



# CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

## A JESUIT APOSTOLATE

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

Mailing Address: 55 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10011-6801  
(Wheelchair Accessible 55 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street - All Masses are Handicapped Accessible)  
E-Mail Address: [StFrancisXavier@sfxavier.org](mailto:StFrancisXavier@sfxavier.org) • Website: [www.sfxavier.org](http://www.sfxavier.org)



Faced with the tragedy of tens of thousands of refugees who are fleeing death by war and by hunger, and who are on the path toward a hope for life, the Gospel calls us to be neighbors to the smallest and most abandoned, to give them concrete hope.” --Pope Francis.

### OFFICE CLOSED

New Year's Eve

9:00am Mass

*Please use 15<sup>th</sup> street entrance.*

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God  
(New Year's Day)

11:30am Mass

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
December 27, 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](http://www.sfxavier.org)

## ***Staff***

Rev. Joseph Marina, S.J. (Pastor) — 204

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

Luz Marina Diaz (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) - 221

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](mailto: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](mailto: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, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**

5:00pm Vigil: *Rev. Peter Fink, SJ*

### **Sunday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>**

9:00am Mass: *Rev. Joseph Marina, SJ*

11:30am Mass: *Rev. Joseph Marina, SJ*

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

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

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

*Mike Allocca, Jim Calimano, Alex Campbell, Maria Caruana,  
Kyle Chepic, Sheila Creasy, Louis DeFazio, Carol Ferrone,  
David Fuentes, Gary Gatz, Johnathan Gotay-Coban,  
Monsignor Neil Graham, James Griffin, Jerica Elaine Harris,  
Kvetka Kaplan, Anne Karle-Zenith, Ana Gerda Kennedy,  
Robyn Luisi, Dee Kelly, Patrick Loughlin, John Marshall,  
Ron and Elizabeth Miller, Barbara Mohr, Joseph Morrone,  
Kathy Mulvaney, Nicole Mysak, John J. Nesbit,  
Catherine Anne Olnek, Dorothy Oliva, Jacob Michael Olnek,  
Denyse Robinson, Rocco Scura, Mary and Gabino Torres,  
Janet Townsend, Dr. John Sony Valentino, Bess Vindigni,  
Molly Wolfe*

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

*John Ciarcia, Wynne Greenwald, Alice Gonzalez,  
John Guiliano, Ferko Kaplan, Jordan Ling,  
Martin McCormick, Scott McKinney, Anthony Muto,  
Martin Palmer, William Jude Schmitt, Clelia Venticinque,  
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.**

## SAVE THE DATE!

### *“Is God’s Charity Broad Enough for Bears?”*

*Dr. Elizabeth Johnson*

Until recently, the natural world was not a subject of much religious interest to the church at large. This is now changing as the world faces an ecological crisis of great magnitude. Starting with John Muir’s question about the bears, this presentation explores the meaning of creation in a new context. It draws from Pope Francis’ encyclical *Laudato Si’* and the speaker’s book *“Ask the Beasts: Darwin and the God of Love”* to explore how loving the Earth can become an intrinsic part of faith in God, rather than an add-on.

Join us on Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm as **Dr. Elizabeth Johnson**, distinguished professor of theology at Fordham University, speaks to our church on the important topic of creation and care of the Earth. Dr. Natalia Imperatori-Lee of Manhattan College will respond to Dr. Johnson before time for general Q/A. All are welcome and free will offerings will be greatly appreciated.

The city’s Department of Homeless Services is seeking volunteers, age 18 and older, for the Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE Count) on Monday night January 25<sup>th</sup>. All volunteers choose from one of 28 sites, where they report to a district captain, who provides instructions about how to help count the city’s street homeless. Please use the Volunteer Registration web site: <http://www.nychope.site/>

Contact SFX Parishioner and NYC Service Volunteer Todd Schmidt with questions:  
[TSchmidt@dhs.nyc.gov](mailto:TSchmidt@dhs.nyc.gov)



### **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](mailto:lccjs@aol.com) or call 917 716 1265. Thank you.

### *Catholic Lesbians*

**Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 pm—9:00 pm  
West Room**

*“You have blessings in reserve for many years to come.  
Relax! Eat, drink and be merry!”*

*(Luke 12:19, The Inclusive Bible)*

Let’s start the new year by celebrating the twenty-third anniversary of this ministry. Please bring a beverage and/or snack to share, and contact [SFXWomen@aol.com](mailto:SFXWomen@aol.com) or (917) 297-6804 for more information.



## FROM THE DESK OF CASSANDRA AGREDO

Dear Friends of Xavier Mission,

In the spirit of joy that pervades this holiday season, I am so happy to be able to announce new changes to the Board of Xavier Mission.

Our Board of Directors, which currently consists of the Pastor and Trustees of the Church of St. Francis Xavier, will transition to a Board of Members. Similar to a Jesuit High School, the Board of Members has high-level oversight of the functioning and governance of Xavier Mission. They will be involved in decisions regarding budgets, the position of Executive Director, and any significant financial or governance issues that arise.

As this transition occurs, I'm very pleased to welcome Paula Sarro to the new Board of Members!

