



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



The Lord God took Abram outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so,” God added, “shall your descendants be.” Abram put his faith in the Lord, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness. (Genesis 15: 5-7)

SECOND COLLECTION
for the benefit of Parish Maintenance

Second Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2016

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. Joseph Marina, S.J. (Pastor) — 204
Cassandra Agredo (Executive Dir. Xavier Mission) — 208
Luz Marina Díaz (Dir. of Religious Education) — 207
Rev. Peter Fink, S.J. (Associate Pastor) — 211
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);
Stephen Alfieri; Kathleen Cagnina; Patricia Dahl;
Phil Gutierrez; Bob Lepisko;
Deborah Olley Murphy (secretary); 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, February 27th

5:00pm Vigil: *Rev. Lou Garaventa, SJ*

Sunday, February 28th

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

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

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

*Paula Acuti, Angelina Alejandria, Australia Baez,
Marc Boorstein, Jim Calimano, Alex Campbell, Kyle Chepic,
Sheila Creasy, Louis DeFazio, Minnie Depalo, Carol Ferrone,
Joaquin Gager, Gary Gatza, Johnathan Gotay-Coban,
Monsignor Neil Graham, Terri Harrington, Elizabeth Jones,
Robyn Luisi, Dee Kelly, John Marshall, Betty & Ron Miller,
Kathy Mulvaney, Eileen O'Keeffe, Jake Ratcliffe,
Riederman Family, Denyse Robinson, Cynthia Ruiz,
Rocco Scura, Mary and Gabino Torres, Janet Townsend,
Dr. John Sony Valentino, Molly Wolfe*

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

*Emelise Aleandri, Michael Allocca, Gregory Arnaldo,
Eugene Curtis, Joan Florio, John Guiliano, Judith S. Kaye,
Marisa Kruger, Patrick Loughlin, Sr. Jan McNabb, R.S.C.J.,
Thomas McManus, Barbara Mohr, Rachel Monteleone,
Jim Murphy, Anthony Muto, Catherine O'Regan, Nelda Salas,
Maxell Shief, Aidan Frank Stephens, Dr. Alex Wong*

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.**

UNCOVERING THE MERCIFUL FACE OF GOD

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) has entered into the *Stage of Purification and Enlightenment*. Last Sunday, the catechumens signed their names in the *Book of the Elect* and recited the Lord's Prayer with our community. This Sunday, we celebrate the *Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion*, in which non-Catholic baptized Christians recite the Creed before the community. At the Easter Vigil, our eleven elect will receive the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) and fourteen candidates will be confirmed.

The newly baptized and those who enter into full communion in the Catholic Church continue their path during the Easter season through meditation on the Gospel, participation in the Eucharist, and the practice of charity. In this stage, they deepen their understanding of the Christian faith in daily life practice. This period, called mystagogy, officially ends on Pentecost Sunday. But in reality, it is a lifelong journey since conversion is a process that never ends.

The RCIA structure resembles that of the *Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius Loyola*, who lived a process of Christocentric conversion and surrender to God. The Spiritual Exercises, like the RCIA, are a real initiation to the mystery of the Christian faith and to the Paschal Mystery of Jesus risen from the dead, to which the exercitant feels called to serve in the Church and world today.

The Spiritual Exercises speak to the major phases of the *Rite of Christian Initiation*: conversion, initiation into the mysteries of the faith with a personal commitment to Christ, initiation to prayer and discernment, rejection of sin, and resurrection to a new life through the assimilation of the Paschal Mystery, sacramentally symbolized in baptism.

Ignatian Spiritual Exercises are helpful to the ongoing conversion of all Christians, but especially for those baptized as infants. Ignatius, in the sixteenth century, understood the need for Christians to be initiated into the faith through a mystagogical process, through which, the various stages of the catechumenate provide the grace to live and experience what it means to be baptized. The conversion that takes place through the Spiritual Exercises and the RCIA process uncovers the merciful face of God in Jesus with the help of the Holy Spirit. To be merciful is our calling as Christians: This jubilee year of mercy is a reminder of that call.

“God’s mercy transforms human hearts; it enables us, through the experience of a faithful love, to become merciful in turn.” - Pope Francis, 2016 Lenten Message

Adult Activities

Wednesday, February 24th

1:00pm

West Room

2 SPEAKERS, 2 SUBJECTS, GREAT INFORMATION

Mary Phelan will inform us about benefits available for older New Yorkers. She will share information on the Rent Freeze program, Food Stamps/SNAP, Access a Ride, income requirements for Medicaid and more.

Jack Dean will help us connect to our past. Genealogy is a popular and confusing subject. Jack will tell us how to find information about our ancestors. He will explain how to use the many free resources and the ones you pay to use.

