

The Parish of St Francis Xavier's

St Francis Xavier's & St Anthony's Churches

Parish Newsletter,

Sunday January 24th 2021, 3rd Sunday on Ordinary Time, Year B

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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 the current period of lockdown continues, I encourage you to follow the advice that is given us by the Scottish Government to Stay at home whenever possible, only going out for essential purposes. Please continue to pray for our young people and their families as well as our teachers and front line workers.

The **Leadership Team** this week discussed how we might come together and grow as a parish community during Lent. Our hope is to build on our use of small groups to help people feel connected to our parish community and also grow in our faith.

Our **Laudato Si Circle met on Zoom on Saturday**. Our circle has grown! Thank you to everyone who attended. We reflected on Creation, watched a Fr Dan Horan video on the first chapter of Laudato Si, and looked at local ways we can make a difference, signing petitions, supporting Falkirk Council Eco Planning and improving the environment on our own doorsteps. Thanks to Fiona for a beautiful testimony on the changes we can make no matter how busy we are. Please watch out for the next Circle meeting, or contact the office for more information.

Another chance to catch up and share community: we will continue **our informal 'tea and toast' gatherings after 10am Mass on Sunday** – <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4238924048?pwd=d2pYTGhld1BmOGxVTklzWG5uZk5KQT09> and the gathering starts at 11.15am:

Sacramental Talks

There is still (just!) time to sign up for archdiocesan talks on the power of the Sacraments in the *Fire & Water* series, 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](#)

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. The Holy Father has written a beautiful encyclical on global fraternity, which he sees a main route to healing for our world. It's called Fratelli Tutti, and can be found on the Vatican website. Please click to open the hyperlink: [Fratelli tutti \(3 October 2020\) | Francis \(vatican.va\)](#)

Recently deceased: 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, Susan Kosoris R.I.P. Funeral on Thursday 4th February at 10:00am.

The family of the late **Louisa Lunn** would like to thank relatives and friends for their messages of sympathy, and mass cards. Special thanks to Fr. Jamie, the bereavement group, and organist. Holy Mass will be offered for all.

Anniversaries – James Queen, Philip McLaughlin, Patrick Harvey, Michael McGuire, John Quinn, Sylvester Krawczyk, William Doherty, Mary McCallum, Catherine Maguire, Nan Hilton, Aliee Lynagh, Kerr Walker, Claude McAdam Ross, Agnes Harvey, Peter McCluskey, Bridget McMorrow, Teddy Hills, Armando Notarangelo, Alexander McGhee, Isobel Auchincloss Vincent Craig, Patrick Kelly, Rose Connolly, William Moodie, Francis Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth Estenzo, Anna Burt, John Hannah, John Blair, Alex Davie, Josephine Patricia Barker, Charles McDermott, Kathleen Henderson, Joseph Scanlon, Mary Cameron, Margaret Watson. **Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace, Amen.**

If you know of someone recently deceased and being buried through the parish, please let their loved ones know about our **Falkirk Catholics Book of Condolences** page on Face Book. Run by the Bereavement Team in a very pastoral way, it's a source of comfort and connection for people grieving family and friends. Do sign up if you can. A large part of the ministry is praying for the dead and for their families – something we are all called to do.

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 to 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

Monday 25th January – Feast of the Conversion of St Paul

Tuesday 26th – Memorial of St Timothy and St Titus

Thursday 28th – Memorial of St Thomas Aquinas