



CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

A JESUIT APOSTOLATE

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



SECOND COLLECTION
to benefit Family Faith

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 8, 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: *Jesus heals a deaf-mute person*

Source: <http://catholic-resources.org/Art/Nadal.htm>

Artist: Jerome Nadal (1507-1580)

Next Weekend's Presider Schedule

Saturday, September 14

5:00pm Vigil: Ben Hawley, SJ

Sunday, September 15

9:00am Mass: Ricardo da Silva, SJ

11:30am Mass: Kenneth Boller, SJ

5:00 PM Mass: CY Kao, 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 are intended to celebrate the new creation inaugurated by the arrival of the Messiah, the Chosen One. In this new creation everyone has achieved an integrity of mind, body and soul as they are welcomed into the reign of God.

While we certainly desire wholeness and integrity for all, these readings expose a persistent belief that people with disabilities are punished by God for the sins of their ancestors. This belief leads to a harmful mindset that labels individuals with disabilities as “other” or “less than”—a belief still perpetuated, entrenched, and pervasive today—contradicting the Gospel’s core values of love, acceptance, and inclusion, particularly for the most vulnerable, and constituting an affront to Jesus’ teachings at the very heart of the Gospel.

Last month, the world was captivated by the remarkable athletic achievements on display during the Olympic Games in Paris. Now, just a few weeks later, the Paralympics are showcasing the incredible athletic talents of people with disabilities, demonstrating that ability exists on a spectrum and challenging us to rethink our assumptions about what it means to be able.

Inspired by the Letter of James, we are called to confront our own shortcomings and those of the members of our community in creating a truly welcoming and inclusive environment for all. We acknowledge that our efforts have often been incomplete, often lacking, and inadvertently perpetuating harmful exclusions. We must do better and commit to actively dismantling barriers and biases, embracing all people—regardless of ability, race, gender, sexual orientation, or social status—as beloved children of God. Our faith demands nothing less!

Prayer Requests

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

Jesse Albino, Maggie Araullo, Jackie Biaggi, Saleema Bibi, Pat Brown, Lulu Byrne, Ruth Clark, Rafael Colon, Maria Celia Coscolluela, CSJ, Chris Curatoo, Janet Cutrufelli, Jess Dabu, 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, Matthew Todd Edwards, Susan Forbes, Gustavo Frías, 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.



Prayer to Open the Season of Creation

Triune God, Creator of all,
We praise you for your goodness, visible in all the diversity that you have created, making us a cosmic family living in a common home.
Through the Earth you created, we experience love and nourishment, home and protection.

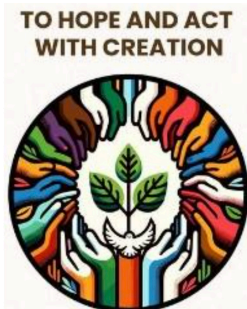
We confess that we do not relate to the Earth as a Mothering gift from you, our Creator.
Our selfishness, greed, neglect, and abuse have caused the climate crisis, loss of biodiversity, human suffering as well as the suffering of all our fellow creatures.

We confess that we have failed to listen to the groans of the Earth, the groans of all creatures, and the groans of the Spirit of hope and justice that live within us.

May your Creator Spirit help us in our weakness, so that we may know the redeeming power of Christ and the hope found in him. May the groans of the Spirit birth in us a willingness to serve you faithfully, so that we may hear and heal Creation, to hope and act together with her, so that the first fruits of hope may blossom.

Loving and Creator God, we pray that you will make us sensitive to these groans and enable us to have the same compassion as that of Jesus, the redeeming Lord. Grant us a fresh vision of our relationship with Earth, and with one another, as creatures that are made in your image. In the name of the one who came to proclaim the good news to all Creation, Jesus Christ.

Amen.



<https://seasonofcreation>

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.

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 8 and 22, and October 6 and 20**. Come to the Mary altar space to the left of the main altar after Mass. Our trained Pray-ers look forward to praying with you for physical, emotional, or spiritual healing!

Organizing Meeting for the Caregivers Ministry

Sunday, September 8 | 1:00 PM | West Room

The initial meeting for those who would like to work together to develop a Xavier Caregivers Ministry will be held on Sunday, September 8, after the 11:30 AM Mass in the West Room. This Ministry aims to serve those who are caring for relatives and friends in their lives. All ages and genders are welcome.

Catholic Lesbians

Friday, September 13 | 6:00 PM | West Room

Just because Labor Day is behind us does not mean there is nothing ahead but work! As the year turns from summer, let us play a game and have a laugh or two on Friday the 13th with the Catholic Lesbians Reverse Charades competition. BYOCUPS (Cups, Utensils, Plates, Serviettes/Snacks) to share with friends, old and new. **For more information, contact CatholicLesbians@sfxavier.org.**

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.

