



# 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)



Jesus said to his disciples: “You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. (Matt 5:13-14)

**SECOND COLLECTION**  
to benefit Peter's Pence

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**February 5, 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](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, February 11<sup>th</sup>**

5:00pm Mass(Vigil): *Rev. Samuel Sawyer, SJ*

### **Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>**

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

*Antonio Bird, John Bucki SJ, Philip Brassel, Alex Campbell,  
Nicole and Jason Chauvin, Carol Davis, Charmaine Diehl,  
Ellie DiLiberto, 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, Nicole Minson,  
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:

*Joan Argiro, Eileen DeBernardis, Anne Legano,  
Lino T. Macarag, Leonard Perroots, Patricia Sullivan*

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,

By the time you are reading this, the Pastoral Council, heads of ministries and Parish staff will have met in a day-long meeting to ask some very important questions about parish life. We want to have a better idea of who we are as a parish community and how we can better serve all who consider Xavier their spiritual home. We also want to explore ways in which we can engage our parishioners in parish activities that include spiritual and theological formation as well as service and outreach. There are many people who come to Xavier and find it a place of welcome where the Spirit of God is very much alive. There is something contagious about the energy that comes through the active participation of parishioners in the liturgy. This spirit overflows into service at the Mission, and a host of other ministries.

At the same time, there are many who may want to become more involved and engaged but don't know how to do this. There may be people who see themselves in a certain demographic whose needs are not being met. We pride ourselves as being a very welcoming and inclusive Catholic parish but there is always room for growth. These are some of the challenges we will be addressing at our meeting.

I am sure that we will also be speaking of the climate of "mistrust" that is pervasive in our country. As Catholic Christians we face a dramatic challenge of acting in a way that is in alignment with our social justice teaching, especially as it is articulated in the Beatitudes and the Sermon on the Mount. We will need to address the ways in which we at Xavier can "let our light shine before others, that they may see our good deeds and give God greater glory".

Let us pray for each other, for our church and especially for our country!

Sincerely,

**Fr. Bob**



Attention ALL Fellow 20 & 30-Somethings! The countdown continues... Yes, our first monthly meeting of the year is fast approaching! We invite you and your friends to join us: **Sunday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>**, immediately following the 5pm mass in the West Room. Our member Tanya S. will lead a discussion on excerpts from Vatican II's "church in the modern world gaudium et spes" document. Come join the lively discourse with other gorgeous, socially-conscious, and dynamic individuals. We welcome ALL... single, married, gay or straight. [sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com](mailto:sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com)

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

On **February 11<sup>th</sup>**, the *World Day of the Sick*, the sacrament of Anointing will be offered **during the 5PM** Liturgy. For those unable to attend the 5PM liturgy, the sacrament will be available following the 9AM and 11:30 liturgies.

### 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 7<sup>th</sup>**, in the Parish House at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, 980 Park Avenue (between 83<sup>rd</sup> Street and 84<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:EmmausBereavementGroup@gmail.com). Registration is required.

Annual Contribution Statements have been mailed. Please expect them shortly.

## The Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal 2017

If you have not already, you will be receiving a letter from Cardinal Dolan, along with materials that illustrate the depp importance of the *Cardinal's Appeal* to our community. Part of being a steward means living with trust in God's generosity and responsibly tending that which God has entrusted to us. Cardinal Dolan is asking you to participate by making a gift to this important annual initiative.

Your Gift to the *Appeal*:

- Supports offices, ministries, and programs throughout the archdiocese that nurture and encourage our journey in faith.
- Helps educate our children in our Catholic schools and religious education programs.
- Provides for retired priests and religious by giving them the retirement care they deserve after decades of service.
- Helps to educate our future clergy and prepare them for a life of service.
- Helps fund Catholic Charities, which provides loving care to millions of people in our archdiocese.

The archdiocesan goal for the *2017 Appeal* is \$20 million. Our individual parish goal is **\$100,500.00**. You can pledge online at [www.cardinalsappeal.org](http://www.cardinalsappeal.org). If you need time to think about your gift, you will be given an opportunity to make your pledge during Mass on Commitment Weekend on March 18/19. Thank you so much for your support of the Appeal and please pray for its success at our parish.

### MOVEMENT/ DANCE PRAYER WORKSHOP

Fr. Bob will be offering another movement/dance prayer workshop on Saturday morning **February 11<sup>th</sup> from 10am-12pm 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. [rverecke@sfxavier.org](mailto:rverecke@sfxavier.org)

## XAVIER BIBLE STUDY

### WOMEN'S POWER IN THE BIBLE

*Where is it?*

*What is it?*

*How is it co-opted?*

And how can we grow in our connection to it? Wednesday evenings throughout the Lent and Easter Seasons, **beginning March 8th**, join us for lecture, discussion and faith-sharing as we encounter women's power in the Bible and see where it takes us. All women and men of the parish are welcome to attend.

To register contact [XavierBibleStudy@gmail.com](mailto:XavierBibleStudy@gmail.com), call Parish Offices at 212-627-2100, or see the parish website under "Faith Formation" and "Bible Study".

*This class is taught by Dr. Elizabeth Berne DeGear, BCC. A parishioner at Xavier since 1995, Lizzie has her doctorate in theology from Union Theological Seminary where she studied the Hebrew Bible and psychoanalytic theory. Her masters thesis at Fordham's Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education focused on the Sunday Lectionary and the Gospels. Recent publications include For She Has Heard: The Standing Stone in Joshua 24, and "The Bible as Transformational Object." Dr. DeGear is also a board-certified chaplain with the National Association of Catholic Chaplains.*

*"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**.



