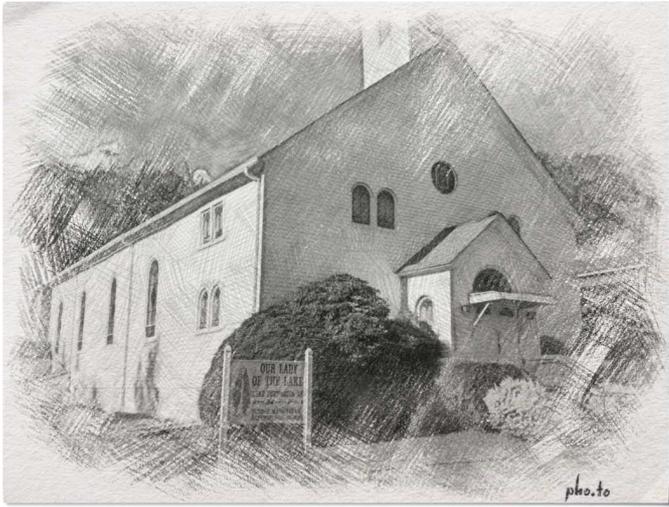


# Saint Francis Xavier Parish

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 17, 2019



## Our Lady of the Lake Church

Rt. 52, Lake Huntington

### Masses

Sunday	8:30am
Holydays of Obligation	As Announced

### Confessions & Daily Mass

At St. Francis Xavier

## St. Francis Xavier Church

151 Bridge St., Narrowsburg

### Masses

Saturday	4:30pm
Sunday	11:00am
Daily (Tuesday-Friday)	8:30am
Holydays of Obligation	As announced

### Confessions

Saturday	4:00pm
	Or by appointment

**REV. DENNIS M. DINAN, PASTOR**

**ABBY RODDEN, PARISH SECRETARY**

**OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 7:30AM-11:30AM  
OR BY APPOINTMENT**

**TELEPHONE: (845) 252-6681**

**FAX: (845) 252-6519**

**WEB ADDRESSES: [www.sfxnarrowsburg.com](http://www.sfxnarrowsburg.com)  
[www.ollhuntington.com](http://www.ollhuntington.com)**

**EMAIL: [sfxnarrowsburg@gmail.com](mailto:sfxnarrowsburg@gmail.com)**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE: (845) 252-6681**

**EMAIL: [sfxololre@gmail.com](mailto:sfxololre@gmail.com)**

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Regularly scheduled on available Sundays of each month after our last Mass. Arrangements are made by contacting the Rectory. One Godparent is required and must be 14, confirmed, a practicing Catholic, and obtain a Sponsor Certificate from their parish. Only one male and one female Godparent is permitted. Parents should be registered in the parish and meet with priests.

### SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements should be made at least 6 months prior to wedding date. Marriage Preparation Conferences must be attended. Either the Bride or the Groom must be a registered parishioner or be associated with the parish. They must meet with the parish priest before a wedding date can be scheduled.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades K-8 meet Sundays. Contact the Religious Ed Office to register children. We ask families to be registered & involved parishioners. Children must be baptized. Parents & children are expected to attend Mass each week.

Dear Parish Family,

I saw a quote recently that has been phrased differently for about 500 years, "If you want to know what God thinks about money, look at the people he gives it to!" And, yes he gives it all types. But, I say this after using "American Idol" as an example in my homily weeks ago. Since then I went to the Pew Research Center to verify some goals of 18-25 year-olds. If I made you think that "fame" was the major goal in these people's lives, well that was wrong. In one survey, with data going back to 2007, it reveals that "64% of them said "getting rich" is their generation's most important life goal. The same survey said 41% listed "being famous" as the second most important life goal. Yes, there were other surveys that differed.

The above is simply for example's sake! 'Wanna-be' successes can be easily convinced that they can launch themselves into life—into a career—without a foundation, or with one fabricated from "the air." This is the kind of building that Saint Paul teaches—that even if it had value in this life—would eventually be tested for its quality and "burnt up" (see 1 Cor 3:10-15). We can all be blinded by ambition, and so cannot see we are setting ourselves up for a fall. It's like with the Prodigal Son's, "I want it all now!" (see Lk 15:11-32), only to be squandered, "doing whatever I want!" It did not take him long to "crash and burn." Hollywood itself has taught countless young men and women the lessons of life. Major league sports have done the same. How many arrests are made from the ranks of NFL players each season? How many celebrities can live by only being propped up with drugs and alcohol—and not in small quantities—and the veneration of others? Quick fame, without the underpinning of a well-developed personality, self-respect and integrated values, i.e. just fame and money are ruinous. It is perhaps living at the height of hedonism—simply put: self-indulgence, profligacy, self-gratification, pleasure-seeking, recklessness, dissolution, and we could go on.

Jesus' descriptions of foundations might explain this best. He described it as the "fool who built his house on sand" (Mat 7:26). Disaster surely came, "The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. And it collapsed and was completely ruined." (Mat 7:27). Thus the Prophet Jeremiah tells us in the First Reading, "Cursed is the man who trusts in human beings, who seeks his strength in flesh, whose heart turns away from the LORD" (Jer 17:5). He draws a strong contrast between trusting in human wisdom and trusting in God. People can live under a curse of error and illusion, or a path of blessedness and security. We cannot have it both ways. The prophet and Psalm 1 both tell us today that there are "two ways;" and we must choose one. It comes with the warning that even things that appear to be successful can seem so, but nonetheless be only delusion. Every now and then we see a clip of the late Hugh Hefner on the Evening News or some other report. His fame is bolstered by the media, as one who was "living the dream" up to a ripe old age. Was it a dream or delusion? Saint Paul could explain it in another way, how God's action towards us—"his priceless kindness, forbearance, and patience [—are] God's own way of leading us to repentance" (Rom 2:4). What if that was the only reason that God kept Hefner around? What if he did not repent? We could easily call him the "Father of Pornography." Right? Who of us would want to face his Judgment? How many millions of people did he lead to sin (all serious sin of course)? How many have been enslaved in sin due to his influence? How many countless other sins (because we know pornography is not victimless) were the ripple effects of his enterprise? How many have begun an eternity in Hell thanks to the impact he made in their lives?

