



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



I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer will they have need to teach their friends and relatives how to know the Lord. All, from least to greatest, shall know Me.
(Jeremiah 31: 33-34)

SECOND COLLECTION
for the benefit of Parish Maintenance

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 22, 2015

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)

Reconciliation

Saturdays from 1:00 to 2:00 in the Main Church
confessional or by appointment with one of the priests.

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. Joseph Marina, S.J. (Pastor) — 204

Cassandra L. Agredo (Dir. Xavier Mission) — 208

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

Jacqueline Falco (Parish Manager) — 221

Rev. Peter Fink, S.J. (Associate Pastor) — 211

Stephanie Fuentes (Parish Secretary) — 222

Moraima Hernandez (Plant Manager) - 201

Rev. Marc Roselli, S.J. (Visiting Priest) - 206

Receptionist — 201

Damely Tineo (Assistant to the Pastor) - 205

John Uehlein (Dir. of Music Ministries) — 202

Pastoral Council

Jack Schmitt (Chair); Jacqueline Perez (Vice-Chair);

Stephen Alfieri; Kathleen Cagnina; Patricia Dahl;

Phil Gutierrez; Bob Lepisko; Deborah Olley Murphy;

Adel O'Regan; 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: 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

NOTE: for Bulletin Notices send e-mails to sfuentes@sfxavier.org and Space Requests send e-mails to jfalco@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
minimum of six months before qualifying for a
sponsor letter to be verified as a parishioner.**

**Main Church Accessibility from 16th street during
regular office hours. Simply ring the bell on the
two furthest entrances on the West & East sides
of the Church.**

Next Weekend Presider Schedule

Saturday, March 28th

5:00pm Vigil: Rev. Marc Roselli, SJ

Sunday, March 29th

9:00am Mass: Rev. Peter Fink, SJ

11:30am Mass: Rev. Peter Fink, SJ

5:00pm Mass: Rev. Joseph Marina, SJ

NEXT WEEKEND SECOND COLLECTION for the benefit of Music Ministry

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

*Barbara Beharry, Bettie Bose, Tom Cooney, Louis DeFazio,
Nela Faddis, David Gotay, Johnathan Gotay-Caban, Francis
Coleman, Frank Fiore, Racquel Gager, Mary Hannan, Jesus
Jimenez, Marianne Githens, Ken Latsch, John Marshall,
Herminda Matallana, Rosemarie McGrath, Kathy Mulvaney,
John Nesbit, Carmine Novembre, Dennis Petragani, David
Saulius, Rocco Scura, Teri Sheridan, Mary and Gabino Torres,
Charles and Janet Townsend, Carl Wassmann,
Lisa & Don Whitacre, Katie Wohlstadter*

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

*Adeline Bucki, Cardinal Edgan, Shirley Haanio, Walter Myers,
Neil Waldrop*

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 Friends,

Grace and peace to you in our Lord Jesus Christ, today and always. When I took my required confessions practicum at Boston College, in preparation for ordination, our professor taught us three things on the first day of class that I have never forgotten: 1) "Like all sacraments, reconciliation is a **celebration**. In this case, it's a celebration of God's mercy. So treat it that way." 2) "Most of the people who walk into your confessional believe that you are seeing them at their worst. In truth, you are seeing them at their very best!" And 3) "If anyone walks out of confession feeling worse than when they walked in, then you, the priest, have failed miserably." I repeat these three pearls of wisdom to myself every time I start to hear confessions.

Last week, our Holy Father used a homily to announce a *Jubilee Year of Mercy*, to begin on the feast of the Immaculate Conception (December 8, 2015). An abbreviated version of his homily follows below:

The Gospel we have just heard [the pharisee and the sinful woman] opens for us a path of hope and comfort. It is good that we should feel that same compassionate gaze of Jesus upon us, as when he perceived the sinful woman in the house of the Pharisee. In this passage two words return before us with great insistence: *love* and *judgment*.

