



CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

A JESUIT APOSTOLATE

West 16th Street, NYC • Phone: 212-627-2100 • Fax: 212-675-6997

Mailing Address: 55 West 15th Street, New York, NY 10011-6801

(Wheelchair Accessible 55 West 15th Street - All Masses are Handicapped Accessible)

E-Mail Address: StFrancisXavier@sfxavier.org • Website: www.sfxavier.org



How much the more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of Jesus Christ overflow for the many. (Rom 5:15)

Eucharist ***Main Church***

Saturday: 12:05 pm, 5:00 pm (Vigil)

Sunday Masses: 9:00 am (Family Mass), 11:30 am, 5:00 pm

Weekday Masses: 7:45 am, 12:05 pm

(All Masses are Handicapped Accessible)

Sacraments

Please call the office for information about
Baptism, Marriages & other needs.

Sick or Hospitalized

Please notify the office of parishioners who are
ill or in the hospital so that they can be included
in our prayers or be visited.

New Parishioners

Welcome! To register, please stop by the office
and fill out a registration form or register online at
www.sfxavier.org

Staff

Rev. Robert VerEecke, S.J. (Pastor) — 204

Email: RVerееcke@sfxavier.org

Cassandra Agredo (Executive Dir. Xavier Mission) — 208

Luz Marina Díaz (Dir. of Religious Education) — 207

Stephanie Fuentes (Assistant to the Pastor) — 222

Moraima Hernandez (Plant Manager) - 201

James Martinez (Dir. of Stewardship and
Assistant for Financial Planning) - 205

Gregory Timmes (Assistant Dir. of Business) - 201

Damely Tineo (Dir. of Business) - 221

Rev. Sean Toole, S.J. (Associate Pastor) - 206
Receptionist — 201

John Uehlein (Dir. of Music Ministries) — 202

Pastoral Council

Jack Schmitt (Chair); Adel O'Regan (Vice-Chair);
Deborah Olley Murphy (Secretary); Stephen Alfieri;
Kathleen Cagnina; John Karle;

Bob Lepisko; Charles Mileski;

Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe; David Pais

PastoralCouncil@sfxavier.org

Mission Statement

The Church of St. Francis Xavier, a
Roman Catholic parish in the Jesuit
tradition, strives to be a prophetic,
welcoming community, and an
inclusive witness to the presence of
Christ Jesus in our midst. Mindful of
our utter reliance on God, and need
for God's grace, we rejoice together
in our celebration of the sacraments
and proclamation of the Gospel.

As a people of hope, we commit ourselves through
prayerful and creative discernment to respond to
God in our time by: Being a respectful community
Where seekers and their questions are welcomed,
Where injustice is challenged, Where the poor, the
alienated and the marginalized find a home,
And where people are refreshed,
reconciled and renewed.



OFFICE HOURS

Weekdays: 10:00 am to 7:30 pm

Saturday: 11:30 am to 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am to 6:00 pm

NOTE: for Bulletin Notices and Space Requests send
e-mails to sfuentes@sfxavier.org

**Deadline for bulletin copy—all copy should be in the office
by 4:00 pm on Monday afternoon.**

**Confessions are offered
Saturdays from 1:00pm-2:00pm**

**To make an appointment for
confession please call Parish Office.**

**Note: You must be a registered parishioner for a mini-
mum of six months before qualifying for a
sponsor letter to be verified as a parishioner.**

Next Weekend Presider Schedule

Saturday, March 11th

5:00pm Mass(Vigil): *Rev. Sean Toole, SJ*

Sunday, March 12th

9:00am Mass: *Rev. Robert VerEecke, SJ*

11:30am Mass: *Rev. Robert VerEecke, SJ*

5:00pm Mass: *Rev. Patrick Gilger, SJ*

PRAYER REQUESTS

Let us especially, remember those
who have asked for our prayers

*June Best, Antonio Bird, John Bucki SJ, Philip Brassel,
Alex Campbell, Carol Davis, Charmaine Diehl,
Ellie DiLiberto, Margaret English, Joaquin Gager,
Victor Gaston, Monsignor Neil Graham, Marian Lizzio,
Albert Longo, Greg Lugliani, Lou Mauro SJ,
Kay Mazzo, John McCarthy, Ron Miller, Nicole Minson,
Marisol Miro, Kathy Mulvaney, Leticia Mutuc,
Lillian May Reilly Palmer, Campbell Phillips, Jim Reidy,
William Reilly, Vivian Roth, Bert Sisco, Rocco Scura,
Alice Sharkey, Amando Solero, Loretta Tommasulo,
Gregory Turner, Rita Velez, Carl Wassmann*

