The image shows the interior of the Church of St. Francis Xavier, featuring a grand, ornate altar with a central crucifix, flanked by statues and frescoes. The altar is decorated with flowers and candles. The architecture is highly detailed with Gothic-style arches and carvings. A wooden altar in the foreground is adorned with a large arrangement of colorful flowers, including tulips and lilies, and a circular emblem with the letters 'IHS' is visible on its front. The overall atmosphere is solemn and reverent.

**CHURCH OF
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
ANNUAL REPORT 2021**



THE CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

Dear Parishioners,

Gratitude is a fundamental Christian virtue. The many gifts we have received of life, faith, and community continue to sustain and invigorate us.

We continue to have much to be grateful for as we review this year's annual report. Although the entire 20-21 fiscal year was lived through the fits and starts of easing and tightening of COVID restrictions, early 2021 gave us access to vaccinations and a hope to a more usual routine. Even though the rise of the Delta variant was a cautionary tale for us all, our community has so far escaped widespread and tragic involvement with the infection. Thanks be to God!

And thanks be to you who have supported our parish community by sharing your gifts of time, talent and treasure in so many ways. Our in-person attendance continues to grow with each passing month and more ministries are shifting from all virtual to more blended gatherings. Throughout the pandemic we have continued our commitment to many critical issues including racial justice and the environment.

When many churches have had to scale back programs because of financial concerns, we are blessed to have a strong and predictable revenue stream through the rental of the former parochial school. The surplus at the end of last year might tempt us to complacency but we have to recognize past and ongoing capital needs for the good of the parish. Last year \$713,000 was spent as partial payment for the pointing and roof replacement on the parochial school and the first installment of our elevator replacement project. These capital expenses are not included as part of our operating surplus. Within this fiscal year we will complete those projects as well as the replacement of bathrooms in Hurtado Hall. Our capital budget for this year is approximately \$1.1 million.

To help us plan for the future, we have established a joint sub-committee from the Pastoral Council and the Finance Council to consider current and projected capital needs as well as the appropriate allocation of funds for the apostolic priorities of the parish.

Your generous support enables us to maintain a vibrant community of faith witnessing to Gospel values in our world today. Thank you for all that you do in support of our mission.

With prayers,

Ken Boller, S.J.
Pastor



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR IN REVIEW

PARISHIONERS

5,136 households are currently registered.
221 parishioners supported the church through collection envelopes.
880 parishioners contributed online through Faith Direct.
721 parishioners contributed through Venmo.
The number of people who donated cash is unknown.

BAPTISMS

43 infants were welcomed into our faith community.

FAMILY FAITH

106 students and their families participated in the Family Faith Program.

RCIA

7 adults were baptized, 12 adults received into full communion and confirmed.

MARRIAGES

34 couples chose Xavier as the community within which to be married.

CARDINAL'S APPEAL

\$109,500 goal and \$55,132 was donated.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe (Chair)

Patrick Egan (co-Chair)

John Karle (Secretary)

Stephen Alfieri

Kathleen Cagnina

Belinda Conway

Karen DeMasi

Andrea Foley-Murphy

Michelle Jung

Ron Oberdick



A LETTER FROM THE FINANCE COUNCIL

The past 20 months have been an extraordinary time for our parish, our country and our world. We faced many challenges, both individually and communally. Through the hard work of the parish staff and the St. Francis Xavier community, many were able to find hope and respite in our faith during a difficult and complex time. The Finance Council is grateful to the members of our parish who continue to express their commitment to the importance of our community through their ongoing financial support of the parish throughout the pandemic.

We are pleased that our Annual Report of the Parish for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2021 (FY 2021) shows the community's ongoing support with an operating surplus of \$464,305. This surplus will provide critical funds for essential capital expenditures and also enable us to continue the wide breadth of activities that make our parish unique and vibrant as we emerge from the challenges of the pandemic.

The Statement of Activities summarizes our major sources of revenues and expenditures for the last two years and our budget for this fiscal year. While we finished the year with an operating surplus of \$464,305, this sum does not include \$713,142 in capital expenditures for important projects such as the initial phases of the exterior work on the 17th Street School and the renovation of the bathrooms in Hurtado Hall. The operating surplus was due primarily to increased income from the rental of the 17th Street school building and larger than anticipated Sunday Collections and Donations & Bequests.

We are budgeting a \$432,811 operating surplus this year. However, we also are planning over \$1.1million in capital expenditures including a complete renovation of the elevator at the 15th Street entrance to the church to ensure the accessibility of our community, completing the repairs at the 17th Street school where complications with the roof have increased the scope of the project and repairing to the church pews and floors that are showing signs of wear and tear 10 years after our renovation and 20 months into heavy and regular cleaning and disinfecting. Our cash reserves and this year's budgeted surplus will be the primary source to fund these capital projects.

