



# CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

## A JESUIT APOSTOLATE

46 West 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NYC

Email: [StFrancisXavier@sfxavier.org](mailto:StFrancisXavier@sfxavier.org)



SECOND COLLECTION  
to benefit Catholic Relief Services

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 10, 2024

## 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](http://www.sfxavier.org)

## Staff

*Parish Phone Number - (212) 627-2100*

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

Rev. James Miracky, S.J. (Associate Pastor) - 225

Rev. Ricardo da Silva, S.J. (Associate Pastor)

Cassandra Agredo (Executive Dir. Xavier Mission) - 208

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

Stephanie Fuentes (Office Manager) -222

MaryLennox Halfacre (Dir. of Communications)-206

Moraima Hernandez (Plant Manager) - 201

Pablo Jiminez (Youth Ministry Coordinator)

James Martinez (Assistant for Financial Planning)

Desiree Resto (Office Assistant)-203

John Uehlein (Dir. of Music Ministries) — 202

Roseann Vidal (Dir. of Business) - 221

Receptionist — 201

## Pastoral Council

Belinda Conway (Chair); Alan Ahles (Vice-Chair); Susan Faggiani (Secretary); Christina Amendolia; Kristen Beckles; Joel Dabu; Andrea Foley-Murphy; John Lucas; Larry Ruth; Todd Schmidt.

[PastoralCouncil@sfxavier.org](mailto:PastoralCouncil@sfxavier.org)

Bulletin Cover Artwork: *Christ heals a blind man*  
*Cathedral Church of Saint Patrick (Charlotte,*  
*North Carolina)*

Source: Wikimedia Artist: Unknown

## Next Weekend's Presider Schedule

**Saturday, March 16**

5:00pm Vigil Mass: James Miracky, SJ

**Sunday, March 17**

9:00am Mass: Ricardo da Silva, SJ

11:30am Mass: Thomas Feely, SJ

5:00 PM Mass: Kenneth Boller, SJ

## Office Hours

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

Saturday: 11:30am to 6:00pm

Sunday: 8:30am to 6:00pm

NOTE: for Bulletin Notices send  
e-mails to [sfxbulletin@sfxavier.org](mailto: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.

## Xavier Mission Volunteer Opportunities

Clothing Room: Every Sunday, sorting &  
distribution shifts

Soup Kitchen: Every Sunday, prep &  
distribution shifts

Food Pantry: Second Saturday of every  
month, distribution shifts

For Info And To Sign Up:  
[signup.xaviermission.org](http://signup.xaviermission.org)

**To stay up-to-date on parish  
news, follow us on Instagram  
and Facebook at *sfxaviernyc*.**



## **From the Pastor's Desk**

### **Kenneth Boller, SJ**

Today's second collection is for Catholic Relief Services. For seventy-five years, they have provided aid to migrants, those in war zones, victims of human trafficking and people in need throughout the world. Please be generous in support of their efforts.

For our part we should also be lobbying our government to do all it can to bring a ceasefire to the war in Gaza. While there is no justification to the horrendous attack by Hamas on October 7, the destructive force of the response by the Israeli government has left 30,000 people dead, including thousands of innocent women and children. A ceasefire will, we hope and pray, lead to a more permanent end to the conflict. It is time to stand up for the dignity and rights of the innocents caught in the crossfire of conflict in the Middle East and elsewhere.

