

**The Parish of St Francis Xavier's**  
**Parish Newsletter,**  
**Sunday January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021, Solemnity of The Epiphany of the Lord, 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**

Happy New Year! I pray that 2021 will be a year that is abundant with God's blessing for you all. Let us hope and pray that things will quickly improve, and we can soon return to some sense of normality in our lives and especially as a church.

#### **Booking for Mass**

Whilst we continue to be under Tier 4 restrictions our numbers are limited to a maximum of 20 people over the age of 12 in the church. We can also accommodate 20 in the hall where the Blessed Sacrament is present and Holy Communion will be distributed. Its proving to be a difficult balance of encouraging people to stay safe and stay at home and encourage people to come to Mass as well. Please remember that whilst watching Mass in the comfort of your home is better than nothing it does not allow us to be nourished in Word and in Sacrament.

Please use the following links to book Mass:

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

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

The booking form will close on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January at 6:0pm. We will contact you on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January to confirm your place.

Over the next few weeks at St Francis Xavier's please enter the church via the side door and exit by the main doors. This will allow us to keep a bit of heat in the church during the colder weather.

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

**Recently deceased:** Please pray for the **recently deceased**, especially Peter Lynagh R.I.P- Funeral Mass on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 12 noon and Louisa Lunn R.I.P- funeral arrangements to follow.

#### **Anniversaries –**

Thomas Mohan, Mary Catherine Burt, Hugh O'Connor snr., Elizabeth MCateer, William Somerville, Rossi Family, Donoghue Family, John Lovens, Burns Family, M Howden, Candido Evangelisti, Jean Bracelin, Mary Hart, Mary Cartledge, Verdina Goncavles, Mary McKenna, Kate Malley, Elizabeth Ann Strathie, James Lynn, Mary Jane Immrie, Martin J O'Connor, Annie Devoy, Michael Devoy, Rose Carberry, Mary Jane McGranaghan Immrie, Marianne O'Donnell, Edward Lynas, Daniel Brannan, Mary Teresa McGlade, Mary Ann Quinn, Martin Kennedy, John Pow, Betty Henderson, Mary McElroy, Christina Crosbie, John Cumming, Margaret Lafferty, James Short, Stefan Wantuch, John Nixon, Helen Hughes.

**Finance -** Offertory Collection December 27<sup>th</sup> £4763.91 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**

### Pope Francis

Pope Francis opened his first Angelus of the New Year by urging the faithful to join in “placing ourselves under the maternal and loving gaze of Mary Most Holy”. The Pope explained that the day’s liturgy celebrates Mary “as Mother of God”.

Pope Francis went on to explain that throughout our journey along the paths of time, “the reassuring and consoling gaze of the Blessed Virgin Mary” is one of encouragement as we entrust our anguish and torment to her, “who can do all things”. Mary looks at us with the same maternal tenderness with which she looked at her son Jesus, and this gaze is “an encouragement”, he said. This gaze, ensures that this time “given to us by the Lord” can be one that is spent “for our human and spiritual growth”, the Pope continued; a time “to iron out hatred and divisions”; “to feel that we are all more brothers and sisters”; “to build and not to destroy” and “to take care of one another and of creation”

The Pope went on to note the theme of this year’s Word Day of Peace: *The culture of care as a path to peace*. This theme, continued the Pope, “is dedicated to caring for others and for creation”.

Pope Francis went on to note that “the painful events that have marked the path of humanity in the past year, especially the pandemic, teach us how necessary it is to take an interest in the problems of others and to share their concerns”. This attitude, he continued, “represents the road that leads to peace”. He explained that it is an attitude that “favours the building of a society based on relationships of brotherhood”.

“Each one of us, the men and women of our time, is called to make peace a reality every day and in every area of life, extending a hand to a brother or sister in need of a word of comfort, a gesture of tenderness, a helping hand of solidarity”, said the Pope.

Vatican News 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021

## Weekly Schedule

Weekly Schedule Day /Date	Feast	Time	Church
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	<i>Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord.</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 4th January</b>		9:30 am 10:00 am	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's Mass Mass
<b>Tuesday 5th January</b>		10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's Mass
<b>Wednesday 6th January</b>		10:00 am 12 noon	St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's Mass Funeral Mass (Private)
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January</b>		9:30 am 10:00am	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's Mass Mass
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January</b>		10am 6:00pm	St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's Masses Padre Pio Devotions
<b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January</b>		9.30am 10:00 am 6.30pm	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's Mass Mass Mass