



The Parish of St Francis Xavier's St Francis Xavier's & St Anthony's Churches



Sunday 25th December 22, The Nativity of the Lord. Year A

Email: office.stfrancisfalkirk@staned.org.uk, Website: www.falkirkcatholics.org

Telephone: 01324 623567, Hall bookings: hall@falkirkcatholics.org

Clergy: Fr Daniel P. Doherty, Fr Martin Eckersley, Fr Michael Akintolu, Deacon Kenneth Mununga

Monday-St Stephen, Tuesday-St John, Wednesday-The Holy Innocents, Friday- The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Mass Times St Francis Xavier's

Monday	10:00am Mass
Tuesday	10:00am Mass
Wednesday	10:00am Mass
Thursday	10:00am Mass
Friday	10:00am Mass
Saturday	10:00am Mass 6:30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	10:00am Mass 12:00pm Mass 1:30pm Polish Mass No evening Mass

Confessions

Saturday 10:30-11:15am, 5:45-6:20pm
Sunday - during every Mass

Mass Times St Anthony's

Monday	9:30am Mass
Tuesday	9:30am Mass
Saturday	9:30am Mass
Sunday	11:00am Mass

Confessions

Monday 8:30-9:30am
Saturday 10:00-10:30am
Sunday - during every Mass

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S Morning Prayer at 9:30am Monday-Saturday. Rosary after 10am Mass every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.
ST ANTHONY'S Rosary before Mass on Monday.

Thank you for your gift to God and His Church: Last week's offertory cash collection: £2177.

Diploma in Catechetics Register now for the Diploma in Catechetics which begins in January! It's a great way to explore the richness and depth of the Catholic faith with course leader Sr Anna Marie McGuan RSM. Testimonials, FAQs, details and registration at bit.ly/archdiploma2023 Find out more about the Diploma in Catechetics in a 30 min webinar with Sr Anna Marie at 7pm on Wednesday 4 January. Register at bit.ly/aboutdiploma or please speak with Fr Daniel for further details. Questions?

Email sranna.marie@staned.org.uk

The clergy wish all parishioners and visitors to the parish a very blessed and joyful Christmas.

Please note new parish email address: office.stfrancisfalkirk@staned.org.uk

"May the angels lead him into Paradise" Let us remember Cannon John McAlister, retired parish priest of St. Peter's in Chains, Inverkeithing who died earlier this month.

Final Advent Candlelit Mass What a wonderful turnout for our final Advent Mass by Candlelit. It was great to see so many young people and families, making that extra effort in preparing for Christmas. Well done!

Visit of Santa to St Anthony's Hall last Sunday for the Children's Liturgy **Christmas Party** was a great success. Thank you to the parents of the children for supporting the event. And special thanks to the two Children Liturgy leaders' teams for organising the event and not forgetting the group of bakers and helpers on the day. Finally, thanks to Santa!

Carols at Tesco, Redding and at the front steps of St Francis Xavier's was well supported. It was great to hear all those lovely carols sung so well and people passing by appreciating our efforts. Many thanks to all those in the choir and music group who organised, led and supported the events, and of course to parishioners and locals for their lovely singing.

Falkirk Foodbank- boxes are in each church porch for donations.

Warm places It has been decided to offer St Francis Xavier's Hall as a warm place for people of the town to gather to enjoy hospitality. This will start on Thursday 12th January 12-2pm. We plan to offer hot soup, sandwiches and hot drinks. If you can help in any way, please contact Catherine O'Neil 07789112194.

Archdiocesan Directory has arrived priced £3 and available in piety shops.

The Parish Clergy visited all the sick and housebound that they are aware of during Advent. If you or you know anyone who may wish a visit from one of the clergy, please speak to one of the clergy or contact Chapel House.

Poinsettias Many thanks to all those who very generously donated poinsettias to both churches for Christmas in memory of their loved ones.

Thank you to all those who came along to the three Monday Advent talks in the hall.

RCIA Congratulations, and welcome to our Catechumens and Candidates who received the 'Rite of Acceptance' last Sunday. Please pray for Laura, Kirsty, Des, Susan, Joan, Steven and Ossian as they discover Christ and prepare to know him in His Sacraments.

SPRED volunteers talking about being in SPRED: "Belonging to SPRED has meant inclusion in a very close family. Whenever I am at an event hosted by SPRED I feel a calmness and a closeness to God, more than I have felt anywhere else in my life."

"SPRED is a big part of my life and has helped me to develop and mature as a human being. It is fantastic to be involved in an organisation that had high priorities and care for others, principles and sentiments that I share." We meet on a Wednesday evening during term time in St Francis Xavier hall. Some training is involved. If you would like more details please call Jennifer Lightfoot 07946 538958

Going into Forth Valley Hospital If you, or someone you know is going into hospital and would like a visit, please let a member of the Parish clergy know. A name, date of birth, and ward number would be useful.

Laudato Si See Facebook for this week's message.