Buy local and seasonal. The biggest CO2 producer for most people is flying, so while work and family may require travel, we can avoid contributing to pollution and waste by consuming things that are locally-grown and raised. Fresh right now: delicious root vegetables and apples. Go to grownyc.org for more info. Check labels of food products for country or state of origin.

To be involved in the parish's Care for Creation efforts, email xavierpeaceandjustice@gmail.com

GIVE UP YOUR ENVELOPES FOR LENT

Fast. Pray. Give up your Envelopes! We invite you to help us save money by giving up your offertory envelopes this Lent. Enrolling with Faith Direct will provide Xavier with consistent support and simplify your giving without the wasteful envelopes. Go Green and join us in giving up envelopes this Lenten season! You can quickly sign up online at www.faithdirect.net using our church code: NY406 or by mailing an enrollment form available in the parish office. Thank you for all you do to support Xavier.

A TASTE OF THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA: May 16th to 25th

A Pilgrimage of Faith, Fitness, and Food! \$3,375
Spiritual Guide: Fr. Joe Costantino, S.J.

For more info and reservations, contact us Angie Cruz at 917-607-0937 or angiecruzphd@gmail.com



**ADULT SESSIONS TAKE PLACE IN THE
XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
FROM 10:20 AM TO 11:25 AM**

MARCH 6TH-Roseann Bonadia
and Luz Marina Diaz On Women Spirituality

APRIL 17TH-Father Peter Fink, S.J.
Ritual on The Eucharist

*A Closer Walk with Jesus,
Peace & Justice, Xavier Women's Ministry
presents . . .*

**CATHY BREEN
CATHOLIC WORKER WRITER/
COMMUNITY ADVOCATE AND
CO-COORDINATOR FOR VOICES FOR
CREATIVE NONVIOLENCE**

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH

6:30 P.M.

MARY CHAPEL

Cathy Breen recently returned from visiting a refugee camp in Finland and will speak about the refugee crisis and those refugees whom she personally knows, some of whom Xavier parishioners help to support. Ms. Breen has been traveling to Jordan and Iraq since 2002, bearing witness to the influx of Syrian refugees and escalating violence. Her articles appear in America Magazine and National Catholic Reporter and can be found at www.vcnv.org.

For more information, contact
ACloserWalkJesus@aol.com,
xavierpeaceandjustice@gmail.com,
thewomenwhostayed@gmail.com, or
(917) 297-6804.

Honduras Companion Community Project Fundraiser & Auction

Sunday, February 28th
1:00-3:00 pm
Mary Chapel

Last year's auction was a crowd-pleaser! Take part this year by donating sellable goods or services (worth a minimum of \$50). Last year, the most popular items were services (maid service, singing lessons, garden makeover) gift certificates (yoga, restaurants) and a week in a vacation home (Mexico, Adirondacks).

Be a part of the action. Join us for coffee & donuts and peruse prizes! 100% of bids benefit our five communities in Honduras. PLUS Xavier headliners Sean Adcroft and Jim Fox are donating their auctioneer skills for a live auction. You won't want to miss this event!

Please speak to Nancy Fava or Brian Hotaling or email hondurasccp@gmail.com. Thank you for your support!

IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY SEMINAR

*ISEL (Ignatian Spirituality in Everyday Life)
will sponsor a Sunday afternoon seminar
on Ignatian Spirituality.*

February 21st: *Discernment*
Presenter: *Vivienne Joyce, SC*

Sunday afternoons 2:00 PM, Main Church.
No registration required for sessions.

Begin your daily encounter with mercy with Lenten Moments of Mercy. Our daily, Scripture-based series is delivered to you by e-mail. In this series, James Campbell, M.A., D. Min, shares beautiful reflections and the inspiring words of Pope Francis, and provides suggestions for Lenten actions and prayers.

Lenten Moments of Mercy is free from Loyola Press. Sign up now at <http://www.loyolapress.com/lenten-moments-of-mercy>.

THE 2016 CARDINAL'S APPEAL HAS BEGUN!

"You are the light of the world. Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify our heavenly Father." (Matthew 5:14-16)

During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, we are called to help one another and be merciful, as Jesus is for all of us. It is only with your help that the Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal continues to be a beacon of hope for our brothers and sisters through our ministries and charities.

PLEASE ANSWER THE CALL AND DONATE TODAY!
Envelopes available in your pews.

To make an online gift,
visit www.cardinalsappeal.org

No Greater Love, a vibrant musical drama that celebrates the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, will be performed by the Xavier Company in the **Main Church on Saturday, February 27, at 7:30 pm.** Free will donation. Reservations not required.

