



# 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)



Come to him, a living stone, rejected by human beings but chosen and precious in the sight of God, and, like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house. (1 Peter 2:6)

**SPECIAL COLLECTION**  
to benefit the  
National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 14, 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 minimum of six months before qualifying for a sponsor letter to be verified as a parishioner.**

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

### **Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**

9:00am Mass: *Rev. Robert VerEecke, SJ*

11:30am Mass: *Rev. Samuel Sawyer, SJ*

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

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

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

*Sean Adcroft, Maria Antonia Araujo, John Bucki SJ, Alex Campbell, Luceil Carroll, Eileen Cleary, Normita Crystal, Florence Demopoulis, Elizabeth Flynn, Monsignor Neil Graham, Patricia Joseph-Lyle, Fr. Thomas Kallumady, Patricia Anne Keenan, Robert Lapidis, Molly Mae LeBlanc, June LeBell, Molly Mae LeBlanc, Michael Leahy, Marian Lizzio, Lou Mauro SJ, Nicole Minson, Marisol Miro, Sailani Morales, Kathy Mulvaney, Lillian May, Campbell Grant Phillips, Jeff Roberts, Edminda Sanchez, Rocco Scura, Matt Simzik, Sal Talarico, Carl Wassmann, Diane Weyers, Benjamin Yabut*

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

*Msgr. John Ahern, Nicholas Antamos Sellas, Michael Barbagallo, Amelia Blanquera, Fr. Neil Connolly, Brian Danis, Jim Donohue, Pablo Forte, Gloria Maldonado, Mary Pat O'Connor, Amy Phillips, Ana Maria Rodriguez-Andaluz, Michael Santorsa*

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,

Happy Mother's Day! This weekend we give thanks for the gift of our mothers, grandmothers, great grandmothers, godmothers and all those who have been life givers to us in the unique way a mother gives life. It is ironic that on this Mother's day weekend the Gospel today mentions God the Father 12 times! Hearing Jesus speak of his intimate relationship with the Father we can easily forget that God as the source and well- spring of life is "Mother". One of my favorite mystics, Julian of Norwich speaks of "our tender mother, Jesus". She reminds us that as a mother gives her life and nourishes the child of her womb with her own body and blood, so Jesus has not only given his life for us but also feeds and nourishes us with his life in the Eucharist. All of this is to again affirm the mystery of God who nurtures us and sustains us in life with "motherly/ fatherly" care.

On another note, I met with some parishioners who have volunteered to share their expertise in media and communications so that our parish community can be "connected". They are in the process of putting together a survey that will help us determine how we can better communicate with you about what is going on in the parish. One of the greatest challenges we face is an "updated" contact list. We have more than 3000 "contacts" and yet we find that many are outdated, have changed their contact information or are no longer in need of communication from the parish. If you are reading this and do not receive the personal message I send through Constant Contact, I would be grateful if you would let me know. Please send me an email at [rvereecke@sfxavier.org](mailto:rvereecke@sfxavier.org) and I will make sure you get these communications. You don't know what you're missing 😊

I continue to pray the joy of the Risen Christ will fill your minds and hearts during this Easter Season.

In the peace and joy of the Risen Christ,

**Fr. Bob**

*The steering committee of*

### **IT WAS THE WOMEN WHO STAYED**

*will be gathering later this month to draft a mission statement for our women's ministry.*

What do you think should be part of our mission?

Please let us know so that we can include your vision as we move into the future.

Please email us at

**[TheWomenWhoStayed@gmail.com](mailto:TheWomenWhoStayed@gmail.com)**

*Save the date for a*

### **SOCIAL HOUR**

**on May 21<sup>st</sup>  
after the Sunday 5pm Mass**

*Come for refreshments and conversation  
with your fellow parishioners.*

*All are welcome.*

*Sponsored by the Pastoral Council*

We are creating care community to provide support and assistance for **Mary Rentas**, a longtime parishioner of St. Francis Xavier Church and volunteer of Xavier Mission. Mary is having more difficulty getting around and managing daily tasks and we as her Xavier family are here to take care of her, a small way to return the favor for all she has done for us! If you are interested in assisting, please visit <https://my.lotsahelpinghands.com/community/maryrentas> to sign up for updates and volunteer for tasks. You can also call *Cassandra Agredo* at 212-627-2100, x208 if you want to help but don't have Internet access.