Pray for the peaceful rest of all our beloved departed
parishioners and friends, especially:

*Joan Argiro, Eleanor Bibbo, Christopher Connolly,
Eileen DeBernardis, Anne Legano, Lino T. Macaraeg,
Leonard Perroots, Veronica Reeder*

We also remember all those who have been killed or
wounded through the violence of war. May all those who
have gone before us share the joys of eternal life.

**All prayer requests are listed for at least three consecutive
weeks. Please contact the parish office for an extension.**

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

This past Wednesday our Lenten Journey began. We were signed with the sign of the Cross using branches from last year. I have already mentioned that a primary theme of our Lenten journey that came from a parish discussion on the Lenten Scriptures was that of "Listening to the Voice of God/ Listening to the Voice of the Other". Something else that we noticed was a strong "elemental" feel throughout the scriptures beginning with the "clay of the earth" in the first Sunday, the "fire" of transfiguring light in the second, the "living water" in the third and the "air" is all around! In my homily last Sunday I spoke of the need to remember that Creation was God's "first-born" and that we are mandated to care for our Mother Earth which is the source of life for all. I suggested that during this Lenten Season we might "do" something for our earth. For a better awareness of the issues, you can go to Metro NY Catholic Climate movement.

I'm including here an "Ignatian Examen" that corresponds to the scripture readings for today. I hope you will benefit from this and it will help to deepen your experience of our shared Lenten Journey.

First Sunday of Lent

In the tradition of Ignatius we open our hearts and minds to God's loving guidance through the spirit of Jesus Christ. Together let us examine our lives with God as our guide and Jesus walking beside us.

Lord, we realize that everything, even ourselves, is a gift from you. How has God breathed life into you this day?

Lord, open our eyes and ears to be more honest with ourselves. What have you hungered most for today?

Lord, show us what has been happening to us and in us this day. How has our loving God called you personally today? What are the obstacles and temptations that draw you away from God's love.

Lord, we are still learning to grow in your love. What offenses do you wish God would wipe away today?

Lord, let us look with longing toward the future. How can you set aside your own plans and desires to walk with Jesus more closely during your Lenten Journey?

NOVENA OF GRACE

*Praying with St Francis Xavier
Saturday, March 4th- Sunday, March 12th*

Please visit jesuitinstitute.org for daily reflections

NOVENA PRAYER

O most kind and loving saint, in union with you I adore the most divine majesty. The memory of the favours with which God blessed you during life, and of your glory after death, fills me with joy.

And I unite with you in offering to him my humble tribute of thanksgiving and praise. I implore of you to secure for me, through your powerful intercession, the all-important blessing of living and dying in a state of grace. I also ask you to obtain the favour I ask in this novena.

(Here pause to ask the favour you seek.)

But if what I ask is not for the greater glory of God, or the good of my soul, obtain for me what is most conducive to both. Amen.

O God, who was pleased to gather to your Church the peoples of the East by the preaching and miracles of St Francis Xavier, mercifully grant that we, who honor his glorious merits, may also imitate the example of his virtues, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father
Hail Mary
Glory be to the Father



Young Adults
CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

Attention fellow 20 & 30-Somethings! It's that exciting time of the month once again... Yes, our monthly meeting

and you are ALL personally invited to join us: Sunday, March 5th, immediately following the 5pm mass in the Mary Chapel. This month, our member, Thomas D. will lead a poignant and informative discussion on the monumental Paris Climate Agreement. So if you are concerned about our world's climate, and/or would like to learn more on this consequential topic, come join the lively discourse with other gorgeous, socially-conscious, and fantastic individuals as we discuss our role in today's ever-changing environment. We welcome ALL...single, married, gay or straight. sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com

Xavier Adult Group

ST. PATRICK AND ST. JOSEPH CELEBRATION

**Wednesday, March 15th
1:00 pm in the West Room**

Join the Xavier Adult Group to celebrate St. Patrick and St. Joseph. This popular annual event is an afternoon of fun, stories, and food. Bring a dish to share, a poem, a joke, or your favorite story. All are welcome.

