



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*

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 21, 2021

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: Thomas Feely, SJ

NEXT SUNDAY

9:00 am Mass: Kenneth Boller, SJ

11:30 am Mass: James Miracky, SJ

5:00 pm Mass: John Mulreany, SJ

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Rose Allocca, Lisa Armband, Ana Brewer, Bill Brown, Joe Chartier, Sheila Creasey, Katherine Crook, Ellen Diurova, Ann Finn, Kathleen Friel, Susan Forbes, Caleb Gocher, Allie Greenberg, Jerry Hill, Sung Kim, Mary Korba, Ladgwan Kanjana Korn, Geri Lisanti-Levi, Richie Levi, Jess Lilly, Patrick McCartney, Sylvia Michaels, Hector Moran, Ralph Nicoletti, Tim O'Connor, Michael Orza, Marcy Parlow Pomerance, Pilar Perez, Ray Ralph, Dolores Roddy, Mary Saccoccio, Melanie Samoy-Lutz, Christine Scinaldi, Anne Sheridan, Grace Springer, Phyllis Walsh, Emilie Ward and Kevin Ward

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

Joan Brooks, Delia Ciervo Cosmiano, Judy Heffernan Crawford, Georgianna O'Connor, Josefina Ibire Okamoto, Jay Olnek, Manny Lopez, Louise Murphy, Lucia Muzio, Joseph Pietroburgo, Carlito Rapada, Sue Reise, Rob Riefstahl and Shanna Wilson

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

We are deeply saddened and share the pain of the LGBTQ community, especially those members in the process of preparing and scrutinizing to receive the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil, over the recent response of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith to the question about blessing same sex marriages. Although not unexpected given the CDF's history on the topic, this history does not make the statement any less painful. Especially painful are the words that God "does not and cannot bless sin."

We know that change in the Church occurs very slowly. The Church of St. Francis Xavier has for many decades been a place of welcome and inclusion for LGBTQ people. We are also a prophetic community meaning that we are a community that witnesses to the Church at large. We know our journey with the LGBTQ community is a long one, Christ is with us on this journey.

The recent statement from the Vatican has caused me to reflect on the word **blessing**. Used as both a noun and a verb, blessings, in our Judeo-Christian tradition are expressions of God's favor. True blessings originate as gifts from God.

Often times, in a retreat setting, I have asked retreatants to create their own "Book of Blessings," a review of their life through the lens of faith to see how God has been active through the people, places and events of their lives. I point out to them that the Book of Blessings is a personalized sacred scripture, a kind of supplement to the sacred stories of the Bible. We need to name and reverence these blessings as we grow in awareness of how God is active in our lives.

Over the years, we have been blessed by the members of the LGBTQ+ community in our midst as they share their gifts through participation and leadership in virtually every ministry of the church. Catholic Lesbians and Gay Catholics have brought us a greater awareness of issues facing the LGBTQ+ community going back to the creation of our altar of remembrance for the victims of the AIDS crisis to the present. For me, personally, having the opportunity to participate in the LGBTQ+ retreat shortly after I began as pastor was a privileged moment of grace to share in the depth of their Ignatian spirituality. The members of the LGBTQ+ community are truly a blessing.

For us, our inclusive, prophetic parish community is among our greatest blessings. We are empowered to live out the Gospel mandate to welcome all, especially those whom others may label as "outsiders" or "other." Last Sunday, we heard the words of St. Paul in the Letter to the Ephesians: "By grace you have been saved through faith, and it is not from you; it is a gift from God." God's gift of faith is a blessing which no one can take from us.

It's natural for us to seek blessings from others, especially from the Church. True blessings are not bestowed by humans, they are gifts from God. We delight in the blessings God gives us through this faith community. It would be nice to have "official" blessings, but not essential to our relationship with the Savior who created us and redeemed us. It's disheartening to be denied this blessing, but we cherish the abundance of blessings God has bestowed on us.

A principal theme for us this Lent has been reconciliation, with God, within ourselves, with our sisters and brothers and with the earth we love. The CDF statement reminds us that reconciliation is not easy.

We should never despair but remember that we are ultimately on a journey to Easter and that Christ is with all who are hurt or marginalized.

May God continue to bless this community of faith as we continue together on our journey.

ARE YOU CALLED TO SERVE ON THE XAVIER PASTORAL COUNCIL?

