



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



I will make you fishers of people. (Mark 1:16)

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 21, 2018

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, January 27th

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

Sunday, January 28th

9:00am Mass: *Rev. Daniel Corrou, 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, Joseph Cali, Larry Capici,
Patrica Cunningham, Elizabeth Cutolo, Maria Formoso,
Juan Garcia, James Leung, Marian Lizzio, John Marshall,
John McLoughlin, Kathy Mulvaney,
Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe, Rey Santos, Rocco Scura,
Anthony Sellitti, Denise Stewart, Dr. Daniel Tynan,
Carl Wassmann, Diane Weyers*

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

Rosa Canastra, Mary Comarato, Martin Crawford, Alice Hardy, Janet Kelly, Beatriz Quinto Mendoza, John Olley

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,

The first reading this weekend is taken from the book of the prophet Jonah. It's one of the most comical and yet most revelatory of who God is. Jonah is a "caricature" of a prophet who is reluctant to do God's will because he doesn't really like who God is. It's unfortunate that we only get to hear a few verses from an otherwise compelling story of human prejudice and divine mercy. (If you happened to be at the 9am liturgy, you would have heard and seen a "ritual play" that I wrote years ago. Although it doesn't tell the story in its entirety, it portrays Jonah as a reluctant prophet who runs away from God because God is so merciful. Jonah can't stand the fact that God's mercy will extend to a race of people whom he despises. Jonah ends up in a "Whale of a Therapy Session" in the "belly of Welly" as this wise Whale attempts to help Jonah see his bigotry and come to know a God who would rather forgive than punish. There is a contemporary poignancy in the story in that ancient Nineveh is part of the modern day city of Mosul that has suffered so much in the Iraq war and in occupation by ISIS and from which thousands of Assyrian Christians have fled.

As we all know so painfully, these past weeks since the beginning of the New Year have not brought "Good News" to our black brothers and sisters, to leaders of the Sanctuary Coalition, to Dreamers and other migrants, to the poor and the homeless and the already "over-taxed" ordinary people. Like the prophet Jonah who can't abide God's "hesed" (mercy and loving kindness) for all, many of our nation's leaders leave us wondering if they prefer to judge and exclude rather than show compassion and acceptance. So in the midst of the mess of national and global news, how do we "keep the faith"? How do we proclaim the "Good News" of Jesus Christ in a way that brings together people of all races and creeds as "children of God"? How do we announce the Good News in ways that tear down walls rather than building walls to keep the other out? How do we celebrate what the prophet Jonah, presidents and people in power refuse to acknowledge: God's sovereignty in this world and God's desires for justice and mercy for all?

The "Good News" at Xavier is that many of our parishioners are demonstrating their commitment to justice and inclusion through their solidarity with the Sanctuary Coalition and visits to the Elizabeth Detention Center. The work of the Xavier Mission is always a sign of compassion for the most in need. The commemorative March, Feminism and Faith in Union has galvanized women and men in a way that celebrates the gifts of women in our Church and in Civil Society. These are all good reasons to "Keep the Faith!"

Let us pray that together we can find ways of bringing Christ's reconciling love to our world.

Fr. Bob

LOOKING AT LENT - If you are interested in planning for the Lenten Season, reflecting on the scriptures and symbols of this season, please join Fr Bob and other parishioners on Wednesday Evening January 31st from 7pm-9pm in the Xavier High School chapel. Please let Fr Bob know if you are interested in attending.

Xavier Adult Group

"SITTING FIT" CHAIR EXERCISE CLASS

**Friday, January 26th
Mary Chapel at 1:30 p.m.**

Join us and learn how to safely stretch, strengthen, and improve your flexibility.

Roseann Brown a certified fitness instructor at the YMCAs of New York will teach us a series of exercises that can be done while seated in a chair. Wear comfortable clothes.

Please note the time of this meeting is 1:30pm. All are welcome.



**WE CAN'T "MASK"
THIS ANY LONGER....
MARDI GRAS
TICKETS ARE ON SALE!**

It's a Mardi Gras Masquerade (ok, maybe a couple weeks late but hey, it'll give you an excuse to have that dessert you've been missing)! Bring your best disguise, your beads, and your party side and get ready to dance those winter blues away!

Cocktails, dinner and dancing!

