

The Parish of St Francis Xavier's

St Francis Xavier's & St Anthony's Churches

Parish Newsletter,

Sunday 21st February, 2021, 1st Sunday in Lent, Year B

Tel: 01324 623567 email: office@falkirkcatholics.org

Website: www.falkirkcatholics.org

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 Over the past few weeks we have celebrated funerals almost every day and that pattern continues this week as well. Please remember all the deceased and their families in your prayers. In addition to our own funerals we are also helping out Canon Holuka in Bonnybridge. My thanks to the bereavement team and stewards who continue to make sure our churches are safe for funerals. As yet there are no clear signs as to when we will be able to open the church again for public worship.

Lent resources

The Archdiocesan Catechetics Commission has produced a range of resources for Lent that will assist adults and children to deepen their understanding of this holy season and aid them in their prayer life. Find them in the resources section at: <https://archedinburgh.org/pastoral-governance/catechetics/>. The Bishops Conference of Scotland has issued an Ash Wednesday Liturgy and a Stations of the Cross for use at home: <https://www.bcos.org.uk/COVID19/COVIDResources>

Parish Lenten Journey – Our coming together to explore the gospel got off to a wonderful start with a great turn out, great discussion and a lovely community feel. Thank you so much to everyone for taking part; please ask others to join us next time. Our second session is not this Wednesday, but the following (Wednesday, 3rd March) at 7pm. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86882177983...> Meeting ID: 868 8217 7983, Passcode: 496979.

Archdiocesan INSPIRE prayer talks

Register now for the Archdiocese's INSPIRE talk series for Lent. Guest speakers will guide you prayerfully through the season. All talks on Zoom, 7-:7:45pm.

TALK 2: *Songs of the Redemption: The Benedictine Liturgy of the Hours*, with Brother Joseph Carron. [7pm, Tue 02 Mar](#). Register: bit.ly/LentCarron

TALK 3: *Prayer as a Relationship Reflected in St Teresa of Avila*, with Sr Sally Rollo. [7pm, Tue 16 March](#). Register: bit.ly/LentRollo

TALK 4: *Praying the Passion according to St Mark*, with Archbishop Leo Cushley. [7pm, Tue 23 March](#). Register: bit.ly/LentCushley

Pro-Life Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross, organised by the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office, will take place each [Monday evening](#) of Lent [at 7:45pm](#). The Stations will be followed by a short reflection by one of our priests. You can register now on Eventbrite: <http://standrewsandedinburgh.eventbrite.com>

Our liturgy for the **Day of Prayer for Those who have Suffered Abuse** was so meaningful, but we are very aware of the ongoing journey for the abused. The following contacts may be useful: CEA (formerly Women's Aid) 01324 6356661 (Practical and counselling services, including accommodation); Forth Valley Rape Crisis, for both recent or historic abuse 01786 439244; Quiet Waters - Christian counselling 01324 630643 / 01324 670600; Open Secret, for survivors of childhood trauma and abuse 01324 630100; In an emergency, always call 999. If you feel spiritual conversation would be of use, please approach in confidence on 623567 and ask to speak to one of the priests or Anne.

Here's the link for our informal 'tea and toast' gatherings after 10am Mass on Sunday –

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4238924048?pwd=d2pYTGhLd1BmOGxVTklzWG5uZk5KQT09>. Our gathering starts at 11.15am. Everyone is welcome.

Laudato Si – our Circle this month took up the challenging topic of single use plastics. We shared our confusion around what's actually recyclable and how, plus our ongoing efforts to live without them. Local resources were explained and we continued our video journey through Laudato Si together. Please join us on **Laudato Si Circle Falkirk** on FaceBook.

The next **Baptism Preparation Meetings** will be this Wednesday 24th Feb and the following Wednesday 3rd March, both meetings online at 7:00pm. Please contact office@falkirkcatholics.org for the Zoom link. Both parents and godparents (at least one of whom must be a fully practicing Catholic) are warmly invited to attend. Please keep the children and parents in your prayers as they await the Sacrament in this uncertain time.

Recently deceased: May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Isobel Miller	St Francis Xavier's	Monday 22 nd Feb	10:00 am
James Scott	St Francis Xavier's	Tuesday 23 rd Feb	10:00 am
Mary McPherson	St Francis Xavier's	Tuesday 2 nd March	10:00 am
Joan Flucker	St Francis Xavier's	Tuesday 2 nd March	1:00 pm
John McColl (Bonnybridge)	St Francis Xavier's	Wednesday 3 rd March	10:00 am

Anniversaries Please Pray for Bill Boyle, Mary Coll, Jimmy Welsh, Catherine McLaughlin, Owen O'Neil, Edward Mowem, Bill Gallacher, Edward Donnelly, John Marshall, Winifred McGeehan Canny, Daniel Doherty, Michael Kennedy, Joseph Marley, William F Jordan, Alice Reilly, John Farrell, Mary Catherine Lynn, Frank Doherty, John McCabe, John McKenna, Michael McGarvey, John Mitchell, John Murray, Neil McKinlay, David Silcock, Bob Meighan, Matthew Collins, John O'Brien, James McFadden, Margaret Craig, Kathleen McDermott, Jimmy McCarroll, Elizabeth Green, Allan Watson, Charles Byrne, David Silcock, Edward Travers, Theresa Hamilton, Elizabeth Hainey, Mohri (McFeat) McDonald, Patrick O'Donnell. **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. If you wish to set up a standing order the parish bank details are Sort Code: 83-06-08 Account Number 10417107 St Francis Parish. A reduced number of envelopes for those who regularly use them have been ordered. If you pay income tax and are not already Gift Aiding to the parish, please consider doing so. It does not cost the giver anything, but the parish gains an extra 25p for every pound you donate. Click here: <https://forms.gle/5KbLzcJKmuDrQN24A>

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

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday	Mass will be livestreamed from St Francis Xavier's at 09:00 am
Monday, Tuesday	Funeral Mass will be livestreamed at 10:00 am & 1:00 pm
Sunday	Mass will be livestreamed at 10:00 am

Feasts

Monday 22nd Lent – Feast of the Chair of St Peter the Apostle