

**The Parish of St Francis Xavier's**  
**St Francis Xavier's & St Anthony's Churches**  
**Parish Newsletter,**  
**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January 22, The Baptism of the Lord**  
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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.**

Thank you to everyone who helped keep the liturgical life of the parish going during the priest's isolation. Thank also for the phone calls and offers of help and support, they are very 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 the time being we will once more suspend the "Sign of peace".

**Gift Aid** is a government scheme allowing charities and community groups to increase the value of donations made to them. If you are a UK Tax Payer you can Gift Aid your donations to the parish, whether you put money in the weekly collection, donate by standing order or through the MyGivingHub. As long as you pay income tax, whether from work, pension or other investments, HMRC will give back 25p to the parish for every £1 you put into collection. You can do this each week in the special Gift Aid envelopes, by standing order or through the MyGivingHub. Please visit Parish Office to register as a Gift Aid donor or to receive more information.

**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.

**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.

**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)

**Mental Health and Caring for our Common Home (*Laudato Si'*)**. January can feel like a long, dark month, following the celebrations of Christmas, and maybe Christmas wasn't easy for us either. Ecological conversion may be the last thing on our minds, but when we connect with nature, we improve our mental health. We could try going for a walk alone or with a friend, pottering in the garden, feeding the birds and having a cup of tea as we watch them, volunteering with a group that looks after nature, or just sitting in greenspace. Getting outside, we notice that new growth comes and winter passes. If you're feeling particularly low or anxious and need a bit of help, try Breathing Space (0800 83 85 87; <https://breathingspace.scot/>), or if you're having difficult feelings following bereavement, try Cruse (0808 802 6161; <https://www.crusescotland.org.uk/>).

### Anniversaries

**Please Pray for:** John Cumming, Margaret Lafferty, James Short, Stefan Wantuch, John (Ian) Nixon, Hugh Miller, Sr M Anthony Poor, Clare (Betty Tait), Patrick Ferguson, Sean Byrne, Richard John Murdoch, John Joseph Beattie, Jean Gillespie, Richard John Murdoch, Dan O'Donnell, Jack Boyle, Margaret O'Neill, Hugh McCormack, John McKenna, Hugh Short, Gerard Gorman, Margaret, McSheaffrey, Janet Henderson, Daniel McGowan, Annie Walsh, John McKenna, Mary Grogan, Margaret Dargacz, Francis Kotrys, Margaret Winters, Mary Walker, John McDermott, Margaret Watson, Archibald McElroy, James McCarroll, Sadie Nolan, James Anthony Hendrie, Helen Covertry, Bridget McCue, Thomas Quinn, Alice Donaghue, Marian O'Connor, Stanley Garner, Jean Howden, Margaret Watson. **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
Irene Leach R.I.P.		Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan 10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's

**Collection:** Last week's collection: £1465. Thank you for your continued financial support.

### Weekly Schedule

Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> January <i>The Baptism of the Lord</i>	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, 10 <sup>th</sup> January	9:30 am 10:00 am	Mass Mass & Rosary	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's
Tuesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> January	10:00 am	Mass & Divine Mercy Prayer Group	St Francis Xavier's
Wednesday, 12 <sup>th</sup> January	09:30 am 10:00 am	Mass Funeral Mass & Rosary	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's
Thursday, 13 <sup>th</sup> January <i>St Kentigern</i>	10:00 am 7:00pm	Mass & Rosary Novena/Confession	St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's
Friday, 14 <sup>th</sup> January	09:30am 10:00am	Mass Mass & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's
Saturday, 15 <sup>th</sup> January	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.**