



The Parish of St Francis Xavier's  
St Francis Xavier's & St Anthony's Churches  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter



Email: office.stfrancisfalkirk@staned.org.uk Website: [www.falkirkcatholics.org](http://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 St Francis Xavier's	
Monday	10:00am Mass
Tuesday	10:00am Mass
Wednesday	10:00am Mass
Thursday	10:00am Mass 7:00pm Novena
Friday	10:00am Mass
Saturday	10:00am Mass 5:00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	10:00am Mass 12:00pm Mass 1:30pm Polish Mass 7:00pm Mass
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Mon & Wed	9:00-9:45am
Thursday	7:20 - 7:40pm
Rosary	
Mon-Thu after 10am Mass	
Confessions	
Thursday: 7:20-7:40pm	
Sat: 10:30-11:15am, 4:15-4:45pm	
Divine Mercy	
Friday after 10am Mass	
Mass Times St Anthony's	
Mon, Tues, Thu & Fri	9:30am Mass
Sunday	11:00am Mass
Rosary	
Monday	9:00am
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Tuesday	8:30-9:20am
Feast Days	
Tue: St George, Martyr/St Adalbert of Prague, Bishop, Martyr	
Wed: St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest, Martyr	
Thu: St Mark, Evangelist	
Sat: Our Lady	

**Congratulations** to all our children who were Confirmed this weekend in St Francis Xavier's Church by Archbishop Cushley. Thank you to the catechists, teachers and parents who prepared them for this beautiful Sacrament.

**Thank you** to the team of helpers who prepared, served and cleaned up for the reception following the Confirmation services.

**Welcome** to Michelle Nwaze, Nnanna Nwaze, Precious Nwaze and Luka David Stojanovic who were baptised last weekend in St Francis Xavier's Church. Congratulations to their parents and extended family.

**RCIA** continues this Tuesday at 7pm in St Francis Xavier's sacristy.

**Going to Confessions** Sometimes we need a little assistance to encourage and help us to celebrate this Sacrament most effectively, especially if we have not been for some time. You will find a handout with a guide and an Examination of Conscience in the porch of both churches.

**Duties** The Church encourages us to experience the joy of the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) during the Easter season, as part of our Easter duties. Going once a year is the bare minimum that the Church asks in order to receive the Lord in Holy Communion during Eastertide in a state of grace.

**Afternoon of Music** will be held in St Francis Xavier's hall this Wednesday, 24 April, 2-4pm. Entertainment by Maggie Dee, dance time, tea, cakes, etc. Cost £5. Contact Moira Kennedy in St Francis Xavier's church hall on Sundays before and after the 10 and 12noon Masses or contact the chapel house.

**Dates for the Diary** – events until June.

First Holy Communion	18 May
Crowning of Our Lady	19 May
First Holy Communion Parties	19 May
Confirmation	This weekend
Alpha Training Day	8 June
Parish 40 Hours	31 May – 2 June
Archdiocesan Corpus Christi Procession in Falkirk June	2
Parish Day out	15 June
Blessing of the graves	9 June

**First Holy Communion Workshop**

The workshop, for children preparing for First Holy Communion in May, will take place **this Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> April**, in St Francis Xavier's Church Hall. Registration starts at 10:30am - the workshop will finish by 1pm.

**Rite of Presentation of the Our Father**, for children preparing for First Holy Communion in May, will take place at all Sunday Masses, including the Saturday night Vigil, **next weekend**.

**Update on Warm Places.** This initiative has been ongoing since early January and it has been very well supported by people from the area including our own parishioners. A huge thank you to the two teams of ten each who offer the hospitality every Thursday from 12-2pm. It was due to stop this Thursday, but the volunteers would like to continue until at least the end of May. Please pass the word that warm places will continue every Thursday until the end of May.

**Your generosity is much appreciated.** Last week's offertory cash collection was £2073.64.

**Many thanks** to everyone who collected their Gift Aid envelopes and to those who have signed up for Gift Aid. Envelopes are still in both porches, for anyone who has not yet collected them. If you would like to sign up for Gift Aid (by envelope or standing order) please collect the documents from the church porches.

**Special Collection.** This weekend, there will be a special collection to support our students in Rome who are preparing to be future priests for our Archdiocese.

**Tour of St Francis Xavier's Church** The children preparing for the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion have participated in a *Tour of the Church*. Many families have commented on how insightful and enjoyable the tour was. Please collect a copy of the tour leaflet (in St Francis porch), if you would like one.

**St Andrew's PTA Quiz Night:** Friday 26 April in the School hall, 6.30pm - 10pm. BYOB & snacks! Raffles/tombola on the night. £5 - individual adult/child ticket, £20 - family ticket(max 2 adults & unlimited children) Teams of max 6 adults - children don't count towards team numbers. email:pta.standrews@outlook.com - include your name and number of tickets. Payment by cash or online- details provided via email. Please join us for a fun filled evening and support our school community to raise funds for our new library.

**Deeply Devoted** Explore the rich history of Catholic Devotions at a special event on **Saturday 27 April** 11:00am-3:00pm at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB. *Deeply Devoted* features inspiring talks and a free light lunch. Details and registration at <https://bit.ly/deeplydevoted>

**Save the date** An Archdiocesan Lourdes Day takes place at Carfin Grotto on Sunday 18 August. The day will include Holy Mass celebrated by Archbishop Cushley. Details to follow soon.

