



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



Herman Johannes van der Weele
Shepherd with a Flock of Sheep, late 19th/early 20th Century

I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep. (John 10:13-14)

SECOND COLLECTION
to benefit The Cardinal's Annual Appeal

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 22, 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, April 28th

5:00pm Vigil Mass: *Rev. Samuel Sawyer, SJ*

Sunday, April 29th

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

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

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Jesus Andaluz, Joseph Cali, Patricia Cunningham, Amor Domingo, Isaac Falci, Maria Formoso, Juan Garcia, Robyn Luisi, Keith Martin, Mark Martinez, John McLoughlin, Amelia Mullings, Kathy Mulvaney, Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe, Mary Ann Rose, Rocco Scura, Anthony Sellitti, Michael Termini, Dr. Daniel Tynan, Carl Wassmann, Diane Weyers, David Woolwine

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

Lisa Heine, Jane Jones, Marian Lizzio, John Marshall, Jeanne Murphy, Patricia O'Grady, Sr Doris Pagano, SC, Martino Pietanza, Bobby Tinio and Rafael Tinio

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 just began reading Sr. Elizabeth Johnson's new book, *The Cross and the Cosmos*. I have to say that I am captivated by it. In her usual way she takes the complexity of theological concepts and translates them in a way that is engaging and comprehensible to those of us who are not professional theologians. The book is essentially about revisioning our understanding of redemption through the Cross of Christ in a way that embraces "All of creation" and not just "sinful" humankind. I quote from the introduction of the book.

"Many theologians have written of human redemption. But how in our day can we understand cosmic redemption? At a time of advancing ecological devastation, what would it mean to rediscover this biblical sense of the natural world groaning, hoping, waiting for liberation? What would it mean for the churches' understanding, practice and prayer to open the core Christian belief in salvation to include all created beings?" (Intro)

At the core of her thesis is an examination of the theory of "satisfaction" that is imbedded in our religious consciousness. This theory was articulated by St Anselm in the context of the medieval, feudal society of the 11th century. "This satisfaction theory made it clear that Jesus' death paid back what was due to God because of the sins of human beings, allowing divine mercy to flow." (Intro) In the book Johnson, not only shows the distorted images of a merciful God as feudal Lord who demands the death of his son as "atonement", but offers an alternative "accompaniment" theory that is beautifully articulated in Second Isaiah and in the life of Jesus of Nazareth. "Such a theology of accompaniment is but one way to understand redemption that will support planetary solidarity and work for ecojustice." (Intro)

I mention Johnson's book for a variety of reasons:

1. Sunday is Earth Day and Nancy Lorence will be speaking after the masses about our parish's advocacy for climate change and other issues that affect the environment.
2. This is "Good Shepherd" Sunday and there is always a theme of "accompaniment", as the shepherd journeys "with" the sheep.
3. Elizabeth Johnson is retiring from Fordham and there is an event at Fordham Lincoln Center on Monday evening April 30th honoring her outstanding contribution to the life of the Church.

I am hoping to organize a Parish Read of this book in the Fall. More details to follow!

In the Risen Christ,

Fr. Bob VerEecke

RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Are you approaching a major personal or career decision? Do you sense that there is something more that can be accomplished in your life? Charis Ministries NYC invites Catholics in their twenties and thirties to consider the practical wisdom and vitality of Ignatian spirituality by attending our peer-led Spirit at Work retreat, which will be held **May 11 to 13, 2018** at Loyola Jesuit Center in Morristown, NJ. This retreat house is easily accessible from Penn Station via New Jersey Transit's Midtown Direct Line.

To learn more or register, visit us at charis.nyc/spirit-at-work. We offer financial aid or payment plans, so please do not hesitate to contact us at charisretreatnyc@gmail.com to facilitate your attendance on our retreat.

From Paris to Berlin

April 27th

7:30pm~Main Church



Join Canadian artists Adi Braun and Linda Ippolito as they bring the music of the 20th century European cabaret to life.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Volunteers are needed to wash and iron the purificators (napkins used at Mass) on a rotating basis.

If interested please contact:
gerrymoss@gmail.com

FROM HERE TO ETERNITY

Did you know that Cremation is an acceptable form of Christian burial? Did you know that Cremated remains must be cared for reverently and properly interred in a sacred place?

For over 200 years the Basilica of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral has been preparing Catholics for eternity. With the introduction of the Columbaria, they are preparing a sacred and historical place in which to spend it.

