

**The Parish of St Francis Xavier's  
St Francis Xavier's & St Anthony's Churches  
Parish Newsletter,  
Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March 22, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent 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.**

**Obligation to attend Mass** is restored from 6<sup>th</sup> March, First Sunday of Lent.

**Presentation of our Father** for children in Primary 4 preparing for First Holy Communion will take place at all Sunday Masses next weekend.

**Sacraments** The names of all children registered with the parish for the 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. There will be a meeting for parents of children who have not yet registered for Confirmation on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7:00pm in St Francis Xavier's hall.**

**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.**

**Safeguarding training:** Induction Part 2 session will be held on Thursday March 10<sup>th</sup> in St Francis Church hall from 2pm until 4pm. This session is for volunteers who have already completed Induction Part 1.

**Ukraine and Caring for Our Common Home (*Laudato Si'*).** *Laudato Si'* is about the importance and interconnectedness of life, and love and respect for each other. Our hearts are broken when we see what's happening in Ukraine, but there are things we can do. We can give to charities (<https://www.caritas.org/what-we-do/conflicts-and-disasters/crisis-in-ukraine/>; <https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal/>). We can write to our MP, to express our wish that we offer greater freedom for refugees to seek sanctuary here (<https://members.parliament.uk/member/4424/contact>). We can pray. *Loving Father, we pray for all those who are in danger or afraid, that You hold them in Your arms and bring them peace. We pray for those who have power over life and death to choose life, and to turn their swords into ploughshares. We ask this through our Blessed Mother Mary, Queen of Peace.*

**SUNDAY: Holy Hour for Married Couples** Archbishop Cushley invites married and engaged couples to a Holy Hour at the Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh this Sunday 6 March at 4pm. It is for couples to come before the Lord in reflection on the beautiful Catholic vision of marriage and family life, thanksgiving for the gift of this calling and prayer for the blessing of their love. Register at [bit.ly/ArchEventbrite](https://bit.ly/ArchEventbrite) or simply turn up on the day.

**SCIAF Ukraine Appeal** As well as your prayers please consider supporting SCIAF's emergency appeal for Ukraine, if you are able. Donations can be made at <https://www.sciaf.org.uk/> To find out how the Catholic Church is helping those in Ukraine see <https://www.caritas.org/>

**Returning to Confession** The Archdiocese is inviting Catholics to experience the healing embrace and forgiveness of Jesus in the Sacrament of Penance this Lent. *Returning to Confession* is a 45 minute event on YouTube led by Sr Anna Marie McGuan RSM. It is on this Monday (7 March) at 7:30pm. No registration required - watch live at [bit.ly/ArchYouTube](https://bit.ly/ArchYouTube)

**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](https://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>

**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: Please Pray for** John Lindsay Allan, Thomas McFarlane, Tony VisalJko, Jess McCafferty, Edmund Stremlau, Bridget Devlin, Catherine Dowd, Dominic McGinley, James Clarkin, Patrick Cullen, Sr. Margaret Travers, Jane McGhee, Joseph Callaghan, June Lydia Blair McEwan, Kathleen Logan, Janet Devlin, Theresa Rankin, Denis O’Donnell, Bridget Silcock, Francis Fitzpatrick, Sarah O’Connor, The Brannan Family, Herbert Zimmerman, Anthony Duffy, Veronica Shanks, Elizabeth Nortney, Concetta Rizza Giannandrea, Kathleen Winters (Sr), Dunblane Children & Teachers, Charles Allison, Mary Ford, Catherine (Kitty) Gormley, John O’Connor.: **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
Kathleen Smith R.I.P.		Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> March 10:00 am	St Francis Xavier’s

**Collection:** Last week’s collection: £1968. Thank you for your continued financial support.

**PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGES TO THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE**

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> March 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent	11:00 am	Mass	St Anthony’s
	10:00 am	Mass	St Francis Xavier’s
	12: 00 pm	Mass	St Francis Xavier’s
	7:00 pm	Mass	St Francis Xavier’s
Monday, 7 <sup>th</sup> March	09:30 am	Mass & Divine Mercy Prayer Group	St Anthony’s
	10:00 am	Mass & Rosary	St Francis Xavier’s
Tuesday, 8 <sup>th</sup> March	09:30 am	Mass	St Anthony’s
	10:00 am	Mass & Divine Mercy Prayer Group	St Francis Xavier’s
Wednesday, 9 <sup>th</sup> March	10:00 am	Mass & Rosary	St Francis Xavier’s
Thursday, 10 <sup>th</sup> March <i>St John Ogilvie</i>	10:00 am	Mass	St Francis Xavier’s
	7:00 pm	Stations of The Cross/Confession	St Francis Xavier’s
Friday, 11 <sup>th</sup> March	09:30 am	Mass	St Anthony’s
	10:00am	Funeral Mass & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	St Francis Xavier’s
	7:00pm	Stations of The Cross	St Anthony’s
Saturday, 12 <sup>th</sup> March	09:30 am	Mass	St Anthony’s
	10:00 am	Mass & Rosary	St Francis Xavier’s
	10:30 am	Confessions	St Francis Xavier’s
	12:00 pm	UCM Mass	St Francis Xavier’s
	5:45 pm	Confessions	St Francis Xavier’s
	6:30 pm	Vigil Mass	St Francis Xavier’s

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