



St Francis Xavier's, Carfin

Taylor Ave, Carfin, Motherwell ML1 5AJ



23rd January 2022



Third Sunday of the Year

Word of God Sunday

THIS WEEK YOU ARE INVITED TO CELEBRATE

MON	NO MASS TODAY	FRI	9.30am Holy Rosary 10.00am Holy Mass
TUE	7.00pm Holy Mass	SAT	9.30am Holy Rosary 10.00am Holy Mass 5.00pm Vigil Mass
WED	9.30am Holy Rosary 10.00am Holy Mass 7.00pm Mass for Retiral of Mr McCormick	SUN	9.00am Holy Mass 11.00am Holy Mass
THU	9.30am Holy Rosary 10.00am Holy Mass		



ENGAGED COUPLES

On Tuesday, I look forward to meeting the couples who have asked to be married in Saint Francis Xavier church at different points this coming year. As arranged we shall meet on Tuesday the 25th of January at 8:00pm in the Bernadette suite (Xavier Centre). Please bring along a fresh copy of your baptismal certificate **unless you are baptised in Saint Francis Xavier church in which case this is not necessary.**

THE GROTTO

I respectfully request that any who may have placed Christmas wreaths or Christmas decorations on or around the benches of their loved ones, to retrieve them as soon as possible. I am anxious to give the grotto a bit of a 'Spring clean' so after a week or two, I will arrange for them to be taken away. It would be good also if as many of the 'memorabilia' placed on or around the seats could be removed, so allowing people to use the benches.



THE SACRAMENT OF FORGIVENESS

Some of our younger parishioners will make their First Confession this coming Thursday.

COMING TO HOLY COMMUNION



Follow the Altar Servers, please.

CHOIR PRACTICE

tomorrow Monday 7.30pm. Kevin continues to be much encouraged by your enthusiasm. **As always, NEW MEMBERS WILL BE WELCOMED WITH OPEN ARMS.**

BAPTISMS 2022

If you are planning a baptism of your child this coming year, then please **bear in mind the following dates planned for Baptisms.**

♦ Sunday February 27th, 1.00pm

No Baptisms during Lent

♦ Saturday April 23rd, 12.00noon

WE SAY FAREWELL TO CHRISTOPHER IQWE WHO HAS RETURNED TO OSCOTT TO CONTINUE HIS STUDIES.

LET US REMEMBER PRAYER

SICK: Evan Murray (St Anne's Cadzow)

RECENTLY DEAD: Liz Cogan, Claire Mooney, James Kearney, Mary Hughes (Bellshill), William Burt, Harry Doyle, Elizabeth Cogan, Margaret Toner, Noreen Rafferty, James O'Leary (Cork), Maria Morrison (Motherwell), Joan Hinder (Blantyre), Una Kennedy, Martin Dirkie (Fauldhouse), Pasquale Palazzo (Carluke), Bill McBride (Plains), Ellen Henderson (Airdrie), Rosemary Kennedy (Calderbank), Thomas McNally (Coltness), John McInnes, Joseph Kane, Mary Hughes (Bellshill), Mary Battersby

ANNIVERSARY: Alice Goldie, Danny Tiffney, Lawrence Brown, Mary McMorrow, John, Catherine, Charles & Tracey Devine, The Devine Family, The McFarlane Family, Caroline Clinton

MONTHS MIND: John Tamburrini, Alicia Gallacher, Margaret Mary Graham,

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE: James Cullen

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

I would greatly appreciate it if intimations could be handed in by WEDNESDAY 8.00pm

READERS NEXT WEEKEND

5.00pm Paul Burns

Sun 9.00am Gerry McGlone

Sun 11.00am John Paul Cairns

For the foreseeable future, the Responsorial Psalm will be SUNG at all the weekend Masses. Also, readers can uplift the Bidding Prayers from the ambo before Mass. *Thank you*

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR ALL FAMILIES PREPARING FOR THEIR CHILD'S FIRST HOLY COMMUNION.



I want every family who have asked the Sacrament of the Holy Communion for their child to take part in the Offertory procession at some point between now and the First Holy Communions.

I have a sheet at the back of the church and I request every 'First Communion family' to put their name down for a particular Sunday and a particular Mass where they will bring down the bread and wine with all their children especially the child making his or her first Holy Communion.

Each family should come to the sacristy before Mass and together with the altar servers, we will all process out through the church at the beginning of Mass.

As the child and his/her parents and brothers and sisters bring the gifts of bread and wine forward, I will announce the child's name and ask everyone to pray for that child and his/her family.

This was the practise in my last parish. It was an integral part of the families' preparation for their child's First Holy Communion and was very well received by the parishioners. I hope that it will be equally appreciated by the parishioners here in Carfin.

COLLECTION LAST WEEK

Loose & GiftAid £ 1510

Standing Orders £ 147

Total £ 1657



When you enter this church it may be possible that you hear the call of God. However it is unlikely that he will call you on your mobile. THANK YOU FOR TURNING OFF YOUR PHONES.

GLORY TO GOD

Mass of St. Frances Cabrini
Kevin Keil



The music for the Gloria, opposite, might help you to join in singing this great hymn of praise in honour of the Most Blessed Trinity.



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



'THE SCOTTISH CATHOLIC'

The fortnightly magazine is available for purchase from the church porch.
Priced £2.00.

This week's articles include

Young Catholics on the Church they want
The Pope versus Pets
A beauties of a Borders church
What make a great Catholic teacher?

