Weekly Mass Schedule Due to the Corona Virus, all public worship is suspended until further notice.

Please pray and worship with us online. This is a vital way for us to stay in and even build community. We would urge those comfortable with technology to reach out to family and neighbours and to show them how to connect with the community in this way.

We live stream the Mass daily at 10am, on www.falkirkcatholics.org and on our Face Book page, Falkirk Catholics.

We encourage you to pray the Rosary, including following online with us on Monday evenings at 6pm on Facebook Live—Falkirk Catholics

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will continue, and will be streamed after the Friday Mass at approximately ten thirty on the parish website and on Face Book.

Confessions are available on request. We ask you to carefully consider the risks to both yourself and the priest.

Act of Spiritual Communion:

Please be aware you can pray this prayer in the absence of receiving the Eucharist:

"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart ... I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You." The Parish of

St Francis Xavier's, Falkirk The Church of St Anthony, Rumford

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, 5th of April 2020, Year A
"Blessings on Him who comes in the name of the Lord!"



Procession: Matthew 21:1-11; First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7 Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-1; Gospel: Matthew 26:14—27:66. Today we hear the story of victory, the triumph of love over hate, light over darkness. That victory is woven throughout our readings—in each way Jesus responds to what is being done to him. He transforms every act of violence and degradation with love and forgiveness. It is hard to meditate on His suffering, perhaps more painful than ever as we experience different sufferings in isolation. So this Holy Week lets us enter the suffering of our beloved Christ with deepened understanding, and take strength from His example of endurance in love. We pray that when the pandemic is over that good will triumph over evil, light over dark. We pray we will be obedient to whatever God calls us in the rebuilding phase. Christ shows it's not suffering that redeems us, but love. Jesus made His suffering holy, and calls us to do the same. May we show up in the days ahead in great love.

PARISH CONTACTS

Very Rev. Jamie Boyle V.E. (Parish Priest)
Rev. William McQuillan (Assistant Priest)
Rev. Kenneth Anyanyeya Atia
Deacon Rev. Kenneth Mununga

Anne Buhrmann (Pastoral Assistant)

St Francis Xavier's, Chapel House, Hope Street, Falkirk FK1 5AT Telephone: 01324 623567

St Francis Xavier's is a parish of the Archdiocese of St Andrew & Edinburgh.

A Charity registered in Scotland Number SC008540

Please remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Anne Moscardini, Jane McLellan, Mary Coll, Thomas McNee, Bruce McLeish, Catherine Spink, Patrick Kane, Mathew Karowski, Charles McFeat, John Hastings, Maria McLellan, Thomas McFall, Jane McDonald, James Henery, Margaret Muir, John Imrie, Hugh McAllister, Hugh Quinn, Jessie Walls, Mary Kennedy, Archie Connachie, James McArdle, Margaret McElroy, William Moodie, Frances Bessie, Thomas Patrick Lynach, Charles McGhee, Ellen McGhee, Frances Harvey, Daniel Kane, Pauline Gemmel, Michael Curran, Fr. Sean Quinn, **May they rest in peace.**

Please pray for the recently deceased. Christina Murphy R.I.P. Cathy McBride R.I.P. Fr. Joe Millar R.I.P.

Our reading from Isaiah tells us 'the Lord has given me a disciples tongue' so we can give help to the weary, and that He calls us to listen in obedience to his voice. There is a clear link between the listening of prayer, and our ability to comfort others. Many of us will have noticed that people have many questions about life and meaning and purpose, so we have chances—if we take them, if we have the courage to show up in these moments as people of faith, ready to 'share the reason for our hope'. To help us all with the listening part, because that happens new every day, we are offering an online prayer course, via Zoom. The first course will be kept small, maximum 24, in order for this new way of offering formation to 'bed in'. Sr Kathleen and Juliet McKellaig will, over the course of four Wednesdays, starting the Wednesday of Holy Week, teach on four different ways to encounter God through prayer. The places are offered on a 'first come, first served' basis. Please register on https://us04web.zoom.us/meeting/register/v50lfu-trTwrICPShE8q7LBbrcHtC7iXrg

We really hope this is a strengthening, community and faith building opportunity, which can be repeated if found helpful. God bless, Fr Jamie.

Alternative ways of giving and supporting the work of the parish.

Text-to-give: Text "give" to the following number +44 7723 493474

You will receive a link to register your card details. Once set up, all you need to do is text the amount you wish to donate to the number above. There is an option to set up recurring payments too.

Visit www.falkirkcatholics.org and click the green "Give" button.

There is a small fee to use the above methods.

If you wish to give directly through your bank please use the following account details:

Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh sort code: 83-06-08 Acc no: 10417107

NEWS & EVENTS

Today is **Palm Sunday**! We are all feeling the longing to gather together and wave our palms, and sing our Hosannas. We may be physically distant, but we are spiritually together. Perhaps take some time this week to re-read our scripture about Jesus entering into Jerusalem. Imagine yourself in the scene, watching a 'film in your head' of Jesus proceeding through the crowds, waving their palms. Look at the other faces in the crowd, and 'see' your friends in the community, or that you normally see at Mass. And lift them up to him in prayer.

Live streaming ues. Please tag from the cheery invitation people are considerable faith at this time.

Worship: it's to Try to keep thing whilst worshiping would for Mass, so as a focal point. Further you would in church as normal. Pray the single faith at this time.

Sing the hymns if

Our live stream is wonderful, and we are so grateful for it. But watching the Mass is only the beginning; we still need community, and ways to engage with and support each other. We are encouraging all the existing parish groups to use Zoom to meet weekly. We have created a tutorial to teach people how to access and invite others to zoom meetings online, and it can be seen on our FB page and on our website. connect with us online on www.falkirkcatholics.org and on Face Book on our page Falkirk Catholics. If you're struggling to set up the technology, a kind parishioner has kindly agreed to walk anyone through any tech difficulties (Phone 623567) or ask a family member to help you?

Have you thought of reaching out to younger or older people—a kind of intergeneration ministry? If anyone is interested in setting up a buddy system like that, please contact office@falkirkcatholics.org

Live streaming of the Mass continues. Please tag friends and family with a cheery invitation to take part. Lots of people are considering/reconsidering the faith at this time.

Worship: it's too easy to get distracted. Try to keep things as normal as possible whilst worshiping eg get dressed as you would for Mass, setting up a small 'altar' as a focal point. Pray and worship just as you would in church, rising and kneeling as normal. Pray the responses out loud. Sing the hymns if they are offered.

Kids bulletin is available here: https://thekidsbulletin.com/ We have also posted great resources on FB from 'Catholic Icing' and 'Catholic Toolbox' to help the children learn and tell the Easter Story. We would love to see pictures of their art efforts, Holy Week drama skits etc.

Children's Liturgy is also available on FB and the parish website.

Our reflection and discussion on 'Global Healing', to pray together for our common home has been postponed until we can come together physically.

The priests can respond to emergency calls only. They will endeavour to administer the **Sacrament of the Sick** in danger of death. **Funerals**: attendance is restricted to immediate family until further notice.