Art Project Phase 2:
Modern Day Holy People and
Saints of the Americas
Dedication and Reception
Sunday, September 15 | 11:30 AM Mass



The second phase of the project is underway—the design and fabrication of two tapestries for the narthex, one on each side of the steps leading into the church. The subtitle of the banner is a quote based on Psalm 43:4, “I will go to the altar of God...To God who gives joy to my youth.”

Thank you to all who have already donated to the tapestry. We invite donations to be made in the form of Venmo, Faith Direct, cash, or checks made out to St. Francis Xavier Church and in the memo line please put “Art Project.”

Visit sfxavier.org/narthexartproject for more information.

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. Payment details will follow. 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.

Blessing of the Animals at SFX
Saturday October, 5 | 10:00 AM

Our annual Blessing of Animals in celebration of Saint Francis of Assisi will be held Saturday, October 5 at 10 AM. Mark the date on your best furry friend’s calendar now. If you would like to help with the blessing, please contact Sr. Nadine at 212-673-2078.

FAMILY FAITH PROGRAM

Family Faith Program Registration Open

Registration is now open for the 2024-2025 Family Faith year for pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students! Classes start on Sunday, September 15.

For more information, contact Luz Marina Diaz (Director of Religious Education) at lmdiaz@sfxavier.org.

Scan the QR Code to Register



RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation

Rite of Christian Initiation Registration Open

Registration is now open for the 2024-2025 year! Sessions start on Sunday, September 15.

We worship at 11:30 a.m. Mass and sessions are from 1 pm to 3 pm in the Meditz Library. Participants receive the sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

For more information, contact Luz Marina Diaz at lmdiaz@sfxavier.org

Scan the QR Code to Register



Join Pay it Forward 9/11's "11 Days of Kindness"

September 11 is a National Day of Service and Remembrance and you're invited to remember the lives lost in the 9/11 attacks by conducting three good deeds for strangers during the "11 Days of Kindness" campaign (Sept 1st through 11th). Last year's effort began at Xavier Mission and was featured on NBC 4. Register your participation on the "hearts map" at PayitForward911.org.

Jesuitical Live Podcast Recording with Bishop Kevin J. Sweeney

Wednesday, September 11 | 7:00 PM
Aula Magna Auditorium

205 Madison Avenue, Madison, NJ

The Diocese of Paterson, Bishop Kevin J. Sweeney, and Beyond The Beacon are hosting a special event at our St. Paul Inside the Walls evangelization center with America Media's popular Jesuitical podcast on Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. Join us for a live recording of one of our favorite podcasts and get to know Jesuitical hosts Ashley McKinless and Zac Davis during an off-air Q&A and meet and greet afterward.



XAVIER MISSION

WELCOME. SERVE. EMPOWER.

SIGN UP FOR SEPTEMBER SHIFTS YOUR NEIGHBORS NEED YOUR HELP!



It's hard to believe September is already here! Soon, our sunny days will give way to chilly ones, and our neighbors in need will require more help than ever. **What could be more comforting than a hot meal they can count on?**

As we transition into fall, let's make volunteering a central part of our calendars. By dedicating our time, we can make a lasting impact on those who need it most.

We need your help to keep our Welcome Table, Food Pantry, and Clothing Room running, so everyone in our community can receive the care and support they deserve as the season changes.

Please consider signing up for a shift—or more than one! Together, we can ensure that everyone in our community is supported and cared for as we transition into fall.

Questions? Please email Roxanne at RDeLaTorre@xaviermission.org.



XAVIERMISSION.ORG/VOLUNTEER

Scriptures & Announced Masses

SUNDAY OF THE TWENTY-THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME: Is 35:4-7a; Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37.

MONDAY - MEMORIAL OF SAINT PETER CLAVER: 1 Cor 5:1-8; Lk 6:6-11.

7:45AM AVAILABLE
12:05 PM ISMAEL RODRIGUEZ (D)

TUESDAY OF THE TWENTY-THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME: 1 Cor 6:1-11; Lk 6:12-19.

7:45AM AVAILABLE
12:05 PM AVAILABLE

WEDNESDAY OF THE TWENTY-THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME: 1 Cor 7:25-31; Lk 6:20-26.

7:45AM LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)
12:05 PM AVAILABLE

THURSDAY OF THE TWENTY-THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME: 1 Cor 8:1B-7, 11-13; Lk 6:27-38.

7:45AM AVAILABLE
12:05PM BENITO GOBIO JR. (D)

FRIDAY- MEMORIAL OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM: Nm 21:4B-9; Jn 3:13-17.

7:45AM AVAILABLE
12:05PM STANLEY LEPISKO (D)

SATURDAY - FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS: Nm 21:4B-9; Jn 3:13-17.

12:05PM DONALD TRUMP (L)

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

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. 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.

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 Pablo Jimenez at youthministry@sfxavier.org.

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