



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



“Let us give thanks to the Father, who has made you fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light. He delivered us from the power of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.” (Col 1:12-14)

SECOND COLLECTION
to benefit Human Development

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe November 20, 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. 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, November 19th

5:00pm Mass (Vigil): *Rev. Robert VerEecke, SJ*

Sunday, November 20th

9:00am Mass: *Rev. Samuel Sawyer, SJ*

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

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

*Patricia Ahearn, John Bucki SJ, James Brassel, Pia Brown,
Alex Campbell, Caitlin Campbell, Larry Capisi, Kyle Chepic,
Margaret English, Susan Forbes, Francisco Fuentes,
Joaquin Gager, Juan Garcia, Harriett Gordon,
Monsignor Neil Graham, Tom Hannan, Richard Hogan,
Phil Ingrassciotta, Loraine Pavich, James Leung,
Marian Lizzio, Manuel Lopez, Greg Lugliani, John Marshall,
Lou Mauro SJ, Steven Mays, Kay Mazzo, Betty & Ron Miller,
Marisol Miro, Lorraine B. Nelson, Campbell Phillips,
Jim Reidy, Riederman Family, Joshua Rota-Tebb, Valerie
Sanchez, Lorraine Szul, Rocco Scura, Alice Sharkey,
Ray and Terri Sharpe, Amando Solero, Vincent Sullivan,
Loretta Tommasulo, Gabino Torres, Janet Townsend,
Gregory Turner, Carl Wassmann*

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

*Donald Cataldo, Matthew Clarke, Sr.,
Matilde and Jose Dado, Rev. Robert Fruch, Jason N. Gallero,
Linda Martinez, Laura Samoy, Larry Schwindt,
Rita Williamson, Jason Vermonty*

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,

If you were fortunate enough to hear Fr. Sean's stirring homily last Sunday, a few days after the election, you know that he spoke of the most important election in each of our lives. He referred to God's election of us as God's chosen, beloved, elect. No matter what the outcome of our "elections", it is good to remember that each of us has received a call, an "election" by God that empowers us to work for the common good as brothers and sisters in Christ. I found Fr. Sean's words comforting as I know many of you did. In my case it's challenging to be "pastor" when there are so many who are heart-broken, discouraged, and weighed down by the events of the last weeks but also knowing that there are many others who have had a opposite reaction and are filled with hope and confidence. If you read my homily from last week on the website, you may get a better sense of my own attempt to make "sense" of the events of the past week.

Today we are celebrating the final Sunday of the liturgical year, Christ the King of the Universe. Recently I noticed that a parishioner referred to this as Christ Our Kin. I thought to myself that I would rather celebrate Christ our Kin than Christ our King. I think we need an image of someone who is 'united with us in our common humanity rather than one who is somehow "superior" to us. There is so much in our world that speaks of power and rule rather than humility and service.

I hope by now that you know that I'm not your typical pastor J. Although I'm doing the best I can to attend to "matters of moment" like finances, buildings, parish structures etc., my passion has always been the arts and the Spiritual Exercises. I am grateful that many of you came to see the screening of *For the Greater Glory of God* this past weekend. If you were unable to make it, you can see the work online at www.blde.org.

In the same vein, I've been rehearsing "Christmas Revelations", a dance/theater piece that celebrates the "true meaning of Christmas". I have had to dramatically adapt my former works to a much smaller stage but I have to say that the result is quite lovely and charming. I've assembled a cast of professional actors and dancers from NY, Boston and Kingston Jamaica with some "surprise" performances of well-known Xavier parishioners. Christmas Revelations is for everyone who loves Christmas but especially for children. I wish there were a way that I didn't have to charge admission but the costs of mounting a production like this in NY are considerable. I do hope (and pray) that you will be able to attend one of the performances. It will certainly give you an idea of "the music that makes me dance."

In the love of Christ our Kin,

Fr. Bob

AN ADVENT RETREAT WALKING WITH MARY

*Accompany Mary with the Advent scriptures of her journey:
Annunciation, Visitation, Canticle of Mary, on an Ignatian Prayer retreat.*

*Pray with Lectio Divina, Ignatian contemplation and reflective prayer with journaling.
Share your thoughts and prayers in small groups*

Tuesdays, Nov. 29, Dec. 6 and Dec. 13 from 6:30 to 8:00pm

Please register by sending your name and contact info to *Gerry Moss* at gerrymoss@aol.com. Or, leave a message at 718-871-9677

Deadline: Wed. Nov. 22. Suggested Donation: \$10

ISEL (Ignatian Spirituality in Everyday Life)



The Gravy is Rising!