Interested in being part of a new music group which will lead the singing every fortnight or once a month at the Vigil Mass?

You don't need to be able to read music. You don't need to be a budding Pavarotti or Kiri Te Kanawa

Kevin is very approachable and is happy to chat after Mass or, if you are interested, please contact Kevin on kevjamcam@gmail.com or phone the parish.

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER'S CHILDRENS CHOIR

After consultation with Mrs Semple, Acting Head Teacher and some of the staff at OLSF Primary School, we have agreed that Kevin Cameron, our new musical director, will form a children's choir which hopefully will sing periodically at the Sunday 11.00am Mass. The plan is that Kevin will practise with the children for thirty minutes once a week - one practice with Primaries 6 & 7 and a second practice with Primaries 4 & 5. We hope that the first public 'performance' of the children's choir will be at 11.00am Mass on the First Sunday of Lent where they would sing alongside the parish choir as well as singing by themselves.



All going well, their second 'appearance' would be Palm Sunday. I would envisage that they would sing at the 11.00am Mass approximately every 4-5 weeks.

Mrs Semple will be contacting or should have already contacted the parents P 4 - P7 for permission for any who may wish their son or daughter to be part of this children's choir. I'm hopeful that this initiative will also bring some of our families who have drifted from the practise of their faith back to Sunday Mass.



FIRST CONFESSION PRIMARY 3

The children in Primary 3, aspiring to make their First Holy Communion in 2023, will be due to make their First Confession soon. The preparation in the school has already begun. But before proceeding any

further, the parents of P 3 children who wish to present their child for both Sacrament (*Forgiveness and Eucharist*) must first formally enrol their child with St Francis Xavier's Parish.

Parents of such children in P 3 who wish to present their child for the Sacraments this year 2022,

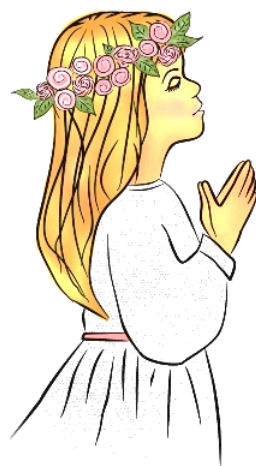
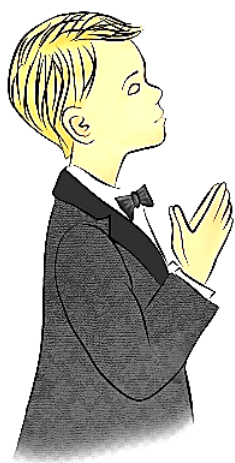
(First Confession) and next year, 2023, (First Communion) are invited to take home an enrolment form fill out the details and **return it next weekend.** A tray provided for that purpose will be placed at the back of the pews, in front of Padre Pio's statue. Thank you.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION DATES

I am offering the following dates and times when I would be happy to celebrate the First Holy Communion of the children now in Primary 4.

They are:	5.00pm Vigil Mass on 7 th May	or	11.00am Mass on 8 th May.
	5.00pm Vigil Mass on 14 th May	or	11.00am Mass on 15 th May.
	5.00pm Vigil Mass on 21 st May	or	11.00am Mass on 22 nd May.

Parents are invited to choose a date and time for their child's First Holy Communion and then enter their child's name on the sheet in the church porch. Thank you. There will be a Mass of Thanksgiving with ALL the children on 12th June.



GLASS CHAPEL PEWS - SOMETHING TO BEAR IN MIND

I am now confident that enough interest has been generated by my proposal last week that I will have the financial support to go ahead. However just before anyone does commit towards donating to the benches *please let me outline what I have in mind:*

First of all, I must explain that the proposed donation of £1,500 would not cover the cost of an individual pew. The pews would be bespoke in order to accommodate the octagonal shape of the building, so they would not all be of equal length.

My solution to this 'conundrum' would be to have a section of each bench donated by a particular family - each section would be roughly the same length as the marble benches in the grotto, that is approximately 4 feet.

Already a number of people have been in touch with donating towards the pews. I need to call a halt to any further donors for the moment in order to ensure that there is enough space to accommodate those who have already been in touch.

I am sorry if this disappoints some who haven't been as 'quick off the draw' as others, but if any more space turns up, I will be happy to allocate a section of a pew to others.

**As you kneel here, please offer a prayer for
JOHN DOE, MARY DOE
AND THEIR SON WILLIAM
whose family helped donate this pew.**

Requiescant in Pace.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES - 11th February

Thursday 10th February

Vigil of the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

'An Evening with Bernadette Soubirous'

Let us imagine that we are present at the grotto of Massabielle, in the dark of night. The prayers for this evening will take place in the church by candlelight an attempt to replicate the beautiful prayerful atmosphere we encounter at the grotto itself. As preparation for the feast we spend a holy hour in the company of "the lady" and little Bernadette Soubirous. At the end of the holy hour there will be an opportunity to venerate a relic of Saint Bernadette.



Friday 11th February

International Day of the Sick

Holy Rosary at 11:30am followed by Holy Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes at 12 noon. The blessing of the sick will be offered for those whose lives are seriously impaired through illness in body or mind this will take place during the Mass at 12:00 o'clock.

***After Mass there will be an opportunity for a light lunch
soup : sandwiches, tea, coffee, biscuits cakes in the
Xavier Centre.***