As we reopen and rebuild our parish life, we remain dependent on your generous support. Your Sunday offertory, maintenance second collection and Christmas and Easter gifts help ensure we cover our operating and capital expenditures and remain a vibrant community of faith. For those of you who have been fortunate enough to navigate the financial hardships created by the pandemic, we ask that you consider increasing your total giving, especially for the Sunday offertory so that the parish of St. Francis Xavier can continue to be a welcoming and engaged home, a community that seeks to reflect God's love for us in our words and our actions.

We are committed to transparency and accountability so please reach out to any member of the Finance Council if you have any questions. Despite often being restricted in our ability to come together in person, our parish came together in spirit and we are grateful for the generosity of the members of the parish with their time, talent and treasure.

The Parish Finance Council

Fr. Kenneth Boller, S.J., *Pastor*
Ann McGowan, *Chair*
Andrew Royston, CPA, *Vice-Chair*
Nicolas Ng, *Secretary*
Elisa Balestra
Jack Schmitt

The Parish Finance Team

Jared Savino, CPA, *Xavier Parish Accountant*
James Martinez, *Assistant for Financial Planning*
Jovidannia Villavicencio, *Business Manager*

PARISH STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES YEAR ENDING AUGUST 31ST

SUPPORT	BUDGET 2021/22	ACTUAL 2020/21	ACTUAL 2019/20	ACTUAL 2018/19
Regular Collections	\$907,200	\$898,503	\$962,698	\$889,976
Holiday Collections	\$150,000	\$155,691	\$162,746	\$151,690
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$1,057,200	\$1,054,194	\$1,125,444	\$1,041,666
17th Street Rental Income	\$1,365,813	\$1,332,500	\$1,300,000	\$939,012
Spiritual Direction Program Income	\$12,000	\$0	\$17,165	\$27,660
Donations and Bequests	\$102,000	\$211,120	\$230,322	\$573,095
Investment Income	\$5,000	\$40,821	\$34,865	(\$1,419)
Other Income ^a	\$150,250	\$150,639	\$177,135	\$219,840
TOTAL SUPPORT	\$2,692,263	\$2,789,274	\$2,884,931	\$2,799,854

EXPENSES	BUDGET 2021/22	ACTUAL 2020/21	ACTUAL 2019/20	ACTUAL 2018/19
Restoration Loan	\$0	\$324,959	\$556,260	\$553,756
Salary & Benefits ^b	\$815,368	\$711,286	\$678,028	\$629,116
Music Ministry	\$227,643	\$223,701	\$197,560	\$186,915
Administrative Support	\$162,000	\$140,713	\$127,710	\$138,365
Religious Education & Youth ministry	\$169,318	\$145,982	\$147,337	\$140,660
Insurance	\$100,000	\$97,512	\$82,878	\$70,842
Repairs and Maintenance	\$66,000	\$49,157	\$51,898	\$57,785
Spiritual Direction Program	\$43,500	\$836	\$37,560	\$15,649
Stewardship Program	\$29,500	\$28,400	\$27,333	\$27,633
Utilities	\$44,000	\$43,393	\$40,717	\$44,612
Other Programs	\$105,500	\$54,319	\$137,023	\$95,546
Archdiocesan Assessment ^c	\$252,623	\$260,711	\$291,507	\$171,433
Archdiocesan School Support	\$244,000	\$244,000	\$244,000	\$244,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,259,452	\$2,324,969	\$2,619,812	\$2,376,312
Revenue Over (Under) Expenses	\$432,811	\$464,305	\$265,119	\$423,542

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform with the current year presentation.

^aIncludes income from votive shrines & candles, weddings, baptisms, funerals, and religious education.

