



# 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 Parish Maintenance

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 17, 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: *Rising Lazarus from the dead* Source: Wikimedia

Artist: *Die Bibel in Bildern*, Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld (1794–1872)

## Next Weekend's Presider Schedule

### Saturday, March 23

5:00pm Vigil Mass: Thomas Feely, SJ

### Sunday, March 24

9:00am Mass: James Miracky, SJ

11:30am Mass: Kenneth Boller, SJ

5:00 PM Mass: Samuel Sawyer, 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](https://www.instagram.com/sfxaviernyc).



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

### **Kenneth Boller, SJ**

This week our sisters and brothers of Islam began a month of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving as a form of spiritual renewal. As we continue our prayers in solidarity with believers throughout the world, let us especially remember those in war-torn areas and the victims of gang violence.

This week we also remember the fourth anniversary of the beginning of the Covid shutdown and all the subsequent effects of the disease and our attempts to contain it. We pause to recall the millions of people who perished of Covid, directly or indirectly, and the many who continue to suffer from long covid symptoms.

The pandemic upended everything we thought of as “normal life” and caused us to re-evaluate the essentials of our lives. While the disease itself has moved from pandemic to endemic and vaccines have mitigated the illness associated with the virus, there continue to be long term effects ranging from increased mental illness from the isolation and the fear of contagion to simple changes in our routines. On the positive side, we have become more comfortable with virtual meetings and events, including prayer gatherings, which allow us to continue many activities and ministries and even expand them. Our “virtual parish” is international in scope.

In our recovery from the pandemic, we have been able to actively engage in the synod process, commit to being a Laudato Si parish and created our own version of the Eucharistic Revival.

It is heartening to see the steady increase in in-person participation at our weekend liturgies. It is also gratifying to see that some parishioners have come forward to serve in various liturgical ministries. And there is still room for more!

The four-year anniversary is an opportunity to reflect, pray for the victims, and give thanks for the gifts and blessings received.

Speaking of anniversaries, Wednesday, March 13 was the eleventh anniversary of the election of Pope Francis. We give thanks for his gift of ministry and pray for his health.

## **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, 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, 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 Geronemo, Press McCallum, Bill Bennett, Perlitta Abbago, Retha Davis, Kurt Burger, Mary Lou Brewis, Rosina Davis and Russell Williams.

***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.**



## Going Green: St. Patrick, Clover & Creation

March 17 is the feast day of St. Patrick, the evangelizer and patron of Ireland. It is a great day to “go green”.

This is not just wearing something green, or admiring shamrocks and clover. Going green broadly means caring for creation. It is a mindset that includes an inner conversion to connect and care -- and not to ignore and waste.

It means a pursuit to reduce, reuse and recycle. Going green includes taking action -- personal action, yes; but also action to promote larger, societal change for conservation and protection of Nature and our planet. This includes regeneration, a circular economy, and environmental justice.

And speaking of taking action to promote a larger societal change, last weekend, with the luck of the Irish, the grace of God, the celebrants' announcements and all of you, we got signatures on 483 cards in support of the bills to reduce plastic in packaging and reduce bottle waste by upping the deposit/reimbursement from 5 to 10 cents per bottle... something that will help reduce plastic in the waste stream, and also help the estimated 10,000 “canners” or informal recyclers of plastic bottles and cans on the streets. Thank you for taking the time and donating to this effort!! We dropped them in the mail last Tuesday.

The SFX Environment Ministry invites you to “go green”. Contact us at [SFXEnvironmentMinistry@gmail.com](mailto:SFXEnvironmentMinistry@gmail.com).



## Help Us Bring Hope To Bethlehem During This Time Of Crisis

Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem is a Catholic teaching hospital located just 1,500 steps from the birthplace of Christ. There will be a second collection on Palm Sunday. Donation envelopes for Holy Family Hospital Foundation will be available in the pews in the church and representatives of the Foundation will be available in the back of the church after Mass. For more information, visit [birthplaceofhope.org](http://birthplaceofhope.org).



## 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 reredos 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.



## 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.

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

The Xavier Pastoral Council seeks **two** new members 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. 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

**Monday, March 25**

**Reconciliation Monday**

Confessions: 2-4 PM, 6-9 PM

**Thursday, March 28**

**The Mass of the Last Supper: Holy Thursday**

7:30 PM (Main Church & Livestream)

**Friday, March 29**

**Stations of the Cross**

**"Good Friday Stations of the Cross"**

Sponsored by the R.C.I.A. Program and

The Music Ministries

Noon (Main Church & Livestream)

**Good Friday Service with**

**Veneration of the Cross**

3:00 PM (Main Church & Livestream)

**Saturday, March 30**

**Easter Vigil**

7:30 PM (Main Church & Livestream)

**Sunday, March 31**

**Easter Sunday Masses**

9 AM, 11:30 AM (Livestreamed) and 1:30 PM

Main Church

## Xavier Youth Ministry Sacred Sleepover

**Saturday, April 6 4:45 PM - 5 PM Mass  
to Sunday, April 7 - 8 AM**

Between the ages of 12 and 18? Join us for a Sacred Sleepover and let's brainstorm ideas to rejuvenate the Youth Ministry together. Bring your sleeping bag and pajamas! Email youthministry@sfxavier.org to register.

## 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. 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 lmdiaz@sfxavier.org for more information. **The next Liturgical Ministry Information Session will be Sunday, March 17 after the 9 am Mass.**





## 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.**

## Young Adults Contemplative Mass

Join the Young Adults for “the Mass that takes its time.” Every First Sunday of the Month at 5:30 PM in the Xavier High School Chapel. Ring the bell at 30 West 16 Street. See you there!

## 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, 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 [sfxbookgroup@sfxavier.org](mailto:sfxbookgroup@sfxavier.org).**



**Auction now live online!**

**XAVIER MISSION**

**STUDIO 55**

**70s Disco Dinner Dance and silent auction**

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

 **TICKETS**  **AUCTION**

## Catholic Lesbians

**Friday, April 12 | 6:00 PM  
West Room**

Larissa Santiago will do a 2025 calendar photo shoot, interviews, and Q&A with one another to share our stories. BYOCups (cups, utensils, plates, serviettes/snacks).

## The Women Who Stayed Sunday, April 28 | 1:00 PM Mary Chapel

We are four weeks away from the Resurrection. Where are you right now in your Easter journey? Mary said *yes* to incarnating God into this world. What is the *yes* to which you are being called?



## Scriptures & Announced Masses

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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

### FOURTH MONDAY OF LENT:

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62; Jn 8:1-11.

**7:45 AM** EVELYN HANNON (D)

**12:05 PM** JOSE JUAN MARZAN (D)

### TUESDAY- SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN

MARY: 2 Sm 7:4-5A, 12-14A, 16; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a.

**7:45AM** LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)

**12:05 PM** BARBARA LOUGHRAN (L)

### FIFTH WEDNESDAY OF LENT:

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42.

**7:45AM** AVAILABLE

**12:05PM** KAY LYNCH (D)

### FIFTH THURSDAY OF LENT:

Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59.

**7:45AM** AVAILABLE

**12:05PM** KURT BURGER (D)

### FIFTH FRIDAY OF LENT:

Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42.

**7:45AM** AVAILABLE

**12:05PM** PERLITTA ABBAGO (D)

### FIFTH SATURDAY OF LENT:

Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56.

**12:05PM** SHEILA REILLY (L)

### PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION:

Mk 11:1-10; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1—15:47.

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, [lm Diaz@sfxavier.org](mailto:lm Diaz@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. [xaversharingandlearninggroup@gmail.com](mailto:xaversharingandlearninggroup@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)