

# SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER'S PARISH

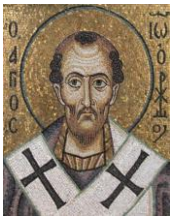
Parish Bulletin for the Thirtieth Sunday of the Ordinary  
Season - 28<sup>th</sup> October 2018

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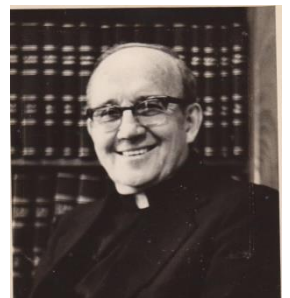
## ALL SOULS' DAY AND PURGATORY

**F**riday of this week is the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, more commonly known as All Souls' Day. After rejoicing the day before - All Saints Day - with those of her children who have entered the glory of heaven, today She prays for all those who, in the purifying effects of purgatory await the day when they will be joined to the company of saints.



Will you honour the dead? Do not spend yourselves in unprofitable lamentations: choose rather to sing psalms, to give alms, and to lead a holy life. Do for them what they would willingly do for themselves, were they to return again into the world; and God will accept it at your hands as if it came from them... Let us not hesitate to help those who have died and to offer our prayers for them. **From the writings of St John Chrysostom (+407)**

We must not make purgatory into a flaming concentration camp of the brink of Hell - or even a 'Hell for a short time.' It is blasphemous to think of it as a place where a petty God exacts final punishment... Saint Catherine of Genoa, a mystic of the fifteenth century, wrote that the 'fire' of purgatory is God's love 'burning' the soul so that, at last, the soul is wholly aflame. It is the pain of wanting to be made totally worthy of One who is seen as infinitely lovable, the pain of desire for union that is now absolutely assured, but not yet fully tasted. **From *Believing in Jesus*, Father Leonard Foley OFM (+1994)**



A priest started his homily at a funeral by saying: "I am going to speak about judgment." There was dismay in the congregation. Then he went on: "Judgment is whispering into the ear of a merciful and compassionate God the story of my life which I have never been able to tell." Many of us have a story, or part of one at any rate, about which we have never been able to speak to anyone. Fear of being misunderstood, inability to understand ourselves, ignorance of the darker side of our hidden lives, or just shame, make it very difficult for many people. Our true story is not told, or only half of it is. What a relief it will be to be

able to whisper freely and fully into that merciful and compassionate ear. After all that is what he has always wanted. He waits for us to come home to Him. He receives us, his prodigal children, now contrite and humble, with an embrace. In that embrace we start telling Him our story, and he begins that process of healing and preparation which we call purgatory. **From a talk of Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster (+1999)**

Our souls demand purgatory, don't they? Would it not break the heart if God said to us, "It is true, my child, that your breath smells and your rags drip with mud and slime, but we are charitable here and no one will upbraid you for these things, or draw away from you. Enter into joy"? Should we not reply, "Thank you, sir, but if there is no objection, I'd rather be cleansed first." The practice of offering up the Holy Sacrifice for the souls in purgatory comes down from the earliest Christian times, and the Church has ever laid much stress upon this virtuous and charitable custom. **From *O Blessed Purgatory* by C.S. Lewis (+1963)**



## OCTOBER DEVOTIONS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY FOR THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY

with the Rosary, the Litany of Loreto and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament,  
tonight at 6pm. Please join us if you can.

The Rosary is recited before the 10am Mass and the 1pm Mass.

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## THURSDAY IS THE SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION

The Solemnity when we remember those men, women and children of all times and places who are now with God in heaven, including our family members and friends, and others whom we have known in this life.

Holy Mass on Wednesday 7pm, Thursday 10am and 1pm

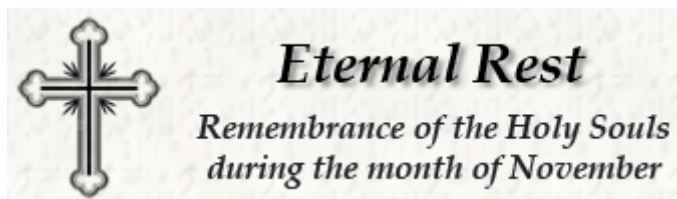
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## FRIDAY IS THE COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED - ALL SOULS' DAY

Today we remember those who are still on their way to the joy of the New Jerusalem, and who need our prayers and sacrifices to get there.

