



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



Pope Francis bringing a message of peace and reconciliation to warring Muslims and Christians in Bangui, Central African Republic, on the First Sunday of Advent.

Brothers and sisters: I pray always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began such good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. (PHIL 1: 4-6)

SECOND COLLECTION
for the benefit Xavier Misson

Second Sunday in Advent

December 6, 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

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

Stephanie Fuentes (Parish Secretary) — 222

Moraima Hernandez (Plant Manager) - 201

Receptionist — 201

Dameley Tineo (Assistant to the Pastor) - 205

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


John Uehlein (Dir. of Music Ministries) — 202

Pastoral Council

Jack Schmitt (Chair); Adel O'Regan (Vice-Chair);
Stephen Alfieri; Kathleen Cagnina; Patricia Dahl;
Phil Gutierrez; Bob Lepisko; Deborah Olley Murphy;
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 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 minimum of six months before qualifying for a sponsor letter to be verified as a parishioner.

Next Weekend Presider Schedule

Saturday, December 12th

5:00pm Vigil: Rev. Sean Toole, SJ

Sunday, December 13th

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

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

5:00pm Mass: Rev. Sean Toole, SJ

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Jim Calimano, Alex Campbell, Maria Caruana, Kyle Chepic, Sheila Creasy, Louis DeFazio, Gloria DeFranco, David Fuentes, Gary Gatza, Johnathan Gotay-Coban, Monsignor Neil Graham, Jerica Elaine Harris, Terry Higgins, Thomas Higgins, Anne Karle-Zenith, Ana Gerda Kennedy, Robyn Luisi, Dee Kelly, Patrick Loughlin, Ann Malebra, John Marshall, Ron and Elizabeth Miller, Joseph Morrone, Kathy Mulvaney, Nicole Mysak, John J. Nesbit, Catherine Anne Olnek, Dorothy Oliva, Jacob Michael Olnek, Denyse Robinson, Rocco Scura, Thomas Stemberg, Mary and Gabino Torres, Janet Townsend, Dr. John Sony Valentino

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

John Ciarcha, Alice Gonzales, Jordan Ling, Martin Palmer, Lucille Salamida, Marie Saetra, Gerard Schmidt, William Jude Schmitt, Patricia Thornton, Esperanza Trinidad, Jason Vermonty, Marilyn Bosh Vojta, Michael Weber

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.

PILLARS OF XAVIER

Dear Friends in Christ,

Grace and peace to you, today and always. As we enter the Second Week of Advent and prepare for the sacred “launch” of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, I am pleased to inform you of two wonderful additions to our parish leadership. With the blessing of His Eminence Archbishop Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Sr. Carol Barnes, SC and Mr. Stephen Weyer, Esq, have graciously agreed to take on the role of parish trustees, effective January 1, 2016. As trustees, Sr. Carol and Steve will approve our fiscal operations, guide and endorse developments in our mission, and advise me on matters of substance that will be brought to them regularly. I'm sure you know both of these good people --if not from their contributions, then certainly by their faces!

SISTER CAROL BARNES, S.C.

Sr. Carol is a former president of the Sisters of Charity and as such, she has extensive experience in the governance of not-for-profit organizations. In addition to The Foundling, she has served on the Boards of hospitals, nursing homes, and colleges. Her particular interest as a board member at the Foundling is in the oversight of quality and mission integration. Sr. Carol has an academic background in math and math education and a second master's degree in pastoral counseling. She has taught at the elementary, secondary and post-secondary levels.



MR. STEPHEN WEYER, ESQ.

Steve has been a member of the St. Francis Xavier community for over a decade. From 2003 to 2006 he served on the parish staff and led the Xavier Mission. These days he volunteers as part of the Welcome Table's pot washing team. He has graduate degrees in law and theology from Emory University, and presently he works as a civil litigator at a boutique Midtown law firm. Steve and his wife, Liz, were married at Xavier in September 2014. They live in Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn.

Sr. Carol and Steve succeed Sandy Mattingly and Jim Martinez, both of whom have been absolutely tireless in their support of our church in so many ways. Quite frankly, I don't know what I would have done without them these past 3 years! So please join me in thanking Jim and Sandy as we welcome Carol and Steve. May our Lord bless each of them in their generous service.

On a related note, I am delighted to announce that Jim Martinez, as he transitions from trustee and finance council chair, will assume a new part-time position on our administrative team as **Director of Stewardship and Assistant to the Pastor for Financial Planning**. You may know that we have been without a stewardship director since my arrival. Jim will be indispensable in this new role and, no doubt, highly effective. Clearly, the Spirit continues to be at work among us! Please keep Carol, Steve, Sandy and Jim in your prayers as we proceed together, more deeply, into this holy season.

Your servant,

Fr. Marina

Catholic Lesbians

13TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS WRAPPING PARTY



Friday, December 11th

6:00 pm—9:00 pm

Mary Chapel, West Room, Parlor
All Are Welcome!

