

FALKIRK ARCHIVES

Records of Churches

Falkirk : St Francis Xavier Church finding aid

The post Reformation Roman Catholic Church in Falkirk began with the appointment of Father Paul Maclachlan as priest for Stirlingshire in 1831. A regular Sunday Mass began on 5th May 1839 in the Assembly Rooms in the Pleasance. On September 6th 1841 land belonging to Aitkens the brewers on Hope Street was purchased for £40 and William Stirling was appointed to design the new church building. Work began in 1842 and on 28th May 1843 the new church was opened for worship. Linlithgow and with it Bathgate and Bo'ness had been given its own priest in 1851. Between 1881 and 1883 Father William Grady oversaw the establishment of a church in Slamannan. In 1885 Father Grady began regular Masses in Rumford and by 1890 a school chapel was built with space for 300 at Mass and 25 children by day. The first Mass in Grangemouth was said in October 1889 but the rented hall could not cope with the demand for places. In 1900 a priest was appointed to look after the separate mission of Grangemouth and in 1927 Sacred Heart Church was opened. In 1912 regular Masses were started in the Camelon Co-operative Hall and in 1918 a temporary building was acquired at the Hedges, Camelon where ground for a new church was also purchased. The building was completed in 1923, with Father John McKee as its first priest. In 1931 Cardinal Bourne of Westminster came to Falkirk to officially open a new Carmelite Monastery in Arnohill. In 1933 Larbert was established as a mission separate from Falkirk with Father Joseph Byrne from Winchburgh as its first priest

<i>Reference Code</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Brief Description</i>
A339.01	04 Feb 1929	Notice of death of Right Rev Mgr George Mullan V.G.