

# SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER'S PARISH



Sixth Sunday of the Ordinary Season - February 17<sup>th</sup> 2019

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## A NEW BRITISH SAINT...

On Wednesday of last week Pope Francis authorised the *Congregation for the Causes of Saints* to issue a decree which attributed a second miracle to the intercession of Blessed Cardinal John Henry Newman. Two authenticated miracles are required before sainthood, and Newman, who was already credited with curing a man's spinal disease, is now said to have healed a pregnant American woman from a severe bleeding. She had long been a devotee of Blessed John Henry, and in prayer she directly and explicitly invoked Newman's intercession to stop the bleeding. The miraculous healing was immediate, complete, and permanent.



Newman, a theologian and scholar, who was one of the highest profile Anglicans to convert to Catholicism during the Victorian era, will be Britain's first saint since 1976, when the Scot, Saint John Ogilvie, was canonised.

Born in London in 1801, his father was a banker from the Evangelical wing of the Anglican Church. At the age of fifteen Newman experienced a religious conversion which would become the foundation of his lifelong faith in God. He matriculated at Trinity College, Oxford, and then applied for a fellowship at Oriel College. Around this time Newman was ordained a priest in the Church of England, working for seventeen years as vicar of the University Church, St Mary the Virgin. In these years he published eight volumes of *Parochial and Plain Sermons* as well as two novels; and his poem, *The Dream of Gerontius* (from the Latin meaning 'old man') was set to music by the Catholic composer Sir Edward Elgar.

After 1833, Newman was a prominent member of the *Oxford Movement*, which emphasised the Church's debt to the Church Fathers (the great writers of the first eight centuries). Historical research made Newman suspect that the Roman Catholic Church was in closest continuity with the Church that Jesus established.

In 1845, he became a Roman Catholic with the help of the Italian priest Blessed Dominic Barberi. Two years later he was ordained a Catholic priest in Rome and joined the *Congregation of the Oratory*, founded three centuries earlier by St Philip Neri. Returning to England, Newman founded Oratory houses in Birmingham and London, and for seven years served as Rector of the Catholic University of Ireland.

Newman would write forty books and more than twenty thousand letters all of which survive today. His two most famous works are his *Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine*, and his *Apologia Pro Vita Sua* (his spiritual autobiography up to 1864). He accepted the First Vatican Council's teaching on Papal Infallibility while noting its limits - which many people who favoured that definition were reluctant to do.

When Newman was named a Cardinal in 1879, he took as his motto '*Cor ad cor loquitur*' (Heart speaks to heart). He died in 1890 at the age of eighty-nine. More than fifteen thousand people lined the streets for his funeral. Pope Benedict XVI beatified Newman in September 2010, at Crofton Park, near Birmingham. While underling his great intellect, Benedict also praised his pastoral zeal for the sick, the poor, the bereaved and those in prison. He will be made a saint in the autumn. **Father McGachey**



# SUNDAY EVENING DEVOTIONS

Beginning tonight at 6pm, with the Rosary in honour of Our Lady, the Litany of Loretto and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. This is a lovely way to end a Sunday, please join us if you can.

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## PARISH SCHEDULE

**THE HOLY ROSARY** - Monday-Thursday, Saturday 9.35am

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** - Fridays at 9.35am

**HOLY MASS** - Monday-Saturday 10am

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** - Monday-Friday 10.45am-3pm

**THE HOLY ROSARY** - Monday-Thursday 12.35pm

**HOLY MASS** - Monday-Thursday 1pm

**MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA** - Tuesdays after 10am and 1pm Masses

**NOVENA TO SAINT THERESE & VENERATION OF THE RELIC** - Wednesdays after 1pm Mass

**THE CARFIN NOVENA (Our Lady of Lourdes & St. Thérèse)** - Thursdays after 10am Mass

**CONFESSIONS** - Monday-Thursday 1.30pm-2pm; Saturday 4.15pm-4.45pm

**CHANGE TO SCHEDULE THIS WEEK** - On Wednesday morning a Eucharistic Service will replace Holy Mass at 10am.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❖ **MONDAY 18th FEBRUARY** - Enrolment Mass for the Sacraments of Confession, First Communion and Confirmation, with pupils and parents of Primaries 3, 4, 6 and 7. Beginning at 7pm.
  - ❖ **TUESDAY 19th FEBRUARY** - The Sisters of Saint Elizabeth, an Orthodox Community of nuns based in Minsk, Belarus, will be here on Monday 19th February at the 10am and 1pm Masses. They will be selling religious arts and crafts to help sustain the orphanage they run for over two hundred children. They would be grateful for your support.
  - ❖ **WEDNESDAY 6th MARCH - ASH WEDNESDAY** - Holy Mass with the Blessing and Distribution of Ashes at 10am, 1pm and 7pm.
  - ❖ **WEDNESDAY 13th MARCH - NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS** - begins at 7pm and continues for the eight subsequent weeks.
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**THANK YOU** - To all those who were involved in the Torchlight Procession last Sunday night in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes, and also at the Solemn Festal 1pm Mass on Monday, where the Church was packed with visitors from all over - the adult servers, the readers and the passkeepers. A special thanks to the ladies who prepared a wonderful tea in the Xavier Centre afterwards.