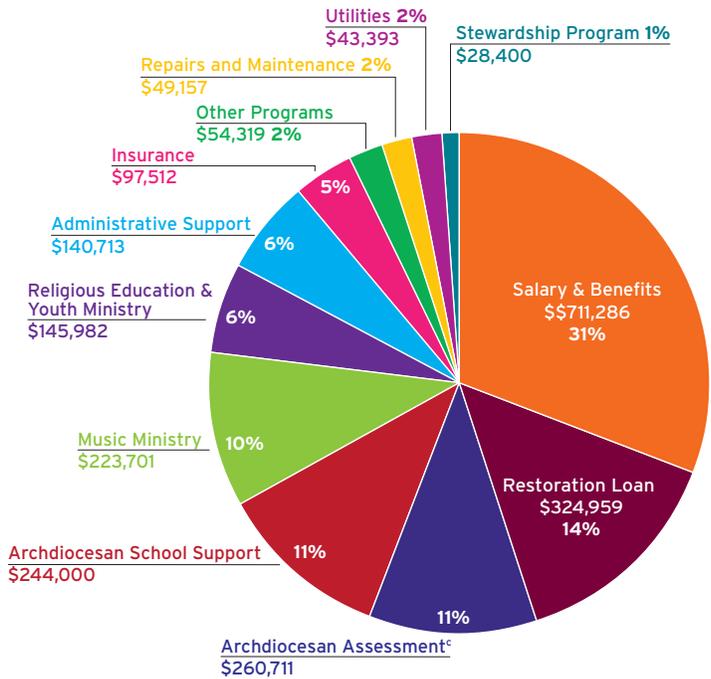
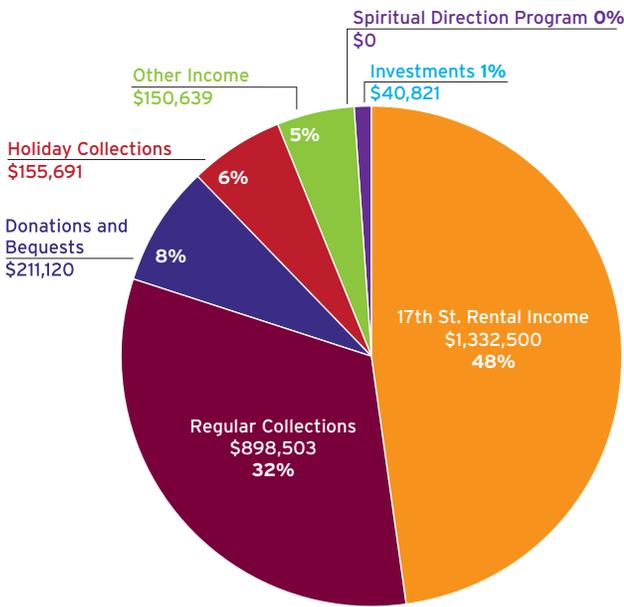
^bIncludes clergy & lay admin salary and benefits not included in Music, Stewardship, Religious Education & Spiritual Direction lines.

^cArchdiocesan Assessment in 19/20, 20/21, and 21/22 includes \$42,423 for capital needs and contribution to Cardinal's Appeal of \$39,306 in 19/20 and \$10,000 in 20/21

	2021	2020	2019
Capital Expenditures not included in the Statement of Activities Expenses	\$71,3142	\$283,239	\$37,981
AS OF AUGUST 31ST THE PARISH HAD CASH BALANCES AND INVESTMENTS AS FOLLOWS:			
Cash and Money Market Funds	\$969,017	\$1,061,923	\$1,091,697
Capital Improvement Fund	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
AS OF AUGUST 31ST THE PARISH HAD THE FOLLOWING RECEIVABLES:			
	–	–	
AS OF AUGUST 31ST THE PARISH HAD THE FOLLOWING OBLIGATIONS:			
Restoration Loan	\$0	\$320,270	\$850,847
Archdiocese Loan	\$131,200	\$131,200	\$131,200
Archdiocese Invoice & Collections	\$0	\$15,768	(\$2,054)
Vendors and Service Providers	\$245,422	\$57,540	\$66,816
Parish Organizations	\$20,608	\$13,160	\$20,208

Note: Capital Improvement Fund established in 2019 to fund future repairs at 17th St. location and church.

REVENUE = \$2,789,274



EXPENSES = \$2,324,969

FAMILY FAITH PROGRAM

Luz Marina Díaz, PhD (director)



Family Faith, 2020-2021, was the result of a team effort to comply fully with the *Archdiocesan Safe and Sound: Guidelines and Procedures for Holding On-site Parish Religious Education* and the *Xavier High School Reopening Plan*, both based on the Guidance published by the New York State Department of Health, the New York State Education Department and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Family Faith Program reopened on September 20, 2020, with a hybrid learning model combined in-person, at-home, and virtual learning experiences. In-person instruction, which allowed virtual participation, was provided for four different grades at a time. We offered two separate sessions for parents/guardians, one hybrid session on Sundays on Scripture Based Racial Justice led by Roseann Bonadia and Michael Allocca, and a monthly session via Zoom led by John Foley-Murphy and Ed Poliandro. In addition, we offered Zoom community Sundays on Creation-Laudato Si, All Saints Celebration, Advent Wreath, Christmas Story, Love your Neighbor, Stations of the Cross, and Stations of the Light.

We incorporated themes related to racial justice in the Family Faith curriculum for children, teenagers, parents/guardians, and catechists. Michael Termini organized and led meetings with catechists Kristen Beckles, Annariza Fajardo, Pablo Jiménez, Norma Varela, Paul Kelly, Melanie Barbary, Stephanie Dubois, Cora Custodio, Claire Igot, Cynthia Teramura, and Patricia Gordon. Unfortunately, the Family Faith Choir, the Altar Servers coordinated by Gerry Moss, and Children Liturgy of the Word were not active in this period due to virus prevention measures.