*Because of you, 131 children from
Picture the Homeless, Community Voices Heard,
Life Experience & Faith Sharing, and
STEPS to End Family Violence had a present to
open on Christmas morning last year. Thank you!*

Please contact SFXWomen@aol.com or
(917) 297-6804 for the name of a child and bring your
unwrapped present to the wrapping party. Pizza and
beverages will be served.

FR. COUGHLIN MEN'S SHELTER OPEN

HOUSE: To celebrate the start of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, all are invited to an open house at the Fr. Ned Coughlin Shelter after the 11:30 Mass on **Sunday, December 13**. Light refreshments will be served. We especially welcome anyone interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities at the shelter, which will fully reopen in January following renovations. Please contact *Fr. Sean* for more details.



**FAMILY FAITH
UPCOMING EVENTS**
Xavier High School Library
10:20 am to 11:25 am

Sunday, December 6th

Praying with Icons
Nita Renfrew

Sunday, December 13th

On Consumerism
Mary Doyle Roche



ARCHDIOCESAN DAY OF RECONCILIATION

*Confession and
Adoration*

December 14th

On Monday, December 14th,
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 3-8pm and the blessed
sacrament will be present on the altar during these
5 hours. Please come to avail yourself of the grace
of reconciliation or simply to rest and pray for a
while as we make our way toward the great season of
Christmas. All are welcome.

The Merciful God of the Old Testament: An Advent Bible Study

*As we enter into the Holy Year of Mercy,
Come ring in the Extraordinary Jubilee
at The Church of St. Francis Xavier
Sundays 3:30-4:45 in the West Room*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6TH ~ *The Gaze of Grace*

In Luke's annunciation God looks with favor upon Mary. In this lesson we will follow this same "gaze of grace" through the Old Testament.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH ~ *The Story of Hagar: Mercy with our Muslim siblings*

Did you know there is an annunciation in the Old Testament that involves the birth of Ishmael to an Egyptian slave named Hagar? Did you know that Ishmael is considered a prophet in Islam? In this lesson we will consider what this story has to teach those seeking mercy amongst Jews, Christians and Muslims.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20TH ~ *Loving Kindness*

Our Bible study series will end the last Sunday of Advent, as we quietly approach Christmas through a look at God's loving kindness in the Old Testament.

See website for details Sfxavier.org/bible-study.



THE HANDCRAFTING JUSTICE HOLIDAY SALE

December 5th & December 6th
after all Masses in the back of the church

Find beautiful, Fair Trade gifts from around the world & empower women with every purchase.

HandCrafting Justice provides access to Fair Trade markets for unique, handmade goods created by enterprising women in the developing world working to lift themselves and their families out of poverty. By fostering self-reliance, ensuring fair wages, and building support networks, the organization offers far more than Fair Trade: HandCrafting Justice promotes human dignity by empowering women to overcome social and economic injustice.

<http://www.handcraftingjustice.org/>

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

6:30PM – 9:00PM

THE MARY CHAPEL

*Kick off the Jubilee Year of Mercy and join
The Peace and Justice Committees of
St. Francis Xavier Church and St. Ignatius Loyola Church
for a performance of "The Bullpen" to announce our new
Prison Outreach Spiritual Ministry.*

Joe Assadourian, 37, found his writing and performing abilities while serving time for shooting a man in SoHo in 2001 when he was 23. He spent 12 years in various prisons, including three at Otisville, where he arrived in 2010 and participated in a theater workshop for inmates. "The Bullpen" is a multi-character comedy based on his experience of being arrested and put in a holding cell full of colorful personalities.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MINISTRY TO DISABLED PARISHIONERS

*Can you help out once a month before and after
the 11:30 liturgy?*

For further information or to volunteer, please contact Lynn Corwin at lccjs@aol.com or call 917 716 1265. Thank you.

LESSONS AND CAROLS: Sharing the Joy

*Featuring: Parish Choir, Bell Choir, Dancers,
Xavier Players and String Quartet
And Parish Lectors*

*John Uehlein, Director of Music Ministries
Anne Holland, Assistant Director of Music Ministries*

On **Sunday, December 13th at 7:00pm** in the church, the music ministry will present Scripture, Poetry and Stories from writers like Thomas Merton, Fred Pratt Green, Henri Nouwen, Dietrich Bohhoeffer and Madeleine L'Engle. Musical favorites for the holiday season, Festive choral music and our favorite carols will be paired up with the various readings. Pieces like "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" and "O Holy Night." Afterwards, we will gather in Hurtado Hall for cookies, refreshments and fellowship to bring in the holiday season. Save the date for our Parish-wide Christmas Party.



URGENTLY NEEDED CAN YOU BAKE COOKIES?