**THE NEWMAN ASSOCIATION** - The Newman Association has organised a meeting at 7.30pm on Thursday 28th February in The Ogilvie Centre, St Aloysius' Church, Rose Street, Glasgow, when Dr Patrick Riordan SJ, Dean Fellow in Political Philosophy and Catholic Social Thought at Campion Hall, University of Oxford will present a lecture.

# CALENDAR

**W**ednesday is the memorial of **Francisco and Jacinta Marto** (pictured) who were declared saints of the Church by Pope Francis on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2017, at Fatima in Portugal. The brother and sister were tending their sheep, with their cousin Lucia dos Santos, in the fields at the Cova da Iria, near Fatima, in 1917 when they witnessed an apparition of the Our Lady, who asked them to come back between May and October that year. Less than two years later, Francisco died of influenza at his family home; he was buried in the parish cemetery. Jacinta died of influenza in Lisbon, offering her suffering for the conversion of sinners, peace in the world and the Holy Father. They were both re-buried in the Fatima Basilica in the early 1950s. Their cousin Lucia became a Carmelite nun and died in 2005. The shrine of Our Lady of Fatima is visited by around 20 million people every year. On **Thursday** we remember **St. Peter Damian**. Brought up in abject poverty, he became a hermit at Fontavellana in Italy, in the early part of the eleventh century. He was plucked from obscurity, and became widely known for his preaching and writing, and as a famous reformer, working with the Popes of his day to bring stability to the Church. **Friday** is the **Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter** - the Chair or See of Saint Peter is Rome, and it is a day of special prayer for his Holiness the Pope. **St. Polycarp of Smyrna** is honoured on **Saturday**. He converted to Christianity with the help of St. John the Evangelist, and was a friend of St. Ignatius of Antioch. He became bishop of Smyrna (now Izmir in Turkey). When he was eighty-six years old, he was arrested for being a Christian, and was urged him to renounce Christ and save his life. But St. Polycarp said, "For eighty-six years I have served Him and he has never wronged me. How can I renounce the King who has saved me?" He suffered martyrdom in 155AD.



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## THE XAVIER CENTRE

**THE XAVIER CENTRE** - To make bookings contact 07581239872.

**CHARITY RACE NIGHT** - with all proceeds going to HCPT Group 19. It takes place on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in the Xavier Centre. Tickets are priced £2.00, which includes a light bite to eat. To buy a ticket, or for any other information, please contact Liam McCormick on 07927651284.

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**THANK YOU** - The Burns Family would like to express their sincere thanks and gratitude to all parishioners for their prayers, Masses, lit candles and Novenas during Martin's recent illness. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for the intentions of all.

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**SMALL FAITH SHARING GROUPS AT SAINT TERESA'S, NEWARTHILL** - Begin the Wednesday after Ash Wednesday at 1.30pm for six weeks. If you are interested in joining, please contact Janet Kelly at janetmarykelly@hotmail.co.uk

**PRO-LIFE MASS** - St. Augustine's Parish in Coatbridge hosts a monthly Pro-Life Mass every last Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. The next Mass will be on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm. There will be refreshments in the Parish Centre immediately afterwards.

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## CONTACT US

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**SCOTTISH CHARITIES NUMBER** SC 011041

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** - Baptisms are celebrated most Sundays of the year, except during Lent and on Easter Sunday, at 12.30pm.

**THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE** - At least six months' notice must be given of intention to marry.

**Please telephone or email Father McGachey to make an appointment, or speak to Father McGachey or Deacon Jim after Mass at the weekend.**

## PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Agnes Carruthers (Reception of Remains Wednesday 6pm; Funeral Thursday 10am), Brian Clarke, Mary Gallagher, Janie Woods, Allan Newman, John Callaghan, Betty King, Maureen Boland, Hughie McAdam, Elaine Green, Willie Collum, John Thompson, Christina Gibson, Margaret McGuigan, James Briody, Mary Connelly, Margaret Kelly, Gerard Muir, John Miller, Mary Connelly, Dawn Flockhart, Pete Carter, Brian Williamson, John Smith, George McGhee, Joe Reilly, Anne Duffin, Tommy Cassidy, Frank O'Kane, Ann McBrimm, Joan Smith, Ann Watson, Alex Connelly.

**MONTHS MIND, ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - Bill Perkins, Gerard McVey, John McComisky, John McFarlane, McFarlane Family, Ellen Cook, Devine Family, Charles Savage, Sue Begley, Elizabeth Cullen, Peggy Campbell, Natilna Morbie.

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS FOR THE SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY - £1867**  
**SINCERE THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY FOR THE UPKEEP OF OUR PARISH**