



The Parish of St Francis Xavier's
St Francis Xavier's & St Anthony's Churches
Sunday 1st December 2024, 1st Sunday of Advent



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Clergy: Administrator of St Francis Xavier's, Monsignor Allan T Chambers
Fr Joshua Kauras, Fr Peter Shankland and Deacon Kenneth Mununga

St Francis Xavier's	Mass Times	Devotions	Holy Day	Mass Intention
Saturday	5pm Vigil			James Lunn (Anniversary)
Sunday	10am, 12 noon, 3pm (Polish) & 7pm			10am – Mary Robertson, RIP 12pm – MaryLavelle, RIP 7pm – People of the Parish
Monday	10am	Exposition 9-9:45am Rosary after Mass		Michael Kiely (Anniversary)
Tuesday	10am	Exposition 9-9:45am Rosary after Mass	St Francis Xavier	Nora Fleming, RIP
Wednesday	10am	Exposition 9-9:45am Rosary after Mass		Elizabeth O'Donnell (Anniversary)
Thursday	Requiem Mass 10am	Exposition 9-9:45am Rosary after Mass Novena at 7pm		Rosemary Young, RIP
Friday	Requiem Mass 10am	Exposition 9-9:45am Padre Pio at 6pm		Robert Cheape, RIP
Saturday	10am	Exposition 9-9:45am	St Ambrose	Kevin Healy, RIP
St Anthony's				
Sunday	11am			Betty Pawlowski (SI)
Monday	9:30am	Rosary at 9am		Jean Harvey
Wednesday	9:30am	Exposition at 9am		Jake Fulke
Friday	9:30am	Exposition at 9am		Josie Barker, RIP

Confession is available in St Francis church on Saturday morning from 10:30am until 11:15am and on Saturday evening from 4:15pm until 4:45pm.

Morning Prayer takes place in the Polish Chapel at 9:30am Monday to Saturday. All are welcome.

Infant Baptism. The next preparation meeting is **Monday, 27th January, at 7pm** in St Francis Church hall. To register your child, please email Deacon Kenneth for further information:
baptism.stfrancisfalkirk@staned.org.uk

Thank you for your generosity. Last week's offertory cash collection was **£2324.04**.

Warm Places continues this Thursday, 5th December, in St Francis hall from 12noon until 2pm.

My dear friends. This weekend, we open the door to a new liturgical year as the holy season of Advent begins. Advent is very different from Lent, although they both share the same liturgical colour, purple. The season of Advent is about hope, peace, joy, love and light. The blessing and lighting of the 1st candle of our beautifully prepared Advent wreath reminds us of Christ our light. As the weeks unfold; the second, third and fourth candles are lit, giving us that perfect symbol of Jesus Christ, the light of the world. For everyone, especially children, it is not only a hopeful period of light but one of no little excitement. Although, tempered, of course, with a little bit of panic from us adults who are not as prepared as we would like to be. Finally, this weekend, and for the future, the readings at Mass will now come from the new English Standard Version (ESV) translation

of the bible and not the Jerusalem Bible translation which we have become accustomed to. May I wish you all a prayerful and peaceful Advent. Fr Allan.

The Parish Advent Penitential Service takes place this Wednesday, 4th December, at 7pm in St Francis Xavier's Church. Please come along if you can. It would be good to see as many people there as possible.

Christmas Parish Toy Giveaway! Just a brief word of appreciation and thanks to the people of the parish for such kindness in donating so many beautiful toys and games for children whose circumstances are challenging and difficult. It is quite a wonderful sight to behold and extremely moving. Thank you also to the volunteers who gave of their time to organise everything. I have

said previously that this is truly a wonderful parish. I am immensely proud of you all and delighted to be the administrator of the parish of St Francis Xavier's. Fr Allan.

Hogmanay Ceilidh tickets cost £10 and are on sale in St Francis Xavier's hall after 10am Mass on Sundays **until 15th December**. The evening includes a meal. If you would like to come along, please add your name to the sign-up sheet, in both church porches, and indicate your food choice by the 15th December. Please contact John McPherson (07526 392 876) for further information. All are most welcome.

