



CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

A JESUIT APOSTOLATE

46 West 16th Street, NY, NY 10011
Email: StFrancisXavier@sfxavier.org



SECOND COLLECTION
to benefit Parish Maintenance

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 15, 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

Staff

Parish Phone Number - (212) 627-2100

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

Rev. Benjamin Hawley, S.J. (Senior Priest)

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

Rev. CY Kao, 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

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

Bulletin Cover Artwork: *Get Thee Behind Me Satan (Rétire-toi Satan)* Artist: James Tissot
Source: Wikimedia

Next Weekend's Presider Schedule

Saturday, September 21

5:00pm Vigil: Steve Pugliese, SJ

Sunday, September 22

9:00am Mass: Steve Pugliese, SJ

11:30am Mass: Sam Sawyer, SJ

5:00 PM Mass: Kenneth Boller, SJ

Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 10:00am to 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

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

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

From the Pastor's Desk Kenneth Boller, SJ

The scripture readings for this Sunday challenge us in many different ways. Jesus asks the disciples to name who they think he is. At first, they evade by naming all of the various opinions circulating about him: that he is Elijah or one of the prophets returned. Jesus pushes back by asking them and us, "Who do you say that I am?"

Peter's inspired affirmation: "You are the Christ!" is followed by the prediction of the passion.

The Gospel story and the words of the prophet Isaiah remind us that following God's plan and proclaiming those values comes at great cost. St. James reminds us that faith without action to live out that faith is meaningless.

This weekend we are delighted to welcome the artist, John Nava, to Xavier as we officially bless the tapestry installation, "Into Light and Truth: Holy People of the Americas."

This installation presents us with genuine heroes and heroines of recent history who have been champions for human rights and the dignity and equality of all people. I invite you to read their stories and learn of their witness to Gospel values. Each put their faith into action, many to the point of death.

The installation occupies the narthex, the transitional space between the world outside the great wooden doors and the sacred worship space leading to the sanctuary. As we enter the church to worship, their witness challenges us to live the words of the Gospel we pray over. After our time of prayer, the Latin phrase over the inner doors of the church proclaims: "This is nothing else than the house of God and the gate of heaven." We go forth to God's world inspired by these holy people to open the gates of heaven to all of our sisters and brothers without distinction by our living out the Gospel values we proclaim.

Prayer Requests

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

Jesse Albino, Maggie Araullo, Anne and Alice Babst, Jackie Biaggi, Saleema Bibi, Pat Brown, Lulu Byrne, Ruth Clark, Rafael Colon, Maria Celia Coscolluela, CSJ, Chris Curatoo, Janet Cutrufelli, Jess Dabu, George DeAngelis, Peggy Dolan, Eve Duke, Carmela Farace, Thomas Farace, Jingsing Fitzgerald, Jim Fox, Judith Giannetto, Julius Harrison, Jim Held, Tonia Hubert, James Hurley, Hortencia Ingles, Jane Jacobus, Nelida Kilayko, Leonard La Croix, Gus Lobo, Francesca Macaranes, Neepa Magarelli, Cynthia Magsanoc, George Odvody, Sr. Cecilia Palange, Tom N. Pantages, Michael Patterson, Giancarlo Antonio Petosa, Dutch Pinkston, Michael Sennett, Donald W. Shanabrook, Michael Silver, Louis De Thomas, Christine Torres, Josephine Vales, Joan Williamson.

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

Sr Mary Ann Ambrose CSJ, Russell William Bartels, Sr. Angela Bayo, Marvin Blitz, Danny Cooper, Olga Cruz, Matthew Todd Edwards, Susan Forbes, Gustavo Frías, John Githens, Jerry Hevern, Jr., Joan Hess, Eugene Hess, Flo Infantino, Theresa Kane, RSM, Adrian Keenan, Raul Naparan, Joseph Murray, Virginia Victoria Navarro, Thomas Rocha, Dolores Root, Brendan Sexton, Stephen Waldrop.

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.**

INTO LIGHT AND TRUTH: HOLY PEOPLE OF THE AMERICAS TAPESTRIES OF THE CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

DEDICATION DURING 11:30 AM MASS

RECEPTION AFTER 11:30 AM & 5:00 PM MASSES

In the wake of George Floyd's murder in 2020, the Church of St. Francis Xavier joined faith communities across the country in critically examining ways their community could re-commit to dismantling systemic racism in our world.

Continuing their commitment to racial justice and inclusion, which dates to at least 1960, the parish adopted several measures, one of which was to expand the church's iconography to reflect the diversity of the Parish, by including international and American Saints and Holy People.

The second phase of this initiative was the commissioning of two tapestries to hang in the entrance to the church. They are entitled, Into Light and Truth: Holy People of the Americas. Renowned artist John Nava, who created tapestries for Cathedral of Our Lady of Angels in Los Angeles, accepted the commission.