The Xavier Company is a unique group of Christian performing artists in residence at St. Francis Xavier Church that perform original works focused on themes of faith and social justice. Founded in 1982, The Xavier Company is celebrating its thirty fourth anniversary of performing arts ministry at Xavier and throughout the tri-state area. The Xavier Company is renowned for performances that display both spiritual content and artistic excellence.

Catholic Lesbians

Friday, March 11th
6:00 pm—9:00 pm
West Room

The Beguines, Christian lay religious orders active in the thirteenth to sixteenth centuries, lived in semimonastic communities, though they did not take religious vows. Join us for the story of a largely forgotten medieval women's movement, presented by *Dr. Jackie Starkey*. Contact SFXWomen@aol.com or (917) 297-6804 for more information.

SUPPORT FOR THE MUSIC MINISTRY SECOND COLLECTION

The Music Ministry is an integral part of our liturgical life and consists of three separate but inter-related ministries which are also, in a very real sense, small church communities. The Choir community consists of 30 to 40 singers and gathers on Sunday mornings to lead the congregation in musical worship at the 11:30 liturgy. We also sing for all major Holy Days (Christmas and Easter). The Bell Choir community of 10 ringers continued to grow by leaps and bounds this past year playing music of increasing technical skill requiring greater musicianship than before. We play during the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Holy Week and the entire Easter season through Corpus Christi. Through grants and donations we currently ring with four octaves of hand bells and four octaves of hand chimes. The Xavier Players, our instrumental group, is a small community. At our greatest manifestation this past year, we consisted of mandolin, oboe, clarinet, cello and piano. The group meets on Sundays and prepares to accompany the 5PM liturgy.

Each year we have two second collections to help support our Music Ministry. Last year, thanks to your generous support, we received \$5,077 from our two collections. Our first collection this year is during the weekend of February 28th. If you use envelopes, you will find in your envelope box a blue envelope marked for the Music Ministry collection. If you use Faith Direct select the Music Ministry gift option and your donation will be made in March.

Our largest single expense covers our cantors and musicians. As a general rule, we only hire outside musicians at Lessons and Carols, Christmas Eve, Epiphany and Easter. The musicians we bring in are the very best in a city that boasts of the very best. We pay a stipend to our cantors every week and we pride ourselves on the quality and wealth of the cantors we are blessed with in the parish. This year we have two one time expenses: new hymnals for the choir and the timely rehabilitation of the bells which protects our initial investment. Expenses also arise for music and materials, whether that is bell gloves or polish or choir binders or music stand lights.

We ask that you prayerfully consider supporting this second collection so that we can continue to provide the wonderful music that Xavier is known for.

With gratitude,
Jim and John



Scriptures & Announced Masses

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT:

Gen 15:5-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1; Luke 9:28b-36.

MONDAY~ FEAST OF THE CHAIR OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE:

1 Pet 5:1-4; Matt 16:13-19.

7:45AM HERNAN VEGA (L)
12:05PM CAPT. WILLIAM JOHN NALDRETT SR. (D)

SECOND TUESDAY OF LENT:

Isa 1:10, 16-20; Matt 23:1-12.

7:45AM JOHN ELEFTERAKIS (D)
12:05PM FR. JOSEPH PALMISANO, SJ (D)

SECOND WEDNESDAY OF LENT:

Jer 18:18-20; Matt 20:17-28.

7:45AM DORA LLAQUE BARRIOS DE SWAYNE (D)
12:05PM WILLIAM HEMBERGER (D)

SECOND THURSDAY OF LENT:

Jer 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31.

7:45AM LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)
12:05PM RACHEL MONTELEONE (D)

SECOND FRIDAY OF LENT:

Gen 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matt 21:33-43, 45-46.

7:45AM BARBARA BEHARRY (D)
12:05PM MARY G. WILLIAMSON (D)

SECOND SATURDAY OF LENT:

Mic 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.

12:05PM HUGH CASHMAN (D)

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT:

Exod 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9.

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

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession." (Genesis 15:7)

Just as the Lord gave Abraham, Moses and the Israelites a land to possess, God has also given each of us a home. Whether our home is grand or humble, it is a gift from God. Abraham prepared a great sacrifice to the Lord in gratitude for the home God gave him. How do we show our gratitude to God for the home we have been given. Do we make a sacrifice of any kind? Do we return any of our treasure to God, investing equally in our eternal home just as we invest in our earthly home?

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: Spiritual, Service, and Social Activities for Xavier's 20's-30's. Meets every 2nd Sunday of the month after the 5pm Young Adult's Mass, in the West Room. Contact 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