Interfaith Passover Seder

Led by Rabbis Perry and Leah Berkowitz

**Sunday, April 2nd
6:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Hurtado Hall
Price \$30**

Reserve your seat by paying at the front desk or through the Eventbrite link posted on our web page www.sfxavier.org (Donate for someone who cannot afford to pay, for musicians and/or for the Xavier Interfaith Committee)

Rabbi Perry and Rabbi Leah Berkowitz are founders of East Side Synagogue that stresses a contemporary, creative and spiritual Judaism. They also lead the American Jewish Heritage Organization, a national organization that combats hatred, antisemitism, and bigotry of all kinds.

March is Women's History Month

XAVIER BIBLE STUDY

WOMEN'S POWER IN THE BIBLE

Where is it?

What is it?

How is it co-opted?

And how can we grow in our connection to it? Wednesday evenings throughout the Lent and Easter Seasons, **beginning March 8th**, join us for lecture, discussion and faith-sharing as we encounter women's power in the Bible and see where it takes us. All women and men of the parish are welcome to attend.

To register contact XavierBibleStudy@gmail.com, call Parish Offices at 212-627-2100, or see the parish website under "Faith Formation" and "Bible Study".



CLASSICAL SAXAPHONE RECITAL with Isabella Stabio

**Tuesday, March 14th
1:00 PM~Main Church
Free Admission**

Isabella Stabio received her Saxophone Degree at the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory in Turin, Italy in 2005. She performs and has performed concerts as soloist, with various chamber music groups and orchestras in Italy and abroad. She has won many national and international contests. She is in New York to receive a prize at the 2017 Golden Classical Music Awards at Carnegie Hall. Her recital includes works from Bach and Debussy as well as modern composers.

It Was the Women Who Stayed will inaugurate

A MONTHLY SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN

For all women interested in "feeding their spirit" and deepening their spiritual journey by sharing their lived wisdom.

**Friday, March 24th
7pm - 9pm**

Xavier High School in the Arrupe Library

Food to share is requested and prayer will be provided.



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY PROJECT (ISP)

ISP offers Ignatian Retreats for people who have experienced homelessness and addiction.

ISP cares for the spiritual lives of the poor through overnight retreats for men and women who are homeless and in recovery from addiction. ISP's programs encourage:

- Reflection – finding my story as a place of God's grace
- Reconciliation – healing of past wounds and connection to community
- Transformation – moving from self-hate to love; isolation to engagement

Hear from:

- Tom Drexler, Executive Director
- Christine Curran, Director of Programs
- Wayne Richard, former ISP retreatant and current Board Member

You are invited to join us to learn more about this Jesuit ministry

Sunday March 12th

1:00-2:30pm

Kennan-Commons Auditorium

Xavier High School

31 West 15th Street

New York, NY 10011

CO-SPONSORS:

IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY PROJECT

USA NORTHEAST JESUIT PROVINCE

Nick Napolitano: nnapolitano@jesuits.org

Address: 1641 South Allport St., Chicago, IL 60608

XAVIER PARISH PEACE AND JUSTICE

Christine Curran, Director of Programs

Tracey Tynan: Xavierpeaceandjustice@gmail.com

Christine@ispretreats.org

ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA PARISH

Website: <http://www.ignatianspiritualityproject.org>

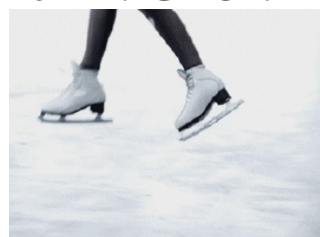
Pattie Hughes: Pattiehughes110@gmail.com

“ALL CREATION GROANING”

A conversation on the pain and suffering in our lives. Come, join the conversation with members of our Xavier community on an important part of our lives. The conversation is based on Dr. Elizabeth's Johnson's *Ask the Beasts*, Chapter 7 -- “All Creation Groaning”. Quotes from the chapter will be offered for discussion. Saturday, April 1 at 2:00 pm in the Mary Chapel. For more information or to reserve a place, please contact *Marie Bannister* at mariebannister1@gmail.com, 917 301 2426, or *Catherine Wolfe* at cohwolfe@gmail.com.