The Christmas Pageant 2020, given the pandemic circumstances, was different but beautiful. Instead of having the traditional Christmas Pageant during the 4 pm mass on December 24, theatrical representation and dance took place during the carols' time, from 3:30 pm to 4 pm. Jackie Perez (Family Faith Choir Director) led a small group of singers. Sarah Arzt made some of the costumes, including the gigantic wings of the Angel Gabriel. In addition, parishioner Noemi Ramirez made little angels and sheep props for parishioners to participate actively during specific carols that allude to angels and sheep.

On Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021, eighteen teenagers and four adult parishioners received the sacrament of confirmation at the 9 am Mass. The celebrant was Bishop John O'Hara. The confirmands were Jack Austin Barillaro, Madeleine Jane Berna, Sydney Karen Berna, John

Edward, Voltaire Conason, Eleanor Louisa Horan Conason, Fiona Duffy, Finn Duffy, Fiona Carney Florsheim, Alejandra Estefania Garcia, Anthony Ignatius Garvey, Matthew Timothy Gordon, Caroline Susan Gordon, Benjamin Scott Marsaggi, Gabriella Kate Marsaggi, Luca Awe Wagner Timoll, Julia Kelly Young, John Kelly Young, Brendan Francis Voltz, Stefy Causey, Oscar Molina, Michelle Longsworth, and Nicholas Eli Nuñez.

The First Reconciliation was celebrated on Saturday, May 22, 2021, at 1 pm, and the First Holy Communion was celebrated on June 6, 2021, at the 9 am Mass. The following children received Reconciliation and the Eucharist for the first time: Hannah May Born-Napolitano, Ava Christiana Castro, Julian Roch Carucci, John William Florio, Oliver Ee-Quan Goh, Avery Jeanne Arnold, Peter Kevin Gordon, Mateo Peralta, Ines Peralta, Isabella Maria Djuravcevic, Patrick John Florsheim, Cian Patrick Murphy, Emma Brigid Prot-Teague, Helena Claire Smith, Quinn Whalen Abbondanza, Devi Tsuboyama, Quintin Theodore Donnelly, Ana Sofya Lauer, Anna Fawn Florio, Charlotte Ruth Hummel, Ava Martini, and Shaya Zaman.

There are many people I have to thank who made it possible for this religious education program to take place in these times of pandemic: my assistants Elvis Mendez and Michael Judkiewicz, parents' liaison Kerry O'Donnell and her son Owen Barbagallo, IT Hernando Avila, Bill Ford (chair of Xavier's COVID-19 Coordinating Committee), Frank Leahy (Director of Xavier Physical Plant,) and of course Xavier catechetical team, parents and our Pastor Father Ken Boller, SJ.



RCIA 2020-2021

**Luz Marina Diaz, PhD (Director), Sister Charlotte Rafferty (Sponsors' Coordinator),
Team: Roseann Bonadia, Michael Allocca, Eileen Gatza, and José Ramón Pérez López**

The RCIA 2020-2021 was a hybrid model of Christian Initiation due to the pandemic. We met in person at Keenan Commons every Sunday from 1 pm to 3 pm, and participants who could not come in person participated via Zoom. On November 22, 2020, we celebrated the Rite of Welcoming and Acceptance at the 11:30 am Mass in the Church. The Rite of Election, usually celebrated in St. Patrick Cathedral, was celebrated at Xavier on February 21 at the 11:30 am Mass. Then, on February 28 at the 11:30 am Mass, the Rite of Call to Continuing Conversion.

A moment of tension in the RCIA process was triggered by the Vatican statement published on Monday, March 15, 2021. In that statement, the Vatican denied blessing to same-sex unions, calling them a 'sin.' Though this message was not new to the Elect and Candidates, it was disheartening for them to hear and read, especially during the period of scrutiny and reflection on the meaning of God in their lives. Immediately, a barrage of written and video messages from parishioners and outsiders supporting the LGBTQ community, especially those participating in the RCIA process, arrived. Among them, a message quoting Psalm 139:

*For you created my inmost being
you knit me together in my mother's womb
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.*

Thanks to the Xavier community, RCIA was able to taste the love of the Risen Christ intensely. How good is our community of faith!

