



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*

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020

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. Kenneth Boller, S.J. (Pastor) - 204

Rev. John Mulreany, SJ (Associate Pastor) - 206

Cassandra Agredo (Executive Dir. Xavier Mission) —
208

Robert Choiniere (Dir. of Adult Faith Formation)-225

Luz Marina Díaz (Dir. of Religious Education) —207

Stephanie Fuentes (Assistant to

the Pastor/Dir. of Communications) — 222

Moraima Hernandez (Plant Manager) - 201

James Martinez (Assistant for Financial Planning)

Gregory Timmes (Assistant Dir. of Business) - 201

Damely Tineo (Dir. of Business) - 221

Receptionist — 201

John Uehlein (Dir. of Music Ministries) — 202

Pastoral Council

Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe (Chair);

Patrick Egan (Vice Chair); John Karle (Secretary)

Stephen Alfieri; Kathleen Cagnina; Belinda Conway;

Karen DeMasi; Andrea Foley-Murphy Michelle Jung;

Ron Oberdick;

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

Mon-Thur: 10:00am to 4:00pm Fri: 10:00am-4:00pm

Saturday: 11:30am to 6:00pm

Sunday: 8:30am to 6:00pm

NOTE: for Bulletin Notices and Space Requests send e-mails to sfxbulletin@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's Presider Schedule

NEXT SATURDAY

5:00 pm Vigil Mass: Kenneth Boller, SJ

NEXT SUNDAY

9:00 am Mass: John Mulreany, SJ

11:30 am Mass: Thomas Feely, SJ

Guest Homilist: Deacon Ricardo Da Silva, SJ

5:00 pm Mass: Samuel Sawyer, SJ

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Rose Allocca, Lisa Armband, Ana Brewer,
Teresita Castillo, Sheila Creasey, Ellen Diurova,
Alesh DuCarma, Kathleen Friel, Caleb Gocher,
Mary Korba, Geri Lisanti-Levi, Richie Levi,
Manny Lopez, Sylvia Michaels, Hector Moran,
Tim O'Connor, Michael Orza, Pilar Perez, Ray Ralph,
Dolores Roddy, Mary Saccoccio, Melanie Samoy-Lutz,
Anne Sheridan and Grace Springer, Phyllis Walsh

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

Carmen Alonso, Ana Ramona Bravo, Paul Marshall,
Kenneth de Thomas, Serapio Muraira, Jose Suarez,
Kim Townsend

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 Desk of the Pastor

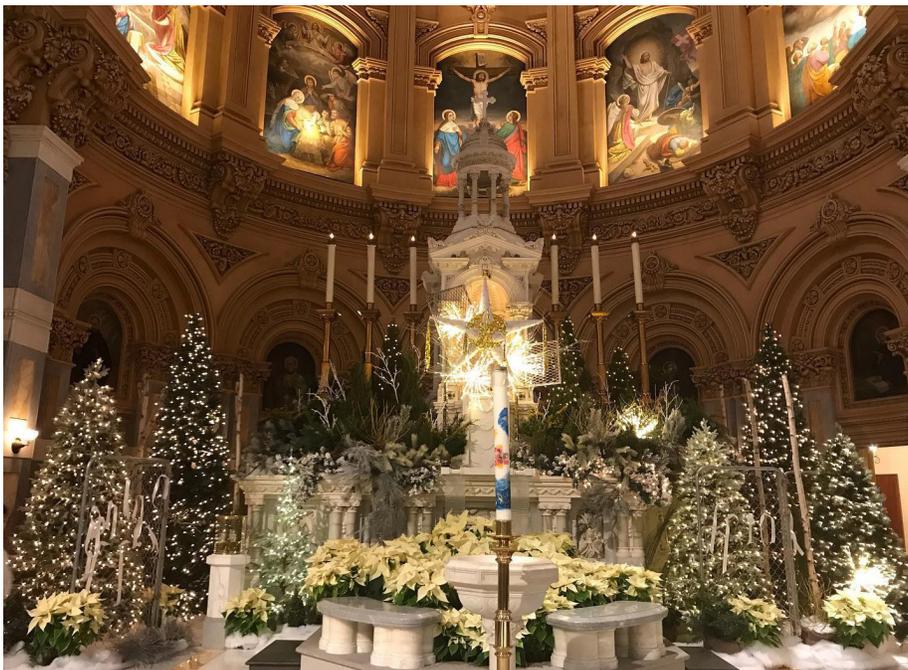
Happily, we returned to our normal routine this week after our brush with Covid-19. Thankfully, no one on the staff was symptomatic. We are grateful for all of your prayers.

This week we listen to the story of the Annunciation and reflect on the mystery of God's plan of salvation: to become human like us, to accomplish redemption through the "Yes" of Mary. We are called to a discipleship which asks us to respond "Yes" to the cry of the poor, the outcast, the marginalized, including our dying planet. As we finalize our plans for this very different Christmas, let us find a place in our hearts to welcome the Holy Family, all of God's beloved creation.