Sponsored by The Lay Spirituality Program

SFX Parish “NICE ON THE ICE”



The parish is organizing a “Nice on the Ice!” for Tuesday evening **March 7th** at the **Wintergarden at Brookfield Place**. Thanks to the generosity of one of our parishioners we are using this evening as a community building- fundraising event for all parishioners, friends and families. The Rink will be reserved from **6:00pm to 8:30pm** and skates will be provided. There are also possibilities for lessons.

We ask for a contribution of \$25 for adults and \$10 for children. (\$25 for lessons) All contributions will go to support parish activities. Please contact *Stephanie Fuentes* at sfuentes@sfxavier.org if you are interested in joining the fun.

The Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal 2017

The archdiocesan goal for the *2017 Appeal* is \$20 million. Our individual parish goal is **\$100,500.00**. You can pledge online at www.cardinalsappeal.org. If you need time to think about your gift, you will be given an opportunity to make your pledge during Mass on Commitment Weekend on March 18/19. Thank you so much for your support of the Appeal and please pray for its success at our parish.

TOTALLY RADICAL PARTY!!

We'd like to extend an enormous THANK YOU to everyone who attended the '1980s Prom Night!', Xavier Mission's fourth annual fundraiser—it was a HUGE success! With the support of our ticket holders, sponsors, donors, raffle, and silent auction, the event raised more than \$50,000, for a net of \$38,700!

A huge thank you to our Board of Directors, especially our fabulous Event Committee!

Nicole Descoteaux, Arlene Gharabeigie and Danny Tore

A special thanks to our sponsors, patrons, and donors:

STAR WARS

Church of St. Francis Xavier

GHOSTBUSTERS

Vota Electric & Construction and Xavier High School

BREAKFAST CLUB

Catholic Charities, Arlene Gharabeigie, Martin Keohan John and Lorraine Langdon, James Martinez & Thomas Grasso, Members of St. Francis Xavier Pastoral Council, USA Northeast Jesuits, Village Zendo

GOLD ADVERTISERS

Driscoll, Thomas Fenniman, Architect, Ice House Construction, Parish Property Management

SILVER ADVERTISERS

Western Pest Services and Sandy & Louise Mattingly

BLUES BROTHERS PATRONS

Rosemarie and Paula Acuti-Sauerzopf, Cassandra & Robert Agredo, Jesse Anderson, John Laffan & Jorge Alvarez, Grace & Steve Madeja, Kenneth Norz, Alan & Anna Ostroff, Mona Sheikh

AUCTION DONORS

Bar 6, Butterfly Studio Salon, Eddie's Haircut & Shave exhale spa, Fratelli Restaurant, Andy Greenwood, Suzanne Grenier-Roth, Integrated Web Connections, Judge Judy, Sam Leonardi, Linhardt Design, Steve Madeja, Donny and Marie Osmond, Park Bar, Skin Laundry, Soul Cycle, Steiner Sports, Fletcher Thames, The Bar Method Soho, The Palm Restaurant, Rachel Tore

IN-KIND DONORS

Nicole Descoteaux, Mark Moss and Harisch Studios, Inc.

Brief Notices From Other Places

SEEKING EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR HOSPITAL MINISTRY AT MOUNT SINAI BETH ISRAEL

MSBI's Department of Spiritual Care Education seeks Eucharistic Ministers to bring Holy Communion and comfort to patients at Mount Sinai Beth Israel.

What do I need to do to get involved?

*Contact Rabbi Jo Hirschmann at 917-842- 6091 or jo.hirschmann@mountsinai.org to let her know you are interested in this.

*Be willing to make a minimum weekly time commitment of one hour of ministry at MSBI.

*Complete MSBI's onboarding process and go through an orientation and training.

If you would like to participate in the ministry of bringing Holy Communion to the sick, we would love to hear from you.

Being Gay and Catholic - a conversation with Fr. James Martin, SJ - Sunday, March 12th (after the 5:15 PM mass) at St. Pauls Church.

