

**The Parish of St Francis Xavier's  
St Francis Xavier's & St Anthony's Churches  
Parish Newsletter,  
Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February 22, 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday Year C  
Tel: 01324 623567 email: [office@falkirkcatholics.org](mailto:office@falkirkcatholics.org), [hall@falkirkcatholics.org](mailto:hall@falkirkcatholics.org)  
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.**

## **Lent**

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and the start of the season of Lent. Please see the Mass schedule for timings of services. Ashes will be distributed in both primary schools and St Mungos'. As usual there will be Stations of the Cross offered in both churches. Please make this part of your Lenten journey as a family.

**Sacraments** The names of all children registered with parish for Sacraments has been posted in our two churches. Please keep all children in your prayers. Parents should make sure that their children are on the list.

**Padre Pio Prayer Group** service takes place in the church on Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> February at 6 pm and every First Friday of the month. All invited to join in prayer and petition.

**Our Laudato Si** group invite you all to join us in this season of lent to pray, reflect, and take action to care for our common home. Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 7-8:30pm in St Francis Xavier Parish Hall. Tea/coffee and home baking! **We would encourage all parish groups to send along a representative.**

**The World Day of Prayer** service will be held at Christ Church at 2.00 pm and at Brightons Parish Church at 7:00 pm on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March. All welcome.

**UCM** our next meeting is on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1pm. New members most welcome.

**SCIAF Wee Box Appeal and Caring for Our Common Home (*Laudato Si'*)**. In this year's Wee Box Appeal, SCIAF says, "In Malawi, climate change means suffering. It is devastating lives now. And hope for a better future is dying" (<https://www.sciaf.org.uk/stories/727-your-2022-wee-box-guide/>; <https://youtu.be/watch?v=KZ2LDi8cqGs/>). SCIAF is inviting us to collect money to help the people of Malawi, as they suffer the effects of climate change. Pope Francis calls us to see that it is impossible to separate caring for people from Caring for Our Common Home, so maybe this Lent, we could also think about a carbon fast, to tackle the causes of climate change. We could have meat-free days, buy goods produced nearer to home, reduce food waste, leave the car at home, spend less time in the shower, or reduce the temperature of our washing.

**Lent – Stations of the Cross** The Archdiocesan Pro-Life Stations of the Cross takes place online throughout Lent, each Tuesday on Zoom at 7:45pm. It begins on 8 March and will feature a reflection from Archbishop Cushley. Pray with clergy and parishioners from across the Archdiocese for mothers, unborn children and all pro-life intentions. Register at [bit.ly/prolifeevents](http://bit.ly/prolifeevents)

**Lent with St Paul** The Archdiocese is hosting *Lent with St Paul – a Saint's guide to making the most of Lent*. It's a 30 minute talk at 7:30pm on 14, 21, 28 March and 4 April. Fr Andrews Garden (St David's, Dalkeith) explores insights and advice from St Paul to help us prepare for Easter. No need to register, watch live on the YouTube Channel of the Archdiocese at [bit.ly/ArchYouTube](http://bit.ly/ArchYouTube)

**Catholics in health and social care** A training day about the ethical challenges of work in the health and care sector takes place at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, on Saturday 19 March from 9:30am to 3:30pm. Speakers will lead discussions on assisted suicide, accompaniment of the dying and conscientious objection. This event is targeted at health/care workers and anyone motivated by their faith to care for others. Register at <https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/events/2022/03/catholics-in-health-and-social-care>

**Scotland's Census** The once-a-decade count of the population of Scotland takes place soon and your household will receive a letter about it. Please complete the census accurately and remember to include your religion! The deadline for completion of the census is 20 March 2022. Details at [scotlandcensus.gov.uk](http://scotlandcensus.gov.uk)

**Vacancy** St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh is looking to employ a facilities manager. The job is 21 hours per week (£16,200 pro rata) and the closing date for applications is Friday 4 March. Job description and how to apply at <https://www.s1jobs.com/job/facilities-manager-52764122>

**Day of Prayer** Friday 4 March is a Day of Prayer all those who have experienced abuse. Please pray for children, young people and vulnerable adults whose lives have been scarred by the abuse they have experienced at the hands of those whom they trusted. Pray also for all are engaged in the pursuit of peace, healing and reconciliation for the abused, the needy, the weak and the vulnerable. Pray that the work of the new Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency will be guided by the Holy Spirit to help us all to meet our responsibility to respect and safeguard the dignity of all.

**Online Retreat** The Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow is hosting an online retreat in Lent. Each day features an episode from the life of St Ignatius, music, art, a reading from Scripture and a reflection. Details at <https://iscglasgow.co.uk/lent22.html>

**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** John Marshall, John Farrell, John Murray, James McFadden, Allan Watson, Bernard Sweeney, Mary McAllister, Kathleen Smith, James Gaerty, Irene Burke, Charles McCue, Joseph Traynor, Assunta Biagiotti, John Campbell, Veronica Coyne, Mary Mullen, Graham Thompson, James Scott, Michael McQuade, Malachi Campbell, Isobella McCluskey, Mary Simpson, Mary McGarvey, William McEwan, Michael C Malley, Rina Pellegrini, William Marshall, Patrick Cullen, Charles McGhee Jnr. **Please Pray for: Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, may they rest in peace, Amen.**

#### Funerals

Name	Reception	Funeral Mass	Church
Ann McKinlay R.I.P.	10 <sup>th</sup> March 6:00pm	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 10:00 am	St Francis Xavier's

**Collection:** Last week's collection: £1582. Thank you for your continued financial support.

#### PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGES TO THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year	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, 28 <sup>th</sup> February	09:30 am 10:00 am	Mass & Rosary Mass & Rosary	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's
Tuesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> March	10:00 am	Mass & Divine Mercy Prayer Group	St Francis Xavier's
Wednesday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> March <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	09:30 am 10:00 am 7:00 pm	Mass Mass & Rosary Mass	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's
Thursday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	10:00 am 7:00 pm	Mass Stations of The Cross/Confession	St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's
Friday, 4 <sup>th</sup> March <i>Day of Prayer for Those who have Suffered Abuse</i>	09:30 am 10:00am  6:00 pm 7:00pm	Mass Mass & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Padre Pio Prayer Group Stations of The Cross	St Anthony's St Francis Xavier's  St Francis Xavier's St Anthony's
Saturday, 5 <sup>th</sup> March	09:30 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.**