



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



As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.” At once they left their nets and followed him. (Matt 4:19-20)

SECOND COLLECTION
to benefit Parish Maintenance

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 22, 2017

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 minimum of six months before qualifying for a sponsor letter to be verified as a parishioner.

Next Weekend Presider Schedule

Saturday, January 28th

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

Sunday, January 29th

9:00am Mass: *Rev. Sean Toole, SJ*

11:30am Mass: *Rev. Sean Toole, SJ*

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Antonio Bird, John Bucki SJ, Philip Brassel, Alex Campbell, Nicole and Jason Chauvin, Carol Davis, Charmaine Diehl, Margaret English, Joaquin Gager, Victor Gaston, Harriett Gordon, Monsignor Neil Graham, Marian Lizzio, Albert Longo, Greg Lugliani, Lou Mauro SJ, Steven Mays, Kay Mazzo, John McCarthy, Marisol Miro, Kathy Mulvaney, Leticia Mutuc, Lorraine B. Nelson, Lillian May Reilly Palmer, Campbell Phillips, Jim Reidy, Vivian Roth, Lorraine Szul, Rocco Scura, Alice Sharkey, Amando Solero, Loretta Tommasulo, Gregory Turner, Carl Wassmann

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

Julius Andrews, Nieva Cabreza, Hudson Andrew Chauvin, Francis Clark, Eileen DeBernardis, Harry J. Gaffney, Myriam McGinnis, Nelda C. Salas, Marilyn Ann Shanabrook, Patricia Sullivan, Ana Zuniga

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,

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light!” We hear this text this weekend in the first reading from Isaiah as well as in the Gospel where Matthew quotes it. It should sound very familiar since it’s the first reading for Christmas Eve. Just as last Sunday’s gospel of the baptism of Jesus according to John was a bridge between Christmas and Ordinary Time, so today’s readings invite us to keep the Christmas spirit of peace, hope and love alive in our hearts, even when we are tempted to disillusionment and anxiety about the future.

In my homily last Sunday, I said that we are called to build bridges and not walls. We are meant to be connected to God and our neighbor. It is not an easy task these days but the call is always there. In the Gospel today we hear about the call of the first disciples who responded without hesitation to follow Jesus. It’s pretty remarkable that they didn’t give this a “second thought” but immediately “left their nets” to follow him. I imagine that Jesus was so “irresistible” that they just couldn’t say no to his call. Let’s hope and pray that we can be as generous in our response to Jesus’ invitation to follow him!

One of the ways to discern how best to “follow” Jesus is through the process of spiritual direction/conversation. We are very blessed at Xavier to have many wonderful directors who are available for these kinds of conversations. This past week Xavier began a program for training Spiritual Directors from the community. We are grateful to parishioners and others who are making the commitment to give and receive the formation necessary to prepare for this very special gift to the Church. As you will see from the announcement in today’s bulletin, the program is looking for some volunteers who are interested in entering into the spiritual direction relationship.

Last weekend we sang “We Shall Overcome” as a reminder of the work that still lies before us to bring about harmony among all peoples. Let’s hope and pray that in the days to come we will recognize Christ as the “true light” that helps us to “overcome” and not “be overcome” by the darkness of the world that can so easily envelop us.

In the light of Christ,

Fr. Bob

Looking at Lent

All are invited to attend a Lenten Liturgy Planning session on **Tuesday, January 24th** at 7:15pm in the Xavier High School Chapel. If you would like to share your thoughts and reflections on our parish celebrations of the Lenten Season, please let Fr. Bob know of your interest. rverecke@sfxavier.org.

HEALING MASS

**Friday, January 27th
6:30pm~Main Church
Presider: James Sheehan**

“Take delight in the Lord and God will give you the desires of your heart.” (Psalm 37: 5-6)

All are invited to come and pray for healing of mind, body and spirit. There will be exposition of the blessed sacrament and individual anointing and prayer for healing provided.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION is "help given by one Christian to another which enables that person to pay attention to God's personal communication to him or her, to respond to this personally communicating God, to grow in intimacy with this God, and to live out the consequences of the relationship."