The Pastoral Council seeks three new members to join us beginning in September 2021. All members of the parish community are encouraged to prayerfully consider—in Ignatian language, to discern—whether this might be the time to offer their gifts as a servant leader. Serving in an advisory role to the pastor, the Council collaborates with the Xavier community to set parish goals and develop objectives; empowers parishioners to implement pastoral plans; and oversees and evaluates them in light of fulfillment of the parish mission.

Pastoral Council members commit to a three-year term of service. At the conclusion of this term, they may serve a subsequent three-year term if they choose to do so. To be eligible, you must be a registered member of the parish for at least two years and at least 20 years old. Additional information is available in the Pastoral Council's Guidelines for Leadership found at www.sfxavier.org. Questions may be directed to any Council member or to pastoralcouncil@sfxavier.org.

New Council members will be chosen over two parish-wide meetings to be held on Sunday May 2 and Sunday May 16. Attendance at both meetings in May is required to either discern as a potential new Council member or to participate in the selection process of choosing new Council members. The meetings will be held via Zoom; stay tuned for more details.

"As a long time parishioner, I finally felt called to discern just four years ago. I didn't know what to expect. It has been a most rewarding and faith-filled journey, giving me a clearer understanding of what collaboration and community can be."

- Karen DeMasi, member since 2017

MARCH / 20TH-21ST / 2021

Support Our Parish

Please join us for our Pledge Day Event.

Your continued support of the Appeal ensures that the archdiocese is equipped to serve all people in need when they approach our parishes for help.

Even small sacrifices can make a big impact.

For more information, please contact the parish office or visit www.cardinalsappeal.org/donate

39th ANNUAL PAX CHRISTI METRO NEW YORK



*Way of the Cross
The Way to Peace*

April 2nd 9am -11am via Zoom

Join with hundreds of people in the largest public Christian peace witness in New York City. The Pax Christi Metro New York Good Friday Way of the Cross is a modern-day enactment of the Stations of the Cross, praying for peace and justice on the streets of our city. This year our theme is "As we look to the Cross, Jesus is our Hope." The Walk will take place on Zoom from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon on Good Friday, April 2nd. Details on how to register and get the link will be on our website and Facebook page or contact our office at info@nypaxchrist.org.

CONTEMPLATIVE LEADERS IN ACTION (CLA) is now accepting applications for new cohorts forming in nine locations. If you are a young adult (20's and 30's) or you know someone who may be interested, I urge you to learn more. We have added some new and exciting features. Information about the CLA experience is available at

<https://www.contemplativeleaders.org/about-cla>

and information on how to apply visit

<https://www.contemplativeleaders.org/apply-1>

RACISM and the Catholic Church

A discussion with Professor Craig A. Ford, Jr., Ph.D.

Thursday, March 25th from 7:00pm-8:15pm

Those who wish to participate must have access to ZOOM. Please email siskate913@gmail.com to receive the link.

The evening will consist of Professor Ford's presentation with Q&A to follow.

*Hosted by the JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMITTEE
of Sacred Heart Church*

2nd Quarter Stewardship News

"I will be their God and they shall be my people." - JEREMIAH 31:33

What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "**Stewards**" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our family, our neighbors and for people we do not know, just as God cares for each of us. In these difficult and trying times we want to thank all of you who have given your gifts of time, talent, and treasure to support Xavier throughout the year.

We're pleased to report that we finished the second quarter with a surplus of \$127,138 versus a budgeted deficit of \$19,290 and compared to a surplus of \$94,408 last year. The favorable results from budget are due to higher revenue and lower expenses than planned. Higher income included Donations and Bequests (\$60,000 above budget), Sunday Offertory (\$45,000 above budget), and the Christmas Collection (\$12,000 above budget). Lower expenses included program expenses (\$31,000 below budget) and maintenance & repairs (\$13,000 below budget).

First Six Months Revenues and Expenses Ending February 28, 2021

	This Year			Last Year
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual
Support	\$ 1,430,138	\$ 1,321,425	\$ 108,713	\$1,446,871
Expenses	\$ 1,302,778	\$ 1,340,715	\$ (37,937)	\$1,352,463
Net Support Over (Under) Expenses	\$ 127,360	\$ (19,290)		\$ 94,408

We achieved a major milestone this month as we made the final payment on our \$6 million restoration loan. As a result of our refinancing of the loan in 2011 and two prepayments totaling \$1.2 million we were able to save \$1.1 million in interest costs and pay the loan off nearly 4 years earlier than planned. The payoff of the loan now frees up \$556,260 annually that the parish can now use for other purposes. All of this would not have been possible without the generosity of our parishioners donating \$500,000 more than our goal in the Capital Campaign, the rental income from our 17th St property, the guidance of our Finance Council, and the assistance of the Archdiocese in obtaining and guaranteeing the loan and negotiating the lease on our 17th Street property.

