



St Francis Xavier's, Carfin

Taylor Ave, Carfin, Motherwell ML1 5AJ



27th November 2021

First Sunday of Advent

THIS WEEK YOU ARE INVITED TO CELEBRATE

TUE	Feast of St Andrew - Patron Saint of Scotland. 7.00pm Holy Mass in Glass chapel		FRI	10.00am Holy Mass in the Parish Church 7.00pm Holy Mass in the Parish Church	
WED	9.30am Holy Rosary in Glass chapel 10.00am Holy Mass in Glass chapel		SAT	9.30am First Saturday devotions in the Church 10.00am Holy Mass in Glass chapel 5.00pm Vigil Mass in the Parish Church	
THU	9.30am Holy Rosary in Glass chapel 10.00am Holy Mass in Glass chapel NO CONFESSIONS DUE TO THE WORK IN THE CHURCH		SUN	9.00am Holy Mass in the Parish Church 11.00am Holy Mass in the Parish Church	

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY FOR SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS.

TUESDAY - FEAST OF ST ANDREW, PATRON SAINT OF SCOTLAND

Mass on Tuesday evening, 7.00pm, Glass Chapel.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Today is the first day of the new liturgical year the First Sunday of Advent. Over the next 12 months we will relive the life death and resurrection of Jesus through the Gospel of Saint Luke the Evangelist.

WELCOME



THIS WEEKEND we welcome the Head Teacher of Taylor High School, Mr Paul McWatt. Mr McWatt was appointed Head Teacher in January of this year and this is his first visit as Head Teacher to Saint Francis Xavier parish. We welcome him on this Education Sunday. He will address a few words to us at the Vigil Mass and the 11:00 o'clock Mass. We are also pleased to have some of the students of Taylor High School and the children of Our Lady and St. Francis Primary School with us here today to celebrate Catholic education Sunday.

WORLDWIDE CHURCH SYNOD



Every parish in the diocese has been asked to gather a group of around 8 - 10 people who would meet four times between now and Easter, to reflect and share on the four synodal themes.

I would like you to give serious thought to offering yourself as a participant in this small group which, over the next few months, will discuss four different themes reporting back to the diocese in preparation for the worldwide Synod of bishops in 2023.

If you wish to participate in this please give me your name and contact details. Thank you.

LET US REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sick: Pat O'Rourke, Aileen Smith, Abeer Srouji, Janey Hendry

Recently Dead: Theresa Harkins, Margaret Davidson, Karen Davidson, John McGhee, Stephen Maxwell, Alice Lockhart, Kathleen O'Dowd (Manchester), Ray Pearce, Teresa McNally (Blantyre), Stephen Reilly (Shotts), Rena Henderson Airdrie), Gerard Murray

Months Mind: Frankie Roy, Joseph Roy, Kevin Roy, Martin Roy, Paul Todd, Caroline Clinton

Anniversary: Jim Mays, Theresa & Duncan Marley, Martin Grady & Robert Grady

Birthday Remembrance: Kevin Roy

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

THIS COMING FRIDAY—3RD OF DECEMBER

is our patronal feast day, the feast of Saint Francis Xavier. The children of Our Lady and Saint Francis Primary School will attend the 10:00 o'clock Mass. There will be a Solemn Mass in the evening followed by light refreshments in the Xavier Centre afterwards to which all are welcome. Celebrating the feast of our patron, St. Francis Xavier, helps us recognise the bond between us and remember that we are a **parish community** under his protection.



XAVIER CENTRE UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ Christmas Lunches Sun 12th Dec 2pm-5pm
- ◆ Christmas party night Sat 18th Dec
- ◆ Hogmanay family Night Fri 31st Dec 8pm-1am

Tickets on sale at Xavier Centre on Monday 29th Nov at 6.30pm and priced at £10 per person (kids under 5 free) includes a hot buffet.

MENU FOR CHRISTMAS LUNCHES

STARTERS

- Lentil Broth
- Cherry Tomato Red Onion & Goats Cheese Tart (V)
- Anya's Delicious Chicken Liver Pate

MAINS

- Butter Basted Roast Turkey and all trimmings
- Traditional Steak Pie
- Cheesy Vegetable Strudel (Vegan/Vegetarian)

DESSERTS

- White Chocolate Festive Cheesecake
- Chocolate Profiteroles
- Apple Pie

Freshly Brewed Tea/Coffee



Is this something YOU could do?

I'd love to recruit Altar Servers from P6 and upwards – including **Secondary school**. We have plenty of girls and I am so grateful for them **but WHERE ARE THE BOYS???**



NEXT JOE'S DEVOTION on Monday 20th December at 7pm.
Venue: Glass Chapel.

RETURN OF THE SUNDAY OBLIGATION.

You will see overleaf, the letter from the bishops of Scotland, which they asked specifically to be read **and** also to be made available in print to everyone. For that reason, I will not preach this weekend but simply read the letter - the thrust of which is the bishops have now decided to impose the Sunday obligation on all Catholics as from the first Sunday in January. This year that falls on the 2nd of January. I'm conscious also that Christmas and New Year's day fall on a Saturday. I don't expect there would be many who would want to attend a vigil Mass on either of those two Saturdays (*i.e. the 25th December and the 1st of January*), so I will provide a revised Sunday Mass timetable and publish it next week.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

The feast of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated with a Solemn Mass on the evening of the 8th of December at 7:00 PM. The music will be led by Motherwell Diocesan Music Group. I look forward to welcoming many from the parish and from outside the parish for this lovely feast which has a connection to Lourdes. When asked by Bernadette Soubirous what was her name 'The Lady', as Bernadette referred to her, said "**I am the Immaculate Conception**" – a title that meant nothing to Bernadette but which, lest she forget, kept repeating over and over again on her way to tell her Parish Priest. The priest was then convinced him at that point that Bernadette had seen the Virgin Mary. Since the Grotto is dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes, I though it appropriate that we should celebrate this solemnity with fervour and devotion.

READERS NEXT WEEKEND

Sat 5.00pm L. McMahon
Sun 9.00am G. McGlone
Sun 11.00am A. Muir

COLLECTION LAST WEEK

Loose & GiftAid £ 1230
Standing Orders £ 212
Total £ 1442

CHURCH HEATING UPDATE

The work on the heating continuous slowly and laboriously. Unfortunately encountered a few problems which will delay the completion of the work by a week or two at the most. I assure you that I am doing all I can to ensure that we can get our church back as soon as possible. I had no choice in determining the timing of this work which of course would have been better timed in the summer months. Unfortunately this was beyond my control. Apologies for the inconvenience caused. However, I know that the weekday Masses in the glass Chapel have been well received. It is a lovely setting in which to celebrate Holy Mass and thankfully is lovely and warm. So we will continue to have Mass in the Glass Chapel, Tuesday through to Saturday morning inclusive and just return to the main church for the Vigil and Sunday Masses.

FIRST CONFESSIONS

As a result of what I have mentioned above, I think that it would be better it would be advisable to postpone the First Confessions until after Christmas. As you know it was my intention to celebrate the Sacrament with the children during Advent. Even when I was told that this work was to begin, I thought that we would still be able to do this in the second last week of December. I am now not so sure that this will be possible. So I will postpone the First Confessions till sometime in the new year. Once again, I am truly sorry for any inconvenience. Unfortunately, these things are beyond my control.

WEDDINGS OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS

If you have already confirmed your date and haven't already done so, can you call to the sacristy and uplift the form requesting your information.



**Don't leave it
to others to do
all the work.**