At the Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday, April 3, 2021, Dhanat (June) Choong, Jennifer Nicole Katzer (Jen,) Brian David Meinhardt, and Johnny Szeto received the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.) Their sponsors were Janet Wagner, Ladd Boris, Michael Allocca, and Todd Schmidt. Justine Anastasia Champine, Elizabeth Mary Evans, Jon Paul Crespo Delgado, and Valeri Patricia (Patti) Limansubroto completed their sacraments of Initiation. They were accompanied by sponsors Roseann Bonnadia, Janet Paist, José Ramón Pérez López and Janet Wagner. Katherine Meredith Casey, Laura Champine, Elizabeth Claire Herman (Liz), and Matthew Scott Whitley entered into full communion with the Catholic Church. Their sponsors were Marissa Hernandez, Eileen Gatza, Peggy Jacobson, and Michael Wichanski.

Thanks to the Xavier community for your support in prayer and action in the RCIA process.



THE MUSIC MINISTRY

A report from John Uehlein, Director of Music

How do we stay alive during the era of Covid-19? By singing or playing one pitch after another! The Bell choir and instruments were with us throughout the pandemic from before the last annual report to this one. Our volunteer choral singers have only just returned to our worship experience this past September. AMDG Thanks be to God! I would like to thank the Cantors who kept us in vocal prayer throughout the pandemic and to thank all the volunteer singers who have returned this fall. You have added so much to our worship experience.

But above all, I would like to thank you, the people of St. Francis Xavier for your steadfast commitment to the parish and for your return to our worship services. There was a Sunday morning in September when the attendance was picking up and all of a sudden it seemed the church erupted in a glorious refrain of "*Gloria Dios en el cielo*" from our Glory to God - Misa del Pueblo Inmigrante. I cried as the music rolled along. I had been playing masses at St. Francis Xavier from the first empty church live stream mass until that morning in September, but I had no idea until that moment what an inspiration you all are to me and to us who inhabit the roles of servant/leaders. Your return is God-given.

Although I missed some time at SFX during the past year due to necessary surgeries our music ministry thrived. I am deeply grateful to the leadership and beauty brought to the ministry by our Assistant Director of Music Ministries Jacqueline C. Perez assisted by Michael Douris, Captain of the Bell Choir and Dugan McGinley, Jack of All Trades.

The Xavier Choir, The Family Faith Choir and The Xavier Schola are all back at their respective liturgies. The Bell Choir or Xavier Campanologists has played at Christmas and Holy Week this past year. The Xavier Players, have been with the Sunday 5PM liturgy as well as our high Holy Days throughout the entire past year.

On the third Sunday of Advent 2020 we hosted our annual Lessons and Carols although somewhat scaled back. We are so looking forward to this year's Lessons and Carols on December 19th. We have started hosting concerts again with the Friends of the Philippines on Oct. 22nd and Cantori the first weekend in November. We follow stringent COVID protocols for these concerts.

Our largest single expense covers our cantors and musicians. We are paying a cantor stipend every week and we pride ourselves on the quality and wealth of the cantors we are blessed with in the parish. This year, we have also had some out of the ordinary (but not enormous) expenses for the Virtual Choir Project. Expenses also arise for music and materials, whether that is bell gloves or polish or choir binders or music stand lights. Our annual donations from the second collections as well as individual donations throughout the year total: \$7,464.

As always, we are most grateful for your continuing support. As is the rule with all of us during this time, fiscal prudence is the name of the game. Even so, we would not be able to continue without your generous support.



MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Our parish is blessed by the ongoing work of more than 20 different ministry groups. Here are some highlights from just a few of these ministries.



CATHOLIC LESBIANS lost two members: RIP, Amora Ollivierre and Valerie. Meetings via Zoom covered spiritual connections among astrology, the church, and The Little Prince; Transgender Day of Remembrance and queer and transgender culture in precolonial Philippines; sharing the murmurings of our hearts; tarot cards and prophecy; healing practices for troubled times; *The Metamorphosis of Narcissus* by Salvador Dalí; reflections on LGBT pride; botanizing nuns and the intersection of botany and the queer community; and anti-Asian discrimination. In-person events were the 18th annual Christmas wrapping party; 29th Annual NYC Dyke March; and New York Historical Society's *Safe/Haven: Gay Life in 1950s Cherry Grove*.

ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY For the Season of Creation 2020, we coordinated with Sacred Space to have an installation on the altar related to the proliferation of plastic and sea level rise due to climate change. We participated in the Hudson River clean up and wrote weekly articles for bulletin during this period. We also highlighted webinars offered by the Global Catholic Climate Movement and Catholic Climate Covenant. In the spring, we produced the Lenten Carbon Fast Calendar, encouraged participation in the Ignatian Solidarity Network's environmental justice program, participated in the Stations of the Cross, and gave a presentation to the RCIA group. We produced a webinar focused on Environmental Justice which highlighted two environmental justice communities and the issues these predominantly persons of color communities. We took on a major role in the Adopt-A-District program of the Climate Crisis Policy group and met with legislators to get their support for some critical climate bills. We participate in webinars and petition drives with Metro NY Catholic Climate Movement and films offered by Interfaith Power and Light on environmental justice. We also participated in several rallies on environmental justice.