## CALLING ALL MADONNAS AND MICHAEL JACKSONS!

Join us for the 1980s Prom Night!  
[www.xaviermission.org/dinnerdance](http://www.xaviermission.org/dinnerdance)

Join us on **Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>** as we go Back to the Future with Xavier Mission's 1980s Prom Night Dinner Dance!

This fundraiser is a crucial part of the Mission's ability to serve more than 50,000 people each year with meals, clothing, shelter, life-skills and mentoring, and rental assistance.

This year's party will include dinner, dancing, karaoke, a silent auction, and 50/50 raffle! We encourage you to channel your inner Madonna or Michael Jackson and dress like you did in 1980s!

Visit [www.xaviermission.org/dinnerdance](http://www.xaviermission.org/dinnerdance) to buy individual tickets or to sponsor a table. We look forward to seeing you on this most radical night!

### **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*- \$5000 (8 tickets, 8 drink tickets, ¼ page ad in program, third tier billing on website)

## **TWO DREAMS**

Fr George Drance's theater company Magis will be presenting two versions of Calderon's classic drama, *Life is a Dream* at the LaMama Theater from **February 9<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>**. Fr. Drance is well-known to the Xavier Parish community for his work with LaMama. For tickets, please go to the [lamama.org](http://lamama.org) website.

Save the date for a *Social Hour*

on **February 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**after the Saturday 5pm Mass**

sponsored by the *Pastoral Council*.  
Come for refreshments and conversation  
with your fellow parishioners.

All are welcome.

*"Out of darkness the light shall shine."*  
**A Lenten Retreat at Xavier**



**Opening: Sunday, March 5, 1:30pm**  
**Closing: Saturday April 8, 10:00am**

This Lent, find peace in your life in a personal retreat.

Spend time each day with suggested Lenten scripture and seasonal readings. Meet one-on-one with a Spiritual Director for 5 weeks to explore and deepen your Lenten experience.

Spiritual Direction will be offered on Wednesday evenings or other times scheduled with your director.

**Suggested donation is \$50.**  
**Please apply by Ash Wednesday, March 1.**  
**Space is limited.**

Applications are available by email and at reception or church entrance.

Please return to reception at 55 West 15<sup>th</sup> St. or by email. [mariebannister1@gmail.com](mailto:mariebannister1@gmail.com). Questions? Call 917.301. 2426

**WALKING RETREAT PILGRIMAGE  
TO FATIMA AND  
SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA**

**May 1<sup>st</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>**  
***Spiritual guide: Fr. Joseph Weiss, SJ***

For more information please contact  
[angiecruzphd@gmail.com](mailto:angiecruzphd@gmail.com) or  
call 917-607-0937.

**Community~Spiritual Sing**

**Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>~2:00pm**  
**St. George's Church**  
**7 Rutherford Place on Stuyvesant Park**  
**East of Third Avenue between 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> Streets**

*Commemorating Black History Month and the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday of late composer, arranger, baritone Harry Thacker Burleigh. All backgrounds & singing levels welcome*

Information:  
**646-723-4178 or [info@calstg.org](mailto:info@calstg.org)**

As part of the new **Spiritual Director Formation Program**, we are currently looking for individuals who are interested in spiritual direction with one of our student-directors on a monthly basis. If you are interested or even just curious, you are encouraged to attend a brief Information Session on **Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am in the Mary Chapel**. We will discuss the basics of spiritual direction and provide details on being directee in the program. For more info contact *Bob Choiniere* at 212-627-2100, ext 225 or [rchoiniere@sfxavier.org](mailto:rchoiniere@sfxavier.org).

**AN AFTERNOON  
AT THE XAVIER SALON**

**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup> ~2:30pm**



Come hear our best art song singers sing songs from the early 19<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup> century:  
*Ladd Boris, Alex Grant, Marti Homes, Joe Palarca, HaQuyen Pham, John Uehlein, and Anna Zhukovskaya*

## Scriptures & Announced Masses

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:**  
Isa 58:7-10; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Matt 5:13-16.

**MONDAY~FEAST OF ST. PAUL MIKI:**  
Gen 1:1-19; Mark 6:53-56.

7:45AM KATE CARNEY (D)  
12:05PM JAMES NEELAN (D)

**FIFTH TUESDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:**  
Gen 1:20-2:4a; Mark 7:1-13.

7:45AM LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)  
12:05PM DEVERLY OBERBROECKLING (D)

**FIFTH WEDNESDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:** Gen 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mark 7:14-23.

7:45AM ROSE SCHULTZ (D)  
12:05PM JIMMY WALLACE (D)

**FIFTH THURSDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:**  
Gen 2:18-25; Mark 7:24-30.

7:45AM IAN HAGAN (D)  
12:05PM ERIN RODRIGUEZ (D)

**FRIDAY~FEAST OF ST. SCHOLASTICA:**  
Gen 3:1-8; Mark 7:31-37.

7:45AM ISEMENI ESTEVEZ(D)  
12:05PM GARRET LAMBERT (D)

**FIFTH SATURDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:**  
Gen 3:9-24; Mark 8:1-10.

12:05PM THOMAS STEMBERG (D)

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:**  
Sir 15:15-20; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Matt 5:17-37.

**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)

**XAVIER ADULT GROUP:** 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 [sfxgsgroup@gmail.com](mailto:sfxgsgroup@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 Ruth 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)