A number of United States civil rights movement heroes and martyrs are honored in the tapestries, including Harry Belafonte, Martin Luther King, Jr., Fannie Lou Hammer, murdered civil rights workers James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner, as well as Birmingham church bombing victims Addie Mae Collins, Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, and Cynthia Wesley. Ernestine Eckstein, Audre Lorde, Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, Rosa Parks, Ida B. Wells, Mother Mary Theodore Williams, and Mary Lou Williams are also represented.

"The individuals depicted in the tapestries worked for and gave their lives to advance biblical justice, human rights, and equality," says Fr. Ken Boller SJ, Pastor of Church of St. Francis Xavier. "John Nava's vision to honor them by these tapestries is consistent with his lifelong dedication to biblical justice. We are grateful to him for enabling the Church of St. Francis

Xavier community to realize our goal of installing iconography that represents the diversity of the people of God."



To hope and act with creation: Switch to renewable electricity

What does it mean to hope and act with creation? In the 2nd reading on Sept. 1, the start of the Season of Creation, we heard “Be doers of the word and not hearers only...” (James 1:22). We are called to be doers of actions that bring hope to us and the planet.

Most now acknowledge that climate change is a threat to life as we know it. Feeling overwhelmed, hopeless, and frozen in inaction is common. Yes, the problems are too big for individuals, so coming together as a community is vital.

A recent Global Commons survey found that about half of Americans believe a) they are not exposed to risk and b) do not bear personal responsibility for global environmental problems. While the U.S. has among the world’s highest per capita consumption rates and resulting GHG emission rates, most Americans felt that business and government should solve the problem. This attitude can give free reign to the fossil fuel companies.

As Catholics, we are called to be good stewards of the earth. We can take some personal responsibility. THE most effective way to act FOR creation is to reduce our use of fossil-fuel-driven electricity. The transition off fossil fuels is possible and is already underway by many actors in our economy. Here’s what we can do:

- 1) Get our home electricity sourced from wind or solar.
- 2) Support policies for transition to renewable energy.
- 3) Elect candidates that will do that.
- 4) Reduce our own use of electricity at home and at work, in our schools and parishes.

To SWITCH your electricity source to renewables, go to: the NYS Power to Choose web site. Con Ed will still deliver your electricity and bill you. It’s an easy process; get your electricity bill out and act now during this Season of Creation.

Globally, wind and solar are on the rise, and that lifts our hopes. Let’s act to be part of this hopeful solution!

The Women Who Stayed Sunday, September 15 | 1:00 PM West Room

Join the **spiritual conversation** of women who choose to stay in the Roman Catholic Church.

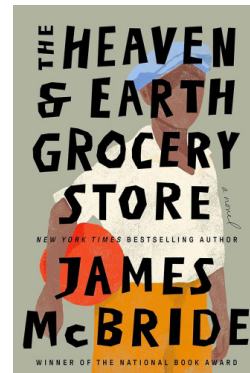
1st round: Share and speak about the fruits of your personal reflection, without interruption. Listen and take notes, if you wish.

2nd round: Share what you heard in the 1st round that touched your heart and moved you personally. Ask a question, or look for clarification.

3rd round: Freely express what you feel. Notice and share a common idea that is emerging, a consensus, and name it. Gather the graces.

Join our Parish for our Second Annual Summer Read!

The Church of St. Francis Xavier’s Racial Justice Ministry welcomes all to discuss National Book Award-winning author **James McBride’s *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store***, a New York Times bestseller and 2023 Notable Book and a 2023 Best Book for *NPR*, *The Washington Post*, *The New Yorker* & *Time*.



Sunday, September 22
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

In-Person, The Church of St. Francis Xavier
55 West 15th Street, New York, NY 10011

Tuesday, September 24 OR
Thursday, September 26
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Via Zoom for those unavailable to attend
the In-Person Event

REGISTRATION REQUIRED:
Email sfxbookgroup@sfxavier.org

SFX LGBTQ 30th Annual Retreat



Registration is open for the annual SFX Xavier LGBTQ Ministry retreat planned for November 22-24 at Thomas Berry Place located in Jamaica, Queens. The Center is easily accessible by public transportation which will reduce both travel time and travel expenses. **Total cost \$315.00 per person due by 9/27. You can register using Faith Direct or a check adding "LGBTQ Retreat as the memo. Please scan the QR code to register using Faith Direct.**



Retreats have been an integral part of this ministry. We look forward to your taking part in this very special experience. Questions: please contact either email address with any questions: CatholicLesbians@sfxavier.org GayCatholics@sfxavier.org. All LGBTQ members of the parish are welcome to register.

Healing Prayer Ministry Returns and Expands: Upcoming Dates after two Masses

Following the summer break, the Healing Prayer Ministry returns to serve after the **11:30 AM AND 5 PM Sunday Masses on September 22, and October 6 and 20.** Come to the Mary altar space to the left of the main altar after Mass. Our trained Prayers look forward to praying with you for physical, emotional, or spiritual healing!