### **PAULA SARRO, ESQ.**

Paula has been a parishioner at St. Francis Xavier since 1997. She has served as a member of the Pastoral Council, bell choir, It Was the Women Who Stayed coordinating committee, and Xavier Mission steering and strategic planning committees. Paula is an attorney who has worked in the field of nonprofit management for 23 years and has extensive experience in providing programmatic and administrative oversight for nonprofits serving poor and marginalized populations in the New York City area. She currently works as the Associate Executive Director at Mercy Center and serves on the Board of Directors of New Destiny Housing Corp., a provider of low-income housing in NYC. Paula is a graduate of Boston College Law School and Trinity College in Hartford, CT.

Paula succeeds Jim Martinez, a member of the Xavier Mission Board since our incorporation in 2012. We are so grateful to Jim for his dedication to Xavier Mission as we took our first uncertain steps as a new organization, and each successive step that has led us to a more stable and vibrant place. Thank you Jim and welcome Paula!

Finally, in the new year, we will begin recruiting members to join our new Board of Directors. As with other nonprofits, this Board will be responsible for the leadership, vision, planning, and development for Xavier Mission. If you are interested in exploring the possibility of joining the Board, please contact *Cassandra* at [cagredo@xaviermission.org](mailto:cagredo@xaviermission.org).

May you have a very Happy, healthy, and blessed New Year! See you in 2016!

Warmest Wishes,  
*Cassandra*

### **ONE LAST CHRISTMAS GIFT: TAX BREAKS!**

For those holiday revelers who just can't handle the thought of Christmas being over, we've got one last gift for you! You still have 4 days left to make an end-of-year donation to Xavier Mission to qualify for this year's charitable tax deductions! Well ok, this is really a Christmas gift for both of us, which is really the best kind! And it's the kind of gift that keeps on giving long after the season is over.

Your gifts help us prevent low-income families from being evicted, keep homeless New Yorkers safe, warm and fed through the winter, and provide community, mentoring, and life-skills to people who are eager to make positive, lasting change in their lives. Please consider a year-end gift to Xavier Mission! Visit [www.xaviermission.org/donate](http://www.xaviermission.org/donate) for more information. Thank You!!

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

November has Thanksgiving, December has Christmas and January has New Year's. But February? Poor February is just a dismal, dreary month, with nothing to look forward except more snow and a dismal, dreary March.

*UNTIL NOW!!!!*

Mark your calendars because on February 20, 2016, Xavier Mission will be hosting our third annual Dinner-Dance, with this year's theme "A Night at the Oscars"! There will be food, music, dancing, awards, and PLENTY of Oscar-worthy decorations to make you feel like you're really strutting the red carpet and rubbing elbows with celebrities! Watch the bulletin for the announcement of ticket sales. In the meantime, prepare to eat your way through the holidays and dance it all off in February!

## Scriptures & Announced Masses

### SUNDAY~ FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH:

1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52.

### MONDAY~ FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS:

1 John 1:5-2:2; Matt 2:13-18.

### TUESDAY~ FIFTH DAY WITHIN THE CHRISTMAS OCTAVE:

1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35.

7:45AM DAN McEVOY (D)  
12:05PM CHARLES SMYLEY (D)

### WEDNESDAY~ SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE CHRISTMAS OCTAVE:

1 John 2:12-17; Luke 2:36-40.

7:45AM JOSHUA MARTINEZ (L)  
12:05PM MADELINE SWEENY (D)

### THURSDAY~ SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE CHRISTMAS OCTAVE:

1 John 2:18-21; John 1:1-18.

### FRIDAY~ FEAST OF THE OCTAVE DAY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD; SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD: Isa 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; John 1:1-18.

### SATURDAY~ FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN:

Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Matt 10:17-22.

12:05PM BERNARD MCGARVEY (D)

### SUNDAY~ FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH:

1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52.

**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](mailto:abilityxaviernewyork@gmail.com)

**ADULT ACTIVITIES:** Once a month we have informative meetings or attend interesting events around the city. Contact [bowcol@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:b.a.good.apostle@gmail.com)

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

**EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT GROUP:** Contact **Katherine Cleary**, [krcoff5th@netzero.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:sfxgcgroup@gmail.com)

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

**LITURGICAL COMMITTEES:** See website or Contact **Luz**, [LMDiaz@sfxavier.org](mailto:LMDiaz@sfxavier.org)

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND:** To become a volunteer or arrange visits, Contact **James Fox**, [sumiko120@nyc.rr.com](mailto: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](mailto:xavierpeaceandjustice@gmail.com).

**SPIRITUAL MINISTRIES:** Offers spiritual programs, including spiritual direction. Contact **Rose Alloca**, [allocarose@gmail.com](mailto:allocarose@gmail.com) or **Marie Bannister**, [mariebannister1@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com) for more information.

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

### XAVIER MISSION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**CLOTHING ROOM:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, contact **Ann Mary**: [xmClothingRoom@gmail.com](mailto:xmClothingRoom@gmail.com)

**FOOD PROGRAMS:** Every Sunday soup kitchen and 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday food pantry, contact **Christine**: [xmFoodPrograms@gmail.com](mailto:xmFoodPrograms@gmail.com)

**L-STEP:** Spring and Fall semesters, contact **J**: [xmLSTEP@gmail.com](mailto:xmLSTEP@gmail.com)

**SHELTER:** Every night, contact **Jim**: [xmShelter@gmail.com](mailto:xmShelter@gmail.com)