



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



Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. (Matt 17:1-2)

SECOND COLLECTION
to benefit Xavier Mission

Second Sunday of Lent

March 12, 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 mini-
mum of six months before qualifying for a
sponsor letter to be verified as a parishioner.**

Next Weekend Presider Schedule

Saturday, March 18th

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

Sunday, March 19th

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

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

5:00pm Mass: *Rev. Patrick Gilger, SJ*

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

*June Best, Antonio Bird, John Bucki SJ, Philip Brassel,
Alex Campbell, Carol Davis, Charmaine Diehl,
Ellie DiLiberto, Margaret English, Joaquin Gager,
Victor Gaston, Monsignor Neil Graham, Marian Lizzio,
Albert Longo, Greg Lugliani, Lou Mauro SJ,
Kay Mazzo, John McCarthy, Ron Miller, Nicole Minson,
Marisol Miro, Kathy Mulvaney, Leticia Mutuc,
Lillian May Reilly Palmer, Campbell Phillips, Jim Reidy,
William Reilly, Vivian Roth, Dr. Michael Silane, Bert Sisco,
Rocco Scura, Alice Sharkey, Amando Solero,
Loretta Tommasulo, Gregory Turner, Rita Velez,
Carl Wassmann*

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

*Joan Argiro, Eleanor Bibbo, Christopher Connolly,
Eileen DeBernardis, Anne Legano, Lino T. Macaraeg,
Angel Madrid, Decio Di Nola, Leonard Perroots,
Veronica Reeder*

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,

This past Monday, your Pastoral Council met to reflect together on some of the issues that were raised during our February day of reflection and planning. One of the most urgent was a pastoral response to the needs of our brothers and sisters who are afraid of deportation and being separated from their families. In this Lenten season we have the opportunity to put into practice the gospel of mercy and compassion that we hear in Matthew 25. "When did we see you hungry, homeless, in prison, etc. and care for you?" Jesus' response is "Whenever you did this to the least of my brothers and sisters, you did it to me". In the light of this challenge to recognize the human dignity of each person, many of you have asked how we can respond as a parish community. A number of parishioners have been involved in "Know your rights" training as well as exploring the process of becoming a "short term" sanctuary Church. I met with Fr Julian who directs the Migrant Center at St Francis and he has encouraged us to let parishioners know how they can volunteer at the center. He also asked us to sponsor a forum on Immigration that we are in the process of planning. The parish's relationship with the Mercy Center in the Bronx gives us another opportunity to know the stories of many who have come to our country seeking refuge and hope. There is also a 24 hour program "City of Refuge" on March 14th/15th You can find more information on this in the bulletin.

May the "transfiguring" light of Jesus Christ guide our way during these challenging times when we are called to see each person as a brother and sister and all as "children of God".

In Christ,
Father Bob

COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

The parish is looking for people who work with social media, websites and other areas of communication to come together and look at our use of media and help us to improve communications with our parishioners and others. If you have the skill and the interest, please contact *Stephanie Fuentes* at sfuentes@sfxavier.org

EXAMEN FOR THE SECOND WEEK OF LENT

In the tradition of Ignatius we open our hearts and minds to God's loving guidance through the spirit of Jesus Christ. Together let us reflect on our day with God as our guide and Jesus walking beside us.

Lord, we realize that everything, even ourselves, is a gift from you.

What blessings are you most grateful for today?

Lord, open our eyes and ears to be more honest with ourselves.

What obstacles do you need to remove to follow the Lord more closely this Lent?

Lord, show us what has been happening to us and in us this day.

Where and in whose face have you seen God today?
Where and when have you seen the face of Jesus?

Lord, we are still learning to grow in your love.
What is the Lord's voice saying to you today?

Lord, let us look with longing toward the future.
How can you love and serve the Lord and others this lent?

ORGAN CONCERT

WITH DANIEL ROTH
ORGANIST

Tuesday, March 28th
7:30pm~Main Church

Daniel Roth is Titular Organist at St. Suplice in Paris. He has been widely acclaimed as one of the leading French organ virtuosos, and has held several prestigious positions as an artist and teacher. Daniel Roth has won several competitions, among them the Grand Prix de Chartres in 1971 for both interpretation and improvisation.

"His strong technique ... the wild character of his improvisations as well as his accomplished knowledge of harmony have rightly impressed the audience."



“Our relationship with the environment can never be isolated from our relationship with others and with God.”
Pope Francis (LS 119)

Hello again 20 & 30-somethings! We are well into the Lenten season, the ideal time to discern and reflect on our daily habits and future actions. You are personally invited to join us in our discussion on the monumental Paris Climate Agreement, lead by our member, Thomas D. So if you are concerned about our world’s climate, or simply would like to learn more on this consequential accord, come join the informative and poignant discourse with other gorgeous, socially-conscious, and fantastic individuals as we discuss our role in today’s ever-changing environment.