Silent Auction PLUS a very special live auction event for two fantastic vacation packages!

Tickets are sale as of **Saturday, January 20th** at
www.xaviermission.org/dinnerdance

TICKETS:

Early Bird (through 02/03): \$80

Individual (after 02/03): \$90

Patron (includes 2 event tickets and 4 drink tickets):
\$275

SPONSORSHIPS (all include 8 event tickets and 16 drink tickets):

Royal Court: \$5,000 (full pg ad in program, primary web listing)

Rex: \$2,500 (1/2 pg ad in program, secondary web listing)

Bacchus: \$1,000 (1/4 pg ad in program, tertiary web listing)

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for opportunities to receive free drink tickets!

Lenten weekend retreat for alumni and friends of Fordham University; March 9-11, 2018;
"The Spirituality of Pope Francis: Reflecting on God's Mercy and Grace."

Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, Huntington, L. I. Directed by *Fr. Brendan Horan, S.J.* For more information, contact *Fr. Dan Gatti, S.J.* at dgatti@fordham.edu

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST

Vespers for the Presentation of the Lord
6:30pm in the Main Church

**PLEASE USE YOUR PRAYER CANDLE
FOR THE BLESSINGS OF THE CANDLES**

ARE YOU A CHURCH LADY?

Own it loud and proud, and get the exclusive Church Lady T-shirt! Not only will you look good, but part of the purchase price will be donated to Xavier Mission's L-STEP program. This project is a mitzvah from Catholic Lesbians, in honor of the ministry's silver anniversary in 2018.

Color: mint **Front:** St. Francis Xavier medallion
Back: black type CHURCH LADY and the number 78 (1878 was the year the church's cornerstone was laid)
Material: 100 percent cotton **Style:** women's cut **Sizes:** small, medium, large, extralarge, extra-extralarge, extra-extra-extralarge **Price:** \$20.00 E-mail your order to SFXWomen@aol.com.

**JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF
DISCUSSION AND DISCERNMENT**

Tuesday, January 23rd 6:30pm-8:30pm
The Arrupe Library at Xavier High School

*THE CATHOLIC VOTE: WHAT WE KNOW;
HOW WE ARE CALLED*

Catholics are called upon to identify with the poor, the excluded, and the marginalized. Yet, surveys show that Catholics are deeply divided on which party's vision meets these principles.

PATRICK EGAN, Professor of Politics at NYU and Xavier parishioner will present an overview of research on the Catholic Vote drawn from opinion surveys and other sources regarding elections past and future.

Sponsored by The Women Who Stayed

FEMINISM & FAITH IN UNION

Sunday January 21st

PLEASE JOIN US IN PERSON OR IN PRAYER this Sunday.

- Prayer and song in the Church between 9:00am and 11:30am Masses
- Interfaith Blessing in Union Square at 10:15am
- March down 16th St. to the 11:30am mass, beginning at 10:45am

Let us stand together as the entire Xavier Parish Community for equality and justice for all women and girls.

*Co-sponsored by The Women who Stayed,
Xavier Peace & Justice, and LGBT Ministries*

A Walking Retreat Pilgrimage to Lourdes and Santiago de Compostela with Fr. Dan Corrou, S.J. May 15th to 25th. \$3,599 including airfare, with registration before January 31. For more information and reservation, contact angiecruzphd@gmail.com or 917-607-0937.

Zen Meditation Group

EXPLORING SILENCE AND DEEPENING AWARENESS

A day of teaching, reflection, and meditation

**Saturday, January 27th
9:30am-4:00pm West Room**

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.

A \$20 donation is suggested to cover.

Catholic Lesbians

**Friday, February 9th
6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
West Room**

“Come out of the cold and warm up playing board games with Catholic Lesbians!” says Gail Kennon, our hostess and leader for the evening. “There’s sure to be good snacks and much laughter and sistership.”

Contact SFXWomen@aol.com or (917) 297-6804 for more information.

EL RINCÓN LATINO

Queremos contactar a todos los latin@s que vienen a la iglesia de San Francisco Javier para formar una comunidad latina en esta parroquia y fortalecer dicha comunidad a través de la creación de actividades parroquiales que permitan a nuestros herman@s latin@s la oportunidad de participar activamente.