**Annual General Meeting of St Francis Xavier's & St Mary's Credit Union Ltd** will be held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm in St Francis Xavier's Church Hall. This is an important moment in the history of our credit union and it would be appreciated if as many members as possible were able to attend.

**World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Sunday 21 April.** Please pray for those discerning a vocation to the priesthood and religious life, especially from our parish. If you feel called to the priesthood, contact any of the clergy or Fr Garden, Vocations Director, on 0131 663 4286. For enquiries about the religious life contact Sr Mirjam on 0131 623 8902. [Vocations - Archdiocese of Edinburgh \(archedinburgh.org\)](http://Vocations - Archdiocese of Edinburgh (archedinburgh.org))

**Mass to pray for vocations** in our Archdiocese - Monday 22 April, Our Lady & St Andrew, 63 Stirling Street, Galashiels, TD1 1Bs at 6:00pm.

**MA Theology** SAAS funding is available from April for all Scottish students taking the MA in Applied Catholic Theology 2024/25. The course is offered by St Mary's University in partnership with the Archdiocese at the Gillis Centre in Edinburgh. Register [www.stmarys.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/applied-catholic-theology](http://www.stmarys.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/applied-catholic-theology). A webinar will be hosted by the Archdiocese on 29 May (6-7pm) for prospective students.

**James McMillan event** Join Sir James MacMillan, one of the world's most successful living composers and Scotland's best known Catholic musician, for a free talk at *St Mary's Cathedral*, Edinburgh, on **Tuesday 23 April** at 7:30pm. Sir James will explore how chant, as the music of Faith, has influenced the history of music. Register at <https://bit.ly/StMarysM>

**Pro-Life Chain, Edinburgh** SPUC's Pro-Life Chain will be the main event of Edinburgh's Festival of Life on **Saturday 27 April** at 11:00am on Lothian Road. It will be preceded by the Rosary at 10:00am at Sacred Heart Church on Lauriston Street.

**Mass for Married & Engaged couples** The annual Mass for Married and Engaged Couples is at 7:15pm on Wednesday 29 May 2024 at St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh. Come and celebrate the gift of marriage, renew your commitment and receive God's blessing upon your love. Requests for special invitations for couples celebrating significant anniversaries can be made at [vemarriage@staned.org.uk](mailto:vemarriage@staned.org.uk) or by calling [0131 334 1693](tel:01313341693).

**Synod** The Archdiocesan Synodal Team invites you to *Spiritual Conversation*, an event at Ss John Cantius & Nicholas in Broxburn, on Saturday 4 May at 10:30am. Registration and details at <https://bit.ly/archsynod>

**Youth for Lourdes Race Night:** April 27<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, St Francis Xavier's Church Hall. Join us for a night of suspense and excitement as Royal Ascot meets Falkirk with a night at the Races. Back your horse (see the A3 race sheets in the Porch - £2 a horse) and join us to see if your bet wins! Feel free to bring your own bottle and bring your friends – only £3 entry. See you there!

**Assisted Pilgrims for Lourdes** Do you know someone who is ill or infirm and would enjoy the opportunity to experience a life-changing trip to Lourdes? The Archdiocese is seeking *Assisted Pilgrims* to join them on the pilgrimage in July. They will receive 24hr support from the brilliant doctors, nurses and volunteers in the Medical/Helper Team and stay in specially equipped accommodation. It will be an unforgettable week with a full spiritual and social programme. Please contact Bernadette on [0131 441 1939](tel:01314411939) or visit [www.edinburgh-lourdes.com/lourdes24](http://www.edinburgh-lourdes.com/lourdes24)

**Lourdes Pilgrimage** Archdiocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 7<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> July: By air from Edinburgh. Prices start at £919. Bookings can now be made directly online or contact Tangney Tours on 01732 886666 or <http://www.tangneytours.com/Edinburgh>

**Anniversaries:** Victor Fernandes Delrio, Peter Swords, Beth Nelson, Robert Gorman, Jessie Doherty, Catherine MacFarlane, John Geoghegan, Agnes Thompson, James Lyons, Christine Marshall, Martha Hendrea, David Corrigan, Gino Gonella, James McLeish, Cathie O'Donnell, Jean Gillespie, Halley Smith, C. Minoki, Sarah Dooner, Daniel Campbell, Daniel Kane, Margaret Lynski, William Smith, Arthur Brannan, Giovanni Batista Caramando, John Gallagher, Richard Hume Ironside, Helen Stremiau, Ian Downie, Tim Nolan, Catherine Henery, Janis Taylor, Bobby Kay, Rosemary Docherty, Andrew Thomson, Kevin F. Jordan, Ian Hendry, Mary Marvidass, Sarah Attracta Sudiskas, Isa Forsyth, Sarah Hughes, David March, Dan Ford and Angus McSween.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen*

**Paul H. O'Connor Funeral Care** 13b High Street, Bonnybridge, FK4 1BX, has very kindly sponsored the newsletter.

**'May the angels lead them into paradise!'**

Name	Reception	Requiem Mass	Church
Janina Kwiatkowska		Thu 25 <sup>th</sup> April at 10am	St Francis Xavier's
Charles McGinley	Thu 25 <sup>th</sup> April at 6pm	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April at 10am	St Francis Xavier's
Andrew Morrison		Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May at 10am	St Francis Xavier's