Sunday, March 12th, immediately following the 5pm mass in the Mary Chapel. We welcome ALL... single, married, gay or straight.
sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com

INTERFAITH PASSOVER SEDER

Led by Rabbis Perry and Leah Berkowitz

Sunday, April 2nd
6:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Hurtado Hall
Price \$30

Reserve your seat by paying at the front desk or through the Eventbrite link posted on our web page www.sfxavier.org (Donate for someone who cannot afford to pay, for musicians and/or for the Xavier Interfaith Committee)

Rabbi Perry and Rabbi Leah Berkowitz are founders of East Side Synagogue that stresses a contemporary, creative and spiritual Judaism. They also lead the American Jewish Heritage Organization, a national organization that combats hatred, antisemitism, and bigotry of all kinds.

March is Women’s History Month

SOR JUANA INÉS DE LA CRUZ: THE FORMIDABLE 17TH CENTURY FEMINIST YOU’VE NEVER HEARD OF

By Christine Santisteban

Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, O.S.H. (November 12, 1651 – April 17, 1695), was a Mexican nun of the order of Saint Jerome (Hieronymite). She was a notorious self-taught scholar, mystic, philosopher and poet of the Baroque school of New Spain, known in her lifetime as “The Tenth Muse”, or “The Phoenix of America.” The title also suggestive that she may have been a lesbian. Juana learned to read at age 3. By age 8 she was studying Latin and pursuing interests in every field of knowledge.

To read more please visit our website at www.sfxavier.org under the Women’s Ministry tab. Once a week for the month of March there will be an article regarding a women in history featured in our bulletin.

It Was the Women Who Stayed will inaugurate

A MONTHLY SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN

For all women interested in “feeding their spirit” and deepening their spiritual journey by sharing their lived wisdom.

Friday, March 24th
7pm - 9pm

Xavier High School in the Arrupe Library

Food to share is requested and prayer will be provided.

A Closer Walk with Jesus & Catholic Lesbians presents

MARTHA HENNESSY

Dorothy Day’s Granddaughter

Friday, April 7th

6:00 pm–9:00 pm~West Room

Dorothy Day was an activist who worked for such social causes as pacifism and women’s suffrage through the prism of the Catholic church. Hear about her from the perspective of one of her grandchildren, Martha Hennessy, whose sister’s Kate book, *The World Will Be Saved by Beauty*, was just released. The first thirty minutes will be to socialize and settle in and then we’ll get started. Bring a beverage and/or snack to share, and contact ACloserWalkJesus@aol.com, SFXWomen@aol.com or (917) 297-6804 for more information.



CHANGE A LIFE!

Our next class of L-STEP participants has just begun their semester and is looking forward to an exciting 14 weeks ahead! Please consider sponsoring one of our L-STEP Participants and ensuring them a life-changing experience! If you cannot sponsor the full amount, please consider covering a portion of the expenses, as outlined below. The breakdown for one participant is:

Stipends	\$300.00 (\$10 per session, 30 sessions)
MetroCards	\$165.00 (\$5.50 MetroCard per session, 30 sessions)
Food	\$90.00 (\$3.00 per meal, 30 meals)
Supplies	\$30.00 (\$1.00 per session, 30 sessions)
Administrative	\$65.00
Total	\$650.00

Please contact *Rachel Johnson* at rjohnson@xaviermission.org or 929-326-2242 with any questions!

GOT LIFE?

If you've got life-experience, then you're just who we're looking for! We are looking for caring, compassionate mentors for the Fall semester of L-STEP. L-STEP assists homeless individuals with moving forward with their lives.

- L-STEP MENTORS commit to eight Wednesday evening sessions, plus the Stepping Stones & Graduation Ceremony, to assist individuals with goal-setting, story presentation, and successfully completing the program. Mentors must attend a training on March 18th at 9:00am.

Please contact *Rachel Johnson* at rjohnson@xaviermission.org or 929-326-2242. Thanks!

THE CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2017

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. 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.

“ALL CREATION GROANING”

A conversation on the pain and suffering in our lives. Come, join the conversation with members of our Xavier community on an important part of our lives. The conversation is based on Dr. Elizabeth's Johnson's *Ask the Beasts*, Chapter 7 -- “All Creation Groaning”. Quotes from the chapter will be offered for discussion.

Saturday, April 1st at 2:00 pm
Mary Chapel

For more information or to reserve a place, please contact *Marie Bannister* at mariebannister1@gmail.com, 917 301 2426, or *Catherine Wolfe* at cohwolfe@gmail.com.

Sponsored by The Lay Spirituality Program

Xavier Adult Group

ST. PATRICK AND ST. JOSEPH CELEBRATION

Wednesday, March 15th
1:00 pm in the West Room

Join the Xavier Adult Group to celebrate St. Patrick and St. Joseph. This popular annual event is an afternoon of fun, stories, and food. Bring a dish to share, a poem, a joke, or your favorite story. All are welcome.

SUGGESTED XAVIER LENTEN PRACTICE

Xavier Family: Listening to our Different Voices “All are Welcome” has been a hallmark of the Xavier community for as long as we can remember. However, the divisiveness that erupted from the Presidential election has made it difficult to hear our diverse views without triggering a negative emotional reaction. This is regrettable as it not only tears down the fabric of our Gospel message, but also makes us lose sight of the fact that we are ONE in CHRIST. Lent offers us an opportunity for a faith community such as ours to recommit itself to the Body of Christ because we truly believe “all are welcome”.

