



The Parish of St Francis Xavier's

St Francis Xavier's & St Anthony's Churches

Sunday 26th February 2023, 1st Sunday of Lent-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 J. Eckersley, Fr Michael Akintolu, Deacon Kenneth Mununga



Mass Times St Francis Xavier's	
Monday	7:00am Mass 10:00am Mass
Tuesday	7:00am Mass 10:00am Mass
Wednesday	7:00am Mass 10:00am Requiem Mass
Thursday	10:00am Mass 7:00pm Stations of the Cross
Friday	10:00am Mass 6:00pm Padre Pio
Saturday	10:00am Mass 6:30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	10:00am Mass 12:00pm Mass 1:30pm Polish Mass 7:00pm Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Mon-Sat	9:00-10:00am
Sunday	9:00-9:45am

Confessions	
Thursday	7:30-8:00pm
Saturday	10:30-11:15am, 5:45-6:20pm

Mass Times St Anthony's	
Monday	9:30am Mass
Tuesday	9:30am Mass
Wednesday	9:30am Mass
Friday	7:00pm Stations of the Cross
Saturday	9:30am Mass
Sunday	11:00am Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Mon-Wed	8:30-9:30am
Saturday	8:30-9:30am

Confessions	
Monday	8:30-9:30am
Friday	7:30pm-8:00pm
Saturday	10:00-10:30am

Thank you for your gift to God and His Church: Last week's offertory cash collection: £ 2551.

Franciscan Sisters of Immaculate Conception thank you most sincerely for your generous donations which totalled £2660.

Padre Pio Prayer Group service takes place in the church on Friday, 3rd March at 6 pm and every First Friday of the month. All invited to join in prayer and petition.

Lent 2023 What a wonderful start to Lent. The number of people at the Masses on Ash Wednesday was very impressive, as was the great turnout for Stations of the Cross on Thursday evening. Well done and thank you. Try your best to attend one extra Mass and/or Stations of the Cross and/or Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament each week during Lent.

Walk with Me prayer books are available in the porches of both churches. Wonderful resource for Lent- only £1.

Lent talks Discover Jesus Christ in the Servant Songs of Isaiah with four online talks from the Archdiocese. They are hosted by Fr Jamie McMorris of St Margaret's, Davidson's Mains, and Sr Anna Marie McGuan RSM and take place at 7:30pm on Wednesday 1, 8, 15, 22 March. Register at bit.ly/lenttalks2023

Rite of Election- heartfelt congratulations to Joan Coll, Steven Allan, Kirsty Lilley, Susan Allison, Des Bissett, Laura Marshall, and Ossian Macrae who today undergo the Rite of Election in the Cathedral with His Grace. Together with the other Catechumens and Candidates from across the Archdiocese they experience in this rite a concrete acknowledgment that God is choosing them as people who are able to be disciples of Christ. We give God thanks for their witness and help them with our prayers!

Sacramental Meetings Three meetings for primary school children took place over the past few weeks, and a big thank you to all the parents and grandparents who attended in great numbers. Also thanks to the staff from our schools and not forgetting our very committed

catechists. If any parent did not manage to attend the meetings, can they please email the parish office.

Filled rolls last Sunday morning was very well supported at both Masses. Thank you to all those who popped into the halls and special thanks to those who organised, etc. All proceeds are for the S1 pupils from St Mungo's going as helpers to Lourdes in July 2023.

Welcome to Oliver George Stewart and Alexis Rose Louise Billinge who were baptised last weekend and congratulations to their parents.

World Day of prayer this year will be held in St Francis Xavier's on Friday 3 March at 2:00pm with tea in hall afterwards. Everyone most welcome.

Stuff Your Face Evening last Saturday was a great success. It was wonderful to see both halls at St Francis Xavier's full of families and individuals from throughout the parish. Thank you to all those who supported the evening and a huge thank you to the team of helpers who organised the event. It is greatly appreciated. Well done and thank you!

UCM Our next meeting is on Wednesday 1 March at 2pm in St Marthas hall. New members very welcome, Please note change of time for this meeting.

School Transport Falkirk Council is proposing to change its Children's Services Transport policy. It would mean a reduction in the entitlement of children and young people to free school transport. This will affect Catholic families the most, as our children tend to travel further distances to get to school. Please ensure your voice is heard by taking

part in the online consultation by 15 March at bit.ly/falkirkconsultation Please also consider attending the final public consultation meeting to express your concerns to councillors in person: Denny High School, Tuesday 7 March 2023 at 6:30pm. Sample letters that you can send to local councillor and details of their contact address are available in the porches of both churches and also on our Facebook and website

Infant Baptism- Baptism Preparation courses for infant Baptism will take place tomorrow at 7pm in St Francis Xavier's Church hall. All enquiries about infant Baptism should be emailed to

baptism.stfrancisfalkirk@staned.org.uk

Godparents: it is always useful to remind ourselves of what the Church stipulates regarding godparents for baptisms: 1. You need only one godparent who must be a practising Catholic over the age of sixteen years; 2. If you have two godparents, one must be a man and one must be a woman; 3 You may have a maximum of two godparents; 4. A baptised non-Catholic may stand as a Christian witness to the baptism. The rules for godparents are stipulated in Canon Law (cf. can. 873)

Laudato Si See Facebook for this week's message.

Dates for Choir practices: 9th March, 30th March at 1.30pm. New members most welcome.

Meet, Eat and Heat at St Francis Xavier's (new name for Warm Places) has been meeting in St. Francis Xavier's hall for the past five weeks.

The first week one person came, last Thursday about fifty people came along and enjoyed lovely and enjoyable food, a warm and most importantly welcoming and friendly company. The success speaks for itself! A big thank you to all those who have volunteered to make this possible. It is our intention to offer this service until Holy week. We would like to appeal for more volunteers. If you can help in any way, please contact one of the clergy or contact the parish office.

Dates for the Diary. Find below dates for your diary of events etc up until June.

Rite of Election	26 Feb
First Confession St Francis Xavier's School	20 March
First Confession: St Andrew's School	21 March
First Confession: Other Schools	25 March
Chrim Mass	4 April
Easter Vigil & Cheese and Wine	8 April
First Holy Communion	13 May
Crowning of Our Lady	14 May
First Holy Communion Parties	14 May
Confirmation	27 May
Youth Day Out	3 June
Alpha Training Day	10 June
Parish 40 Hours	9-11 June
Archdiocesan Corpus Christi Procession in Falkirk	11 June
Parish Day out	17 June
Parish BBQ	24 June
Blessing of the graves	25 June

The Angelus Prayer

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

R. And she conceived by the power 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...

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.

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech You, O Lord, Your Grace into our hearts; that as the incarnation of Christ Your Son was made known by the message of an angel, so by His passion and cross, we may be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. We ask this through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Anniversaries: Please Pray for Edward Donnelly, Alice Reilly, John Mitchell, John O'Brien, Elizabeth Green, Edward Travers, Elizabeth Hainey, Mahrí (McFeat) McDonald, Patrick O'Donnell, John Marshall, John Farrell, John Murray, James McFadden, Alan Watson, John McKenna, Bernard Sweeney, Mary McAllister, Kathleen Smith, James Gaerty, Irene Burke, Charles McCue, Joseph Traynor, Assunta Biagiotti, John Campbell, James Bell, Jack Gordon, 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, David H Merchant. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace, Amen

Funerals

Name	Reception	Requiem Mass/Service	Church
Barbara MacLennan R.I.P.	Tuesday 28 th February 6:00pm	Wednesday 1 st March 10:00am	St Francis Xavier's

