The Parish of St Francis Xavier’s

St Francis Xavier’s & St Anthony’s Churches

Sunday 5th November 2023 31st Sunday of the Year

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 at St Francis Xavier’s** |
| Monday 10:00am MassTuesday 10:00am Requiem MassWednesday 10:00am MassThursday 10:00am Mass 7:00pm NovenaFriday 10:00am MassSaturday 10:00am Mass 6:30pm Vigil MassSunday 10:00am Mass 12:00pm Mass 1:30pm Polish Mass 7:00pm Mass |
| **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**Monday 9:00-10:00amWednesday 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 – 7:20-7:50pmSaturday – 10:30-11:45am and 5:45-6:15pm |
| **Mass Times at St Anthony’s** |
| Monday 9:30am MassTuesday 9:30am MassThursday 9:30am MassFriday 9:30am MassSaturday 9:30am MassSunday 11:00am Mass |
| **Rosary** Monday 9am**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament****Tuesday** 8:30-9:30am |
| **Saints of the Week and Feast Days**Wednesday – Blessed John Duns ScotusThursday- Dedication of the Lateran BasilicaFriday- St Leo the GreatSaturday -St Martin of Tours |

**Thank you** for your generosity the offertory collection last Sunday was
£ 2213.

**Welcome to** Jacob James Curtis and Sofia Anna Maria Paoli who were both baptized last weekend and congratulations to their families.

**Bible Alive** for November is available in both porches. Cost £1.

**Advent Calendars** and Christmas Cards are now available in both piety shops.

**Treat Yourself-** this Sunday after the 11am Mass in St. Anthony’s hall to a filled roll. All proceeds to Parish Youth to Lourdes Fund.

**This weekend** we host the White Flower Appeal 2023- The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC). SPUC wants a world where abortion is unthinkable and is raising awareness of the widespread problem of abortion coercion. According to an independent poll, 87% of GPs are concerned that the Government’s “pills by post” scheme leaves women vulnerable to coerced abortion. SPUC is calling on the Prime Minister to condemn this abhorrent tragedy. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers by highlighting this urgent crisis. There will be a door collection as you leave Mass next weekend.

**Prayer for the dead** Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them may they rest in peace. Amen. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

**All Saints and All Souls** it was great to see so many people on these special days to give thanks to God for the great saints of the Church and pray for all our suffering souls in purgatory.

**This weekend** at all Masses we have the Rite of Sign of the Cross for the children preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**Statue of St Michael the Archangel** will visit our parish from 22-29 November. More details to follow.

**Thank you** to all those who came along to the Monday evening devotions last month and the great response to those who came to the Holy Hour at the request of Pope Francis on Friday 27 to pray for peace in the Middle East.

**A word of thanks** for all the November Lists that have been handed in and your generous donations. Prayers for our dead will be especially remembered at every Mass this month.

**The Legion of Mary** is a Catholic lay association. Its objective is the glory of God. This is developed by prayer and active co-operation in the Church’s work of bringing everyone closer to God. The 10 currently active members of the Legion visit St Francis Xavier parishioners in their homes, hospitals, care homes and we also visit schools where we pray the rosary, with the pupils, and talk on the history of the rosary, the Legion and the 1830 St Catherine Laboure “Miraculous Medal” However, the active members would be ineffective without the prayers of our wonderful auxiliary members of the Legion, who provide the back-up prayers from the Church and their homes and we need more auxiliary members to join us and to be our solid prayerful foundation in our apostolate. If you would be interested in being an auxiliary member of the Legion of Mary, or would like more information, please contact the clergy on 623567 or J Smith on 07523892010.

**St Andrew’s Social** will take place in
St Francis Xavier’s hall on Saturday
25th November at 7:30pm. Please put your name on the sheets in church porches if you would like to attend. Tickets will be available after Masses on 12th and 19th November.

**Union of Catholic Mothers** Our afternoon tea and fashion show held on Sunday 29th October raised the fantastic total of £1,229. Our ladies would like to give a big thank you to all who supported us and gave so generously. Father Daniel gave us a lovely talk on Wednesday on Advent, to use this time to prepare spiritually for a holy and happy Christmas.

