



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

Sunday 28th January 2024 4th Sunday of the Year B

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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	
Sunday	10:00am Mass 12:00pm Mass 1:30pm Polish Mass 7:00pm Mass
Monday	10:00am Mass
Tuesday	10:00am Mass
Wednesday	10:00am Mass
Thursday	10:00am Mass 7:00pm Novena & Expo
Friday	10:00am Mass 6:00pm Padre Pio
Saturday	10:00am Mass 6:30pm Vigil Mass
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Monday and Wednesday 9:00-9:55am	
Rosary after 10am Mass Monday-Thursday, and Saturday. Divine Mercy after 10am Mass, Friday. Morning Prayer 9:30am Monday-Saturday	
Confessions Thursday 7:15-7:40pm Saturday 10:30-11:15am and 5:45-6:15pm	
Mass Times at St Anthony's	
Sunday	11:00am Mass
Monday	9:30am Mass
Tuesday	9:30am Mass
Thursday	9:30am Mass
Saturday	9:30am Mass
Rosary	Monday: 9:00am
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Tuesday 8:30am – 9:20am	
Saints of the Week and Feast Days Wednesday – St John Bosco – memorial Friday – The Presentation of the Lord - feast Saturday – Our Lady	

the booking form and return your deposit to the parish house at your earliest convenience.

Exploring the Mass Deacon Kenneth continues his reflections on the Mass. At the I Confess & Mea Culpa: Striking of the breast comes into Christianity from the narrative of the Pharisee and the tax collector: striking his breast. This is a public collective prayer in which all of us, priest and the faithful, acknowledge our sinfulness, not just privately, but in the face of the whole Church, of all her saintly witnesses, and even in the face of the very powers of heaven. By this gesture, we point not at someone else but at ourselves as the guilty party. This is a meaningful gesture of prayer that we need to do: to see and acknowledge our guilt and so also to beg for forgiveness. By this gesture, we turn, so to speak, to ourselves, to our own front door, and thus we are able rightly to ask forgiveness of God, the saints, and the people gathered around us, whom we have wronged. This is a prayer made in humility for pardon before the all merciful God, before whose gaze nothing lies hidden. Then give Gloria to God.

· Liturgy of the Word: Important to listen rather than read! We will reflect on this next week.

Warm Places has restarted. Lunch will be available every Thursday from 12 to 2pm in St Francis Xavier's Hall. Homemade soup, toasties, biscuits and hot drinks will be served, along with great company!

Union of Catholic Mothers Wednesday 31st January. UCM members meet at 1.30pm in St Martha's Hall. At 2pm we will have representatives of Woman's Aid to give a talk on their work. All welcome!

Vigil Mass time change Over the past twelve months, many people have requested an early Vigil Mass time for various reasons. This was discussed at

our Pastoral Council meeting late last year. It was agreed that we would give everyone the opportunity to cast a vote on two Mass choices – 5pm or 6:30pm. If you would like to make a choice, please collect a voting slip (next to the ballot boxes in both porches). Closing date for casting a vote is Sunday 28th January. The most popular Mass time will be effective from the 1st Sunday of Lent (Saturday 17th February).

RCIC: Parents' Sacramental Meetings Many thanks to all the parents who attended these meetings. Also, a huge thanks to the parish catechists for their presence and help, it is greatly appreciated!

The Rite of the Presentation of the Creed, for children preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation, takes place at the end of all Masses **this weekend.**

Ash Wednesday falls on the 14th February this year. Mass times will be available soon.

Pastoral Council A list of the members is displayed in both church porches along with the minutes of our first meeting.

Senior Youth Group meet every Thursday during the school terms from 7 to 8:30pm in St Francis Xavier's hall. This is open to any young people who are at high school.

Jubilee 2025 The Holy Father has announced that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee. The theme is *Pilgrims of Hope*. For more information, visit the official website <https://www.giubileo-2025.it/en>. A Facebook page has been set up that will highlight resources and events in Scotland - search 'Holy Year Scotland 2025'. To help us prepare, the Holy Father has established 2024 as a Year of Prayer dedicated "to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer, prayer in personal life, in the life of the Church,

Thank you for your generosity, the offertory cash collection last Sunday was £1900.70.

Xaverian Missionaries Thank you for your generosity. A total of £1600.48 was donated.

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

RCIA takes place on Tuesday in St Francis Xavier's sacristy from 7pm.

Parish trip to York 30th September to 4th October. What an excellent response so far for this trip! If you would like to sign up, please complete

prayer in the world". Resources will be available soon.