**WE THE CHURCH OF ST FRANCIS XAVIER
HAVE OUR OWN SECTION IN THE CATACOMBS.**

Want more information? Our next meeting is on **April 29th after our 11:30am Mass in the West Room.** If you are interested in attending please contact *Peter Ranello* directly at peterranello@hotmail.com



AIDS WALK New York 2018

DONATION WEEKEND

April 28th/29th

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/sfx>

Mercy2Earth

This Sunday, April 22, is the 48th Earth Day. Twenty million people participated in the first Earth Day, which resulted in the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the passage of the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act that helped clean our cities of smog and our rivers of toxic pollution, and save animals from extinction. It was a national bi-partisan effort.

Pope Francis has combined this secular day inspired by concern for the quality of our air, soil and water, to give it a spiritual dimension: Mercy2Earth, embodying concern for our common home and all of creation, for the environmental degradation and our "throwaway culture", and the impact of climate change on all of us, especially on the most vulnerable. In fact, he proclaimed Care of Creation as an 8th Spiritual Work of Mercy!

This week-end we are announcing the formation of the St. Francis Xavier Environment Ministry, Caring for Creation. We invite you to be involved. Please take a look at the table in the back of church to sign up to participate or to engage in our current campaigns:

- A follow-up action related to Cardinal Ribat's concern for deep seabed mining slated to start in 2018 off the coast of Papua New Guinea and its impact on local fishing which is the livelihood of people as well as its effect on sea ecology in general;
- A postcard appeal to our two New York Senators to support legislation to transition the U.S. off fossil fuels as quickly as possible by supporting renewable energy; and
- Some concrete suggestions on how each of us can reduce our use of plastics, the theme of this year's Earth Day. Collectively we can make a difference!

These are actions that seem secular in nature, but that help us to live more faithfully and justly with all creation. Each individual action is a step for the common good of our planet and act of Mercy2Earth.

**The Immigration Initiative
Invites you to Help
STAMP OUT DESPAIR**

Immigrants held in detention in Elizabeth, NJ and other locations have no access to the outside. Even corresponding with family & friends can be a challenge, as detainees typically have little or no money to buy the stamped envelopes sold at inflated prices in the detention center commissary.

First Friends of NJ & NY collects writing supplies and stamped business size envelopes to help stamp out detainees' despair. To support their efforts, we will be collecting the supplies listed below at all Masses on May 5-6. Please help!

- Solid color 2-pocket folders (no logos)
- #10 business size envelopes stamped with forever stamps
- Loose leaf paper
- Blank colored paper (not construction paper)
- Note pads
- Greeting cards
- Stick pens – No metal inserts are allowed.

Please note that the requirements are very specific. There will be collection containers at the back of the church on May 5 & 6.

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



**You Can Help Make Our Food
FAIR FOOD**

Last Sunday, Oscar Oztzy of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) and Patricia Cipollitti of the Alliance for Fair Food shared the story of CIW's struggle to secure better wages and dignity for the agricultural workers, especially farmworker women, who harvest the tomatoes, strawberries and peppers that consumers like us enjoy.

The CIW created the Fair Food Program, which offers agricultural workers protections they have never had before. Currently Wendy's is the only major fast-food brand that has not signed on. Instead, Wendy's shifted their tomato purchases from Florida to Mexico, where farmworkers are not protected.

Please join the CIW in demanding that Wendy's joins the Fair Food Program, and in pledging to boycott Wendy's until they agree to guarantee the human rights of farmworkers in their supply chain.

You can read more at: <http://www.boycott-wendys.org> or ask at the reception area at the 15th St. entrance for printed information about this campaign.

If you have questions or want more information, email us at: xavierpeaceandjustice@gmail.com

**A NEW WAY TO SUPPORT XAVIER:
TEXT GIVING**



We're excited to announce a new way to support Xavier. You now can text your gift. To give via text, send a text message with the dollar amount (e.g. "\$10") to our reserved phone number (262-214-3627). If

this is your first time giving this way, you will have to fill out a short form with your billing information. After the initial setup, giving is as easy as sending a text message. Make sure to save Text Giving in your contacts for future gifts. Unfortunately, you cannot setup recurring giving using this option. For recurring giving we suggest using our FaithDirect e-giving by enrolling online by clicking the Donate Now button on the upper-right hand corner of our parish homepage. Thank you for being part of Xavier and our ministries. Prayers and best wishes for a joyful Easter season.