(William A. Barry and William J. Connolly, The Practice of Spiritual Direction)

As part of the Spiritual Director Formation Program now beginning at Xavier, our 12 student-directors will be asked to offer spiritual direction throughout their training. Currently, we are looking for potential directees who would like to enter into spiritual direction with one of our student-directors on a monthly basis. Sessions will be free and would take place at the parish at a time convenient for both the director and directee. If you are interested in being a potential directee, please contact *Bob Choiniere* at 212-627-2100, ext. 225 or rchoiniere@sfxavier.org.

MOVEMENT/ DANCE PRAYER WORKSHOP

Fr. Bob will be offering another movement/ dance prayer workshop on Saturday morning **February 11th** from 10-12 in the Xavier High School Keenan Commons. All are welcome to come together to experience the beauty and power of movement prayer. Please let *Fr Bob* know if you would like to participate. rvereecke@sfxavier.org

**TRIAL OF THE CATONSVILLE NINE
SCHEDULED FOR FEB 3rd-4th
POSTPONED UNTIL OCTOBER 2017**

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.

"Old age has its own merits, its own magic, its own wisdom, its own sorrow."

Hermann Hesse, *The Seasons of the Soul*

Conscious Aging/ Aging with Meaning, a once-per-week group discussion for older adults, will meet for seven weeks.

It is an opportunity to develop an awareness of one's later years as a time of special consciousness and spiritual opportunity.

If interested, call *Dolores* at 212-732-3091

Zen Spirit/Christian Spirit at Xavier Saturday, February 4th 9:30 am - 4pm West Room

*Exploring Silence and Deepening Awareness
A day of teaching, reflection, and meditation*

Many Christians have discovered in Zen a profound connection to life. Through the practice of stillness and awareness, we wake to a world of wonder and gratitude for life in all its aspects. This day of meditation and discussion provides an excellent opportunity for both the curious and committed.

Space is limited, please make a reservation by emailing Peggy and Paul Schubert at schubertnyc@gmail.com or calling 212-260-2486. A \$20 donation is suggested to cover lunch and refreshments.

WOMEN OF XAVIER

TWO EVENINGS OF CONVERSATION

Join other women in the parish as we gather informally to talk, connect and support each other. In the days after the Women's Marches in DC and NYC, come share your story, hear from others, or raise issues important to you. Bring light refreshments to share.

**Friday, January 27th 6:30-8pm
in the West Room**

**Thursday, February 2nd 6:30-8pm
in the West Room**

For further info:

TheWomenWhoStayed@gmail.com

It Was the Women Who Stayed and Catholic Lesbians



1980s PROM TICKETS ON SALE!

Annual Dinner Dance Fundraiser:

Saturday February 18, 2017

www.xaviermission.org/dinnerdance

It's Prom Night!

Throw off those post-holiday winter blues and enjoy appetizers and cocktails, a buffet dinner, bar, dancing, and the added bonus of supporting your favorite community organization!

By supporting this event, you will help the Mission to feed, clothe and give hope to thousands of men and women in our community. Please purchase your tickets today!

Rock your best side ponytail and acid wash --
1980s-themed attire encouraged!
(Prom dress not required but more than welcome!)

Cocktails, dinner and dancing.
Music by Michael Jackson, Madonna and YOU (hint: Karaoke!)

Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle and more!

TICKETS:

Indiana Jones- \$110 (1 event ticket, 1 drink ticket)

Blues Brothers Patron- \$250 (2 event tickets, 2 drink tickets, listing in program & website)

TABLE SPONSORSHIPS:

Star Wars- \$5000 (8 tickets, 8 drink tickets, full page ad in program, top billing on website)

Ghostbusters- \$2500 (8 tickets, 8 drink tickets, ½ page ad in program, second tier billing on website)

Breakfast Club- \$1000 (8 tickets, 8 drink tickets, ¼ page ad in program, third tier billing on website)

Hello Gorgeous Fellow 20 & 30-Somethings!
The countdown begins... though we will not be holding our regular meeting in January, mark your calendars... you are ALL personally invited to participate in our much anticipated first meeting of the year! **Sunday, February 12th**, immediately following the 5pm mass in the West Room. Come join the engaging conversation with other fantastic, socially-conscious, and dynamic young adults. Meet fellow parishoners and make some new friends. ALL are welcome... single, married, gay or straight. sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com

EMMAUS BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP AT THE CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA:

A six-session support group for those who have experienced the death of a loved one will begin on **Tuesday evening, February 7th**, in the Parish House at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, 980 Park Avenue (between 83rd Street and 84th Street), from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM.