There is the love of the sinful woman, who humbles herself before the Lord; but first there is the merciful love of Jesus for her, which invites her to approach. This woman's every gesture speaks of love and expresses her desire to have an unshakeable certainty in her life: that of being forgiven. And Jesus gives this assurance: welcoming her, He demonstrates God's love for her, just for her! For her, there will be no judgment except that which comes from God, and this is the judgment of mercy. The protagonist of this meeting is **the love that goes beyond justice**.

Simon the Pharisee, on the contrary, cannot find the path of love. He stands firm upon the threshold of formality. He is not capable of taking the next step to meet Jesus, who brings him salvation. In his thoughts, he invokes only justice, and in so doing, he errs. His judgment on the woman distances him from the truth and does not allow him even to understand who his guest is. He stopped at the surface, he was not able to look into the heart.

No one can be excluded from the mercy of God; everyone knows the way to access it and the Church is the house that welcomes all and refuses no one. Its doors remain wide open, so that those who are touched by grace can find the certainty of forgiveness. The greater the sin, so much the greater must be the love that the Church expresses toward those who convert!

Brothers and sisters, I have often thought about how the Church might make clear its mission of being a witness to mercy. For this reason, **I have decided to call an extraordinary Jubilee that is to have the mercy of God at its center**. It shall be a Holy Year of Mercy.

This Holy Year will begin on the coming Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and will end on November 20, 2016, the Sunday dedicated to Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe – and living face of the Father's mercy. I am convinced that the whole Church will find in this Jubilee the joy needed to rediscover and make fruitful the mercy of God, with which all of us are called to give consolation to every person of our time. From this moment, we entrust this Holy Year to the Mother of Mercy, that she might turn her gaze upon us and watch over our journey.

I look forward to our celebration of the Jubilee Year as a parish community. On a much closer horizon of mercy, I invite you to consider **our Lenten Day of Reconciliation, scheduled for Monday, March 30th. Jesuit confessors will be in the church from 4-8pm for individual confessions and the Blessed Sacrament will be present for adoration during these hours. It will be sacred time to be sure.**

Prayers and best wishes as our Lenten journey continues and the joy of Easter approaches once again.

Your servant,
Fr. Marina

Lent & Easter 2015

March 29th ~ Palm Sunday

(Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm) 9:00am, 11:30am, 5:00pm Masses

March 30th ~ Lenten Reconciliation and Adoration

4:00pm to 8:00pm

April 1st ~ Tenebrae Service

7:00pm

April 2nd ~ Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper

7:00pm

April 3rd ~ Good Friday

Seven Last Words 12:00pm

Service of the Passion: Veneration of the Cross 3:00pm

April 4th ~ Easter Vigil

8:00pm

April 5th ~ Easter Sunday

9:00am, 11:30am, 1:15pm Masses



The Gay Catholics Ministry will sponsor
the next

Parish Coffee Hour

as we welcome parishoners

New to SFX on

Sunday, April 19th

in the Mary Chapel

(following the 11:30 Mass)



All are welcome.

SFX Women's Ministry

Tuesday, March 24th

7:00 P.M.

Mary Chapel

Join us for our March meeting as our ministry participates in the Parish's process for gathering input for the Synod on the Family.

For more information, contact
thewomenwhostayed@gmail.com.

**“AWAKENING OUR BASIC GOODNESS:
FOSTERING A FAMILY’S
HEALING CONNECTIONS”**
featuring David Greenan

Sunday, April 19th
Xavier High School Library
10:20 am to 11:25 am

Dr David Greenan is a psychologist and family therapist in private practice and a professor at Teachers College, Columbia University. A practicing Buddhist, he has a special interest in spirituality, education and family therapy.

Catholic Lesbians

Friday, April 10th
6:00 pm
West Room

Dianne Weyers will explore the many aspects of the Easter season with a brief video of the three Marys, Visit to the Sepulchre, and discussion/reflection to follow. Please bring a pillar candle and a beverage or snack to share, and contact SFXWomen@aol.com or (917) 297-6804 for more information.