**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!

**Save the Date!** Christmas Parish Toy Giveaway. We kindly ask for preloved toys and gifts which would be suitable to give a child on Christmas morning. Drop-Off Sat 25th and Sun 26th November,  Pick-Up
Sat 2nd and Sun 3rd December. More details to follow. Thanking you in advance for your great generosity as always.

**Laudato Si Catholic Teaching Opportunity** for young Catholics 18-35 A 5 week online course for young Catholics following the Catholic Social Teaching approach. The course begins this Wednesday 8 November at 6pm. See notice boards, parish Facebook and website for further details.

**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 **TWO** very able volunteers. We are looking for **ONE** 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.

**ALPHA/RCIA** 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

**Laudato Si** See Facebook for this week's message.

**Diploma in Catechetics 2024** Explore the richness and depth of our Catholic faith – all from home – with the Diploma in Catechetics from the Archdiocese of
St Andrews & Edinburgh, led by Sr Miriam Ruth Ryan RSM. Tune in each Thursday at 7:30pm for an expert-led Zoom Webinar (or watch the recording at your convenience), and further enjoy guided readings, regular one-to-one support, and an in-person retreat. The Diploma in Catechetics begins on Thursday 25 January 2024. Concessions
available. Registration and info at [bit.ly/archdiploma2024](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/diploma-in-catechetics-2024-registration-732690987467). Questions? Email srmiriam.ruth@staned.org.uk.

|  |
| --- |
| FUNERALS |
| **Name** | **Reception** | **Service** | **Church** |
| John McGoff R.I.P. |  | Tuesday 7th November 10:00am | St Francis Xavier’s |
| James Garner R.I.P. |  | Thursday 9th November 2:30pm | Camelon Crematorium |
| Paul Gilligan R.I.P. |  | TBC |  |

**Archdiocesan Youth Day!**A day of faith and fun for p4-7s on Saturday
25 November. Join us as we unpack Jesus the King of the Universe and explore how we can prepare to meet our King this Christmas. Games, talks, sweets, confessions, mass and more! 10:30am to 3:30pm at the Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB. Speak to the parish priest to register.

**Job vacancy***[*The Archdiocese of
St Andrews & Edinburgh is seeking to
 appoint an Administrator to provide support to the Chancery and Catechetics departments in the Archdiocesan
offices at The Gillis Centre, Edinburgh.
A full job description is available at [archedinburgh.org/news-events](https://archedinburgh.org/news-events/)
To apply, please send CV and a cover
letter to  recruitment@staned.org.uk by Wednesday 8 November. Interviews scheduled for Friday 17 November

**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/>.

**Primary schools** A reminder for parents of children who start school in August 2024: You will be required to register your child for school shortly (please check with your local school). If you intend for them to go to a Catholic school, they should be baptised before registration takes place. This will ensure they are given a place in cases where spaces are limited, as children who are baptised Catholics will take priority. This is also the case for Catholic secondary schools.

**Lonely Not Alone**- Christmas Dinner is being provided for those who may find themselves alone, possibly after a bereavement or an illness, in Grahamston United Church on Christmas Day. This is very kindly being offered free by one of our local funeral directors Merrilees Family Funeral Directors, Thistle Street, 01324636446. Please contact them directly if you would like to attend on the day.

**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 this through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Anniversaries:** James O’Donnell, Molly Brogan Mcbeth, William Hardie, Elizabeth McEwan, Michael McElroy, Teobald Swierklansv, Janus Flis, Eddie Strain, Mary Ferrie, Bridie Raymond, Francis Harvey, Joe Winters, Mary Smith, Jessie Cannon, James (Jimmy) Doyle, Robina Dougall, James Maartin Gallagher, Margaret McKenna, Melanie Costa, Susan McQuade, Peggy McKenna, Elaine Lynch, Margaret McKenna, Melanie Costa, Susan McQuade, Peggy McKenna, Mary Heanue, Mary Callaghan, Janet Hunter, Helen Stirling, Mary Keenan, Neil O'Donnell, Annie Strathie, Catherine Cameron, Donald Cameron Burt, Helen Crossley, James McGuire, James McGlade Snr., John McGuire, Helen Harvey. 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.