SPRED friends' Christmas session, **this Wednesday**, 4th December, at 7pm in St Francis Xavier's hall.

Mary's Meals Join us on Sunday 8th December for coffee, cake and the prize draw in St Anthony's church hall after 11am Mass. There will be stalls with toys, home baking and small Christmas presents for sale. Donations of home baking are welcome. All funds raised will be donated to Mary's Meals.

Carols at Tesco, Sunday 15th December, 2-4pm. Join us as we reach out to the local community this Christmas. Our one rehearsal will be the 8th December at 2pm in St. Anthony's Church. The donations taken will go to Mary's Meals.

Advent Prayers & Christmas Carols; Tuesday 3rd, 10th & 17th Dec at the intersection of King St, Port St & Murray Pl; 6:30pm – 7:45pm. These events in Stirling are to raise awareness of people dealing with

mental health issues. All are welcome to participate.

Children's Christmas Party in St Anthony's church hall on Sunday 22nd December between 12-2pm. All primary school children from St. Anthony's are invited. The children must be happy to stay without parents. Liturgy leaders will be in the foyer after Mass over the next 2 weeks taking names of children interested in attending and giving parents consent forms to be returned as soon as possible.

Hot Rolls in St Francis hall after 10am Mass this Sunday, 1st Dec. Money raised will help St Mungo's students travelling to Lourdes.

PTA Christmas Fayre at St Andrew's Primary School next Saturday, 7th December, from 1pm until 4pm. Please join us on the day to support our school and help raise funds for school activities and resources.

Catholic Education Week takes place each year from the Feast of St Margaret of Scotland to the Feast of St Andrew. To mark this occasion, St Mungo's High School have produced a newsletter highlighting the different faith activities that the students are involved in. Please feel free to take a copy (available in both church porches, beside the newsletters).

An Introduction to Prayer by Bishop Robert Barron is available to purchase in both church stalls, this Advent, for only £3.

Christmas Edition of Bible Alive is now available in both church porches.

Christmas Film Afternoon. The

Children's liturgy leaders at St Francis are organising a Christmas film afternoon on Sunday 15th December from 1pm-3pm in St Francis hall. If your child attends children's liturgy and would like to come along, please collect a permission form from children's liturgy and return it by Sunday 8th December. Children can bring cushions and blankets to snuggle on and snacks will be provided.

Choir practice: Thursday 12th December at 2pm. All are welcome.

Events in the Archdiocese For a full list of forthcoming events in the Archdiocese visit: <https://archedinburgh.org/newsevents>

Anniversaries: Frank McCabe, John McLeish, Bridget Cannon, Jane Scott, Tom Buchanan, Frances Hainey, Patricia McAllister, Thomas Guy, Christine Green, Elizabeth Taylor, James Bell, Rose Hanlon, Frank Simpson, Rose McGuire, James Hedivan, Michael Kiely, Julia Kane, Mark Mitchell, Leonard (Lenny) McCauley, Patrick Boyle (Packie), Bridget Kelly White, Mike Kelly, Elizabeth O'Donnell, Edward Doherty, Julia O'Neill, Margaret Cumming, Mary (Doherty) Lynagh, Aldina Bellinetti, Archibald McDonald, Verediana Concelves, Elizabeth Mochan, Anne Marie Kelly, James Crow, Jessie Gorman, Michael McIntyre, Edward Marshall, James McGuire, Isabella Beck, David Joseph Fischer, Catherine McCann, Margaret Corrigan, Thomas Murphy, Brenda Gallagher, John Little, Donald McIntyre, Thomas Francis Murray, William Burn, Annie Envy, Mary Anne Nugent Campbell and Andrew Morrison.

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

'May the Angels Lead them into Paradise...'

Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of Robert and Rosemary and remember their families in your prayers.

Name	Requiem Mass	Church
Rosemary Young	Thursday 5 th December at 10am	St Francis Xavier's Church
Robert Cheape	Friday 6 th December at 10am	St Francis Xavier's Church

