



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



SECOND COLLECTION
to benefit Parish Maintenance

The Solemnity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
November 26, 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, December 2nd

5:00pm Vigil Mass: *Rev. Ronald Amiot, SJ*

Sunday, December 3rd

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

11:30am Mass: *Rev. Daniel Corrou, SJ*

5:00pm Mass: *Rev. Samuel Sawyer, 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, Jason Vermonty, 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,

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. Usually the Sunday after Thanksgiving is the First Sunday of Advent but this year the calendar is different and we celebrate the Feast of Jesus Christ the Sovereign of the Universe. (Yes I know that's not what it's usually called but it has a more authentic "ring" to it!) If you remember back a few weeks ago, Jesus was asked the question "Which is the greatest commandment?" His response was "You shall love the Lord your God with all you heart, with all your soul, with all your mind. The second is You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Unlike in Luke's version of the text where he goes on to tell the story of the Good Samaritan as an example of who the "neighbor" is, Matthew's Jesus doesn't answer that question until the 25th chapter. That is the Gospel we hear this weekend.

In one of the most powerful passages of the New Testament, Jesus not only identifies the "hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, the imprisoned" as the neighbor, he also identifies the person in need as himself. "Whatever you did for one of the least brothers or sisters of mine, you did for me." It is a particularly powerful reminder at this time of year and in this climate of "self-interest" that our outreach to those in need is essential to our identity as Christians. Jesus makes it very clear that we who claim to be his disciples have a "claim" on us that urges us to embrace the "other" as the neighbor, especially those who are most vulnerable.

When you return to Xavier next weekend, we will be celebrating not only the First Sunday of Advent but also the feast of St Francis Xavier (December 3rd) I think it's wonderful that his feast this year coincides with the beginning of a new liturgical year. I pray that we may have the same "zeal" and love of Jesus Christ that inspired Xavier to go to the "ends of the earth" for the Greater Glory of God.

With Advent Expectation,

Father Bob

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.



PLEASE PASS THE GRAVY(LINE)!

Due to the early press deadline of this bulletin (11/16), we are unable to provide an accurate report of the Meal Fund drive, because we hope it will be out of date as soon as we print it!

I refer you to Tom-the-Turkey-Baster at the front of the church, who can show you just how close to our goal we are (as of Wednesday 11/22). We hope that if you have not yet joined us for this drive, you'll consider making a gift to help us push the gravy line over the top!

Thank you so much to everyone who has participated in this drive and made our Thanksgiving Meal possible once more! We are so grateful for your support!

Visit www.xaviermission.org/Thanksgiving to contribute!

THANKSGIVING THANK YOUS!!!

A HUGE thank you to the following people for their contributions to our Thanksgiving Festivities!

Christina Bowman, Director of Outreach

Beverly Torres, Chef

Eric Manson, Maintenance & Inventory Manager

Michael Costello & Mark Kiley, Homebound Meal Coordinators

Danny Tore & Jennie Tichenor, Congregate Meal Coordinators

Wing Wendy Lee, Lily Eclimont and Tianxiang Huang, Volunteer Communications

Credit Suisse, Basket Packing & Food Drive Sorting

The Kitchen Crew and Volunteer Teams, Decorating/Preparing/Cooking/Serving/Delivering/Cleaning!

Thanks to all of our donors! Without their generosity, this meal would not have been possible!

City Harvest (Turkeys)

Dave's (Plastic Bags)

Dominican Academy (Turkeys)

Driscoll (Turkeys)

Frank Gargiulo & Son, Inc. (Fresh fruit and vegetables)

Porto Rico Importing Co (Coffee)

St. Francis Food Pantries & Shelters (Turkeys)

A very special thank you goes out to Greg Stelzer & the Student Body of Xavier High School for collecting 13,000+ items of food and Jennie Tichenor, Carrie Meconis and the NYU Administrative Management Council for collecting 1000+ items of food for our Thanksgiving Food Pantry baskets! We distributed 230 complete Thanksgiving baskets to 160 families in need!



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

**PROPOSED LEGISLATION OFFERS THE
POSSIBILITY OF PERMANENT RESIDENCY
FOR SOME HOLDERS OF TPS**

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) is granted when individuals cannot safely return home due to natural disasters, armed conflict, or other extraordinary temporary conditions. The Trump administration has ended TPS for Nicaragua and is about to make a decision on TPS for Haiti. In NY State alone, there are 5,200 Haitian TPS holders who have built lives and families in the US without fear of deportation. Now their security is in jeopardy.

Three members of congress are cosponsoring the ASPIRE Act, a bipartisan bill to provide permanent residency for certain TPS holders who have been in the United States since January 1, 2017. These individuals must prove to a judge that they would face extreme hardship if they were returned.

Congress needs to hear that Americans support the extension of TPS. Please join us in calling on Congress to support the extension of TPS for Haiti as well as El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua.

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 team 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.

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."

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.

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

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.

THIRTY-FOURTH MONDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Dan 1:1-6, 8-20; Luke 21:1-4.
7:45AM QUEEN ELISABETH THE SECOND (L)
12:05PM ANNA D'EMILIO DiMARCO (D)

THIRTY-FOURTH TUESDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Dan 2:34-45; Luke 21:5-11.
7:45AM JOSEPH G. GATTI (D)
12:05PM JOSEPH IBOYIA (D)

THIRTY-FOURTH WEDNESDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Dan 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Luke 21:12-19.
7:45AM JAMES GORRA (D)
12:05PM JOHN JOSEPH NOLAN (D)

THURSDAY~FEAST OF ST. ANDREW: Rom 10:9-18; Matt 4:18-22.
7:45AM QUEEN ELIZABETH II (L)
12:05PM JASON VERMONTY (D)

FRIDAY~FEAST OF STS, EDMUND CAMPION, ROBERT SOUTHWELL: Dan 7:2-14; Luke 21:29-33.
7:45AM ELIZABETH LOPARDO (D)
12:05PM MATTEO KOO (L)

THIRTY-FOURTH SATURDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Dan 7:15-27; Luke 21:34-36.
12:05PM IKE BERBERABE (D)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Isa 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37.

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

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 sanxnyc@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