

**The Parish of St Francis Xavier's**  
**St Francis Xavier's & St Anthony's Churches**  
**Parish Newsletter,**  
**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December 21, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**  
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**Website: 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 the parish clergy, we wish you a joyful and peace filled Christmas. We are so disappointed that we are both in isolation and can't celebrate Christmas with you all. I express my immense gratitude for the many offers of help and support. Thanks also for the many gifts and cards. I wish to thank the priests who have stepped in to make sure the celebration of Mass goes ahead – Fr Damien Gilhooley, Fr Stephen Reilly, Fr Bobby Taylor, Canon Pat Boylan and Fr Kyran Murphy. I am sure you will make them most welcome.

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 postponed due the increase of Covid -19.

**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)

**Save the date** *Amoris Laetitia - The Joy of Love*. There will be three talks explaining this important document, an apostolic exhortation by Pope Francis, beginning 10 January and led by Sr Anna Marie, the Archdiocese's Catechetics Advisor, and Fr Nick Welsh, vice rector of the Scots College in Rome. Details to follow soon.

**Save the date** *Music Day*. This takes place on Saturday 22 January at the Gillis Centre, Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, 10:00am-3:30pm. The theme is *Liturgical Music Making in a Post-Pandemic World*. The day is open to everyone, especially those involved in leading and playing music, as well as singers. Details to follow soon

**Christmas Left-Overs Recipes for Caring for our Common Home (*Laudato Si'*)**. Eating good food with those we love is one of the ways we celebrate Christmas. We like to make sure we have an abundance, so noone misses out. The problem is, we often end up with too much food, so some is wasted. Food waste results in the production of the gases that cause global warming, so this Christmas, our gift to the World and its people could be to cut the amount of food we waste, whilst also saving ourselves some money. Some things can be frozen and eaten at a later date, but the following web sites have some tips for using left-overs, including those Brussels sprouts: [https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/collections/christmas\\_leftovers/](https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/collections/christmas_leftovers/), <https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/programmes/b09jl8hp/>,

<https://onegreenplanet.org/tag/vegan-potato-recipes/> and <https://onegreenplanet.org/tag/vegan-brussels-sprouts-recipes/>.

**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)

**Padre Pio Prayer Group** service takes place in the church on Friday, 7 January at 6 pm and every First Friday of the month. All invited to join in prayer and petition.

**The Legion of Mary** would like to invite all Parishioners to join in the celebration of the feast of Mary Mother of God on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> January by saying the rosary in her honour. Please add to your intentions the request for healing and an increase of faith in the world.

### Anniversaries

**Please Pray for:** Hugh McCormack, John Rennie, Joseph Sweeney, Thomas McAteer, William Clubb, Amanda Notarangelo, John Hendrew, Joseph Hemill, Robert Sibbald, Donal Coll, Augustus Debbs, Cal Flavin Youghal, Robert Raymond, Maisie Hosie, Carol Notarangelo, Pat Hughes, Vincent Kotrys, Jean McGinlay, Ina Judge, William Garvin, William Bell, Livinio Vanucci, Bill Smith, Michael Downie, Jean Wood, Mary Swierklanski, Isobel Grogan, Peter Murphy, David McArdle, Sony, Daniel Sweeney, Willie Bell, Mary Mohan, Jimmy Toland, Sr. Marie Celine Gallagher, Katie Hanlon, Kathleen Healy, Matilda Yuill, Scott Brendan Gallagher, John Brennan, Eileen Nortney, Mary Little, Luciana Wood, Maria Russo, Mary Brennan Keogh, James McLaughlin, Jane Drysdale, Eddie Bradley, Isabella Meighan, Louisa Lunn, Orion Page, Elizabeth Collins. Marion Waugh, Catherine Maguire, Mary Shields, Margaret Buchannon, William Buchannon, John Ship, Bobby Cheape, Frank (Sonny) Henderson, Donald MacFarlane, Betty Henderson. **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
Janet Hylands R.I.P.	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> Dec 6:00pm	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> Dec 10:00am	St Francis Xavier's
Mary Skrzyszowski R.I.P.	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan 6:00pm	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan 10:00am	St Francis Xavier's

**Collection:** Last week's collection: £2379. Thank you for your continued financial support.

### Weekly Schedule

Please note there will be NO EVENING Mass on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December.

Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> December <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</i>	11:00 am 12: 00 pm	Mass Mass	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's
Monday, 27 <sup>th</sup> December <i>St John Feast</i>	09:30 am 10:00 am	Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's
Tuesday, 28 <sup>th</sup> December <i>The Holy Innocents</i>	10:00 am	Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion	St Francis Xavier's
Wednesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30 am 10:00 am	Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion Funeral Mass & Rosary	St Anthony's St. Francis Xavier's
Thursday, 30 <sup>th</sup> December	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Mass & Rosary (To Be Confirmed) Novena	St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's
Friday, 31 <sup>st</sup> December	09:30 am 10:00 am	Mass (To Be Confirmed) Mass & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (To Be Confirmed)	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's
Saturday, 1 <sup>st</sup> January <i>Mary, the Holy Mother of God</i>	09:30 am 10:00 am	Mass (To Be Confirmed) Mass & Rosary (To Be Confirmed)	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's

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