vulnerable' category especially, please remember that God's love for you means He wants you safe and not at risk.

**Anne, our pastoral assistant,** returns from holiday on 7<sup>th</sup> January,

**CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME** – there's no doubt that for many of us, as we think about what we want to be different next year, caring for the planet and for each other will be at the top of our priority list. It's easier to stay on course when we have others around us who share our commitment. On this Feast of the Holy Family, please consider finding out more about caring for our common home and standing up for those who tend to be forgotten on the margins. The group is growing. We would love you to join us on Saturday January 23<sup>rd</sup> for an hour at 11am. Here's the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85782076477?pwd=NmdqUUU1RjFSaGc5ZGNWc0srQ093dz09> Meeting ID: 857 8207 6477; Passcode: 146602. Please like **our new parish FB page, Laudato Si Circle Falkirk.**

**Recently deceased:** Please pray for the **recently deceased**, especially Thomas Guy, whose funeral Mass takes place on the 30<sup>th</sup> of December at 10am. Peter Lynagh R.I.P Funeral Mass on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 12 noon.

**Anniversaries** – Mary Fallon, Joseph Sweeney, Robert Sibbald, Carol Noterangelo, William Bell, Isobel Grogan, Willie Bell, Kathleen Healy, Mary Little, James McLaughlin, Isabella Meighan, Elizabeth Collins, Thomas McAteer, Donal Coll, Livinio Vannuci, Peter Murphy, Mary Mohan, Matilda Yuiill, Luciana Wood, William Chubb, Augustus Debbs, Vincent Kotrys, Bill Smith, Amando Notarangelo, Cal Flavin Youghal, Jean McGinlay, Michael Downie, David McArdle, Jimmy Toland, Scott Brandan Gallagher, Maria Russo, Jane Drysdale, John Hendrew, Robert Raymond, Ina Judge, Jean Wood, Sr Marie Celine Gallagher, John Brennan Keogh, Eddie Bradley, Orion Page, Marion Waugh, Catherine Maguire, Mary Shields, Margaret Buchanan, William Buchanan, John Ship, Bobby Cheape, Frank Henderson, Donald McFarlane, Betty Henderson, Bernard Joseph Shields, Jemima McCourt, Helen Buchanan, William Barr, Brian Devoy, James McPherson, Jean McKendrick, Ramsay Young.

**Finance** - Offertory Collection December 20<sup>th</sup> £1409.15 Standing Orders £ 300 (avg) Many thanks to everyone for their continued support and generosity to the parish during these difficult times. A reminder that you can use this link [https://www.mygivinghub.com/detailed/donate?charity\\_id=1086319&type=2](https://www.mygivinghub.com/detailed/donate?charity_id=1086319&type=2)

We now have **contactless donation terminals** with donation options set at £2.50, £5 and £10. We would encourage you to use these, as they are quick, easy and safe as there is no cash handling involved.

### SVDP

Thank you for your support of the SVDP – please continue to support them in their work, as the new lockdown affects families and incomes. You can use the collection buckets as you leave the church or consider setting up a payment through your bank.

**Account name: Society of St Vincent De Paul Sort Code: 83-20-32 Account number: 00255488**

### Weekly Schedule

Weekly Schedule Day /Date	Feast	Time	Church	
<b>Sunday 27th December</b>	<i>Feast of the Holy Family</i>	10:00 am 11:00 am 12 :00 pm 1.30 pm 7:00 pm	St Francis Xavier's St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's	Mass Mass Mass Polish Mass Mass
<b>Monday 28th December</b>	<i>Feast of the Holy Innocents</i>	9:30 am 10:00 am	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's	Mass Mass
<b>Tuesday 29th December</b>		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's	Mass
<b>Wednesday 30th December</b>		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's	Funeral – no public Mass
<b>Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>		9:30 am 10:00am	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's	Mass Mass
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<i>Solemnity, Mary the Holy Mother of God</i>	10am &12pm 11.00am 1.30pm No evening Masses	St Francis Xavier's St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's	Masses Mass Polish Mass
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> January</b>	<i>Memorial – St Basil and St Gregory Nazianzen</i>	9.30am 10:00 am 6.30pm	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's	Mass Mass Mass