



# 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)



Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them. (Isa 11:6-8)

**SECOND COLLECTION**  
to benefit Xavier Mission

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 4, 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](http://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](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:** 8:30 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 mini-  
mum of six months before qualifying for a  
sponsor letter to be verified as a parishioner.**

## ***Next Weekend Presider Schedule***

### **Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**

5:00pm Mass (Vigil): Rev. James Miracky, SJ

### **Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

9:00am Mass: Rev. Robert VerEecke, 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, Antonio Bird, John Bucki SJ, James Brassel,  
Philip Brassel, Pia Brown, Alex Campbell, Caitlin Campbell,  
Larry Capisi, Kyle Chepic, Margaret English, Susan Forbes,  
Joaquin Gager, Juan Garcia, Victor Gaston, Harriett Gordon,  
Monsignor Neil Graham, Tom Hannan, Richard Hogan,  
Phil Ingrassciotta, Loraine Pavich, James Leung,  
Marian Lizzio, Albert Longo, 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, Craig Ducote, Rev. Robert Fruch,  
Jason N. Gallero, Linda Martinez, Giles McGrath, Laura  
Samoy, Larry Schwindt, William SheehanLorraine Szul,  
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,

I was very moved last Sunday when I saw so many of you come to the PeaceGarden and write your prayers on the stones and place them in the well/ font. They give new meaning to the expression “living stones”. This weekend’s scriptures continue the theme of “peace” in the beautiful imagery of God’s “peaceable Kingdom”. This is the remarkable vision of natural enemies becoming friends. Isaiah’s vision can seem “childish” given the history of human conflict and the “survival of the fittest” that pervades the animal realm. And yet, I’d rather think of this as “child-like”, imagining a world where “walking and waiting together in joyful hope” is the way we live together. A special word of thanks to Angel Salas and Michael Debernardis for creating such a beautiful symbol for our Advent Season.

In two weeks we will be celebrating “Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday”. It also happens to be the day before the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe who is so beloved by our Latino and other parishioners. For this reason we will be celebrating a bi-lingual Mass at 9am on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Our Lady of Guadalupe is a source of great joy for so many so we will honor her in the context of the third Sunday of Advent. For me she embodies our parish theme “We walk and wait in joyful hope!” There will also be a gathering of prayer and reflection on Our Lady of Guadalupe on Monday evening at 7PM in the Mary Chapel.

En dos semanas vamos a celebrar el domingo de ALEGRÍA (Gaudete). Esta fiesta tiene lugar el día antes de la fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. Como saben, ella es muy amada por nuestros parroquianos latinos y otros. Por eso vamos a celebrar una misa bilingüe a las nueve de la mañana, el 11 de diciembre. Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe es una fuente de gran alegría para tantas personas y por eso vamos a honrarla en el contexto del tercer domingo de Adviento. Para mí es un ejemplo perfecto de nuestro tema parroquial “Caminemos y Esperemos con Alegría y Esperanza.” También habrá una junta de oración y reflexión sobre Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe el lunes a las 7 de la noche en la capilla Mariana.

I’m also mindful that this weekend we celebrate the feast of St Francis Xavier (December 3rd). It is a source of joy for me to pastor here at the church which bears his name with so many wonderful people who share in his zeal for the Gospel!

Let us walk and wait in Joyful hope!

***Fr. Bob***

## ADULT ACTIVITIES ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCH

Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

1:00p.m. to 3:00p.m. at Aleo Restaurant

Join us for a fun afternoon with good friends and great food. Reservations are a must.

Please email *Tom and Nancy* at [bowcol@hotmail.com](mailto:bowcol@hotmail.com), or call 212-929-3157 no later than **Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**. Aleo Restaurant is located at 7 west 20 street, between 5th and 6th avenues.

**The cost of lunch is \$25.**

## PEACE AND JUSTICE HOLIDAY SALE THIS WEEKEND

After all Masses

In the back of the church

(in the Mary Chapel after the Sunday 5:00pm Mass)

Find beautiful, hand woven textiles from the Sisters of Charity, Holiday Wreaths from Green Mountain Monastery, Coffees, Teas and Chocolates from Equal Exchange and Xavier environmentally friendly Water Bottles

Please support us as we work to build long-term trade partnerships that are economically just and environmentally sound while empowering workers with every purchase!

**NOTE: ALL SALES WILL BE CASH  
OR CHECK ONLY**

The Epiphany School is currently accepting applications and holding guided tours for parents interested in enrolling their child for the 2017/2018 school year.

Our application process has changed so please visit our website at [www.theepiphanyschool.org](http://www.theepiphanyschool.org) or call 212-473-4128 for information about tours and admissions.



## TURKEYS, TREES, AND THE EIGHTIES!

We reached our goal of **\$25,000** for  
the Thanksgiving Fund!

The Board raised **\$26,181** in matching donations!  
That's **\$51,181!!**

The Giving Trees are up! Please take a tag!

Dinner Dance "80s Prom" Tickets are on sale now!  
Early-bird price is \$90!

[www.xaviermission.org/dinnerdance](http://www.xaviermission.org/dinnerdance)

You are all AWESOME, AMAZING, AND  
INCREDIBLE! THANK YOU!!!!!!

## FR GEORGE DRANCE TO SPEAK AT SHEEN CENTER

The True, the Good, and the Beautiful: George Drance SJ on a new play at La MaMa, in conversation with Fordham University's Loyola Scholar Michael Zampelli, SJ The first presentation of the Sheen Center's new public forum, "The True, the Good, and the Beautiful" examining questions of faith in thought and culture.