**SUGGESTED RESOURCES FOR
LENTEN PRAYER**

“Igniting Our Values: A Jesuit/Ignatian Pilgrimage for 2015”: An online program of daily prayer, reflection, and readings. More information at www.jesuits.org/ignite

Creighton University’s Online Ministry Website:
<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Lent/>

A Collection of Diverse Resources, all grounded in the spirituality of St. Ignatius Loyola, may be found here: <http://www.ignatianspirituality.com/lent/>

**IGNATIAN 40’S
OF ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA CHURCH
WEEKEND RETREAT**
FRIDAY, MAY 1 THROUGH SUNDAY, MAY 3

Led by Fathers Joe Marina, S.J. and Tom Feely, S.J.

***Making Decisions with God:
Ignatian Discernment in Three Dimensions***

What does God want of me? What does God want for me? The method of spiritual discernment of St. Ignatius Loyola can help us find answers. The Ignatian 40’s at St. Ignatius Loyola are sponsoring a weekend retreat to explore Ignatian discernment can apply to our personal lives and our lives in society. If you are in your late 30s, 40s or early 50s, mark your calendar and write to ignatian40s@gmail.com for details. Thank you!

Adult Activities

Wednesday, March 25th
at 1:00 p.m. in the Mary Chapel

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



**LENTEN
RECONCILIATION
AND ADORATION**

On Monday, March 30th,
across the Archdiocese of

New York, churches will offer the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Jesuit confessors will be available in our church from 4:00pm-8:00pm. Please come to avail yourself of the grace of this sacrament or simply to rest and pray for a while as we make our way toward Easter.



SPONSOR A PARTICIPANT!

Our next class of 10 L-STEP participants has just begun their semester and they are looking forward to an exciting 14 weeks ahead! Please consider sponsoring one of our L-STEP Participants and ensuring them a life-changing experience! If you cannot sponsor the full amount, please consider covering a portion of the expenses, as outlined below. The breakdown for one participant is:

Stipends	\$270.00 (\$10 per session, 27 sessions)
MetroCards	\$135.00 (\$5.00 MetroCard per session, 27 sessions)
Food	\$81.00 (\$3.00 per meal, 27 meals)
Supplies	\$27.00 (\$1.00 per session, 27 sessions)
Administrative	\$37.00
Total	\$550.00

Please contact *Cassandra* at
212-627-2100, x208 with any questions!

IT'S THE PANTS DANCE!

Ok y'all, get ready for a barn-burner of a hootenanny!
It's time for the Pants Dance!

Ooooooh, open the closet and skip to the right
Jump high in the air with all your might!
See what lies on the shelf up there
Then grab those PANTS you hardly ever wear!
Turn to the left and spin, spin, spin
And bring us those PANTS, just drop them in the bin!
Now skip to your loo and doe-si-doe
You've done your good deed now dontcha know!
You've answered our need for lots of PANTS
Now clap your hands, that's the end of the dance!

Please bring us any pants you no longer wear, as we have a lot of lonely shirts in our Clothing Room that need partners! Yee-haw!

IMPORTANT Preparing for the Synod on the Family

As you may know, Pope Francis and the Church's magisterium are interested in gathering input from faithful Catholics around the world in advance of the next Synod, scheduled for October 2015. Listening sessions for the parish at large will be held on Sunday, March 22nd, from 1:00pm - 3:00pm in the Mary Chapel and Wednesday, March 25th, from 6:30pm - 8:30pm in the Main Church.

Notices from Other Places

**SAINT PETER'S UNIVERSITY AND
SAINT PETER'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL PRESENT:**

AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM AN IGNATIAN CHORAL FESTIVAL

at St. Aedan's: The Saint Peter's University Church

Featuring: *Choirs of Sandford Park School from Dublin, Ireland, Saint Peter Schola, Saint Peter's Prep Vox, Saint Dominic Academy Glee Club, Phillipine - American Choral Project, Inigo*

Saturday, March 28th at 7:30 PM

Ticket Price: \$10.00

Students FREE with student ID

**Sunday, March 29th Mini Concert at 4:00PM
followed by the Palm Sunday Student Mass.
Admission is free to all!**

For more information contact:
msantiago@saintpeters.edu or spp.vox@gmail.com

Scripture Readings For the Week

Fifth Sunday of Lent: Jer 31:31-34; Heb 5:7-9; John 12:20-33. *I will make a new covenant and remember their sin no more. Christ learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation. If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit.*