Valentine's Retreat The Archdiocesan Valentine's Retreat for married and engaged couples takes place at St Kentigern's Church, Parkgrove Avenue, Barnton, Edinburgh, EH4 7QR on Saturday 10 February 2024, 2-5pm. It is an ideal way for couples to spend time together in quiet reflection and prayer, in thanksgiving to God for each other and all the positive things that spring from your relationship. Creche available for children of primary school age and older. Register at <https://bit.ly/valretreat>

Stations of the Cross Join people across the Archdiocese each Monday throughout Lent for our annual Stations of the Cross. It takes place on Zoom at 7:45pm, beginning on 19 February, and lasts around 30 minutes. We will be praying for unborn children, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register at bit.ly/lentstations

New Dawn Day New Dawn in Scotland hosts a conference and parish healing service at Ss John Cantius & Nicholas Parish, West Main Street, Broxburn, EH52 5RJ on Saturday 3 February from 9:30am. Speakers are Fr Frankie Mulgrew, priest from the Diocese of Salford (and a former comedian), and Terry Quinn, an International Catholic Evangelist and bible scholar. Visit <https://newdawninScotland.com/>

Free places at SPUC Youth conference! SPUC's Youth Conference is a weekend which brings together 200 like-minded young pro-lifers to learn effective strategies and fuel your passion for defending the most vulnerable among us – unborn children and their mothers. The Conference runs 23-25 February at Yarnfield Park Training Centre in Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 0NL. The Archdiocese has five fully funded places available, including

travel. To apply: <https://bit.ly/youthconference24> or contact the Pro-Life Office: prolife@staned.org.uk

World Day of the Sick – 11 February The World Day of the Sick was introduced by St Pope John Paul II to help us remember to pray for all those who are ill and for their caregivers. He chose this day because it coincides with the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, Lourdes being a place of pilgrimage renowned for healing. Please pray for the sick of our parish and the family members, friends and professionals who help them.

Lourdes Mass The February Mass in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes takes place at 3pm on Sunday 4 February at St John the Baptist Church, 37 St Ninian's Road, Corstorphine, Edinburgh EH12 8AL. The Mass is organised by the Edinburgh Lourdes Pilgrimage team. Refreshments in hall afterwards. All welcome.

Remembering Service A service for those who have suffered the loss of a child, from the beginning of pregnancy onwards, together with those who wish to come in love and support, to have time in quiet surroundings to fully recognise their loss and help with healing. Sunday 3 March, 5:00pm at St John the Baptist RC Church, Edinburgh. Ecumenical and open to all.

Explore God's will Thinking about a vocation to the religious life? Join other young Catholic women to chat and explore God's will in monthly get-togethers in Edinburgh. Led by Sr Mirjam Hugens FSO, the first one takes place on Sunday 28 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 same time/venue: 25 Feb, 17

Mar, 21 Apr, 12 May and 22 June. To register email: religiousvocations@staned.org.uk

Laudato Si weekly message is available on the parish Facebook page.

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:

Armando Notarangelo, Rose Connolly, Anna Burt, Alex Davie, Charles McDermott, Kathleen Henderson, Joseph Scanlon, Mary Cameron, Margaret Watson, Michael McGuire, Sylvester Krawczyk, Mary McCallum, Nan Hilton, Kerr Walker, John Quinn, William Doherty, Catherine Maguire, Aileen Lynagh, Claude McAdam Ross, Susan O'Neill, Jean Thomson, Patrick Ford, Bridget Tweedie, John Karwowski, Bill Young, Henry O'Hara, Pat Lynn, Peggy Campbell, Rita Eddie Coyle, Bernard Kerrigan, William O'Hagan, Jack O'Donnell, Eileen Rock, Thomas Garner, Theresa Flesher, Hugh Whoriskey, Dora Butler, Gerald Murphy, Hugh O'Connor, Molly McFadden, Kathleen Smith and Martin Dolan.

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 January.



Name	Funeral Reception	Funeral Service	Church
Thomas Cassidy	Sunday 28 th January at 6pm	Monday 29 th January at 10am	St Francis Xavier's
Eileen Higgins	Wednesday 31 st January at 6pm	Thursday 1 st February at 9:30am	St Anthony's
Neil Mochan	Sunday 4 th February at 6pm	Monday 5 th February at 10am	St Francis Xavier's
Helen Sobiech	Monday 5 th February at 5pm	Tuesday 6 th February at 10am	St Francis Xavier's
Patricia Crossley		Monday 12 th February at 12:15pm	Falkirk Crematorium

