



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 Wheelchair Accessible)
E-Mail Address: StFrancisXavier@sfxavier.org • Website: www.sfxavier.org



But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to overtake you like a thief. For all of you are children of the light and children of the day.
(1Thes 5:4-6)

SECOND COLLECTION
to benefit Catholic Charities

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 19, 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 Wheelchair 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

Rev. Daniel Corrou, S.J. (Associate Pastor) - 206

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

Receptionist — 201

John Uehlein (Dir. of Music Ministries) — 202

Pastoral Council

Jack Schmitt (Chair);

Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe (Vice-Chair);

Stephen Alfieri (Secretary); Kathleen Cagnina;

Karen DeMasi; Patrick Egan; Michelle Jung;

John Karle; Charles Mileski; Deborah Olley Murphy;

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, November 25th

5:00pm Vigil Mass: *Rev. Daniel Corrou, SJ*

Sunday, November 26th

9:00am Mass: *Rev. Daniel Corrou, SJ*

11:30am Mass: *Rev. James Miracky, SJ*

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Jesus Andaluz, Alex Campbell, Caitlin Campbell, Elizabeth Cutolo, Juan Garcia, Marianne Githens, Monsignor Neil Graham, Amelia and Anne Grant, Winston Grant, James Leung, Marian Lizzio, John Marshall, Ron Miller, Nicole Minsen, Kathy Mulvaney, Terence J. Murphy, Nancy Napolitano, Eileen O'Keefe, Campbell Grant Phillips, Rey Santos, Rocco Scura, Carl Wassmann, Diane Weyers

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

James Brassel, Theresa Capobianco, Joanna Adamczyk Condon, Mars Custodio, Florita Gutierrez, Paul Lawrence, Patrick Logsdon, Albert Longo, Lorraine Nelson, Jeanette Williams

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,

*Resplendent and unfading is wisdom,
and she is readily perceived by those who love her,
and found by those who seek her.*

These were the beautiful words we heard in our first reading last weekend. Wisdom or Sophia in the Hebrew Bible is experienced as the feminine dimension of God. Luz Marina, in her reflection quoted Richard Rohr who says “when John writes that the word became flesh and dwelt among us as Jesus, he could just have well said that Sophia became flesh and dwelt among us as Jesus. Jesus is the Wisdom/Sophia of God incarnate.” If you didn't have the chance to hear Luz speak about “light” and “wisdom”, you can find her reflection on the parish website under Pastor's homilies.

This week's first reading from Proverbs gives us another “face of the feminine” in its description of a “woman of power”. As a church we need to hear women's voices and make sure each person's “talents” are not “buried”. One of our parishioners who has taken the lead in Bible Study here at Xavier has done extensive work on the passage from Proverbs we hear today. I've invited Lizzie Berne DeGear to share the depth of her wisdom about this very powerful reading in this weekend's liturgies. Let us continue to pray that the gifts and talents of all women and men of faith will be appreciated and celebrated as we strive together to work for the “greater glory of God and God's people”.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob

Please be generous in this week's second collection for the Catholic Charities Campaign for Charity and Justice. Catholic Charities will direct the funds back to parishes and community based organizations to fund local projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection. More information about the collection can be found at www.catholiccharitiesny.org.

LESSONS AND CAROLS: SHARING THE JOY

Come join us for our annual festival of contemporary readings, music and traditional carols celebrating the season.

Featuring the St. Francis Xavier Choir, the Bell Choir, and The Xavier Players and Schola

John Uehlein, Director of Music Ministries

**Sunday, December 17th
at 7PM in the Main Church**

Admission Free!

Home made Christmas cookie reception to follow!

CAN YOU BAKE COOKIES?



Bakers sought for our annual Lessons and Carols program on Dec. 17th 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 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 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.)

CELEBRATING 135 YEARS OF SERVICE: CHURCH TOUR TO CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY OF DEDICATION OF OUR CHURCH

On **Sunday December 3rd**, the Feast Day of St. Francis Xavier, we celebrate the 135th anniversary of the dedication of our current church building. To help celebrate the occasion on that day we will conduct a free tour of the church at **1:00PM**. The tour will include a visit to the choir loft.



The Gravy is Rising Fast!!

Community: \$11,150 (45%) as of 11/13!

Board of Directors: \$2,625 (11%) as of 11/13!