Fifth Monday of Lent: Dan 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; John 8:1-11. *Here I am about to die, though I have done none of the things charged against me. Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.*

Fifth Tuesday of Lent: Num 21:4-9; John 8:21-30. *Whoever looks at the bronze serpent, shall live. When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he.*

Wednesday~ Feast of The Annunciation of the Lord: Isa 7:10-14;8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38. *Behold, the virgin shall conceive. As is written of me in the scroll, behold, I come to do your will, O God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son.*

Fifth Thursday of Lent: Gen 17:3-9; John 8:51-59. *You will be the father of a multitude of nations. Your father, Abraham, rejoiced because he saw my day.*

Fifth Friday of Lent: Jer 20:10-13; John 10:31-42. *The Lord God is with me, a mighty hero. They wanted to arrest Jesus, but he eluded them.*

Fifth Saturday of Lent: Ezek 37:21-28; John 11:45-56. *I will make them into one nation. To gather together in unity the scattered children of God.*

Sunday~ Palm Sunday of the Lord's

Passion: Isa 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11. *My face I did not shield from buffets and spitting knowing that I shall not be put to shame. Christ humbled himself. Because of this God greatly exalted him.*

Ongoing Parish Happenings

ABILITY XAVIER: Celebrating persons with disabilities. Contact abilityxaviernewyork@gmail.com

ADULT ACTIVITIES: Seniors meets 4th Wednesday of each month, 1pm. Contact **Paddy, 212-243- 8186**

BAGA: A parish youth group (for teens) that meets monthly to promote peace and justice by performing corporal works of mercy. Contact b.a.good.apostle@gmail.com

CATHOLIC LESBIANS: Ministry since 1993, meets 2nd Friday, 6 p.m., West Room, SFXWomen@aol.com, (917) 297-6804.

EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT GROUP: Contact **Katherine Cleary, krcoff5th@netzero.com**

FAMILY FAITH: Catechetical ministry for parents/guardians and children pre-K through 12th grade. Meets Sundays 10:00am, Mary Chapel. Contact **Luz, LMDiaz@sfxavier.org**

GAY CATHOLICS: Men meet in a caring and affirming environment on the first and third Fridays, 7pm Mary Chapel. Contact sfxgcgroup@gmail.com

INTERFAITH COMMITTEE: works toward ending religious discrimination and persecution, through prayer, education and other activities. Contact **Jose Ramon, joseramonperezlopez@gmail.com**

IT WAS THE WOMEN WHO STAYED: We continue to stay to address the specific concerns of women in the church. Xavier women are invited to join our ministry. Contact thewomenwhostayed@gmail.com or (917) 297-6804.

LITURGICAL COMMITTEES: See website or Contact **Luz, LMDiaz@sfxavier.org**

MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND: To become a volunteer or arrange visits, Contact **James Fox, sumiko120@nyc.rr.com, (212) 427-5070**

PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE: Examines root causes of injustice and works towards a more just and sustainable world. Contact **Tracey Tynan or Peter Locascio at xavierpeaceandjustice@gmail.com.**

SPIRITUAL MINISTRIES: Offers spiritual programs, including spiritual direction. Contact **Rose Alloca, allocarose@gmail.com or Marie Bannister, mariebannister1@gmail.com.**

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: Spiritual, service, and social activities for Xavier's 20s-30s community. Meets twice a month. Contact **Zahrah or Phil, sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com.**

ZEN MEDITATION GROUP: Mondays at 7pm. Newcomers welcome. Contact **Peggy & Paul 212-260-2486, schubertnyc@gmail.com**

XAVIER MISSION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

CLOTHING ROOM: 2nd & 4th Sundays, contact **Ann Mary: xmClothingRoom@gmail.com**

FOOD PROGRAMS: Every Sunday soup kitchen and 2nd Saturday food pantry, contact **Christine: xmFoodPrograms@gmail.com**

L-STEP: Spring and Fall semesters, contact **J: xmLSTEP@gmail.com**

SHELTER: Every night, contact **Jim: xmShelter@gmail.com**