For over 25 years ***Mercy Center*** has promoted community and transformation for women and their families in the South Bronx. Many in the Xavier community have contributed their time, talent and financial support to this effort. This year's Gala will raise funds for Mercy Center's work on behalf of immigrants and new Americans. Xavier parishioners are welcome to attend and/or donate to the Gala to be held on **Thursday, March 16th in Manhattan**. For further details, visit www.mercycenterbronx.org.

Brooklyn Jesuit Prep is holding its annual fundraiser on **Thursday, March 16th at Fordham-Lincoln Center**. This event is a great opportunity to meet BJP students and mingle with supporters of Brooklyn Jesuit Prep's important mission. A current student will give a musical performance and a current parent will speak about what BJP has done for her child. The evening runs from 6:30pm to 9:00 pm and will include an open bar and delicious hors d'oeuvres. Enjoy raffles, a silent auction and music provided by the ***Xavier High School Jazz Ensemble***. Tickets may be purchased in advance on BJP's website or at the door on the night of the event.

More information about the school can be found on its website: www.brooklynjesuit.org.

Scriptures & Announced Masses

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Gen 2:7-9;3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Matt 4:1-46.

FIRST MONDAY OF LENT:

Lev 19:1-2, 11-18; Matt 4:1-11.

7:45AM LINO TENCIC (D)
12:05PM WAYNE DUBOIS (D)

FIRST TUESDAY OF LENT:

Isa 55:10-11; Matt 6:7-15.

7:45AM MARY & GEORGE DEAN
& GEORGE DEAN JR. (D)
12:05PM JANE KADNER (D)

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF LENT:

Jon 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32.

7:45AM GERRY FARLEY (D)
12:05PM OLIVIND BJORNEN (D)

FIRST THURSDAY OF LENT:

Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Matt 7:7-12.

7:45AM MICHAEL CASASNOVAS (D)
12:05PM MARY LOUISE MUSSOLINE (D)

FIRST FRIDAY OF LENT:

Ezek 18:21-28; Matt 5:20-26.

7:45AM ANDRES ARBOLEDA (D)
12:05PM VERONICA REEDER (D)

FIRST SATURDAY OF LENT:

Deut 26:16-19; Matt 5:43-48.

12:05PM ANTHONY & MARY PORTELLI (D)

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Gen 12:1-4a; 2 Tim 1:8b-10; Matt 17:1-9.

**YOU MAY RESERVE AN AVAILABLE MASS FOR
YOUR INTENTIONS BY CONTACTING THE
PARISH OFFICE AT 212-627-2100.**

THE LITURGICAL MINISTRY

The Church of St. Francis Xavier offers different opportunities for adults, young adults, adolescents, and children to participate actively in our parish life. One of these opportunities is as liturgical minister at each Mass. At the moment we need women willing to serve as Eucharist ministers. We also need men and women ministers of hospitality at every Mass. For more information on these ministries, please visit our website <https://sfxavier.org/liturgical-ministries>.



This Lent, ISN will offer an online reflection series entitled "Rise Up! A Lenten Call to Solidarity." From Ash Wednesday until Easter Sunday, we will offer a daily reflection exploring response to injustice through the lens of daily readings and Ignatian spirituality.

Uniting voices engaged in work for racial equality, criminal justice reform, alleviation of poverty, and environmental justice, we seek to understand one another's stories, to individually and collectively rise up to engage in the work of building a more just and peaceful world.

LENTEN SERIES WRITERS INCLUDE:

Fr. Greg Boyle, S.J., founder and director, Homeboy Industries

Sr. Norma Pimentel, M.J., executive director, Catholic Charities, Rio Grande Valley

Fr. Gregory Chisholm, S.J., pastor, St. Charles Borromeo in Harlem

Sr. Simone Campbell, S.S.S., executive director, NETWORK

Kristen Trudo, community engagement coordinator, La Salle Middle School

Fr. Fred Kammer, S.J., executive director, Jesuit Social Research Institute at Loyola University New Orleans
Giulia McPherson, director of advocacy and operations, Jesuit Refugee Service USA

For more information and to subscribe to daily reflections visit www.ignatiansolidarity.net

IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY: ONLINE RESOURCES

To prepare for Lent, check out these links. You'll find prayers and meditation, guides to online retreats, and more. In some cases, you can even sign up for emails delivered right to your inbox!

<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>

<http://www.loyolapress.com/>

<http://www.ignatianspirituality.com/ignatian-prayer/prayer-online/>