At church this week we have our traditional offerings although in a blended way. Sunday evening, December 20 at 7 p.m., the choir will present Lessons and Carols. You may reserve a place on EventBrite or watch from the comfort of your home. Either way, it promises to be an uplifting mix of songs, readings and prayer to set the tone for the week. On Thursday, December 24, we will have the Family mass with socially distanced pageant at 4 p.m. and the "Midnight Mass" with carols beginning at 9:30 p. m. and mass at 10 p.m. **Both masses will be livestreamed.**

Since we are limited to 140 people in church, we will simulcast the "Midnight Mass" in Hurtado Hall where communion will be distributed. **GIVEN SPACE AND SOCIAL DISTANCING LIMITATIONS RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRE FOR ALL THREE MASSES.** During this Covid-19 spike, please exercise prudence for your health and that of others. There is no obligation to attend mass due to the pandemic.

Fathers Mulreany and Feely and our entire staff join me in wishing you and all of your loved ones a most blessed and happy Christmas.



LESSONS AND CAROLS



Sunday, December 20th
7:00pm

Join us for the promised bon-bons of the fall concert season at St. Francis Xavier with your favorite Carols, anthems and readings for the Christmas season. Featuring the Bell Choir, Xavier Dancers, an octet of live singers, and the Xavier Players along with the Xavier Virtual Recording project for an evening of Sharing the Joy of the season.

Whether watching the live-stream virtually or attending this blended event in person, this is sure to be a joy filled evening.

PLEASE MAKE A RESERVATION ON EVENTBRITE(LINK ON OUR WEBSITE).

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 us throughout the year. As the end of the year approaches, we begin to reflect upon the many blessings bestowed upon us. It also provides a great opportunity to thank God for these blessings by gifting to Xavier. Over the years, it has been the gifts left to Xavier that have helped us to continue to operate as a welcoming community and place of worship where injustice is challenged, where the poor, the alienated and the marginalized find a home, and where people are refreshed, reconciled and renewed. Your year-end gift can help us continue to celebrate vibrant liturgies and support our many ministries. Belonging to Xavier offers many blessings. Those blessings multiply when we commit our time, treasure, and talent to its work.

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 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. For more information on how you can help make a difference contact the parish office.

THIS WEEKEND'S MUSIC



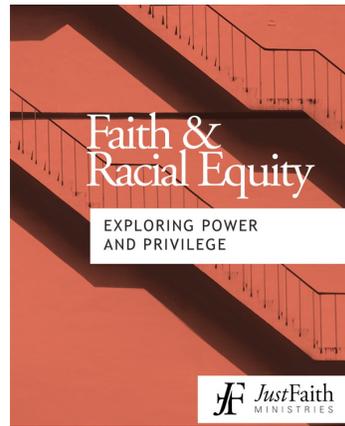
Scan me

CATHOLIC LESBIANS

Friday, January 8th 6:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

"...a time to be born and a time to die ... a time to kill and a time to heal ... a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing ... a time to be silent and a time to speak ... a time to love and a time to hate..." (Ecclesiastes 3, NIV). It's a new year, a time for everything. Let's get together and share the murmurings of our heart.

Contact SFXWomen@aol.com for the Zoom link.



Faith and Racial Equity is an eight-week formation program for parishioners addressing racial injustice in our political and economic structures and offers practical action steps to work towards greater racial equity in our church and world.

Sessions will be:

Wednesday evenings
February 3 – March 24, 2021
6:30-8:30 pm

All Sessions will be held on Zoom

Co-Facilitators:

Robert Choiniere and Boreta Singleton

The program also includes an opening retreat, guest speakers and an immersion experience.

Opening Retreat will be held on
Saturday, January 30 from 10am–2:30pm

For more info or to register:
rchoiniere@sfxavier.org

This past summer, in conjunction with the Pastoral Council, a committee was formed to explore the possibility of adding art to our Church that would reflect the diversity and mission of our Parish community. The outcome was the Solicitation of Interest on our website, which we began sending out this week to artists and organizations. If anyone has suggestions for artists who might be interested, please pass them along to us at pastoralcouncil@sfxavier.org

Mark your calendars for two Zoom prayer services sponsored by the Racial Justice Ministry:

**REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS
OF THE CORONAVIRUS**
*A Zoom Prayer Service on
the Feast of the Holy Innocents*

December 28th at 7:00pm

<https://sfxavierparish.zoom.us/j/91827809511?pwd=ODgzZlZjQ0NIRDE2NklJc0xZSUdiUT09>

Meeting ID: 918 2780 9511 Passcode: 691932
or call 646-558-8656

**REFLECTING ON THE YEAR THAT WAS AND
LOOKING FORWARD WITH HOPE**
A Zoom Prayer Service on New Year's Eve

December 31st at 7:00pm

<https://sfxavierparish.zoom.us/j/98945578117?pwd=b0lvcERRakNyMUZTOTZwcXRyNG1BZz09>

Meeting ID: 989 4557 8117 Passcode: 772203
or call 646-558-8656

**VIRTUAL MASS
COMMUNITY**

You are invited to join fellow parishioners in virtual community each Sunday for the live stream mass!