## **Prayer Requests**

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

Kathleen Friel, Susan Forbes, Jim Fox, David Fuentes, Francisco Fuentes, Jaclyn Suzanne Gomez, Jim Held, Leonor Herbandez, Christopher Henderson, Donna Marie Henderson, Tonia Hubert, Elizabeth Jones, Charles Kelley, Kevin Kenned, Eileen Miller, Mike Orza, Edward Pinsdorf, Brian Prentke, Betty, Ray Ralph, Mark Reynolds, Dolores Roddy, John Schlee, Eleanor Schleider, Dorothy Shepherd, Anne Sheridan, Encarnacion Singh, Crysea Spencer, Priscilla Stefan, Eleanor Sundaram, Joyce Williams, Micaiah Wilson, Mike Mattioli, Joan Schechter, Kay Thomas, Patricia Jones, Gary Trout, Anthony Cuoco, Mark Morin, Marion Pierce, Rosina Davis, Robert Raymond, Richard Chow, John P. Sabini, Avada Mulzac, Jane Jacobus, Neepa Magarelli, Eve Duke, Henna Ali, Dava Weinstein, Pat Brown, Michael Patterson, Sr. Cecilia Palange, Mary Lou Brewis, Jess Dabu, Gus Lobo, Tom N. Pantages, Eve Duke, Cathy Geronimo.

### ***Pray for the peaceful rest of all our beloved departed parishoners and friends, especially:***

Bob Morrow, Jason Vermonty, Jessie Russell, Greg Lubert, Dr. Samuel Alcarez, Barbara Ann Haynes, Blair Dean, Don Brophy, Anthony Antunes, Rolando Zapata, Rosalie Stillo, Cathy Geronimo, Press McCallum, Bill Bennett, Perlitta Abbago, Retha Davis, Kurt Burger.

***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.**

## We did Part One in Albany. Now Part Two is You!

Today, we are advocating for the reduction of plastic by means of postcards to the head of the NY State Assembly and the leader of the Senate to ask that they pass the **Bigger, Better, Bottle Bill** and the **Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Bill**. Both bills would reduce the amount of plastic in our waste stream. Please visit us at the table in the back of church. Make your voice heard! **Sign a postcard!**



Parishioners who did Part One by going to Albany for their first effort at influencing environmental policy had this to say about the experience:

**Bob Lepisko:** I found the experience, “**enlightening**,” as to how we can influence legislation. The enthusiasm and passion shown by those advocating for the bills was exciting, to say the least.

**Kristin Shevis:** If I had one word, it would be **hope**. It was powerful to see the number of people who took the day to come to Albany, and who care! I am hopeful that the efforts will help to move these important pieces of legislation forward.

**Phil Waldrop:** It was a well-organized effort that helped create positive momentum for the two bills’ passage. It was a long day, but **worth going**.

**Mark McManus:** It made me feel connected to the reduction of plastic usage and my small role in helping that to come about. The process of speaking to our representatives made me feel like a **participant** in the democratic process rather than just an observer of it. Being in the room and with so many like-minded people gave me voice and inspiration to continue.

*Also in photo: Trini Montes, Nancy Lorence & Elizabeth Poreba.*

## Steve Sandberg and The Art of the Piano

**Sunday, March 17 | 2:00 PM**

**Main Church & Online**

Three-time Emmy-nominated pianist/composer/raconteur Steve Sandberg plays classical masterpieces as well as original music that masterfully blends classical, global music traditions, and jazz with the excitement of virtuosic improvisation.

In his March 17 recital at St. Francis Xavier, Steve will perform a selection of his favorite classical compositions (several Chopin Mazurkas, plus pieces by Debussy, Ravel, Bach); his original compositions inspired by these masterpieces; and some 20th century jazz masterpieces by Billy Strayhorn, Chick Corea, and others. There will also be selections from Steve’s “Dream Music Project,” begun during the pandemic, in which Steve turns his listeners’ dreams into music.

## Sacred Space Shoe Donations

In the spirit of this Lenten and Easter season’s theme, **Journeying Together**, a reflection of Pope Francis’s ongoing Synod on Synodality and Eucharistic Revival, Sacred Space invites you into contemplation and participation in our walk with Jesus and with each other. Jesus asks us to follow him, to stay with him, and to love him and each other along the way. Prayer, discernment, listening, and action are elements of both Lent and synodality.