The sessions, both educational and supportive, are run by experienced facilitators. For information and/or to register, please email EmmausBereavementGroup@gmail.com. Registration is required.

WALKING RETREAT PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA AND SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

May 1st to 12th

Spiritual guide: Fr. Joseph Weiss, SJ

For more information please contact
angiecruzphd@gmail.com or
call 917-607-0937.



JANUARY IS NATIONAL SLAVERY AND HUMAN-TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH!

Peace And Justice will present startling general facts on this subject weekly during January.

WEEK 3 GENERAL FACTS ON LABOR TRAFFICKING

1. Article 4 of the Human Rights Act: Prohibition of slavery and forced labor states:
 - a. No one shall be held in slavery or servitude and
 - b. No one shall be required to perform forced or compulsory labor.
2. Of the estimated 21 million people enslaved globally, 5.5 million are children.
3. Globally, the International Labor Organization estimates that there are 4.2 million people trapped in forced labor in industries including agriculture, construction, domestic work and manufacturing.
4. U.S. Dept. of Labor has identified 136 goods from 74 countries made by forced and child labor.
5. Since 2007, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center hotline (888 3737 888) has received reports of more than 4,000 labor trafficking cases inside the US.
6. In a 2014 study from the Urban Institute of 122 closed cases of labor trafficking, 71% of the labor trafficking victims entered the US on lawful visas and paid an average of \$6,150 in fees for jobs in the US.
7. In a study from San Diego State University, 31% of undocumented, Spanish-speaking migrant workers in that county had experienced labor trafficking.
8. Download STOP TRAFFICKING NEWSLETTER monthly for more information.
9. Please contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline Number 1 888 3737 888, (Text 233733) if someone or someplace raises a question for you.
10. Call Congressperson Schumer (202 224-6542) for support of HR 3226 Business Supply Chain Transparency Act.

LET'S PRAY OUR HOPE ON THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE!

In his 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis calls on all people to “care for our common home”, reminding us that “the poor and the earth are crying out.” There is an urgent need to promote a clean energy economy that would benefit all and protect the environment of our shared planet.

Join us for a short, peaceful candlelight vigil to express our intention to work for a clean energy economy.

Sunday, Jan. 22, from 5 pm to 5:30 pm
At the center section of the Brooklyn Bridge

As we prepare to face the challenges ahead, let us acknowledge that the protection of our common home is our sacred responsibility.

Bring a battery-operated candle or tealight if you can. We will pray with our lights of hope.
Meet at Starbucks on Beekman and Park Row between 4pm and 4:15pm to walk together.

Contact Nancy Lorence for further details (n.lorence2013@gmail.com) Sponsored by GreenFaith and endorsed by the Franciscan Action Network and the Metro NY Catholic Climate Movement.

Scriptures & Announced Masses

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:
Isa 8:23-9:3; 1 Col 1:10-13, 17; Matt 4:12-23.

THIRD MONDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:
Heb 9:15, 24-28; Mark 3:22-30.

7:45AM JULIUS ANDREWS (D)
12:05PM JOSEPH DAMIAN RYAN (D)

**TUESDAY~FEAST OF
ST. FRANCIS DE SALES:**
Heb 10:1-10; Mark 3:31-35.

7:45AM JULIUS ANDREWS (D)
12:05PM JOSEPH DAMIAN RYAN (D)

**WEDNESDAY~FEAST OF THE
CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL THE
APOSTLE:** Acts 22:3-16; Mark 16:15-18.

7:45AM LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)
12:05PM TIN LEUNG LEE (D)

**THURSDAY~ FEAST OF STS. TIMOTHY
AND TITUS:** Tim 1:1-8; Mark 4:21-25.

7:45AM MATTHEW & LUCY FURMATO (L)
12:05PM LILLIAN JEAN O'DAIRE LAWRENCE (D)

THIRD FRIDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:
Heb 10:32-39; Mark 4:26-34.

7:45AM TOM RAINONE (D)
12:05PM MATTHEW & LUCY FURMATO (L)

**SATURDAY~FEAST OF ST. THOMAS
AQUINAS:** Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Mark 4:35-41.
12:05PM DANIEL COOPER (D)

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:
Zeh 2:3; 3:12-13; 1 Col 1:26-31; Matt 5:1-12a.

**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

XAVIER ADULT GROUP: 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 sfxgsgroup@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 Larry Ruth 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