Moderator George Drance, SJ in conversation with Fordham University's Loyola Scholar Michael Zampelli, SJ and the critically acclaimed Magis Theatre company present a look into the spiritual journey of Pedro Calderon de la Barca, one of Spain's greatest theatre artists of the Baroque era as they prepare to present their new production Calderon's Two Dreams at the legendary La MaMa Theatre in February 2017.

**Tuesday December 6<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm**

*Sheen Center for Thought and Culture*  
*18 Bleeker St.*

(free admission/Reservations requested)

[sheencenter.org](http://sheencenter.org)

# LESSONS AND CAROLS: SHARING THE JOY!

THE ST. FRANCIS XAVIER MUSICIANS AND LECTORS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>

7:00pm

Come celebrate the season with the community for an evening of contemporary readings and traditional carols. Under the direction of John Uehlein, the choir, the bell choir, the instrumentalists, the Family Faith Choir under the direction of Anne Holland and the dance ensemble will present an eclectic blend from World Music to Gospel to Classical, including many of our favorite Christmas Carols. Our amazing lectors will be gracing us with readings encompassing verse, prose, scripture and narrative. And don't forget the Christmas cookie reception afterwards!

FREE WILL OFFERING



## CAN YOU BAKE COOKIES ?

Bakers sought for our annual *Lessons and Carols program* on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.)*

## 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.

## YOU'RE INVITED...

On **This Sunday 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](mailto: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!

# CHRISTMAS REVELATIONS

*Artistic Director*

*Rev. Robert VerEecke S.J.*

What you will hear: The O Antiphons for Advent, The Christmas Story from the lips of Luke, the Evangelist, the Story of Harold the Herald and Shep the Sleepy Sheep!

What you will see: Original choreography by Father Bob VerEecke including O Come O Come Emmanuel, Gabriel's Message, Angels we Have Heard on High, Ave Maria, Gesu Bambino (composed by Xavier organist Pietro Yon in 1917) Tomorrow will be My Dancing Day, Carol of the Bells and more. (Father Bob did not choreograph the hip-hop or the Irish step sections 😊)

Whom you will see: A professional company of actors and dancers from Boston and New York including guest artist Steven Cornwall from Kingston Jamaica. A cast of children and a special "cameo" performance by parishioner Marjorie Ihrig 😊😊😊

**December 17<sup>th</sup>**

**3:00pm/7:30pm**

**December 18<sup>th</sup>**

**3:00pm**

*Sheen Center for Thought and Culture*

*18 Bleeker St*

*sheencenter.org*

*Tickets \$25 adults*

*\$15 children*

**St Barbara with the Holy Family,**

**During the Advent Season, a graphite drawing of this Veronese painting will hang in the Mary Chapel beginning on December 4th, the feast of St Barbara. The artist is a Xavier parishioner, Lourdes Bernard.**

# HOLIDAY CARD SALE TO BENEFIT HONDURAS PROJECT

As in previous years, the Honduras Companion Communities Project will again offer a selection of Alternative Giving holiday cards for sale after all the masses during the weekends of Advent, beginning December 3. The cards provide a way for you to remember friends and loved ones while contributing to the local community projects in Honduras which Xavier and its parishioners have supported for the last 16 years. This is our major fund raising event for sustaining our efforts with several local community groups in Honduras, a country where the challenges of daily life in an environment of high crime, lack of opportunity and government corruption are formidable.

We have an extensive selection of cards this year, based on artwork created by the children who live in Casa Corazon, the home operated by the Sisters of Mercy for children who are HIV+. Aside from printing expenses, you can be sure that all the proceeds from the sale are used for continuing the scholarships we have been providing for secondary school students and for contributing to the expenses of providing a more comfortable life for children and families dealing with HIV.

As always, thank you for your support !

**Catholic Lesbians & Friends—All Are Welcome!**

**14<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Wrapping Party**

**Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm—9:00 pm**



We have 91 unclaimed children and only 6 days remaining to cover all of them! Please contact [SFXWomen@aol.com](mailto:SFXWomen@aol.com) or (917) 297-6804 for one

(or two or three) from

Community Voices Heard and Life Experience & Faith Sharing. 92 kids from Picture the Homeless and STEPS to End Family Violence have been taken care of. Many thanks!

## Scriptures & Announced Masses



**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT:**  
Isa 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Matt 3:1-12.

### SECOND MONDAY OF ADVENT:

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

7:45AM PETER JAMES HAWKES (D)  
12:05PM LARRY WAUGH (D)

### SECOND TUESDAY OF ADVENT:

Isa 40:1-11; Matt 18:12-14.

7:45AM WYNNE GREENWALD (D)  
12:05PM ROBERT MICHAEL FOLEY (D)

### WEDNESDAY~FEAST OF ST. AMBROSE:

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

7:45AM JOHN NORRIS (D)  
12:05PM DAVID OPLANICH (D)

### THURSDAY~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 FRIDAY OF ADVENT:

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

7:45AM DIANE BOHN (D)  
12:05PM THOMAS JOSEPH DORAN (D)

### SECOND SATURDAY OF ADVENT:

Sir 48:1-4,9-11; Mark 17:9a, 10-13.

12:05PM PETER MIRABILE (D)



**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT:**  
Isa 35:1-6a,10; Jas 5:7-10; Matt 11:2-11.

**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, [SEXWomen@aol.com](mailto:SEXWomen@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 [sfxgcggroup@gmail.com](mailto:sfxgcggroup@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 Larry Ruthv 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:** 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](mailto:sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com)

### 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)