GAY CATHOLICS, primarily a gay men's group but all are welcome to attend our meetings and events. For more than 20 years we have spearheaded the parish's AIDS Walk campaign. We are the only Catholic Parish that participates and we have been in the top 20 fundraising teams for the last 8 years. Our men are represented in every aspect of life and ministry at Xavier. Even during the pandemic, several healthy men have continued to serve by volunteering at the Welcome Table and other charitable services. We have started a hybrid meeting schedule both virtually and in-person.

LAY SPIRITS began the planning of Lay Spirits XXVIII, a nine-month spiritual formation program for participants to pray, listen, reflect, and share their experience as they explore a broad spectrum of spiritual practices, with the purpose of helping participants experience a deeper personal relationship with God. Lay Spirits XXVIII will be co-facilitated by Donna Gormley and Rick Raymond and is to be launched in September 2021. Under the uncertainty of Covid, meetings were planned to be predominately virtually. Lay Spirits also sponsors a variety of activities such as workshops, retreats and prayer services oriented toward specific spiritual themes. In 2020 Lay Spirits collaborated with Xavier Young Adults and Charis New York City in conducting a Day of Reflection and Contemplative Prayer retreat at Xavier, and a Pentecostal Reflection and Contemplative Prayer virtual retreat. Also, in 2021 Lay Spirits sponsored a workshop on elderhood.

RACIAL JUSTICE READING GROUP continued to be lead by Father John Mulreany in 2020-21, enabling meetings on Zoom and posting frequently to keep us aware of possibilities for public commitment to racial justice. A highlight was reading Representative John Lewis' *Across That Bridge*, learning how his Christian faith sustained him in his lifelong struggle for justice, affording a model for us as Catholic Christians. Inspired by Lewis' example, members wrote a letter of thanks to the bishops of Biloxi and Jackson, Mississippi, for their Joint Statement on the Evils of Racism, issued July 4, 2020. The letter states: "*We too are trying to confront the sin that is racism and to work for its eradication.*" We received a gracious acknowledgment from the bishops. We are presently reading *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson. Currently, our meetings are held on Sunday afternoons, once a month, from 2:30-4:30 pm via Zoom, with the first part offering everyone time to comment on the readings and the second part focusing on determining what actions we might participate in. Consider joining our next meeting! Check the bulletin for announcements or email sfxbookgroup@sfxavier.org

SACRED SPACE COMMITTEE enjoyed another busy year, bringing meaningful, visual inspiration to the sanctuary. Advent and Christmas were centered around the concept of unity and coming home to Xavier after a difficult pandemic year. Ornaments were crafted from photos shared by parishioners unable to attend the masses in person. Lent and Easter called us to focus on racial and social inequality. This carried through to Pentecost when the reredos was filled with a multitude of flesh toned candles representing the multitude of tongues heard as the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles. Additional activities were a collaboration with the Environmental Ministry during the Season of





Creation, a Dios de los Muertos altar to celebrate All Souls' Day, and floral installations for the first Mass Father Zach and the memorial of beloved parishioner John Albanese.

YOUTH MINISTRY (XYM) continued its work of accompanying almost 20 young women and men in their journey of friendship and discipleship with Christ Jesus. Due to the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, XYM transitioned to an online format for most of its activities. During these online sessions, the youth had the opportunity to share their own experience of the effects of the pandemic and the role that their faith played in these challenging times. For the seasons of Advent and Lent, the youth enjoyed weekly prayerful meditations. Staff and participants of the XYM want to thank Anthony and Andrea Alexander-Mullen for their guidance and wisdom during these liturgical reflections. Following all safety guidelines, it was possible to hold some in-person activities. The youth created banners to celebrate their peers who received the sacrament of Confirmation in November 2020, and helped as hospitality ministers during the ceremony. As well, in December 2020, the teens made more than 125 Christmas cards for incarcerated women and men, who are assisted by Thrive for Life, the prison ministry. As importantly, XYM held a few outdoors activities: skating at Bryant Park's rink and miniature golf in the Hudson River Park. As soon as it was possible to attend Mass safely, the youth started attending Mass from the choir loft. This allowed them to strengthen their bonds of friendship and spiritually support each other. Their presence was a sign of hope for the entire community of faithful at Xavier. Furthermore, in order to continue their formation in the Catholic faith and participate more fully in the liturgy, most of the teenagers signed up to be trained as lectors, acolytes and hospitality ministers. Xavier Youth Ministry closed with separate in-person and Zoom parties, bidding farewell to XYM Coordinator Phil Waldrop and welcoming Pablo Jimenez.