Each Sunday, a Zoom conference will be available for those who wish to join with others for the live stream mass at 11:30 am. The Zoom will open at 11:15 am for some socializing time before the mass. During the mass, the screen will be focused on the live stream. Participants will be able to see one another and share a sign of peace during the mass.

The Zoom link is:
<https://sfxavierparish.zoom.us/j/92250692524>

The Environment and Peace & Justice Ministries

GREENING THE SEASON

Let's resolve to protect the earth and uphold justice during this holy season.

GIFTS OF CARING can take many forms -- planting a garden in an urban desert, contributing to a charity that touches your heart, or taking that extra step to eliminate waste.

Reduce waste by purchasing used, but useable items as gifts. **Abebooks** is a trusted source for used books, both current and out of print, many in excellent condition. Also, vintage maps, photos, manuscripts, art prints, rare books and sheet music. abebooks.com

Skip gift wrapping, or wrap presents with reusable fabric. **Fabscrap** has a stunning variety of gorgeous but inexpensive fabric remnants from high-end designers. Fabric makes a great reusable gift wrap and a terrific present for crafters and quilters. fabscrap.org

Xavier's Honduran Companion Communities Project awards young people from rural areas with **scholarship stipends for secondary school**. In the past, HCCP has supported this effort with the sale of handmade Christmas cards. This year, no sale was possible, but the need remains. Please make checks payable to Church of St. Francis Xavier and write "Honduras Project" in the memo line. Send to Brian Hotaling / 2 Charlton St. / Apt 14B / NY, NY 10014.

Kiva aims to alleviate poverty by arranging microloans in impoverished areas of the world. Lenders choose projects online. When the loan has been repaid, the lender can keep it or roll it over into another loan. A \$25 Kiva gift card can introduce an older child to the concept of helping others by sharing. kiva.org

Grow NYC has been greening New York since its founding in 1970. Its Greenspace program has built over 125 community and school gardens and urban farms. Their educational efforts include the new **Governors Island Teaching Garden**. During the pandemic, they have launched a free food box program for communities in need. grownyc.org

One Last Thing: Send your old Christmas cards to St. Jude's Ranch for Children, a home for abused and abandoned children. Check their website for address and instructions: stjudesranch.org

Scriptures & Announced Masses

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT:

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Rom 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38.

FOURTH MONDAY OF ADVENT: SG 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45.

7:45AM LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)
12:05PM EUSEBIA MARZAN (D)

FOURTH TUESDAY OF ADVENT: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56.

7:45AM MICHAEL J. & MICHAEL F. MURPHY (D)
12:05PM ANA FALCON (D)

FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF ADVENT: Mal 3:1-4,23-24; Luke 1:57-66.

7:45AM AVAILABLE
12:05PM SHEILA REILLY (L)

FOURTH THURSDAY OF ADVENT: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Luk 1:67-79.

7:45AM MARCY & GEORGE DEAN (D)
12:05PM DAMIAN KENNEDY (D)

~CHRISTMAS DAY~

SATURDAY~FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matt 10:17-22.

12:05PM GLORIA LANDORNO (D)

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH : Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3: 12-21; Luke 2:22-40.

YOU MAY RESERVE AN AVAILABLE MASS FOR YOUR INTENTIONS BY CONTACTING THE PARISH OFFICE AT 212-627-2100.

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

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 (offsite July & August), SFXWomen@aol.com (929) 333-5011.

EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT GROUP:
Contact Katherine Cleary, krcoff5th@netzero.com

THE ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY: promotes care for all of God's creation, and follows the message of Laudato Si. For more information refer to the link on the parish website under Outreach Programs or contact: SFXEnvironmentMinistry@gmail.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

HOLY COMMUNION MINISTRY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND: Eucharistic Ministers bring Communion to parishioners who are sick, homebound, hospitalized, or in care facilities in local proximity to Xavier. To arrange visits or to become a Eucharistic Minister to the Sick and Homebound, please contact Nick Grimaldi at nlgny@gmail.com. To arrange for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and/or Anointing of the Sick, please call the parish office.

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

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 Marie Bannister, mariebannister1@gmail.com or Gerry Moss, gerrymoss@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

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

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

XAVIER YOGA: Tuesdays at 6:15pm. Open to all levels. Contact Ko@nyyogalife.com

XAVIER YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: Spiritual, service, and social activities for parishioners 20s-30s, and the young in spirit. We meet every 3rd Sunday of the month in the West Room after the 5pm mass. Contact sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com

XAVIER YOUTH MINISTRY: Social, service, and spiritual community for post-confirmation youth through 12th grade. Activities about twice a month September - June. Contact Philip Waldrop at youthministry@sfxavier.org.

ZEN MEDITATION GROUP: Mondays at 7pm. Newcomers welcome. Contact Peggy & Paul schubertnyc@gmail.com