Community: \$5,020 (20%) as of 11/14!
Board of Directors: \$22,060 (88%) as of 11/14!



Donate to the **Thanksgiving Meal Fund** and be part of providing:

- 250 sit-down meals for seniors and disabled individuals on Thanksgiving Day!
- 200 meals delivered to homebound individuals on Thanksgiving Day!
- 250 full Thanksgiving baskets (including turkeys!), totaling 2250 meals, to guests of our food pantry!
- 1500+ meals at our special Holiday Welcome Table the Sunday after Thanksgiving!
- Ongoing support of the Welcome Table and Food Pantry!

We are hoping to repeat last year's goal of **\$25,000**,
with the Board of Directors matching that for **another \$25,000!**

We have a **NEW** online giving system with real time progress updates!

So join the Xavier Mission Board of Directors, our staff, volunteers, and—of course—Tom the Turkey Baster as we kick off the biggest Thanksgiving Meal Fund ever!

Visit www.xaviermission.org/Thanksgiving to donate!

TURKEY UP!!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR THANKSGIVING!

We still have some available opportunities for volunteers during Thanksgiving week! Please visit www.xaviermission.org/thanksgiving to sign up for one of the following shifts!

- Monday Food Basket Packing: 9:00am—6:00pm (anytime in between!)
- Wednesday Setup: 4:00—8:00pm
- Wednesday Cooking: 4:00—10:00pm
- Thursday Clean Up: 2:00—3:00pm

If you can't do the entire shift that's ok, come for as long as you can!

JOIN US FOR DINNER!

We invite all senior and differently-abled members of our community to join us for dinner on Thanksgiving Day. Doors open at 11:30am and dinner begins at 12:00pm. We look forward to seeing you there!



A Table Divided – Thoughts on Thanksgiving Dinner

by Chaplain Lizzie Berne DeGear, PhD

“...From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.” Luke 12:51-53

This has never been one of my favorite passages from the gospels. But it came to mind last week, as I sat with friends and fellow-parishioners who were trying to absorb the shock brought on by the election, and trying to make sense of what for some of us has been a traumatic event that continues to unfold. A number of times, I heard people express anguish as they looked ahead to their Thanksgiving celebration with their families. Much has been said already about the divides that were revealed and intensified during this election cycle, and for some of us, those divides will be in evidence at the Thanksgiving table.

What to do?

It is tempting to skip over our own suffering in an attempt to seek peace, and to practice compassion for others. Fellow parishioner and psychologist Dr. Eileen Russell has just written a personal essay entitled **Denial of Pain: The Danger of Moving on Too Quickly from the 2016 Election** in which she powerfully advocates that we honor our own suffering before prematurely “getting past it.”

For those who may be struggling with how to approach the holidays, here are questions to help you discern:

“Will joining certain relatives around the holiday table require humility on my part, or will it put me and my beliefs in a position to be humiliated?” If it is the latter, you can lovingly decide to skip this year’s family event. You can explain that you are suffering right now, and that you look forward in hope to future family gatherings.

“Am I still in a traumatized state?” Many wise ones among us are calling for dialogue across the divide. This is a beautiful vision and a necessary step towards healing. But it requires a certain steadiness and perspective that are not available while one is still adjusting during or just after a trauma. Perhaps you and your relatives can all agree beforehand not to discuss national matters.

“How do I want to celebrate Thanksgiving?” Thanksgiving celebrates a time in our early history when native Americans and immigrant refugees from Europe sat down together to enjoy the bounty of the earth and their hard work. In a year when so much has happened, how do we want to celebrate? My next-door neighbor texted me the other day, “Can we invite a refugee family to our homes for Thanksgiving?” It had never occurred to me, but I found my heart saying yes.

REMEMBER XAVIER WHEN CONSIDERING A YEAR-END GIFT

First we want to thank all of you who have given so much of your time, talent, and treasure to support our parish throughout the year. As the end of the year approaches, we begin to reflect upon the many blessings bestowed upon us. The end of the year also provides a great opportunity to thank God for these blessings by gifting to Xavier. The parish is budgeting a \$49,408 deficit for this fiscal year and projecting deficits totaling \$65,000 over the next three years. Your year-end gift can help us reduce this deficit and thereby allow us to continue to celebrate vibrant liturgies and support our many ministries.

The benefits of income tax deductions, capital gains savings and other financial benefits are significant advantages that provide an incentive to make a gift at the year-end. A gift can also help support Xavier for years to come. There are many different ways of contributing a gift. Two of the easiest and most direct methods to gift are donations of cash and appreciated stock or other investments. You can also make other financially advantageous gifts such as real estate, life insurance, charitable remainder trusts, gift annuities, will/trust bequests and IRA/retirement accounts. For more information on how you can help make a difference by contributing a year-end gift please contact *Jim Martinez* in the parish office.

