



St Francis Xavier Church

Taylor Avenue, Carfin, Motherwell ML1 5AJ

11th December 2022



Holy Season of Advent Third Sunday

You are invited to celebrate

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Monday to Saturday from 9.15am until Mass.

MON	9.25am 9.45am 10.00am	Holy Rosary Morning Prayer of the Church Holy Mass in the Glass chapel
TUE	9.25am 9.45am 10.00am 6.45pm 7.00pm	Holy Rosary Morning Prayer of the Church Holy Mass in the Glass chapel Evening Prayer of the Church Holy Mass in the Glass chapel
WED	9.25am 9.45am 10.00am	Holy Rosary Morning Prayer of the Church Holy Mass in the Glass chapel
THU	9.25am 9.45am 10.00am 7.00pm 7.50pm	Holy Rosary Morning Prayer of the Church Holy Mass in the Glass chapel Exposition of Blessed Sacrament CONFESSIONS from 7.00—7.50pm Night Prayer of the Church
FRI	9.25am 9.45am 10.00am	Holy Rosary Morning Prayer of the Church Holy Mass in the Glass chapel
SAT	9.25am 9.45am 10.00am 5.00pm	Holy Rosary Morning Prayer of the Church Holy Mass in the Glass chapel Vigil Mass of the Sunday
SUN	9.00am 11.00am	Holy Mass in the Parish church Holy Mass in the Parish church

Advent Penitential Service

Concluding with General Absolution

BY PERMISSION OF BISHOP TOAL

SATURDAY 17TH DECEMBER 12.00NOON

ALSO INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS NEXT SUNDAY

BEFORE AND AFTER MASSES

Gaudete Sunday

Today, the Third Sunday of Advent, is also called **Gaudete Sunday**. This name comes from the entrance antiphon for Mass today, used since the ninth century: "*Gaudete in Domino semper: iterum dico, gaudete*" or in English "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice". So today reminds us both of the joy of expectation of the coming of our Saviour at Christmas and of the traditions of our ancient faith which we continue to celebrate in our Mass today. In the spirit of the joy of expectation, the Church marks today with rose-coloured vestments.

The WORD this WEEK

1st Reading **The desert will rejoice and bloom!**

The prophet Isaiah encourages the Jewish people living in exile in Babylon to believe that God has the power and the desire to save them. The images used convey new life and hope, foreshadowing what Christians will see in Christ and bringing comfort to those in need of liberation.

2nd Reading **Be patient.**

The Letter of James urges patience in awaiting the second coming of Christ. Just as the farmer needs to be patient, trust God, and cooperate with the natural elements, so must the Christian. Our calling is to wait with patience and to hasten the Kingdom through works of mercy.

Gospel **The blind recover their sight, cripples walk, lepers are cured, and deaf hear**

Today's Gospel describes what kind of Messiah Jesus is. By listing his works of healing and restoration in response to John's question, Jesus shows how he fulfils the prophecies of the Old Testament regarding the Messiah, as suggested in today's first reading. Jesus reveals John the Baptist's identify as his forerunner.



RELIGIOUS THEMED CHRISTMAS CARDS

are available from the stall.

Sending a card with a religious message keeps Christ in CHRISTmas. In a sense, it's a way of evangelising in this increasingly secular age.

LET US REMEMBER PRAYER

Recently Deceased; Mary McGarry (Newarthill), Bridie Brogan (Bellshill), Robert Rae, Len Byrne (Coatbridge), Isabella Baillie (Cumbernauld), Robert McVicker (Kirkcaldy), Jonny Lawlor, Mark McGuire (Hamilton), Lena Iannerelli (Ayrshire), Theresa Strathearn (Harthill), Gemma Roome

Jeana Watt

Reception Monday 19th December 6:00pm

Requiem Mass Tuesday 20th December 10:00am

Barbara Ann Scanlon

Reception Wednesday 21st December 6:00pm

Requiem Mass Thursday 22nd December 10:00am

Months Mind; James Cullen

Anniversary; Ann Ward (Carfin), Gerald Hobson, Joseph Taylor, Sarah & James McWhinnie, Mary Boyle, John Hughes & Tess, Jim Gray, Annie Mitchell, Ellen Cook, Johnny Morrison, James & Marie O'Brien, Eamon McManus, Mary Magdalene Devine, Bernard Devine, John Devine, Patricia & Margaret Hart

Birthday Remembrance; Eddie Therese & John Cairns, Joseph Wilson

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Saturday 24th December

- Carols at 5.30pm
- Vigil Mass of Christmas at 6.00pm

Sunday 25th December

- Carols from 11.30pm
- Midnight Mass at 12.00midnight
- Dawn Mass at 10.30am

BISHOP TOAL

is going into hospital on Friday 6th January 2023 for a hip operation. We keep the Bishop in our prayers for speedy recovery.

MOTHERWELL DIOCESAN CHOIR CAROL SERVICE

Motherwell Diocesan Choir will hold their annual Carol service in the Motherwell cathedral on Tuesday 20th December at 7.30pm.

CAROLS FOR PEACE 2022

Glasgow City Council are hosting a Carol service at 3.00pm in George Square today/Sunday, praying for peace in our world but particularly Bethlehem, our Twin City. Refreshments afterwards ALL WELCOME. A collection will be taken up for the Lord Provost's Fund for Children.

**Retiring collection today for the Scottish
Catholic Education Service**

XAVIER CENTRE EVENTS



Christmas 2022

Saturday 17th December



CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHT MENU

£29.50 – Three Course

See church noticeboard for the Menu.

XAVIER CENTRE COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Due to the current economic crisis affecting food and heating costs we have opened a cafe for the parish **every MONDAY between 10:00am and 3:30pm** providing soup tea/coffee etc and the opportunity to watch a film together.

The cafe is open to anyone, there is no charge but if anyone wants to make a donation there will be a box available.

This is a way for us as a community to come together and support one another at these times and have a safe warm place to go if needed. It also gives us an opportunity to be sociable with one another.

ALL ARE WELCOME

This initiative is being spearheaded by the Legion of Mary but volunteers to serve teas etc will be very welcome.

SENIOR CITIZENS' NEW YEAR DINNER

The SVDP have arranged a New Year Dinner for the senior citizens (65+) who belong St Francis Xavier Parish. The Dinner will take place on Tuesday 17th of January 2023 at 7:00 PM.

If you belong to the parish and would like to attend, please see a member of the SVDP for more details. Booking slips will be left in the porch. Bookings must be confirmed by the 31st of December 2022. There is no cost for the meal and, if required, transport can be provided.

WORLD CUP FINAL 2022

Watch the Final of the World Cup live on the big screen at the Xavier Centre: Sunday 18th December from 2pm. Licensed bar and half-time snack. Tickets (£2) from Mick 07827975271.

COLLECTION LAST WEEK

Loose & GiftAid	£ 1220
Standing Orders	£ 150
Total	£ 1370