Donate to the **Thanksgiving Meal Fund** and be part of providing:

- 250 sit-down meals for seniors and disabled individuals on Thanksgiving Day!
- 200 meals delivered to homebound individuals on Thanksgiving Day!
- 250 full Thanksgiving baskets (including turkeys!), totaling 2250 meals, to guests of our food pantry!
- 1500+ meals at our special Holiday Welcome Table the Sunday after Thanksgiving!
- Ongoing support of the Welcome Table and Food Pantry!

Let's repeat last year's goal of **\$25,000**, with the Board of Directors matching that for **another \$25,000!**

Check out our website for real time progress updates!

Join the Xavier Mission Board of Directors, our staff, volunteers, and Tom the Turkey Baster as we kick off The Great Thanksgiving Meal Fund of 2017!



Visit www.xaviermission.org/Thanksgiving to donate!

TURKEY UP!!

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 \$45,515 deficit for this fiscal year and projecting deficits totaling \$56,000 over the next two 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.

Catholic Lesbians & Friends—All Are Welcome!

15TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS WRAPPING PARTY

Friday, December 8th
6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.~Larkin/Hurtado Hall

You have the opportunity to bring Christmas cheer to 185 children from Picture the Homeless, Community Voices Heard, Life Experience & Faith Sharing, and STEPS to End Family Violence. Contact SFXWomen@aol.com or (917) 297-6804 for one, two or three kids' names, and bring your gifts to the wrapping party. "The impact of these presents was truly beautiful," wrote the director of STEPS to End Family Violence, "and I wish you all could have shared these moments with us. We have many clients who would not have been able to afford presents on their own, so I wanted you to know that your generosity helped give these families the Christmas they deserved."



**THE XAVIER IMMIGRATION
INITIATIVE INVITES YOU
TO SPEAK UP FOR
IMMIGRANTS**

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SUPPORT THE
EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY PROTECTED
STATUS FOR EL SALVADOR, HAITI,
HONDURAS AND NICARAGUA**

The Trump administration has ended Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for individuals from Nicaragua, who must now leave the US by January of 2019. The status of Haitians granted TPS after the 2010 earthquake will be decided sometime this month. El Salvadorans and Hondurans will learn their status in 2018.

TPS is granted when individuals cannot safely return home due to natural disasters, armed conflict, or other extraordinary temporary conditions. We know that conditions remain unstable in these four countries, including high levels of poverty and violence. Individuals forced to leave the US may face extreme hardship.

Proposed legislation would extend TPS status for individuals from these four countries, but Congress needs to hear that Americans support this effort. Please join us in calling on Congress to support the extension of TPS for Haiti, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua, allowing TPS holders to remain in the US without fear of deportation.

Join the US Catholic bishops and other faith leaders in calling for the extension of TPS. Contact your elected representatives directly, or through the USCCB website: <https://justiceforimmigrants.org/category/action-alerts/>.

For more information on supporting immigrant rights, contact sanxnyc@gmail.com

Help provide a friendly welcome to people entering our church.

Share in the joy so many seem to feel as they enter Xavier. Become a part of our Hospitality teams at our weekend Masses.

Contact Luz Diaz at LMDiaz@sfxavier.org.



Mark your calendar for the

**PEACE AND JUSTICE
FAIR TRADE
HOLIDAY SALE**

**Saturday, December 9th and
Sunday, December 10th**

After all Masses in the back of the church

Find beautiful, hand woven textiles from the Sisters of Charity, and Coffees, Teas and Chocolates from Equal Exchange

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!

Proceeds from the sale will benefit the Sisters of Charity, the Peace and Justice programs and LifeWay Network, one of only two organizations in the NY Metro area providing safe housing for women survivors of human trafficking.



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

**Small
Farmers
Big Change**

XAVIER "OUTINGS"

Xavier Theater Company presents *THE CHALICE*, an original play written by *Emily Claire Schmitt* which deals with growing up gay and Catholic. Performances will be held at the Stonewall Inn, 53 Christopher Street on November 20-21-27-28. Go to the website for ticket (free) information. Xaviertheater.org There will be a group of Xavier parishioners attending the November 27th performance.

Joe Hoover S.J. is one of the co creative directors of the Xavier Theater Company.

Over the summer a team of parishioners formed a committee to review communications at Xavier. This group was responsible for administering a communication survey and collecting/reviewing feedback from the Parish community. 207 responses came back from parishioners who serve a variety of our ministries. They have shared this feedback with Fr Bob and ministry leaders and improved the website based on feedback. Below are some survey highlights:

·82% said they get the right amount of information. (25% strongly agree and 57% agree).