In response to this dynamic, the Pastoral Council and the Xavier Peace and Justice Committee invite us as a community to:

- Abstain this Lent from harsh judgment of those with views other than ours in thought and word.
- Attend a 4 part series, 2 during Lent and 2 in the Easter season where we will address this divisiveness through practices that include prayer, meditation, communication skills building and respectful listening and speaking.

The dates for the gatherings are March 20 and 27 for Lent and April 17 and 24 for the Easter Season. The sessions will be held in the Xavier High School Chapel from 7:00 to 8:30pm.

We request you let us know if you wish to attend. To register or for more information email Ed Poliandro at e.poliandro@att.net, or Catherine Wolfe at cohwolfe@gmail.com or Elda Luisi at eluisi@aol.com

HOUSING FOR A PARISH GUEST

Fr Bob is asking if anyone who has extra room would be able to offer lodging to a guest of the parish from April 5th thru April 10th. Lisa Altimranda is a Colombian woman who has worked closely with the Jesuits in Colombia and spent a few months at St Ignatius in Chestnut Hill where Fr Bob was pastor. Please let Fr Bob know if you might be able to extend hospitality.

SEEKING EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR HOSPITAL MINISTRY AT MOUNT SINAI BETH ISRAEL

MSBI's Department of Spiritual Care Education seeks Eucharistic Ministers to bring Holy Communion and comfort to patients at Mount Sinai Beth Israel.

What do I need to do to get involved?

*Contact *Rabbi Jo Hirschmann* at 917-842- 6091 or jo.hirschmann@mountsinai.org to let her know you are interested in this.

*Be willing to make a minimum weekly time commitment of one hour of ministry at MSBI.

*Complete MSBI's onboarding process and go through an orientation and training.

If you would like to participate in the ministry of bringing Holy Communion to the sick, we would love to hear from you.

City of Refuge is a 24-hour interfaith mobilization on **Tuesday and Wednesday March 14-15**. Programs will be downtown including a march on Wall Street and Faith and Education Services at Trinity Church. This partnership of various faith and grassroot groups is sponsored by African Communities Together. They are calling for humanitarian immigration policies and spreading education about refugee and immigration services.

For over 25 years *Mercy Center* has promoted community and transformation for women and their families in the South Bronx. Many in the Xavier community have contributed their time, talent and financial support to this effort. This year's Gala will raise funds for Mercy Center's work on behalf of immigrants and new Americans. Xavier parishioners are welcome to attend and/or donate to the Gala to be held on **Thursday, March 16th in Manhattan**. For further details, visit www.mercycenterbronx.org.

Brooklyn Jesuit Prep is holding its annual fundraiser on **Thursday, March 16th at Fordham-Lincoln Center**. This event is a great opportunity to meet BJP students and mingle with supporters of Brooklyn Jesuit Prep's important mission. A current student will give a musical performance and a current parent will speak about what BJP has done for her child. The evening runs from 6:30pm to 9:00 pm and will include an open bar and delicious hors d'oeuvres. Enjoy raffles, a silent auction and music provided by the *Xavier High School Jazz Ensemble*. Tickets may be purchased in advance on BJP's website or at the door on the night of the event.

More information about the school can be found on its website: www.brooklynjesuit.org.

Scriptures & Announced Masses

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Gen 12:1-4a; 2 Tim 1:8b-10; Matt 17:1-9.

SECOND MONDAY OF LENT:

Dan 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38.

7:45AM DANNY, JULIE, AND WESTON FORBES (L)
12:05PM KATE CARNEY (D)

SECOND TUESDAY OF LENT:

Isa 1:10, 16-20; Matt 20:17-28.

7:45AM LOURDES MORTEL BIRTHDAY (L)
12:05PM MARY CATHERINE FINNEGAN (D)

SECOND WEDNESDAY OF LENT:

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

7:45AM HEMLATTA MCHALA (D)
12:05PM KELLY GOTTSCHALL (D)

SECOND THURSDAY OF LENT:

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

7:45AM HUGHIE FERRY (D)
12:05PM VERONICA REEDER (D)

SECOND FRIDAY OF LENT:

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

7:45AM JANINE ULLETTE (D)
12:05PM ROGER McTIERNAN (D)

SECOND SATURDAY OF LENT:

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

12:05PM DENYSE ROBINSON (D)

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Exod 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42.

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

THE LITURGICAL MINISTRY

The Church of St. Francis Xavier offers different opportunities for adults, young adults, adolescents, and children to participate actively in our parish life. One of these opportunities is as liturgical minister at each Mass. At the moment we need women willing to serve as Eucharist ministers. We also need men and women ministers of hospitality at every Mass. For more information on these ministries, please visit our website <https://sfxavier.org/liturgical-ministries>.

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 Friday, 6 p.m., West Room, SEXWomen@aol.com.

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, 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 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