

The Parish of St Francis Xavier's

St Francis Xavier's & St Anthony's Churches

Parish Newsletter,

Sunday January 17th 2021, 2nd Sunday on Ordinary Time, 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.

It has been a sad week for the Scottish Catholic Church as we hear of the deaths of Archbishop Philip Tartaglia and Bishop Vincent Logan. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and the people of the dioceses in which they served as Chief Shepherds. May they rest in peace.

Baptism Course Our next baptism course begins online on Monday at 7pm. Please pray for the parents and godparents who are coming together for formation in the power of the Sacrament, which remains with us for life as we share the gospel. Please pray too for the children who are being brought forward for baptism, rejoicing as a community in this new life in Christ. Presently baptisms cannot be celebrated until restrictions are lifted, so please pray particularly that this happen as soon as is safe.

The **Leadership Team** has started to meet again after a well-deserved break over Christmastide. Our focus on Friday was the needs of the parish at this time and how we might best move forward together, continuing to grow as disciples. Please pray for the team, and if you have any thoughts or ideas to share, we'd love if you got in touch on office@falkirkcatholics.org. Everyone's perspective is welcome.

Our **Laudato Si Circle meets on Zoom next Saturday at 11am**. Please contact office@falkirkcatholics.org to be sent the Zoom link. Each Circle will include a time of prayer and meditation offered by a member, taken from the Global Catholic Climate Movement's resources. This month we will have a short testimony from Fiona, a young and very busy mum who is managing to make big changes in the way her family looks after the planet. And we will get into action, learning little by little about Laudato Si, the Holy Father's teachings on care for our common home. We will be following the video teaching series from Fr Dan Horan. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Congratulations to the parishioners who have begun the **year long Diocesan course in catechetics!** We are grateful for your commitment and all the blessings you will bring to the community.

Another chance to catch up and share community: this Sunday we will continue **our informal 'tea and toast' gatherings after 10am Mass on Sunday** – here's the Zoom link and the gathering starts at 11.15am: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4238924048?pwd=d2pYTGhLd1BmOGxVTklzWG5uZk5KQT09>

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

This takes place [from 18-25 January](#). Resources are available at <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2021/>

Sacramental Talks

Rediscover the power of the Sacraments in the *Fire & Water* series of talks, covering confirmation and baptism. Sign up for your deanery area by emailing sranna.marie@staned.org.uk. All talks on Zoom. | Falkirk & Stirling: [Mon 25 Jan 7:30pm](#)

Fail!

Fr Augustine Wetta, a monk of the Order of St Benedict, hosts a talk titled 'FAIL! Life Lessons from Losers, Has-Beens, Nobodies, and Other Great Saints'. It takes place on Zoom [at 6:30pm, Monday 18 Jan](#). No registration required.

Join [from 6:20pm](#) using this link: bit.ly/ArchEvent_Fail

Human Fraternity for Peace and Living Together

The Bishops' Conference of Scotland and the Ahl Al-Bait Scotland Society host this online conference to mark the signing of the document on Human Fraternity by Pope Francis and Sheikh Al Azhar. Keynote speakers are Dr Mohammad Ali Shomali and Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald. [Monday 01 February 2021, 5-7pm](#). To register, search 'Human Fraternity for Peace and Living Together' on Eventbrite.

Recently deceased: Please pray for the **recently deceased**, Louisa Lunn R.I.P- funeral Mass on Monday 18th January at 10:00am. Bernice Gallagher RIP -Funeral Mass on Monday 25th January at 10:00am. Mary Farrell R.I.P - Funeral service at St Anthony's RC Church at 12pm on Friday 29th January. Margaret Dargacz R.I.P. Funeral Mass on 28th January at 11:00am in St Anthony's. George O'Brien, RIP, Funeral Service at 10:45 am on 1st February at Francis Xavier's.

Anniversaries – Teddy Hills, William Bell, John Keith, Christine McEvoy, Violet Moss, Mae Hunter, Patricia O'Neill, Helen McFadden, Jessie Bain, Stella Boyle, Caterina Brown, Janette Faew, Ramsay Young, John (Ian) Nixon, James Wood, Isabella McGuire, Ella Lemmeti, Pauline McDermott, Anne Howie, Walter Wood Snr, John O'Connor, R. Leitch, Ian Alexander, James Devlin, Michael Hendry, John Wood, Patrick Travers, Thomas O'Connor, Hannah Power Wood, Thomas Horn, John Russell, Bernard Joseph Shields, Annie Holleran, Desmond Smith, Mary Shields, Thomas Lynn, Margaret Shields, Janet Miller, John Shields Snr, Martha Anne Friel Gaughan, Margaret Buchanan. Jim Martin, Mary Gardner, William Buchanan, John Wright,

Finance – GIFT AID

During the past year, many parishioners have changed from using Gift Aid envelopes to online donations, either direct from their bank to the parish or using the Archdiocesan Online payment portal. As a result, we have been left with lots of unused Gift Aid envelopes. To help us ascertain how many sets of envelopes to order for the coming year and to update our Gift Aid database could you please complete the Google Form below? This will help us to make sure we have the correct details for everyone who Gift Aids their donations and give us an indication of how many sets of Gift Aid envelopes to order.

Thank you so much for taking the time do this and for your continued support and generosity.

If you pay income tax and are not already Gift Aiding to the parish, please consider doing so. It does not cost you anything, but the parish gains an extra 25p for every pound you donate.

Click here: <https://forms.gle/5KbLzcJKmuDrQN24A>

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. During this lockdown you may 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

During lockdown, weekday Mass will be livestreamed at 09:00 am. If there is a funeral, then Mass will be at the usual time of 10:00am. You can of course view Mass online at time.

www.falkirkcatholics.org/livestream Facebook – Falkirk Catholics Youtube – Falkirk Catholics

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday	Mass will be livestreamed at 9:00 am
Monday	Funeral Mass will be livestreamed at 10:00 am
Sunday	Mass will be livestreamed at 10:00 am

Thursday 21st January is the **Memorial of St Agnes**, Virgin Martyr, put to death aged 13 in 304 Ad, having been denounced to the authorities as a Christian.