Our Lent/Easter installation includes new, sturdy shoes reflecting our communal journey. Women’s, men’s, and children’s sizes are included and will be donated to Xavier Mission’s Clothing Room after the season concludes. We invite the Xavier community to join in the journey together by donating new (only) shoes (sneakers preferred & requested by the Mission). You can order the shoes at retailers online, such as Target.com and Shoebacca.com. Donation baskets have been left alongside the rere-dos for your use. The shoes donated will be incorporated into the installation as the season progresses and then will go to a neighbor in need. Wishing you a Lent that brings searching, listening, reflecting, and praying - Sacred Space.

## Liturgical Ministry Volunteers Needed

If you attend our liturgies and have a desire to serve your community, step up and volunteer as a hospitality minister, lector, or Eucharistic minister. **Hospitality Ministers are most needed.** Your contribution can make a significant impact and help create a welcoming and enriching experience for all. Scan the QR code to learn more. Please email Luz Marina Díaz at [lm Diaz@sfxavier.org](mailto:lm Diaz@sfxavier.org) for more information.



## Volunteer Needed

A woman who is legally blind is in need of a volunteer at VISIONS (135 West 23rd Street Manhattan) to assist with in-store food shopping and to accompany her on medical appointments. Some flexibility about days and time commitment. Email parishioner Todd Schmidt ([Toddmsnbc@aol.com](mailto:Toddmsnbc@aol.com)) if interested.

## Are You Called to Serve on the Xavier Pastoral Council?

The Xavier Pastoral Council seeks one new member to join us beginning in September 2024. All members of the parish community are encouraged to prayerfully consider—in Ignatian language, to discern—whether this might be the time to offer your 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 be at least 20 years old.***

- Additional information is available in the Pastoral Council's Guidelines for Leadership. Questions may be directed to any Council member or to [pastoral-council@sfxavier.org](mailto:pastoral-council@sfxavier.org). An **optional information session** for those interested in learning more about service on the Council will be held via Zoom on Monday, April 8th at 7pm.

New Council members will be selected over two parish-wide meetings to be held on Zoom on Sunday April 21st and Sunday May 5th. All parishioners are warmly encouraged to participate in the selection process. Stay tuned for more information about these meetings.

## Holy Week at St. Francis Xavier Reconciliation Monday

Monday, March 25  
Confessions: 2-4 PM, 6-9 PM

## The Mass of the Last Supper: Holy Thursday

Thursday, March 28  
7:30 PM (Main Church & Livestream)

## Stations of the Cross

Friday, March 29  
Noon (Main Church & Livestream)

## Good Friday Service with Veneration of the Cross

Friday, March 29  
3:00 PM (Main Church & Livestream)

## Easter Vigil

Saturday, March 30  
7:30 PM (Main Church & Livestream)

## Easter Sunday Masses

Sunday, March 31  
9 AM, 11:30 AM (Livestreamed) and 1:30 PM  
Main Church

## Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross are a fourteen step or devotional, focusing on Jesus' last day on Earth as a human being, beginning with His condemnation to death by Pontius Pilate to His being laid in the tomb. The Stations are used as a mini-pilgrimage, imitating the Via Dolorosa, or Way of Sorrows, in Jerusalem to Mount Calvary. Tradition holds that the pilgrimage was initially followed by the Blessed Mother; though, the earliest mention of a Via Sacra, or Holy Way, was in the mid 15th Century, and permission was granted to erect Stations inside all churches in 1731 by Pope Clement XII. **The Stations will be livestreamed on our Facebook. The Adoration of the Cross will take place before the Stations starting at 5:30 PM.**

**Friday, March 15 | 6:30 PM | Main Church**  
**"Stations of the Cross: Caring For All of God's Creation"**

Sponsored by The Environment Ministry

**Friday, March 29 | 12:00 PM | Main Church**  
**"Good Friday Stations of the Cross"**

Sponsored by the R.C.I.A. Program and The Music Ministries



## Healing Prayer Ministry Upcoming Dates

You are invited to come for prayer for healing for physical, emotional, or spiritual healing after the 11:30 Mass on **March 17, and April 7 and 21**. Our Pray-ers look forward to praying with you.