Holy Mass at 10am and 1pm

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During the month of November it is traditional to pray for those who have died. We do this in many ways, but the most common is to remember them at Mass. If you would like your dead loved

ones to be remembered at the two Masses celebrated here every day, and to have their names in our *Parish Books of Remembrance*, which will be displayed publicly in the Church, then please complete a November List, available from the back of the Church. Please return it to the box at the side of the confessionals as soon as possible.

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## INDULGENCES FOR ALL SOULS' WEEK

**A**n indulgence is a remission of temporal punishment due to sin, the guilt of which has been forgiven. An indulgence, applicable only to the souls in Purgatory, is granted to the faithful, who devoutly visit a cemetery and pray, even if only mentally, for the departed. The indulgence is plenary each day from the first to the eighth of November; on other days of the year it is partial.

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## MASS OF REMEMBRANCE FOR THE DEAD OF THE PARISH

To remember those who have died since the Parish was founded 150 years ago, priests and people alike, and most especially those who have died over the past twelve months, will take place on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 10am.

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**ANNUAL CEMETERY SERVICE** - At Saint Patrick's Cemetery, New Stevenston, will take place on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm. Fr. Chromy will be looking after the Liturgy.



**CALENDAR** - Thursday is the Solemnity of All Saints. Friday is the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed or All Souls' Day. On Saturday the Church celebrates the feast of St. Martin de Porres. He was born in Peru in 1579, the son of a Spanish knight and a woman of African descent from Panama. Martin inherited the features and dark complexion of his mother, and for that reason his noble father eventually turned him out of his house. After working as a surgeon's apprentice, he joined the Dominicans as a lay brother and was put in charge of the infirmary of a friary in Lima. Soon he was caring for the sick of the city, as well as the slaves who had been brought to Peru from Africa – not to mention the animals with which he is often pictured. Martin during his life, and especially after death, was a worker of miracles.

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## NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS

Continues on Wednesday evening - the Novena Prayers will be said during the Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the All Saints

“In this unfailing novena Our Lady comes to untie the knots of our life.” *Pope Francis*

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## FISH SUPPER QUIZ NIGHT

Fish Supper and Quiz Night will take place in the Xavier Centre on Saturday 10th November from 7pm until Midnight. Tickets are priced £8 each. Food orders and monies to be paid one week before the event. All proceeds raised will go to the upkeep of the Grotto. Contact Mick McCormick on 07827975271 for tickets.

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## PARISH PROGRAMME

### SUNDAYS

- ❑ 8am the Parish Church opens
- ❑ 9am Holy Mass
- ❑ 11am Holy Mass
- ❑ 6pm Evening Service in the Parish Church, unless otherwise announced

### MONDAY-FRIDAY

- ❑ 9am the Parish Church opens
- ❑ 9.35am the Rosary (except Fridays)
- ❑ 9.35am the Stations of the Cross (Fridays only)
- ❑ 10am Holy Mass
- ❑ 10.45am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 12.30pm
- ❑ 12.35pm The Rosary (except Fridays)
- ❑ 1pm Holy Mass (except Fridays)
- ❑ 1.45pm-2pm Confessions

### SATURDAYS

- ❑ 9am the Parish Church opens
- ❑ 10am Holy Mass
- ❑ 4.15pm-4.45pm Confessions
- ❑ 5pm Holy Mass (Vigil of Sunday)

Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal  
Tuesdays after 10am Mass

The Carfin Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes  
and St. Thérèse, Thursdays after 10am Mass

Novena to St. Thérèse, Wednesdays after  
the 1pm Mass with veneration of the Relic

## CONTACT US

**CLERGY** Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, Parish Priest  
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**CHILD PROTECTION CO-ORDINATORS** Elizabeth McMahon & Geraldine Battersby

**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** - Rita Shaw, Freda Ward, Cathie Welsh, Therese Donnelly, John Reilly, Nicola Cairns, Helen King, Mary Carr, Mr P. Greely, Mrs B. Greely, Eileen Carrigan, Agnes Cooney, Eddie Drummond, John Kelly, Margaret Reid, John Campbell, Tom Craig, John Doyle, Barbara McGear, John Donnachie, Mary McCafferty, Patrick Boyle, Veronica Hynds.

**MONTHS MIND, ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - Alice Goldie, Bill Connelly, Jim Paterson, Pat Plunkett, Alex and Marjory Sloan, Anne and Charles Gibbons, Deirdrie Gibbons (Gallagher), Kathleen and Tom Gibbons, Elizabeth Carr, Francis McAlavey, John Skelly, Rodgetr McConnell, Alice Reddington.

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS FOR SUNDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER - £1830**

**SINCERE THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY TO THE UPKEEP OF YOUR PARISH**

**THE SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR MISSION SUNDAY ON 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER - £2,095**