The Pastoral Council invites you to join us for a

**PARISH-WIDE
COFFEE HOUR**

as we welcome parishoners
New to SFX on

Sunday, April 29th

in the Mary Chapel (following the 11:30 Mass)
All are welcome.



From the Desk of James Martinez

2ND QUARTER STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Thank you to all of you who have given so much of your time, talent, and treasure to support our parish throughout the year. We are grateful for your support during the Lenten and Easter seasons. 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 \$50,773 surpassed last year's total of \$48,691 but fell short of our budget of \$51,500. We received \$5,527 for Easter flowers compared to \$6,073 last year. It is only through your gifts can we make a difference in the lives of those we serve.

We are pleased to report that we are currently operating at a \$169,573 surplus compared to a budgeted surplus of \$60,343 for the first six months of this fiscal year ending February 28, 2018. The favorable results are due primarily to increased Donations & Bequests, Sunday Offertory collections and rental income together with decreased maintenance and repair and program expenses. Our planned deficit for this year is \$45,515 and therefore we ask that you prayerfully consider increasing your donations this year, if you can. We need your increased support for the remainder of the year through your Sunday offertory and maintenance 2nd collection to help reduce this deficit.

First Six Months Revenues and Expenses Ending February, 28, 2018

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Support	\$1,229,705	\$1,159,768	\$69,936
Expenses	\$1,060,131	\$1,099,426	\$(39,294)
Net Support Over (Under) Expenses	\$169,573	\$60,343	

The Lord is risen. He Lives! As Christ's disciples, we are called to go forth and spread the good news of His Resurrection. Our parish's many ministries are examples of how many of you answer that call. Our ministries require not only gifts of time and talent, but also of financial help. Please prayerfully consider supporting Xavier with our Faith Direct e-giving option that provides a convenient and secure way to support the parish via automatic payment from your checking account or credit card. There is no cost to you for using Faith Direct. It also gives you the opportunity to support Xavier even if you are absent from Mass on vacation or other reasons. It also helps us bring consistency to our cash flow and reduces the time it takes our staff to count and report cash. We hope you will set aside a few minutes today to enroll in Faith Direct. You can enroll online by clicking the Donate Now button on the upper-right hand corner of our parish homepage or mail in an enrollment form available in the back of the church or from the parish office. With online enrollment, you will be able to access your account any time to view and make changes to your account information and gifts. During the last year 48 families have enrolled in Faith Direct to make their Sunday offertory. Please consider joining the 380 families who use Faith Direct for their Sunday offertory.

As some of you know this Thursday I will be moving to Northern California. I return home where I was born and raised. It's bittersweet as I leave this wonderful Xavier community of faith and the many friends I have come to know in my 11 years here as a parishioner, the last two working on the parish staff. Thank you for allowing me to share with you the journey with Jesus. Know of my continuing prayers for you and this community. St. Francis Xavier, pray for us.

Easter Blessings,

Jim Martinez

Scriptures & Announced Masses

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:

Acts 4:8-12; 1 John 3:1-2; John 10:11-18.

FOURTH MONDAY OF EASTER: Acts 11:1-18; John 10:1-10.

7:45AM JO-ANN ERBIE (D)
12:05PM LEONA LEPISKO (D)

FOURTH TUESDAY OF EASTER: Acts 11:19-26; John 10:22-30.

7:45AM LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)
12:05PM JACK COTTER (D)

WEDNESDAY~FEAST OF ST. MARK:

Acts 8:1b-8; John 6:35-40.

7:45AM RICHARD PELLINO (D)
12:05PM JOHN CONLEY (D)

FOURTH THURSDAY OF EASTER:

Acts 13:13-25; John 13:16-20.

7:45AM MARIA HELENA FONTENELES DE SOUZA
12:05PM THE TRINIDAD FAMILY

FRIDAY~FEAST OF ST. PETER CANISIUS:

Acts 13:26-33; John 14:1-6.

7:45AM EDWARD McLAUGHIN (D)
12:05PM JAMES HAWKES (D)

FOURTH SATURDAY OF EASTER:

Acts 13:44-52; John 14:7-14.

12:05PM EUGENE CURTIS (D)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:

Acts 9:26-31; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8.

**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

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 sfxcggroup@gmail.com

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

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

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

XAVIER ADULT GROUP: Once a month we have informative meetings or attend interesting events around the city. Contact xaversharingandlearninggroup@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