Bakers sought for the Parish Holiday Celebration of Lessons and Carols. On **Sunday, December 13th at 7:00pm**, the music ministry will present scripture, poetry, music, dance and COOKIES! Wouldn't you like your COOKIES to be part of the celebration? After the program we will gather in Hurtado Hall for COOKIES and refreshments to bring in the holiday season in a great communal way. We are looking for 30 individuals to commit to baking 2 dozen COOKIES a piece (or other baked goods) for the reception. If you think you can help out, please email John Uehlein at juehlein@sfxavier.org or call 212-627-2100, ext. 202. Start softening up the butter!!!! (PS: leftovers will go to the shelter.)



GRAVY TIDAL WAVE!

As of press time (11/30) we have reached \$24,159!! This is our highest amount ever collected and we are so supremely thankful for the support of the more than 55 donors who got us to this point! Thank you so much for basting our turkeys and allowing us to continue serving our Welcome Table and Food Pantry guests into next year. YOU ARE AMAZING!!!

GIVING TREES ARE BACK!

Our Giving Trees are back up and are full of tags waiting to be brought home by you! On the trees are tags representing items needed by the All Saints Clothing Room as they work hard to take care of our homeless guests during the winter months. We encourage you to take a tag (or two or three!), bring back the item(s) listed on the tag (UNWRAPPED, with the tag(s) attached please!) and place it back under the tree. Please help us to make the Christmas season a little warmer and more joyous for our homeless brothers and sisters!

L-STEP BLESSING AND GRADUATION & STEPPING STONES!

BLESSING: Sunday, December 13th, 11:30am Mass

STEPPING STONES & GRADUATION:

Wednesday, December 16th, 6:30pm
Church of St. Francis Xavier, East Transept
Reception to follow in Mary Chapel

We will be offering a special blessing on our L-STEP class and previewing one of their stories at the Mass, as a prelude to the Stepping Stones & Graduation ceremony!

On the 16th, four participants will face the nightmare of all nightmares--public speaking!--in order to share with you their personal experiences of homelessness, trauma, addiction and hardship, and their hopes and dreams for the future. This is truly one of the most moving and memorable events that we have here at Xavier, and we hope you will join us to celebrate the strength and perseverance of these amazing men and women!

JOURNEY TO INDIA

The India Group (TIG) invites you to join them on their next Lenten Pilgrimage to India in February. TIG works with families in India to ensure that their children have access to good schools and health care. Participants in this journey will have an opportunity to meet with our families to understand the needs as well as time to visit some of the great cultural treasures of India. For more information about TIG visit our website (www.theindiagroup.net) To find out more about our upcoming pilgrimage send an email to theindagrounyc@gmail.com

LGBT MINISTRIES CHRISTMAS PARTY

Friday, December 18th

7:00 PM

Larkin-Hurtado Hall

Please come and celebrate! The party is potluck - a way to give to each other and to celebrate Christ's presence in our lives and within our ministries.

We especially encourage entrees, side dishes, salads, and desserts. "All Are Welcome in this place"

Let There Be Light!

*Xavier Society's Annual Mass in Honor of Saint Lucy,
Patron Saint of the Blind & Visually Impaired*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH

(Mass for the Third Sunday of Advent)

10:15am

St. Patrick's Cathedral
Fifth Avenue & 50th

*Timothy Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York
Principal Celebrant*

Braille & Large Print Programs will be available. Call the XSB Office to ask about Reserved Seating for the Blind.

For more information visit
www.xaviersocietyfortheblind.org



Scriptures & Announced Masses



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Isa 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; LK 3:1-6.

MONDAY~ FEAST OF ST. AMBROSE:

Isa 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26.

7:45AM NANCY RICHARDSON (D)
12:05PM ELIZABETH AND MICHAEL CURTIS (D)

TUESDAY~ FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:

Gen 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38.

SECOND WEDNESDAY OF ADVENT:

Is 40:25-31; Matt 11:28-30.

7:45AM ANTHONY GAMBALE (D)
12:05PM VIRGINIA & ANTHONY FERRARA (L)

SECOND THURSDAY OF ADVENT:

Is 41:13-20; Matt 11:11-15.

7:45AM ALICE GONZALEZ (D)
12:05PM MURIEL MARTIN (D)

SECOND FRIDAY OF ADVENT:

Is 48:17-19; Matt 11:16-19.

7:45AM BARBARA BEHARRY (D)
12:05PM VINCENT DEPAUL HARRINGTON (D)

SATURDAY~FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE:

Zech 2:14-17; Luke 1:26-38.

12:05PM JANET ABRAHAM (D)



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Zeph 3:14-18a; Phil 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18.

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

Ongoing Parish Happenings

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

ADULT ACTIVITIES: Once a month we have informative meetings or attend interesting events around the city. Contact bowcol@hotmail.com

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

SFX WOMEN: 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

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: Seeks volunteers to plan spiritual, service, and social activities for Xavier's 20s-30s community. Email sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com for more information.

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