Holy Hour Join Archbishop Cushley for Eucharistic Adoration at St Margaret's Chapel at the Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, to pray for "insight, courage and joy in our mission," as part of the Synod 2023. It takes place at 6pm on the following dates: Tue 10 Jan, Sun 12 Feb, Sun 12 Mar. No registration required, just turn up and pray.

Holy Innocents Mass Join Archbishop Cushley, priests and people of the Archdiocese to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Innocents at midday on Wednesday 28 December at the Gillis Centre, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB. Refreshments and social afterwards. Free parking onsite. Register at bit.ly/holyinnocents22

The Angelus Prayer

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary...

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to Your Word. Hail Mary, full of grace....

V. And the Word was made flesh, R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary...

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Hail Mary....

Pour forth, we beseech You, O Lord, Your Grace into our hearts; that as we have known the incarnation of Christ, your Son by the message of an angel, so by His passion and cross we may be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Please note no Novena/Exposition or Confessions this Thursday.

Crib offering there will be a basket at front of crib for any offerings you may wish to give. The proceeds will be sent to Archbishop to assist him in the many charitable requests he receives.

Hogmanay Ceilidh, 31st December, 7:30pm in St Francis Xavier's Parish Hall. Food will be served at 8pm. Please bring your own bottle. Please hand in money for the tickets to the Chapel House.

Prayer for the New Year O sacred and adorable Trinity, hear our prayers on behalf of our Holy Father the Pope, our bishops, our clergy and for all who are in authority over us. Bless, we beseech Thee, during the coming year, the whole Catholic Church, convert heretics and unbelievers; soften the hearts of sinners so that they may return to Thy friendship; give prosperity to our country and peace among the nations of the world; pour down Thy blessing upon our friends, relatives and acquaintances, and upon our enemies, if we have any; assist the poor and sick, have pity on the souls of those whom this year has been taken from us; and do Thou be merciful to those who during the coming year will be summoned before Thy judgment seat. May all our actions be preceded by Thy inspirations and carried on by Thy assistance, so that all our prayers and works having been begun in Thee, may likewise be ended through Thee.

Female vocations Thinking about a vocation to the religious life? Join other young Catholic women to chat and explore God's will in five monthly get-togethers in Edinburgh. Led by Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO, the first one takes place on Sunday 29 January, 4-7pm at St Columba's, 9 Upper Gray Street. It is a chance to pray, share and discuss in a relaxed environment, and refreshments will be served. The series continues on the last Sunday of each month at the same time/venue: 26 Feb, 26 Mar, 30 Apr, 28 May. To register or find out more, please email religiousvocations@staned.org.uk

Valentine's Retreat 2023 This free half-day retreat offers couples a chance to reflect on their love and commitment to each other, to God and to their

community. It will be led by Annette and Paul O'Beirne, of Equipes Notre-Dame - Teams of Our Lady, which supports married couples in their vocation. They will share some of the stories and tools gathered over their 42 years together. The retreat takes place from 2-5pm on Saturday 11 February at the Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB (free parking onsite).

Register at bit.ly/valentineretreat

Anniversaries: Anthony Bell, Louisa Lunn, Tony Giannandrea, Agnes McAuley, Livianno Vannuci, James, Margaret, Tommy, Eileen, Irene Leach, James McCue, Maria Renella, Hugh McCormack Rev. Francis Doherty, Angus McRorie, Sarah Quinn, Fred Thomson, Mary O'Donnell, June O'Connor, Mary Quinn (Mooney), James Boyle, John Rennie, Joseph Hemill, Maisie Hosie, William Garvin, Mary Swierklanski, Daniel Sweeney, Katie Hanlon, Eileen Nortney, Joseph Sweeney, Robert Sibbald, Carol Noterangelo, William Bell, Isobel Grogan, Willie Bell, Kathleen Healy, Mary Little, James McLaughlin, Isabella Meighan, Elizabeth Collins, Thomas McAteer, Donal Coll, Pat Hughes, Peter Murphy, Mary Mohan, Matilda Yuill, Luciana Wood, William Clubb, Augustus Debbs, Vincent Kotrys, Bill Smith, Amanda Notarangelo, Cal Flavin Youghal, Jean McGinlay, Michael Downie, David McArdle, Jimmy Toland, Scott Brendan Gallagher, Maria Russo, Jane Drysdale, Louisa Lunn, Margaret McGuire, John Hendrew, Robert Raymond, Ina Judge, Jean Wood, Sony, Sr. Marie Celine Gallagher, John Brennan, Mary Brennan Keogh, Eddie Bradley, Orion Page. **Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace, Amen.**

Paul O'Connor Funeral Care, Bridgeness Road, Bo'nness have very kindly sponsored the Newsletter for the month of December.

Funerals

Name	Reception	Funeral Mass	Church
Deidre Mailer R.I.P.	Wednesday 4 th January 6:00pm	Thursday 5 th January 10:00am	St Francis Xavier's
Michael Kiely R.I.P.		Friday 6 th January 10:00am	St Francis Xavier's