Attention ALL charismatic Twenty & Thirty-Somethings! Our Annual Xavier Young Adults Spring Brunch is fast approaching. Harry's Italian, Battery Park City at 1:30pm is the place to be next Sunday, 5/21. Please email us directly and reserve a spot for yourselves for the all-inclusive \$30/person brunch which promises to be a most brilliant occasion. Spots are limited! What better way to meet other other gorgeous, socially-conscious, and savvy fellow New Yorkers, than during the ubiquitous NYC Brunch. Cheers!

ALL are welcome... single, married, LGBT, and straight! [sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com](mailto:sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com)

*On Behalf of the Xavier Young Adults Group, we want to wish all Mothers a most wonderful day!*

*Interested in growing closer to God?*

*"Open the eyes of your heart and see."-Isaiah 60:3*

**THE LAY SPIRITUALITY PROGRAM  
OF THE CHURCH OF  
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER  
OFFERS YOU A WAY.**

For 30 years, Lay Spirits has sponsored a spiritual formation program. Through presentations from guest speakers, personal reflection and spiritual conversation, participants seek a closer connection to God and accompany each other on the journey.

Consider joining the next Lay Spirits group scheduled to begin in September 2017.

Join us for an information meeting.

**THURSDAY, MAY 25<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30 PM  
IN THE WEST ROOM**

Questions?

*Claudette Pulido* – [claudettepulido@gmail.com](mailto:claudettepulido@gmail.com) or

*Pat Galligan* – [patg48@hotmail.com](mailto:patg48@hotmail.com)

Call or email Lay Spirits:

(212) 627-2100, ext. 216 [layspiritsnyc@gmail.com](mailto:layspiritsnyc@gmail.com)

Visit our website at [www.layspiritsnyc.org](http://www.layspiritsnyc.org).

**AIDS WALK  
NEW YORK 2017**

Team members will be manning a table set up at the back of the church after each Mass.



Please consider making a cash/check donation

Checks made payable to: AIDS Walk New York (legend Team #1250)

Contribute online:

<https://ny.aidswalk.net/churchofstfrancisxavier>

## Catholic Lesbians

Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 pm–9:00 pm  
West Room

Jamaica Kincaid's My Brother, Angels In America 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Patient Zero, Truvada, Vision 2020, patron saints of people with HIV/AIDS— "AIDS is not over," says Tess Thompson, MSW. She will put together all of these elements in a comprehensive presentation on what we can do to fight back and end AIDS. Please bring a beverage and/or snack to share. Contact [SFXWomen@aol.com](mailto:SFXWomen@aol.com) or (917) 297-6804 for more information.

## Zen Spirit/Christian Spirit at Xavier

Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>  
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](mailto:schubertnyc@gmail.com) or calling 212-260-2486. A \$20 donation is suggested to cover lunch and refreshments.

## THE CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2017

Thank you for all of your pledges. You can still pledge online at [www.cardinalsappeal.org](http://www.cardinalsappeal.org) towards our parish goal of \$100,500. Please consider making a pledge. Thank you so much for your support of the Appeal and please pray for its success at our parish.

*"Let no one walk alone.  
The journey makes us one."*

## 24<sup>TH</sup> LGBT ANNIVERSARY MASS AT XAVIER

Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>  
7:00pm  
Main Church

All are welcome, with great joy you are invited to share our celebration of Eucharist; as we are all Eucharist for each other.

*There will be a coffee and cake reception  
in the Mary Chapel immediately following the Mass.*

## MARY IN THE MODERN WORLD

*At all the key moments in the coming to life of the  
Society of Jesus, Mary was there.*

*Lay Spirits invites you to participate in an evening of  
prayer, presentation, Ignatian guided mediation and  
discussion.*

**Date:** May 23<sup>rd</sup>  
**Time:** 6PM- 9PM  
**Place:** Mary Chapel



Refreshments to follow  
in the West Room.

If you have any questions, please contact  
[layspiritsNYC@gmail.com](mailto:layspiritsNYC@gmail.com).

## *Xavier Adult Group*



**Wednesday,  
May 24<sup>th</sup>**

Join us for a guided tour of the *Museum of Jewish Heritage-A Living Memorial to the Holocaust*. The Core Exhibition is a collection of 25,000 pieces that includes artifacts, photographs, and documentary films. Our gallery educator will help us understand Jewish life from the perspective of those who lived it. The cost of the tour is \$14 and includes admission. We will meet at the 15th street entrance to Xavier at 12:30 and travel by subway to the museum.

