



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

Sunday 4th February 2024 5th Sunday of the Year B

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

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
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

Rosary Monday at 9am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday 8:30-9:20am

Saints of the Week and Feast Days

Monday – St Agatha – memorial

Tuesday – St Paul Miki & companions - memorial

Saturday – St Scholastica - memorial

Thank you for your generosity, the offertory cash collection last Sunday was £2123.66.

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

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 ONL. The Archdiocese has five fully funded places available, including travel.

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.

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!

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

Palms Can you please return your palms and place them in the baskets provided in the porches. These will be burned and used on Ash Wednesday.

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

Our next SPRED meeting with friends is Wednesday 7th February at 7pm in St Francis Xavier's hall.

Burns Evening was a great evening. It was good to see a full hall. Thanks to all who came along and supported the event. Special thanks to Ian Scott and company who provided excellent entertainment. Also, thanks to the hall/social committee and the young ladies who cooked the lovely meal.

A Word of thanks to the parishioners who attended the very informative and enjoyable Day for Musicians and Choirs at Gillis last Saturday.

Vigil Mass Time. Many thanks for the excellent response from parishioners who posted their vote for the preferred Vigil Mass time. The majority of people have voted to have the Mass at 5pm rather than 6:30pm. It is appreciated not everyone will

be happy their choice was not successful. As from the First Sunday of Lent – 18 February - and thereafter, the Saturday Vigil Mass will be at 5pm. Please pass this information onto as many people as possible.

Exploring the Mass Deacon Kenneth continues his reflections on the Mass.

Liturgy of the Word: This is where the table of God's Word is spread. When the Sacred Scriptures are read in the Church, God himself speaks to his people, and Christ, present in his word, proclaims the Gospel. Therefore, the readings from the Word of God are to be listened to reverently by everyone; it is to each one of us that the Lord's Word is directed. Through the readings, we hear the teaching of the Church, first as that teaching has been received from the Apostles or prophetically declared in the inspired books of the Old Testament, and later in the words of Jesus himself in the Gospel. In the Gospel Christ himself comes to teach us by the example of his life and his own words. He comes to teach us what to believe and what to do. This teaching is explained to us in the homily/sermon. The whole purpose of the sermon which follows the Gospel proclamation lies in nothing other than an attempt to develop, to explain, to comment upon the Lord's words, that in those words our minds may find enlightenment and our hearts enrichment. The substance of this teaching is summed up in the Creed, Credo, which we all recite by way of affirming our assent to it, that we believe with all the strength of our being all that the Lord has come to teach us.

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, prayer in the world".

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.

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

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. Creche available for children of primary school age and older. Register at <https://bit.ly/valretreat>

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

Union of Catholic Mothers Wednesday 7th February.

UCM members meet in St Martha's hall at 1.30 pm. New members welcome!

The Walking Group have arranged a Walk of Faith from St. Paul's Church, Milton of Campsie to Schoenstatt Shrine for 19th March 2024. We will meet at St Paul's for Mass at 09.30, have tea in their hall, then walk 3.5 miles to Schoenstatt. Return walk after Stations of the Cross outdoors. If you wish to join us, please bring a packed lunch and suitable clothing depending on the weather. For more information contact Neil at 07718625511 or by text.

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 promise 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:

Hugh Hart Jnr, Anne Marie Ashcroft, Heather Dolan, Isobel Miller, David Cattanach, Neil McCarron, Margaret McGuire, Mary McCabe, William McGhee, Anthony James Duffy, Stanley Rowlings, Charles Byrne, Jack O'Donnell, Rosalyn McBride, Gerard Spink, Thomas Kennedy, James Gerald Spink, William Hart, Jamie Fraser, Billy Divining, Gloria Caramando, Mary McPherson, Barbara McLennon, Mary Fotheringham, Rose Silcock, Agnes Campbell, Joseph McQuade, Andrew Smith, Theresa Murison, John Hylands, Thomas Dodds, Margaret McCafferty, James Gallagher, William Mochan, Bella Welsh, James Scott, Veronica Moir, Thomas McCanley, Hugh O'Neill, May Short, Daniel Gray, Tom Scott, Alison Jane Fletcher, Helen Schofield, Johanna Cleply and Aidan McEvoy

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, have very kindly sponsored the Newsletter for the month of February.



Name	Funeral Reception	Funeral Service	Church
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
Christine McCarol		Friday 9 th February at 12:15pm	Falkirk Crematorium
Patricia Crossley		Monday 12 th February at 12:15pm	Falkirk Crematorium
Katharine Curran	Monday 12 th February at 6pm	Tuesday 13 th February at 10am	St Francis Xavier's
Anne Lynagh	TBC	TBC	St Francis Xavier's