SAVE THE DATE

LESSONS AND CAROLS: SHARING THE JOY!

THE ST. FRANCIS XAVIER MUSICIANS AND LECTORS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH
7:00pm



CAN YOU BAKE COOKIES ?

Bakers sought for our annual *Lessons and Carols* program on Dec. 18th at 7PM. Wonderful contemporary readings with many of your favorite Christmas carols will be represented. Wouldn't you like your cookies to be eaten along side of these great readings and carols? We are looking for 30 individuals to commit to baking 2 dozen cookies (or other baked goods). If you think you can help out, please email John Uehlein in the parish office at juehlein@sfxavier.org or if you don't have email, call John at 646-573-0099. Start softening up the butter!!!!

(PS: leftovers will go to the shelter.)

Like Little Bo-Peep, Fr Bob has lost his sheep and doesn't know where to find them! He's been searching for the lost sheep so they can perform with him in Christmas Revelations at the Sheen Center on the weekend of December 17th and 18th. If you can help Fr. Bob find some sheep (ages 3-8) for these performance, Fr Bob will stop losing sleep! Please contact him rvereecke@sfxavier.org for more information.



OFFICE CLOSED

THANKSGIVING DAY
Thursday, November 24th

Thanksgiving Mass at 10:00am

Friday, November 25th

One Mass will be celebrated at 9:00am

Please use 15th Street entrance.

WORLD AIDS DAY MASS



On Friday, December 2, 2016 at 7:00 PM, the community of Saint Francis Xavier will commemorate World AIDS Day with a mass in the main church.

Observed worldwide since 1998, World AIDS Day unites people from around the world to raise awareness of the global AIDS response.

Please take this time to be with us and pray for those we have lost, for those currently living with HIV/AIDS and that one day we will "Get to Zero".

YOU'RE INVITED...

On Sunday, December 4th following the 5 PM mass, the Pastoral Council invites all parishioners and visitors to a wine and cheese social hour in the **Mary Chapel**. Enjoy some refreshments, meet your fellow 5PM mass attendees and the folks who serve on the altar during mass, and do some Christmas shopping by browsing the Fair Trade gifts offered by the Peace & Justice Committee. Please contact us at pastoralcouncil@sfxavier.org if you have any questions about this event, the Pastoral Council or St. Francis Xavier. We look forward to seeing you at the event!

Catholic Lesbians & Friends—All Are Welcome!

14th Annual Christmas Wrapping Party
Friday, December 9th, 6:00 pm—9:00 pm



Please contact SFXWomen@aol.com or (917) 297-6804 for one (or two or three) of the 183 kids' names from *Picture the Homeless, Community Voices Heard, Life Experience & Faith Sharing, and STEPS to End Family Violence*, and bring your unwrapped

present to the wrapping party. Pizza and beverages will be served.

Anne Patterson, the director of STEPS to End Family Violence, wrote about last year's gifts: "The impact of these presents was truly beautiful, and I wish you all could have shared these moments with us... At STEPS we have many clients who would not have been able to afford presents on their own, so I wanted you to know that your generosity helped give these families the Christmas they deserved."

Scriptures & Announced Masses

SUNDAY~FEAST OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE:
2 Sam 5:1-3; Col 1:12-20; Luke 23:35-43.

MONDAY~FEAST THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:
Rev 14:1-3, 4b-5; Luke 21:1-4.

7:45AM FRED & KATE CARNEY AND FAMILY (L)
12:05PM ANTONIO JORGE PEREIRA (D)

TUESDAY~ FEAST OF ST. CECILIA:
Rev 14:14-19; Luke 21:5-11.

7:45AM PETER HAGAN (D)
12:05PM CECILIA PELC (D)

THIRTY-FOURTH WEDNESDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Rev 15:1-4; Luke 21:12-19

7:45AM ERLINDA MOLANO (D)
12:05PM ETHEL LABISSIERE (D)

THURSDAY~FEAST OF ST. ANDREW DUNG-LAC: Rev 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a;
Luke 21:20-28.

THIRTY-FOURTH FRIDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Rev 20:1-4, 11-21:2; Luke 21:29-33.

9:00AM MONCRIEFF SPEAR (D)

SATURDAY~ FEAST OF ST. JOHN BERCHMANS: Rev 22:1-7; Luke 21:24-36.

12:05PM THOMAS RIZZO (D)



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT:
Isa 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Matt 24:37-44.

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, SEXWomen@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 sfxggroup@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, [suniko120@nyc.rr.com](mailto:sunik120@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 Larry Ruthv 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