Thinking about spring cleaning? Why not streamline your giving and simplify your support for Xavier and the ministries that mean so much to you? Now is a great time to make the switch to eGiving – you can sign up from your computer or mobile device and set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. Recurring gifts help sustain our parish as we continue to confront the challenges and turmoil sparked by COVID-19, and as we work to reopen more of our programs and ministries for our parish community. Last month 74% of the Sunday Offertory was from eGiving.

Faith Direct

Faith Direct allows you to support our Sunday Offertory and any other collection on a recurring basis via automatic payment from your checking account or credit card. You can enroll online by clicking the [Donate Now](#) button on our parish homepage or mail in an enrollment form.

Venmo

Find us at Username: StFrancisXavier-Church or Phone number: 646-596-5696. For new users download the **Venmo** mobile app from the App Store or Google Play and select the "Sign Up Now" button to create an account. You will be asked to enter your name, email, cell phone number and password. A verification code is sent to your cellphone as part of the sign-up process. Then add and verify your bank account information and you're ready to donate.

As stated in our Annual Report we are planning \$1.1 million in capital expenditures to renovate the elevator at the 15th Street entrance to the church and to complete the repairs at the 17th Street school. Our cash reserves and this year's budgeted surplus will be the primary source to fund these capital projects. But as we continue public Masses and reopen Family Faith and other programs, we remain dependent on your generous support. Your Sunday offertory, maintenance second collection and Easter and Christmas gifts help ensure we cover our operating and capital expenditures together with the newly budgeted expenses of live streaming Masses and deep cleaning of the church after each Mass.

**DO YOU NEED HELP
SCHEDULING YOUR
COVID VACCINE APPOINTMENT?**



The *Xavier Vaccine Ministry* is ready to help. We are offering assistance to members of our parish — and others.

Email your name and contact information to vaccineministry@sfxavier.org

Please write VACCINATION HELP in the subject line.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, write VOLUNTEER in the subject line.

We will do our best to assist you. Let us pray for the perseverance of our generous volunteers.

Catholic Lesbians

Friday, April 9, 2021, 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

***“The Metamorphosis of Narcissus”
by Salvador Dalí in its Cultural Context***

Mary Douglas Edwards, professor of History of Art and Design at Pratt Institute, will relate the three ancient versions of the myth of Narcissus, explain the roles of the various players in the story, and focus on three current interpretations of Salvadore Dalí’s version: the alchemical, the psychoanalytic, and the Christian. Edwards will illustrate the talk with many images, from Roman wall painting to contemporary installation art, and various drawings, paintings, and sculptures in between. Contact SFXWomen@aol.com for the Zoom link.

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>



**SFX MASKS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR
SALE. COST OF OUR MASKS
ARE \$12. SEE OUR FRONT DESK
ON 15TH STREET ENTRANCE.**

**THIS WEEKEND’S
MUSIC**



Scan me



**RECONCILIATION
MONDAY**

**March 29th
3:00pm-8:00pm**

Scriptures & Announced Masses

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT: *Jer 31:31-34; Heb 5:7-9; John 12:20-33.*

FIFTH MONDAY OF LENT: *DAN 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; John 8:1-11.*

7:45AM AVAILABLE
12:05PM NINA ENDLER (L)

FIFTH TUESDAY OF LENT: *Num 21:4-9; John 8:21-30.*

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

FIFTH WEDNESDAY OF LENT: *Dan 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; John 8:31-42.*

7:45AM LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)
12:05PM LUIZ GULHERME ARAUJO FOZ (D)

THURSDAY~FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD: *Isa 7:10-14; 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38.*

7:45AM TOM RAINONE (D)
12:05PM ANNA ENDLER (L)

FIFTH FRIDAY OF LENT: *Jer 20:10-13; John 10:31-42;*

7:45AM AVAILABLE
12:05PM NANCY ALBANO (D)

FIFTH SATURDAY OF LENT: *Ezek 37:21-28; John 11:45-56.*

12:05PM TEREZINHA CERQUEIRA (D)

SUNDAY~FEAST OF PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD: *Isa 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mark 15:1-39.*

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 xaviersharingandlearninggroup@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 and Fridays at 7pm. Newcomers welcome. Contact Peggy & Paul schubertnyc@gmail.com