



The Parish of St Francis Xavier's

St Francis Xavier's & St Anthony's Churches

Sunday 22nd October 2023 29th Sunday of the Year- Mission Sunday

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

Telephone: 01324 623567, Hall bookings: hallstfrancis.stfrancisfalkirk@staned.org.uk

Clergy: Fr Daniel P. Doherty, Fr Martin J. Eckersley, Fr Matthew Ngiye, Deacon Kenneth Mununga



Mass Times at St Francis Xavier's

Monday	10:00am Mass 6:00pm October Devotions
Tuesday	10:00am Mass
Wednesday	10:00am Mass
Thursday	10:00am Mass 7:00pm Novena Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	10:00am Mass 5-6pm Exposition and Prayers
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

Monday 9:00-10:00am

Wednesday 9:00-10:00am

Rosary after 10am Mass Monday-Thursday, and Saturday.

Divine Mercy after 10 am Mass, Friday.

Morning Prayer 9:30am Monday-Saturday

Confessions

Thursday – 7:20-7:50pm

Saturday – 10:30-11:45am and 5:45-6:15pm

Mass Times at St Anthony's

Monday 9:30am

Tuesday 9:30am

Sunday 11:00am Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday 8:30am

Rosary Monday 9am

Saints of the Week and Feast Days

Monday – St John of Capistrano

Tuesday- St Anthony Mary Claret

Saturday -St Simon and St Jude

Thank you for your generosity the offertory collection last Sunday was £1940.

Enrolment Ceremonies for children in preparing for the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation were due to take place this weekend but has been moved to next weekend 28/29 October. Parents and children are welcome at any Sunday Masses including the Vigil.

Food Donations that we gratefully receive every week go to the Parish Pantry. In the course of a week, we help at least four to five families.

Congratulations to David Greechan and Katie Walker McDonald who were married in St Francis Xavier's last Saturday. We wish them a very long and blessed married life.

Bereavement Group meet tomorrow, Monday 23rd at 10:45am in St Francis Xavier's Sacristy.

Parish Fabric Group meet at 7pm in St Francis Xavier's house tomorrow, Monday 23rd.

Social/Hall Committee meeting will take place in St Francis Xavier's hall on Monday 30th October from 7-8pm to discuss the St Andrew's and Hogmanay Socials. Please come along if you would like to help in any way.

St Andrew's Social will take place in St Francis Xavier's hall on Saturday 25th November. More details to follow next week.

October Devotions will take place every Monday at 6pm in St Francis Xavier's during the month of October. This will provide a wonderful opportunity for everyone to offer up an extra thirty minutes once a week during October to spend time in the presence of Jesus on the altar. We also during this time pray the rosary asking the intercession of Our Blessed Lady for our many own personal, family and parish needs. Please consider giving your time and join us for 30 minutes one or possibly every Monday evening during October. Thank you!

Treat Yourself to a breakfast roll this Sunday 22nd after the 10am Mass in St Francis Xavier's hall. All proceeds are for the parish Youth for Lourdes Fund- July 2024.

Hogmanay Supper and entertainment Last year's celebration was a great success and we have received many requests to repeat. To gauge interest and numbers, could you please put your name on the sheets in church porches if you would like to come. The evening starts at 7pm until the early hours! BYOB!

Schools reopen tomorrow, Monday 23rd. We hope all the staff and pupils had a restful break, enjoyed some dry weather and can look forward to an enjoyable and fruitful winter term.

Parish website The revamp of the parish Facebook has been very well received. Many thanks to those who contribute and manage it, not forgetting those who "like it"! We are now in the early stages of revamping the parish website. We need more help, so far, we have one very able volunteer. We are looking for two more, so it is a team effort and to lighten the workload. Can you possibly help in any small way, please speak with Fr Daniel or email parish address.

November- Month we pray for the dead. November lists are available in the church porches. Please write the names of your family members who have died over the years. Please place the completed list in the boxes in the porches. At every Mass during November, we will say a special prayer for all those listed. Please note this is not the same as having an actual Mass offered up for the soul of your loved one. Mass intention envelopes can be collected from the porches.

Friends Of Falkirk Settlers I would like to invite you to join us for our upcoming AGM, which will take place on Wednesday 25th October at 7.30pm, in Christ Church Falkirk. We will be hearing from Hassan Sahal, our newest volunteer recruit, who has first-hand experience of the asylum system and is now helping us in our work supporting people who have been forced to leave their homelands. There will also be very good (international!) refreshments. *Jessica Paterson, Chair of FOSS*

Union of Catholic Mothers Sunday 29th October-2.00 pm Afternoon Tea and Fashion Show. Doors open at 1:30 pm. Bring your own bottle! Tickets only! Sold out! Advent Talk with Fr Daniel, 1st November- 1:30pm in the church hall.

Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace At his General Audience on Wednesday, the Holy Father announced this Friday 27 October as a day of prayer and fasting for peace in the Middle East and across the world. An hour of prayer will be held in St Peter's Basilica at 6pm (5pm UK) that day and he encourages parishes everywhere to organise similar initiatives. As a parish we will join the Holy Father by having Exposition of the Blessed sacrament and prayers from 5 to 6pm at St Francis Xavier's.

SPRED group is a special place where parishioners who have a learning disability are supported to grow in faith and take part in the life of their parish. A SPRED group is a place of joy where people with and without disabilities share faith and friendship. There are SPRED groups in parishes throughout the Archdiocese. Every group needs people to be a friend to someone who has a learning disability. Being part of SPRED is a special ministry in our parishes. Those who offer to help are delighted to find how much they receive in return. Could YOU help to welcome those who need some extra help to be part of their parish? A warm SPRED welcome awaits you. Contact Jennifer Lightfoot for details 07946 538958

ALPHA/RCIA It's not too late to get involved. Join us on Tuesdays for a light bite, friendship, and faith discovery. The course will resume this Tuesday the 24th October. For more information or to sign up please contact the Parish office.

ALPHA/RCIA Helpers wanted. A big part of our new ALPHA/RCIA course is about making our enquiries feel welcomed and at home in our Parish. If you would like to volunteer your time and find out how you can help make our Parish feel even more like a home, please email the parish office with the subject 'ALPHA/RCIA helper'.

Dates for the Sunday 10am Mass choir practices: Thursday afternoon at 1pm-9th, 30th November 7th, 21st December. New members most welcome.

Infant Baptism All enquiries about infant Baptism should be emailed to baptism.stfrancisfalkirk@staned.org.uk

In your prayers, please continue to remember all our sick and housebound, not forgetting carers and family members who look after them.

Laudato Si See Facebook for this week's message.

Stop the Assisted Dying Bill Legalising assisted suicide is dangerous because it attacks human dignity. Implicit in assisted suicide is that an individual, in certain circumstances, can lose their value and worth. Make your voice heard by contacting your MSP on your own or as part of a group with family, friends, or in your local parish. All the information you need can be found here: <https://rcpolitics.org/assistedsuicide/>.

Glasgow Torchlight Procession Please join the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children in Glasgow on Thu 26th October for the annual torchlight

procession. This commemorates 56 years since the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act, which has led to the loss of more than 10 million lives here in the UK. This is a solemn and prayerful event to pray for an end to abortion. The Rosary begins in George Square at 6.30pm; the procession to St Andrew's Cathedral begins at 7pm; Holy Mass begins at 7.30pm. The celebrant will be Fr Jonathan Whitworth.

Today is World Mission Sunday. There will be special collection for Missio. **Gift Aid-** there is a declaration and free post envelope if you wish to enable to claim Gift Aid. **Do not put the money inside the envelope** but just state how much you have given. Take home a copy of the Mission Month magazine and read about the projects Missio Scotland is supporting in Sri Lanka, such as: nourishing children physically and educationally, providing women who have suffered greatly in their lives with the chance to earn a livelihood as well as literally and spiritually building the Church there. Mission Month and World Mission Sunday offer us the chance to support missionaries and the Church in proclaiming the Gospel throughout the world, particularly where the Church is young or poor, and remind us of the revitalizing mission that is the heart of our Faith. Your donations and prayers make a vital difference to the Church's working mission countries and are an effective way by which you can support the universal Church.

Vocations retreat Thinking about a vocation to the religious life? Join other young women at a retreat in Edinburgh led by Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO, the Archdiocesan Director for Religious Vocations. It takes place from 3-5 November 2023 at St Columba's, 9 Upper Gray Street, EH9 1SN. Email religiousvocations@staned.org.uk

Vocations Mass The next Mass to pray for Vocations to the priesthood and religious life in the Archdiocese is on Tuesday 31 October at 7pm at St Margaret's, Drip Road, Raploch, Stirling, FK9 4UA.

Synod Prayer Archbishop Cushley encourages us to pray for the success of the Synod of Bishops, which is taking place in Rome this month: We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance

lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the *communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.*

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: Brian W. Marshall, Phyllis Bell, Isabella Mitchell, James Aitken, Denis Pius Gallagher, Sarah Little, Frank Carr, Patrick Geoghegan, John Young, Ann Van Hulssen, Laurence O'Neill, Rose Clarke, Theresa McQuade, May Lynda, Isabella Doherty, Michael McCrorie, Nicandro Caramando, Bridget Martin, John Hughes Forsyth, The Hoffman Family, Harriett (Rita) Hampshire Quinn, Bridget Martin, Mary Byrne, Andrew Harley, Christina Marshall, Mary Duncan, V. Rev. Rodger Canon Gallacher, Bernard McGurk, Sandy Carr, John Dick, Hugh McFeat, James Gormley, Fr Anthony Debkowski, Andrew Bannan, John Connor, Gordon Rutherford, Ann Allison. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace, Amen.

Paul H. O'Connor Funeralcare 13b High Street, Bonnybridge, FK4 1BX, have very kindly sponsored the Newsletter for the month of October.



