

**The Parish of St Francis Xavier's**  
**St Francis Xavier's & St Anthony's Churches**  
**Parish Newsletter,**  
**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December 21, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Year C**  
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**Website: [www.falkirkcatholics.org](http://www.falkirkcatholics.org)**  
Parish Clergy: Fr Jamie Boyle, Fr Martin Eckersley, Deacon Kenneth Mununga,  
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.**

On behalf of Fr Martin and myself, we wish you all very happy and blessed Christmas. Thank you for your cards and gifts, they are much appreciated.

Following the latest advice from the Government we would ask that where possible you maintain a safe distance from other households when in the church, please do not gather in the porch areas. If possible, try to do a Lateral flow test before attending church. The use of hand sanitizer and face coverings is still required. If you have any signs of Covid-19 please stay away. Likewise, if you have been asked to isolate, please do not come to church.

For time being we will once more suspend the "Sign of peace".

**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](http://bcos.org.uk)

**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 final talk is on Monday 20 December 7:30pm-8:00pm, with Sr Anna Marie McGuan. No registration required, simply use this link each week to join: [bit.ly/AdventTalk](https://bit.ly/AdventTalk) (or webinar ID: 891 8951 4801). All talks are recorded and available to watch on YouTube: [bit.ly/ArchYouTube](https://bit.ly/ArchYouTube)

**Advent: Rosary for Life** Parishioners and clergy from across the Archdiocese having been praying the Rosary online each Tuesday throughout Advent for unborn children, their mothers and all Pro-Life intentions. The final Rosary is at 7:45pm this Tuesday (21 December) and includes a reflection from Archbishop Cushley. Event on Zoom, register at [bit.ly/21DecRosary](https://bit.ly/21DecRosary)

**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](https://bit.ly/InnocentsMass21)

**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](https://bit.ly/DiplomaCatechetics2022)

**Christmas Recipes for Caring for Our Common Home (*Laudato Si'*)**. When we get together with family and friends at Christmas, we want to make sure that our loved-ones have plenty of what they like to eat. Growing animals for food can cause problems for nature and people, but we can still enjoy ourselves, whilst caring for our common home. For example, we could have some meat-free meals. They would delight the vegans in our lives and give our tummies a rest, whilst also being really enjoyable for ourselves. If you're stuck with knowing what to make, try <https://veganfoodandliving.com/features/the-best-vegan-christmas-recipes-featuring-58-festive-recipes/>, <https://www.vegansociety.com/news/blog/10-best-vegan-christmas-recipes/> and <https://www.vegansociety.com/news/blog/10-best-vegan-christmas-recipes/>. We could also look for meat produced locally, from smaller farms, where the animals are free-range. If we've enough in our Christmas budget, we could try organic produce.

**St Francis Xavier & St Mary's Credit Union** would like to wish all its members (and prospective members) a Merry Christmas. Our office will be open as usual on Wednesday 22nd December and we will re-open on Wednesday 5th January. You can contact us by email, through our website or on Facebook if you need us between those dates.

**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](mailto:baptism@falkirkcatholics.org)

### Anniversaries

**Please Pray for:** Chrissie Montague, Agnes (Sweeney) Coffey, Patricia McGeehan, Michael Quinn, Edward Dowd, Jan Krupa, Hendyk Wallace, James McCue, John Coffey, Phyllis Reilly, John Meighan, Peter Woods, Samuel Fitzpatrick, Frances McCabe, Maria Renella, Siobhan Coffey, Alex McGlynn, Patrick McLaughlin, John Clifford Boyle, Rev. Francis Doherty, Cathie Harvey, Stanislaw Jerwzal, Rea Boyle, John Adams, Angus McRorie, Stella Walsh, Mary Reid, Martha Woodhouse, William Imrie, Sarah Quinn, Doris Fraser Bell, Michael & Esther Connell, Margaret Sneddon, Fred Thomson, Guiditta Notarangelo, Alice McFarlane, Ulyises Estenzo Snr., Mary O'Donnell, Ruth Helen Adams, William Imrie, Mary Fallon, June O'Connor, Martin James Bell, Ramsay Young, Mary Quinn (Mooney), Annie Szmlac, James Boyle, Peter Lynagh. **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
Michael Burt R.I.P.	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec 6:00pm	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec 10:00am	St Francis Xavier's
Christine Green R.I.P.	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec 6:00pm	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec 10:00am	St Francis Xavier's
Janet Hylands R.I.P.	To be announced		St Francis Xavier's
Mary Skrzyszowski R.I.P.	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan 6:00pm	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan at 10:00am	St Francis Xavier's

**Collection:** Last week's collection: £1290. Thank you for your continued financial support.

### Weekly Schedule

Please note there will be NO EVENING MASS on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December.

Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 4 <sup>th</sup> 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, 20 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30 am 10:00 am	Mass & Rosary Mass & Rosary	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's
Tuesday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December	10:00 am	Funeral Mass & Divine Mercy Prayer Group	St Francis Xavier's
Wednesday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	09:30 am 10:00 am	Mass & Rosary Funeral Mass & Rosary	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's
Thursday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> December	10:00 am	Mass & Rosary	St Francis Xavier's
Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> December	09:30am 10:00am 6:00pm 6:45 pm 7:00pm 9:30pm 11:45pm 12:00am	Mass Mass Vigil of Christmas Carols Vigil of Christmas Vigil Mass (Polish) Carols Midnight Mass	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's St Anthony's St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's
Saturday, 25 <sup>th</sup> December <i>The Nativity of the Lord</i>	11:00am 10:00 am 12:00pm 1:30 am	Christmas Mass Christmas Mass Christmas Mass Christmas Mass (Polish)	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's

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