Please email [xavieradultgroup@gmail.com](mailto:xavieradultgroup@gmail.com) or call Tom and Nancy 212-929-3157 if you plan to join us. All are welcome.

### **Stewardship at SFX Easter Collection**

We are grateful for your generous support during the Easter season. Whether you gave your time to serve during the liturgies or share your musical talents or volunteer to decorate the church or share your financial blessings with the parish...or a little bit of everything, we want you to know it is greatly appreciated! Our Easter collection of \$47,361 was below our budget of \$53,000 and last year's total of \$49,155. We received \$4,816 for Easter flowers compared to \$5,292 last year. It is only through your gifts can we make a difference in the lives of those we serve. We also want to thank the 337 donors now using FaithDirect to make their Sunday Offertory and other collections like Easter and flowers. This is an increase of 60 donors over last Easter. Please consider joining the other donors who use Faith Direct for their Sunday offertory and other collections. You can sign up online by clicking the Donate Now button on the upper-right hand corner of our homepage or mail in an enrollment form available in the back of the church or from the parish office.

## **THIS WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION**

The completion of the Trinity Dome, in preparation for the one hundredth anniversary of the placing of the foundation stone of the National Shrine in 2020, is a monumental undertaking for which the bishops of the United States have approved a special one-time collection to take place on this Mother's Day.

The *Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception* is the patronal church of our nation, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception. This great Marian shrine exists today because of the generosity of American Catholics, the prayers of the faithful, and the hard work of the artisans and laborers who began building it nearly one hundred years ago. Mary's Shrine, also known as America's Catholic Church, is an authentic reflection of the diversity of the cultures and ethnicities of the United States and the unity and universality of the Catholic Church as evidenced in the more than eighty chapels and oratories dedicated to Our Blessed Mother.

This one-time national collection for the Trinity Dome offers all of us an opportunity to leave a lasting legacy by honoring our Catholic heritage and entrusting ourselves and our families to the Mother of God.

## *Brief Notices in Other Places*

### **SPA FOR THE ARTIST'S AND WRITER'S SOUL: REFLECT, RELAX, AND RECHARGE**

June 11 - June 17

The Mariandale Retreat and Conference Center

Set in the peaceful surroundings of the Mariandale Retreat Center, the week will be illuminated by optional morning writing workshops, time to explore the gardens and fields, time and space for personal writing and art, evening discussions on spirituality and an opportunity to simply rest and reflect in the stillness. Bring journals and writing and art supplies as desired. Relax, Reflect, and Recharge is a week for the self, and an invitation to a week of inspiration.

<http://mariandale.org/event/reflect-relax-recharge/>

*The Mariandale Retreat and Conference Center is a sponsored ministry of the Dominican Sisters of Hope.*

## Scriptures & Announced Masses

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:**  
Acts 6:1-7; 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12.

**FIFTH MONDAY OF EASTER:**  
Acts 14:5-18; John 14:21-26.

7:45AM JAMES MARTINEZ, SR. (D)  
12:05PM GLORIA MALDONADO (D)

**FIFTH TUESDAY OF EASTER:**  
Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31a.

7:45AM LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)  
12:05PM JORGE SUAU (L)

**FIFTH WEDNESDAY OF EASTER:**  
Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8.

7:45AM FRANK PEPPY (D)  
12:05PM VINCENT ELWOOD (D)

**FIFTH THURSDAY OF EASTER:**  
Acts 15:7-21; John 15:9-11.

7:45AM AVAILABLE  
12:05PM ROBERT JOEDICKE (D)

**FIFTH FRIDAY OF EASTER:**  
Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17.

7:45AM PAUL WALTER (D)  
12:05PM ANNITO QUAGLIA (D)

**FIFTH SATURDAY OF EASTER:**  
Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21.

12:05PM MARIO AMBROSECCHIA (D)

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:**  
Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21.

**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](mailto:abilityxaviernewyork@gmail.com)

**XAVIER ADULT GROUP:** Once a month we have informative meetings or attend interesting events around the city. Contact [xavieradultgroup@gmail.com](mailto:xavieradultgroup@gmail.com)

**CATHOLIC LESBIANS:** Ministry since 1993, meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month, 6 p.m., West Room, [SFXWomen@aol.com](mailto:SFXWomen@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 [sfxgcgroup@gmail.com](mailto:sfxgcgroup@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)

**IT WAS THE WOMEN WHO STAYED:** 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 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)