ZEN MEDITATION completed its 14th year. During the pandemic, the group continued the meditation practice remotely. There has been a scheduled time for meditation on most Monday evenings. In addition, additional remote meditation periods were added on Friday. The ministry continues to fill a need for people of different intentions: Beginners and people with curiosity are always welcomed and introduction and instruction is always available. The group also provides a home for those interested in a continuing meditation practice as well as support for those whose primary interests are with other ministries. Well over 450 parishioners have experienced the program since its inception.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY

On Monday, June 22, 2020, we returned to celebrating the 12:05 pm Mass in the Main Church. We started regular weekend masses with a capacity of no more than 220 people per Mass on the weekend of June 27-28, 2020. Reservations were necessary to attend Mass until July 17-18, 2021. The Spanish Mass has been celebrated on the third Saturday at 6:30 pm by Father Tom Feely, SJ, with cantor Cara Caponi and Dee Kitany at the piano. Cara prepares all the music for each Spanish Mass.

The capacity to attend Mass has increased, as did the number of liturgical ministers serving at each Mass. But, we have not yet reached the number of participants and volunteers we had before the pandemic. We are happy that experienced liturgical ministers returned to serve. In addition, we are glad to see young people from the Youth Ministry and Family Faith Program volunteering in different liturgical roles.

The liturgical ministers' team in charge of preparing new lectors, hospitality ministers and Eucharistic ministers have continued their work of training those parishioners called to this very important ministry of the church. The team is formed by Stephanie Samoy (Lectors' coach,) Bill Koss and Gerry Moss (Eucharist Ministers' coaches,) and Ron Oberdick (hospitality ministers' coach.) They, along with Luz Marina Diaz, prepared the Mass protocols in times of pandemic.

Luz Marina Diaz continues to process the enrollment forms of parishioners wanting to serve as liturgical ministers. The form is posted on our website. Luz prepares the liturgies' schedule for weekends and holidays such as Christmas Eve, Christmas, Triduum, Easter Vigil, Easter. Danila Mendoza is in charge of the schedule for the daily 12:05 pm liturgies. For our weekend liturgies, we use the Ministry Scheduler Pro software, which allows us to 1) invite volunteers to submit their availability in preparation for a scheduled period, 2) use flexible scheduling tools to create balanced, conflict-free schedules across multiple ministries, 3) post schedules online and use built-in email tools to send each volunteer their personalized list of assignments, and 4) set up auto email and text message reminders and allow volunteers to request subs.

Broadcasting the 11:30 am Mass has allowed immunocompromised people to participate in the liturgies. It has also been surprising how many people from other cities and countries attend the live-streamed Mass. In addition, the inclusion of a sign language interpreter at the 11:30 am Mass has been a positive move to welcome our brothers and sisters from the deaf community. More and more, we can observe among the assembly people answering at Mass with sign language.



WAYS TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT THE PARISH

There are many ways to support the dynamic ministries of the Church of St. Francis Xavier. Each method of giving ensures the future of our parish and may provide you with tax benefits. The information below will help you decide how best to support the parish.

REGISTER *You're already a member, you just need to register!* If you haven't already registered, you may do so online www.sfxavier.org or by picking up a registration form at the 15th Street reception desk.

FAITH DIRECT Go Green and support the parish online, even while you are away on business or pleasure. Visit our website, www.sfxavier.org and click on the DONATE NOW icon or go directly to www.faithdirect.net and enter parish code: NY406. You can decide upon your weekly offering, special collections, flower offering, one-time gifts, etc. The automatic payments will be taken monthly from your choice of credit card or checking. Plus you have online access to donor statements for tax purposes. You can also link your mobile phone number to your credit/debit card for easier giving. Text any dollar amount to (646)-681-7010 and complete the one-time registration page to enroll.

VENMO Find us at Username: StFrancisXavier-Church or Phone number: 646-596-5696. For new users download the Venmo mobile app to create an account.