The Tradition Continues Blessing of the Animals

Saturday October, 5 | 10:00 AM

We will have a ceremony celebrating and blessing our animal companions on Saturday, October 5 at 10 AM. Come! Celebrate the joy and blessing your animal companion has been for you. It is a "howl" and the "cat's meow".

All creatures great and small and their human companions are invited.

Help us spread the word about this to people in your neighborhood. Put a notice in your buildings newsletter, post a flyer on your building's bulletin board or at a local business you patronize.

When was the last time you heard from God? How did you respond?

Ignatian Spirituality in Everyday Life (ISEL) invites you to prayerfully consider spiritual direction. Spiritual direction is like having a personal trainer for your spiritual life! It consists of monthly meetings between a director and directee in which both together try to discern the loving voice of God in the life of the directee.

For more information, check out this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9AcL-SRUSQU>

For those who have been in direction for some time, the 19th Annotation is a form of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, adapted for everyday life. Over the course of 9 months, a director and directee meet regularly to review the directee's prayer in the Exercises. For more information on the Spiritual Exercises, check out this website:

<https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/what-is-ignatian-spirituality/the-ignatian-way/spiritual-exercises/>

If you are interested and want more information or want to request an application from ISEL for Direction or the 19th Annotation, contact ISEL@sfxavier.org

An Ignatian Spirituality info session and coffee hour will follow 11:30 mass on Sunday, September 29. All interested in learning more about Spiritual Direction, the 19th Annotation and our retreats are invited! Please come and meet us in the Mary Chapel for coffee and friendly conversation!

A Zoom information session will be held the first week of October. Details to follow.

Seeking Sustainability Professionals

Our parish is a Laudato Si' parish, meaning we adopted the Laudato Si' Action Platform and developed a plan to green our parish and promote ecological spirituality. A small committee of lay persons and staff from the church, Xavier Mission and Xavier High School work together to implement our 3-year action plan. The committee is seeking additional lay volunteers who have some level of experience with sustainability issues. Interested persons should email committee chair Kevin Tuerff at

lsap@sfxavier.org.

Scriptures & Announced Masses

SUNDAY OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME: Is 50:5-9a; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35.

MONDAY - MEMORIAL OF SAINTS CORNELIUS, POPE, AND CYPRIAN: 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33; Lk 7:1-10.

7:45AM JOHN TYRELL (D)
12:05 PM FRANK GAGAN (D)

TUESDAY OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31A; Lk 7:11-17.

7:45AM MARY JO CHIARA (D)
12:05 PM MYLES ARTHUR MIRANDA (D)

WEDNESDAY OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME: 1 Cor 12:31-13:13; Lk 7:31-35.

7:45AM JOHN SULLIVAN (D)
12:05 PM CAROL SPOMOR (D)

THURSDAY OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME: 1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 7:36-50.

7:45AM LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)
12:05PM RICHARD E. BLAKE (D)

FRIDAY - MEMORIAL OF SAINTS ANDREW KIM TAE-GÓN, PRIEST, AND PAUL CHÔNG HA-SANG: 1 Cor 15:12-20; Lk 8:1-3.

7:45AM JOAN SHANAHAN (D)
12:05PM ELLEN WAGMAN (D)

SATURDAY - FEAST OF SAINT MATTHEW: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Mt 9:9-13.

12:05PM ROBERT McDERMOTT (D)

SUNDAY OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME: Wis 2:12, 17-20; Jas 3:16—4:3; Mk 9:30-37.

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

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 or (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.

LAUDATO SI ACTION PLAN (LSAP): Implements the message of Laudato Si. LSAP@sfxavier.org.

FAMILY FAITH: Religious Education Program for children pre-kindergarten -12th grade. Sessions for parents/guardians are provided. Contact DRE Luz Marina Diaz, imdiaz@sfxavier.org.

GAY CATHOLICS: Men meet in a caring and affirming environment monthly. GayCatholics@sfxavier.org.

HEALING PRAYER MINISTRY: We pray for spiritual, emotional, and/or physical healing. 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. 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.

RACIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY: Provides book clubs, supportive activities and actions related to racial justice. To learn more, 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.

XAVIER ADULT GROUP: Once a month we have informative meetings or attend interesting events around the city. 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.

XAVIER YOGA: Meets Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm on the altar, Sept. 3, 2024 through June 24, 2025. (No classes held 12/24/24, 12/31/24, 1/28/25, 2/18/25, 4/15/25 and 4/29/25.) Open to all levels and abilities.

XAVIER OUTINGS: Periodic gatherings with parishioners. 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.

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

XAVIER YOUTH MINISTRY: Social, service, and spiritual community for post-confirmation youth through 12th grade. Activities September-June. Contact Alex Zambito at youthministry@sfxavier.org.

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