## Looking For More Pray-ers for the Healing Prayer Ministry Team

Consider if you are called to become a Pray-er. We currently serve after the 11:30 Mass on selected Sundays. Trained Pray-ers serve no more than twice a month, for about 30 minutes after Mass. Training involves some reading and Zoom discussions, then in-person observation and practice. **Please reach out to HPM@sfxavier.org or to Philip Waldrop (Coordinator) by text to 973-214-6589.**

## Racial Justice Ministry Book Group

Please join the Racial Justice Ministry Book Group discussion on *How the Word is Passed: A Reckoning with the History of Slavery*, by Clint Smith. Each chapter is a self-contained piece, so if you missed the first chapter you will not be at a disadvantage.

**Monday, March 11, “We were the good guys, right?” New York City, pp. 207--238.**

The author visits several sites in the city that reflect the role of slavery in its history.

**Monday, April 8, “One Slave is too much,” Gorée Island, pp. 239-269.**

Clint Smith visits the small island off the coast of Dakar, Senegal. Gorée Island had been controlled by several European countries between the 1440s and 1960 and used by them in the slave trade until 1848.

**The Racial Justice Ministry meets by Zoom from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. To receive the link, email to [sfxbookgroup@sfxavier.org](mailto:sfxbookgroup@sfxavier.org).**



Auction  
now live!



## STUDIO 55 70s Disco Dinner Dance and silent auction

**Saturday, March 23  
7-11pm  
55 W. 15th Street  
[xaviermission.org](http://xaviermission.org)**



## The Women Who Stayed Sunday, March 10 | 1:00 PM West Room

In our thirteenth year as a ministry at the Church of St. Francis Xavier, we women have much to share with one another. Please join us for a spiritual conversation in the tradition of St. Ignatius of Loyola. And until then, e-mail [TheWomenWhoStayed@sfxavier.org](mailto:TheWomenWhoStayed@sfxavier.org) for a copy of Joan Chittister's essay."

## The Women Who Stayed Hosts an Evening with Women's Ordination Conference

**Monday, March 18 | 5:30 PM | Mary Chapel**

Join Women's Ordination Conference and other supporters of gender justice in the Roman Catholic Church for a reception featuring updates on WOC's efforts at the United Nations and the Synod on Synodality, as well as time for conversation and connection. Light refreshments will be provided. All are welcome.

## Scriptures & Announced Masses

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2:4-10;  
Jn 3:14-21.

### FOURTH MONDAY OF LENT:

Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54.

**7:45 AM** AVAILABLE

**12:05 PM** ANNA POSTUPAK (D)

### FOURTH TUESDAY OF LENT:

Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16.

**7:45AM** AVAILABLE

**12:05 PM** AVAILABLE

### FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF LENT:

Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30.

**7:45AM** FRANK RYAN (D)

**12:05PM** CATHY GERONIMO (D)

### FOURTH THURSDAY OF LENT:

Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47.

**7:45AM** AVAILABLE

**12:05PM** MAUREEN DURANDO (D)

### FOURTH FRIDAY OF LENT:

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30.

**7:45AM** AVAILABLE

**12:05PM** LAURA JUSTINIANO (D)

### FOURTH SATURDAY OF LENT:

Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53.

**12:05PM** THE MEE FAMILY (L)

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45.

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.  
[abilityxaviernewyork@gmail.com](mailto:abilityxaviernewyork@gmail.com)

**BREAKING OPEN OF THE WORD:** Join us in praying and reflecting on the Sunday Readings using a Lectio Divina model. Saturdays from 10:00am to 11:00am Zoom Link:  
<https://bit.ly/3UsoMJC>

**CATHOLIC LESBIANS:** Ministry since 1993, meets monthly  
[CatholicLesbians@sfxavier.org](mailto:CatholicLesbians@sfxavier.org) or (929) 333-5011.

**EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT GROUP:** Provides support to parishioners seeking employment. Katherine Cleary,  
[krcinnyc@gmail.com](mailto:krcinnyc@gmail.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](mailto:SFXEnvironmentMinistry@gmail.com).

**LAUDATO SI ACTION PLAN (LSAP):** Implements the message of Laudato Si. [SFXLSAP@gmail.com](mailto:SFXLSAP@gmail.com).

**FAMILY FAITH:** Religious Education Program for children pre-kindergarten -12<sup>th</sup> grade. Sessions for parents/guardians are provided. Contact DRE Luz Marina Diaz, [imdiaz@sfxavier.org](mailto:imdiaz@sfxavier.org).

**GAY CATHOLICS:** Men meet in a caring and affirming environment monthly. [GayCatholics@sfxavier.org](mailto:GayCatholics@sfxavier.org).

**HEALING PRAYER MINISTRY:** We pray for spiritual, emotional, and/or physical healing. [HPM@sfxavier.org](mailto:HPM@sfxavier.org).

**HOLY COMMUNION MINISTRY FOR THE HOMEBOUND:** Eucharistic Ministers bring Communion to parishioners who are sick, homebound, hospitalized, or in care facilities in local proximity to Xavier. To arrange visits please contact Nick Grimaldi at [Homeboundcommunion@sfxavier.org](mailto:Homeboundcommunion@sfxavier.org). To arrange for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and/or Anointing of the Sick, please call the parish office.

**IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY IN EVERYDAY LIFE:** We offer spiritual direction, conversations, and retreats. [ISEL@sfxavier.org](mailto:ISEL@sfxavier.org).

**RACIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY:** Provides book clubs, supportive activities and actions related to racial justice. To learn more, [sfxbookgroup@sfxavier.org](mailto:sfxbookgroup@sfxavier.org).

**THE WOMEN WHO STAYED:** We nurture, empower, call forth, and celebrate our emotional, intellectual, and spiritual growth. We strive to bring the riches of the Word of God in ways that speak to everyone in the congregation. [TheWomenWhoStayed@sfxavier.org](mailto:TheWomenWhoStayed@sfxavier.org).

**XAVIER ADULT GROUP:** Once a month we have informative meetings or attend interesting events around the city. [xaviersharingandlearninggroup@gmail.com](mailto:xaviersharingandlearninggroup@gmail.com).

**THE XAVIER INTERFAITH MINISTRY:** The Xavier Interfaith Ministry aims to foster respect for religious differences to promote love, harmony and understanding among peoples of different faiths. [xavierinterfaith@gmail.com](mailto:xavierinterfaith@gmail.com).

**XAVIER YOGA:** Meets on Tuesdays at 6:15pm. Open to all levels. **Will not meet March 26th, May 21st, June 4th.**

**XAVIER OUTINGS:** Periodic gatherings with parishioners. [Xoutings@sfxavier.org](mailto:Xoutings@sfxavier.org)

**XAVIER ROSARY PRAYER MINISTRY-** Rosary Prayer Ministry encourages the praying of the rosary to deepen one's devotion to and relationship with Jesus through his beloved Mother. [sfxrosary@sfxavier.org](mailto:sfxrosary@sfxavier.org).

**XAVIER YOUNG ADULTS GROUP:** Spiritual, service, and social activities for parishioners 20s-30s, and the young in spirit. [sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com](mailto:sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com).

**XAVIER YOUTH MINISTRY:** Social, service, and spiritual community for post-confirmation youth through 12th grade. Activities September-June. Contact Pablo Jimenez at [youthministry@sfxavier.org](mailto:youthministry@sfxavier.org).

**ZEN MEDITATION GROUP:** Mondays at 7pm. Newcomers welcome. Currently meeting on Zoom. Contact Peggy & Paul [schubertnyc@gmail.com](mailto:schubertnyc@gmail.com)