·The bulletin (at 90%) is the most common way in which people hear about groups and events.

·Even though almost everyone said they used Facebook, only 9% said they used Xavier's FB page

·74% receive the pastor's emails (with 35 added from survey) and many positive comments about it

·65% of respondents were with the parish for over 5 years (27% more than 20+ years)

·Several people (62%) asked that the Xavier website have more information about Parish events.

·Others also wanted more information about the Xavier Mission (49%) and Ignatian Spirituality (25%).

The committee will continue to review the survey results and share this with Fr Bob and ministry leaders.

If you want to get the pastor's email you can email Stephanie at sfuentes@sfxavier.org to be added. If you want to participate in the survey, see this link here <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/stfrancixavierNYC>

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH
All events are in the main church

12:05PM MASS

3:00- 4:30PM CONFESSION OFFERED

4:30PM CANDLELIGHT ADVENT YOGA

5:45PM ADVENT TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE

6:30 PM MASS

*18th Annotation of the
Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola
is being offered at Xavier this year*

This grace-filled journey is for anyone wanting to deepen her or his prayer life. A daily schedule of prayer and reflection and a weekly group sharing will be offered in Advent, Lent and Easter seasons. There will be a group on Wednesdays starting at 6:30pm and one on Saturdays starting at 10:00am. The Wednesday group begins on **November 29** and Saturday's group begins on **December 2**.

For more information or registration, please contact Marie Bannister at mariebannister1@gmail.com or 917-301-2426.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS THANKSGIVING.

Sponsored by ISEL (Ignatian Spirituality in Everyday Life)

WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Praying to Our Lady of Guadalupe

Monday, December 4th 6:30pm-8:30pm
Xavier High School-Arrupe Library

Join us in a cozy and private space as we come together as women, invoking Our Lady of Guadalupe, known by the Nahuatl people of Mexico as Tonantzin.

"The Guadalupe encounter speaks of unconditional love and a people's place in salvific history. Perhaps most significantly, it affirms a need to experience the maternal face of God."

-- Jeanette Rodriguez, theologian

Scriptures & Announced Masses

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

TIME: Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thess 5:1-6; Matt 25:14-30.

THIRTY-THIRD MONDAY IN ORDINARY

TIME: 1 Macc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57; Luke 18:35-43.

7:45AM LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)
12:05PM THOMAS RIZZO (D)

TUESDAY~FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:

2 Macc 6:18-31; Luke 19:1-10.

7:45AM NORA SUTTER (D)
12:05PM THOMAS ANTHONY RYAN (D)

WEDNESDAY~FEAST OF ST. CECILIA:

2 Macc 7:1, 20-31; Luke 19:11-28.

7:45AM ETHEL LABISSIERE (D)
12:05PM GABRIELA CECILIA MARIN (D)

THIRTY-THIRD THURSDAY IN

ORDINARY TIME: 1 Macc 2:15-29; Luke 19:41-44.

FRIDAY~FEAST OF ST. ANDREW DUNG-LAC:

1 Macc 4:36-37, 52-59; Luke 19:45-48.

9:00AM CATHERINE CANATA (D)

THIRTY-THIRD SATURDAY IN

ORDINARY TIME: 1 Macc 6:1-13; Luke 20:27-40

12:05PM FR. JOHN BUCKI (D)

SUNDAY~FEAST OF OUR LORD JESUS

CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE: Ezek 34:11-12,, 15-17; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Matt 25:31-46.

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 xavieradultgroup@gmail.com

CATHOLIC LESBIANS: Ministry since 1993, meets 2nd Friday of each month, 6 p.m., West Room, SFXWomen@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 sfxgcgroup@gmail.com

THE XAVIER IMMIGRATION INITIATIVE: Advocacy, support, and education to empower immigrants. For more information contact sanxnycc@gmail.com

INTERFAITH COMMITTEE: works toward ending religious discrimination and persecution, through prayer, education and other activities. Contact Jose Ramon, joseramonperezlopez@gmail.com

THE WOMEN WHO STAYED: nurtures, empowers, calls forth and celebrates the emotional, intellectual and spiritual growth of women and men at SFX. For more information: 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, [suniko120@nyc.rr.com](mailto:sunik120@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 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