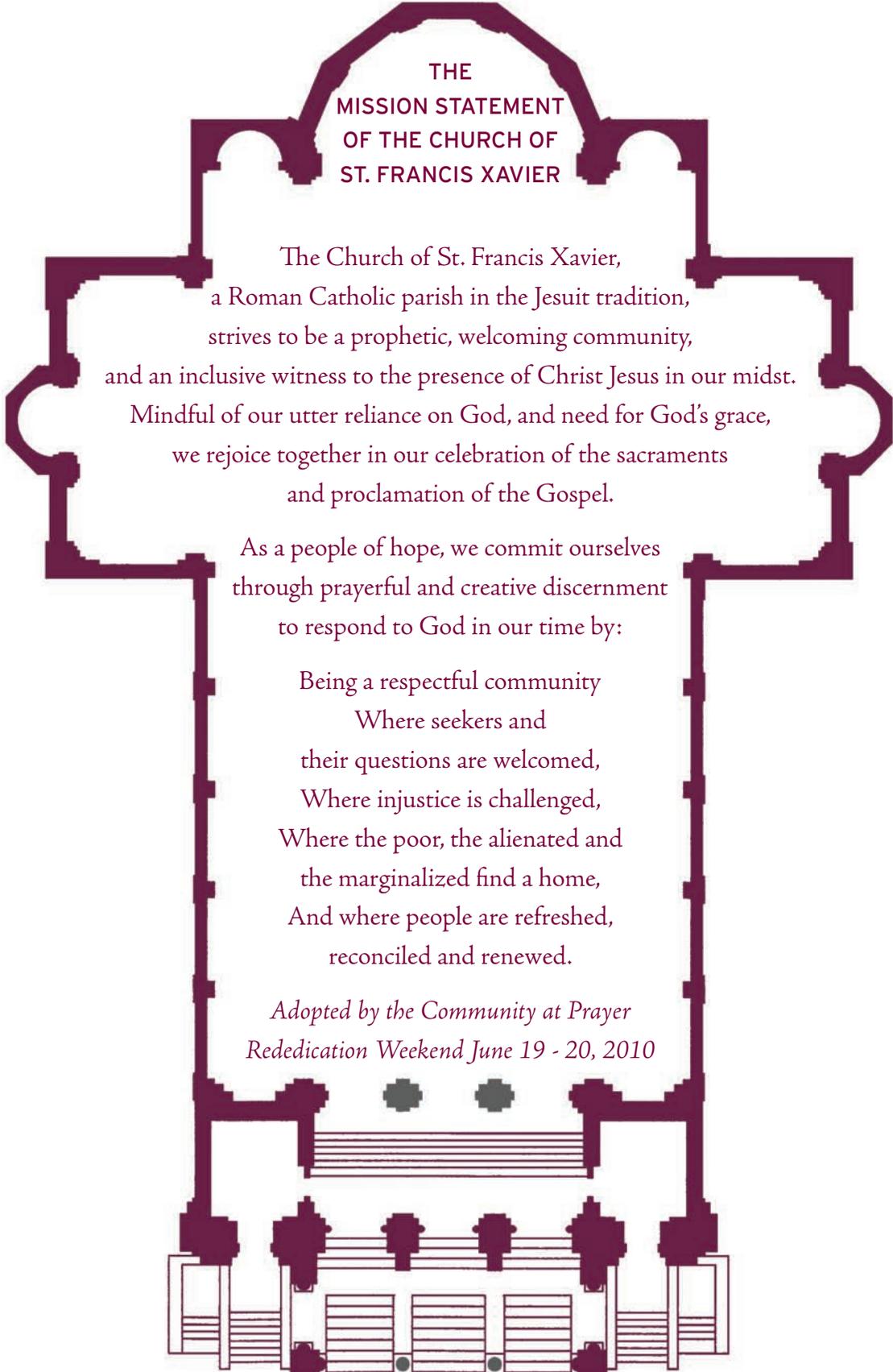
ENVELOPE SYSTEM Donors who itemize their tax returns receive an income tax charitable deduction. If you make your donation by check, please make the check payable to the Church of St. Francis Xavier.

SECURITIES By giving appreciated securities that you have owned for more than a year, your charitable deduction is the fair market value of the securities. Such gifts provide income tax savings and eliminate the capital gains tax liability.

GIFTS BY WILL The parish can be remembered in your Will. Suggested wording for such bequests is: I give, devise, and bequeath to the Church of St. Francis Xavier located at 55 West 15th Street, New York, NY, the sum of \$_____ (or ___% of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate whether real or personal) for its general charitable purposes and without restriction. Please note that under the policy of the archdiocese and the by-laws of the parish corporation, bequests to a parish cannot be restricted unless approved in advance by the archbishop in writing.

GIFTS OF RETIREMENT PLANS Consider naming the Church of St. Francis Xavier, 55 West 15th Street New York, NY 10011 as a beneficiary or contingent beneficiary in your retirement plan, IRA or 401(k). It's easy, requires no attorneys or fee, and is tax advantageous. Call the parish office for further information and the necessary Federal ID.

TIME & TALENT All of our ministries, services and Xavier Mission programs are primarily staffed by parishioners, so we encourage your participation. If you would like to offer your time and talent to Xavier Mission, please contact Cassandra Agredo, Director, Outreach Mission at 212-627-2100 x 208 or cagredo@xaviermission.org; for any of the many ministries in the parish contact the parish office at 212-627-2100.



THE
MISSION STATEMENT
OF THE CHURCH OF
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

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.

*Adopted by the Community at Prayer
Rededication Weekend June 19 - 20, 2010*

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