

The Parish of St Francis Xavier's
St Francis Xavier's & St Anthony's Churches
Parish Newsletter,
Sunday 12th December 21, 3rd Sunday of Advent Year C
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Website: www.falkirkcatholics.org
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Parish Secretary Beata Brzezina

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.

The Christmas Mass schedule can be found on the parish website.

Restoration of Sunday Obligation The Bishops of Scotland have decided that the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy days of Obligation will be reinstated from **Sunday 2 January 2022**. Their pastoral letter can be read at bcos.org.uk

Diploma in Catechetics 2022 Get ready to explore the richness and depth of the Catholic faith with course leader Sr Anna Marie McGuan from the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh. She and a range of guest speakers bring you online lectures each Thursday, guided reading, one-to-one support, retreats and supplementary courses on Zoom and YouTube. The Diploma in Catechetics lasts one year, begins in January 2022 and costs £200. Registration is now open at bit.ly/DiplomaCatechetics2022

Advent talks: Faith, Hope & Love Find out more about the season of Advent and the virtues of Faith, Hope and Love in a series of online talks held each Monday in Advent. Hosted by the Archdiocese, the third talk is on Monday 13 December 7:30pm-8:00pm, with Sr Anna Marie McGuan RSM. No registration required, simply use this link each week to join: bit.ly/AdventTalk (or webinar ID: 891 8951 4801).

Advent: Rosary for Life Join parishioners and clergy from across the Archdiocese each Tuesday throughout Advent to pray for unborn children, their mothers and all Pro-Life intentions. It continues at 7:45pm this Tuesday (14 December) and includes a reflection from Fr Martin Eckersley of St Francis Xavier in Falkirk. Event on Zoom, register at bit.ly/14DecRosary

Feast of the Holy Innocents Archbishop Cushley will celebrate Mass for the Feast of the Holy Innocents in St Margaret's Chapel, Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh EH9 1BB, at midday on Tuesday 28 December. The Mass has been organised by our Pro-Life Office and will be followed by refreshments, covid guidelines permitting. Register at bit.ly/InnocentsMass21

The Archdiocese is recruiting The Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh is looking to recruit a full-time Religious Education Adviser (Primary Schools). Closing date for applications is this Monday (13 December). Details at bit.ly/vacancy_2021

Mary's Meals: Double the Love Until 31 January 2022, all donations up to a total of £1.6 million will be matched by a group of private donors, so please consider supporting this campaign and praying for its success. There are many ways to donate, including choosing Mary's Meals gift cards as a meaningful gift this Christmas, or setting a virtual place at your Christmas table. Find out more at marysmeals.org.uk

After many years of doing the floral arrangements at St Francis Xavier's, Maureen Taylor is stepping down from the role. I wish to express my gratitude for her time and dedication over the years. If anyone would be interested in taking on the role of florist, please speak to Fr. Jamie.

We also express our gratitude to Maria Caramando who is stepping down from her role in the Bereavement group.

Preparing for Christmas – the Advent Rosary To help us use this Advent as an opportunity to prepare our hearts to receive Jesus at Christmas, St Anthony's church will be praying the rosary after Mass every Monday and Wednesday. This is an excellent opportunity to foster devotion to our Lady, to pray for our families and communities, and to tap into some much-needed graces for ourselves. All welcome!

Baptisms If you wish to have your child baptised, please arrange an appointment with one of the priests or Deacon Kenneth. Any emails regarding baptism should be sent to baptism@falkirkcatholics.org

Wrapping and cards. Christmas and Caring for our Common Home (Laudato Si’). Wrapping presents and sending cards show we care for each other. We can still do these things, whilst looking after people and nature, and enjoying being more creative. We could try some of the following tips and perhaps save some money, too. Buy hemp paper or recycled paper for wrapping. Wrap presents with last year’s used wrapping paper. Wrap presents in a longer-lasting, reusable material. Use paper, card or cloth gift bags - these can be reused. Tie wrapping paper in place and decorate with ribbon - ribbon can be reused and less paper is wasted under sticky tape. Make labels and cards using last year’s cards. Give home-made cards. Send a handwritten letter on recycled paper, 2nd class, instead of a card.

The family of Margaret Woods on their recent Loss would like to thank Fr Jamie, Fr Martin and Deacon Kenneth for their Spiritual Guidance and Support. To the Bereavement Group, The Divine Mercy, The Legion of Mary and the Parishioners for their Support, Prayers and Mass Cards. Kathleen for playing the organ during the Funeral Mass. The ladies in the Hall for the beautiful Teas provided and giving of their time. The support and kindness shown has helped our family to cope at such a difficult time, Holy Mass will be offered for your Intentions.

Anniversaries

Please Pray for: Jessie Murison, Kathleen Scott, Anne O'Brien, V. Rev. Canon Bracelin, John Spinks, Rosina Kennedy, Christina Sneddon, William McIntyre, Robera Canavan, Mary McCafferty, Jack Woodhouse, Anthony John Bell, Monica Marshall, Susan Friel, Michael Winters, Margaret Kerr, Anne Meakin, Jack McCafferty, Isabella Whoriskey, Edward Maguire, Sadie (Lumsden) McGuckin, John Lynn, Jayne Helen Burns, Christina McGibbon Montage, Edward O'Donnell, Peter Walls, Ann Lynagh, Kathleen McGuckin, Barbara Geoghegan, Mary Jane Hanlon Smith, Margaret Murray, Thomas Guy, Maggie Coull, Edward O'Donnell, Peter Winters, Antonio Marino Giannandrea, Peter Campbell, Isabella Redding, Joseph Hughes. **Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace, Amen**

Funerals

Name	Reception	Funeral Mass	Church
Joseph Carberry R.I.P.	Sunday 12 th Dec 6:00pm	Monday 13 th Dec 10:00am	St Francis Xavier's
Diana Koncz R.I.P.	Monday 13 th Dec 6:00pm	Tuesday 14 th Dec 10:00am	St Francis Xavier's
Michael Burt R.I.P.	Monday 20 th Dec 6:00pm	Tuesday 21 st Dec 10:00am	St Francis Xavier's
Christine Green R.I.P.	Tuesday 21 st Dec 6:00pm	Wednesday 22 nd Dec 10:00am	St Francis Xavier's

Collection: Last week’s collection: £1553. Thank you for your continued financial support.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday 12 th December 3 rd Sunday of Advent	11:00 am 10:00 am 12: 00 pm 7:00 pm	Mass Mass Mass Mass	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's
Monday, 13 th December <i>St Lucy</i>	9:30 am 10:00 am	Mass & Rosary Funeral Mass & Rosary	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's
Tuesday, 14 th December <i>St John of the Cross</i>	10:00 am	Funeral Mass & Divine Mercy Prayer Group	St Francis Xavier's
Wednesday, 15 th December	09:30 am 10:00 am	Mass & Rosary Mass & Rosary	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's
Thursday, 16 th December	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Mass & Rosary Advent Candle lit Mass	St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's
Friday, 17 th December	09:30am 10:00 am	Mass Mass & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's
Saturday, 18 th December	9:30 am 10:00 am 10:30 am 5:45 pm 6:30 pm	Mass Mass & Rosary Confessions Confessions Vigil Mass	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's

Morning Prayer starts at 9:30am Monday-Saturday.