Queremos oír las voces y atender las necesidades de nuestra gente latina. Por favor contáctate con Stephanie Fuentes, 212-627-2100x222 o sfuentes@sfxavier.org, dejando tu nombre, teléfono y correo electrónico. Una vez que tengamos tu información te notificaremos sobre nuestra primera reunión de latin@s.

LGBTQ Catholic Today/ Shadows and Light

A look at the new developments that have and are taking place regarding discussions of LGBTQ issues in the Church since the openings provided by Pope Francis, while candidly acknowledging the challenges that remain in order to achieve full incorporation and acceptance in and by the Church.

**Sunday February 11th/ 1pm- 2:30pm in
Keenan Commons in Xavier High School**

Rev. Bryan Massingale, professor of Theological and Social Ethics at Fordham University



SFX Peace & Justice Committee
Invites YOU to join us!

Join us....

If you are interested in learning more
about issues of justice and sustainability;

If you are passionate about an issue and want to know
how to become more involved;

If you feel called to explore new ways to work for the
coming of the kingdom; Or if you just want to know
more about who we are & what we do.

**Our next meeting is Sunday, January 28th in
the Mary Chapel after 11:30 Mass.
All are welcome!**

Email us at: xavierpeaceandjustice@gmail.com



**18th Annotation of the
Spiritual Exercises
of St. Ignatius of Loyola
is continuing in Lent and Easter**

The 18th Annotation of the Spiritual Exercises which began in Advent is continuing in Lent and Easter season. Prayer and reflection questions will be offered for 7 weeks in Lent. Sharing groups meet on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 and Saturday mornings at 10:00am. If you wish to join please let us know.

The prayer sheets for the first meetings will be sent out a week early.

Wednesday evenings will be February 7, 15 (Thursday), 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21.

Saturday meetings will be February 10, 17, 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24.

Free Will Donation

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

Deadline for registration is Sunday, February 4.

Sponsored by ISEL (Ignatian Spirituality in Everyday Life)



**THE XAVIER IMMIGRATION
INITIATIVE INVITES YOU TO**

TAKE ACTION NOW

On behalf of Ravi Ragbir
The New Sanctuary Coalition Executive Director

An outspoken advocate for immigrant rights, Ravi was detained by ICE on January 11 during a regular check-in appointment. Supporters of immigration rights are rallying to secure his release and halt his deportation. You can support Ravi with a letter or postcard. Postcards will be available in church today, or you can write to:.

Thomas D. Homan
Acting Director
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
500 12th St. SW

Thomas Decker, Field Office Director, New York Field Office, 26 Federal Plaza, 9th Floor, Suite 9-110, New York, NY 10278

The Honorable Kirstjen Nielsen
Secretary of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

The message we need to convey:

My name is _____, I am writing to request that ICE release Ravi Ragbir, A Number: 044-248-862. Ravi was detained on January 11 during a check-in in New York City. Ravi is a cherished member of our community and a highly valued leader. He belongs in the United States with us, and with his wife and daughter. I respectfully ask that you release Ravi from detention and grant him a stay of removal.

Sincerely,

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of immigrant justice!

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

Scriptures & Announced Masses

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:
Jon 3:1-5; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20.

THIRD MONDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:
Sam 5:1-7, 10; Mark 3:22-30.

7:45AM TOMMY MONTALVO (D)
12:05PM AMEN MENDOZA (D)

THIRD TUESDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:
2 Sam 6:12b-15, 17-19; Mark 3:31-35.

7:45AM LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)
12:05PM LEONTINA SALGADO (D)

WEDNESDAY~FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES: 2 Sam 7:4-17; Mark 4:1-20.

7:45AM PATRICIA BALTZ (D)
12:05PM CATHERINE MAGUIRE (D)

THURSDAY~FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE: Acts 22:3-16; Mark 16:15-18.

7:45AM JOSETTE SFEIR (D)
12:05PM MRS. KAROLYN MENENDEZ (D)

FRIDAY~FEAST OF STS. TIMOTHY AND TITUS: 2 Tim 1:1-8; Mark 4:26-34.

7:45AM MARTHA KERRY (D)
12:05PM ROBERT MORALES (D)

THIRD SATURDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:
2 Sam 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mark 4:35-41.

12:05PM WILLIAM KOSS SR. (D)

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:
Deut 18:15-20; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28.

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