What fame and acclaim can make attractive are really pointing to the armpits of society. Jeremiah explains the effect

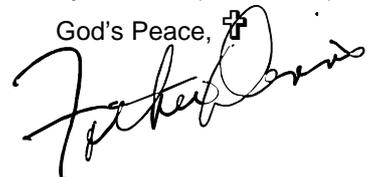
of the self-centered, hedonistic life. A claim to fame, at the expense of one's "heart turning away from the LORD" is no small thing. He describes such a person as being "like a barren bush in the desert that enjoys no change of season, but stands in a lava waste, a salt and empty earth" (Jer 17:5-6). It sounds bad enough, but it is actually worse. He is condemning the "Sin of Judah," a judgment against their idolatrous practices including fertility rites, nature cults, blood sacrifices, superstition and the occult (black magic). On further scrutiny, we would have to admit that the "Sin of the United States" or the "Sin of the World" might only differ by degree and not substance. The prophet then is speaking directly to us.

As I said some weeks ago, speaking about Church and school closings, we cannot point to the Archdiocese or the Archbishop or anyone else exclusively without taking part of the blame ourselves as a people and society. We have killed over 50 million children since 1973 through surgical abortions. This has been far exceeded by contraceptives using chemical means. There is no telling how many have been killed in Petri dishes during *in-vitro* (IVF) fertilization procedures. Aside from this, families are not having children. What is the effect of this on society, the economy, the Church, industry, retirement, Social Security, etc.? We are living it! We are experiencing it. Dr. Scott Hahn, in his extensive study of Sacred Scripture, has told us numerous times, "God's wrath is not what we think!" It is not sending punishment and suffering upon us. He says, "It is giving us what we want!" Or, "it is giving us what we asked for!" We do not want what God wants—so he actually gives us what we want. Right now, we are experiencing God's wrath. He has given us what we have wanted. We are living with the consequences of our own actions. We are the victims of our own undoing. And, we do not like it. But, we have no one to blame but ourselves.

In the portrait of the aftermath given to us by Jeremiah, he tells of "lava waste" and "a salt and empty earth" (Jer 17:6). Here I believe he gives us unmistakable allusions, such as found in the *Book of Wisdom* (see Wis 10:6-9).

We hear a different but similar warning from Jesus in the Gospel today. The "good life" is not all it appears to be: "Woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are filled now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will grieve and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for their ancestors treated the false prophets in this way" (Lk 6:24-26). That, however, is only one way. We said there are two ways. We can choose what we prefer. What we choose and live today may very likely be what we live eternally. The other choice is what the disciples of Jesus chose. It goes like this: "Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours. Blessed are you who are now hungry, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who are now weeping, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold, your reward will be great in heaven. For their ancestors treated the prophets in the same way" (Luke 6:20-23). For Jesus also taught us, "Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock" (Mt 7:24-25).

God's Peace, ✠



# Discovering Christ



*The series begins next Sunday!*

Curious about the meaning of your life?

Seek answers at Discovering Christ, a (FREE) 7-week experience that includes a great (FREE) dinner, an engaging Bible-inspired message, and discussion. Seven Sunday evenings, from February 24-April 14, from 5:00-7:30pm at St. Peter's Church in Liberty.

For more information, please go to: [discoverchristssullivanco.org](http://discoverchristssullivanco.org)

**Fr. Dennis will be attending the Discovering Christ series, and will be happy to offer a free ride to anyone who may be interested.**

**We have a growing group of parishioners signing up.**

**If you would like to attend, please call Abby in the office, as soon as possible, so that she can register you and make any other necessary arrangements. Please remember, this series is FREE. Don't miss out! Sign up today!**



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seek.  
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discovering  
**CHRIST**  
a seven-week experience

*The DISCOVERING CHRIST series is comprised of 7 sessions plus a retreat!*

Weekly Sessions: 5-7:30 p.m.  
St. Peter's School Cafeteria, Liberty, NY

**February-April 2019**

♦ February 24-What is the Meaning of Life?

♦ March 3-Why Does Jesus Matter?

♦ March 10-What Does Jesus Want us to Know?

♦ March 17-Why Do I Need a Savior?

♦ March 24- Why is the Resurrection Important for Us?

♦ March 31 - Retreat Day: The Holy Spirit (2 p.m.-7 p.m.)

♦ April 7-New Life in the Spirit: Being a Catholic Disciple

♦ April 14-Believing and Belonging: Why We Need the Church

**MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO VOLUNTEER OR REGISTER WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON!**

CONTACT US AT [DISCOVERCHRISTSULLIVAN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DISCOVERCHRISTSULLIVAN@GMAIL.COM)  
OR 845.663.1689 FOR INFORMATION.

**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**

4:30pm -Josephine & Mario Russo  
 Requested by Al & Linda Smith  
 -Maria & Joseph Meyer  
 Requested by Bob & Rose Meyer

**Sunday, February 17<sup>th</sup>**

8:30am -Dorothy Meyer  
 Requested by Mary Jane Nober  
 11:00am -Dara Kirsten Hill  
 Requested by Art & Tammy Satter  
 -Deceased Members of the Nossan &  
 Krisch Families  
 Requested by Wendell & Lillian Putz

**Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup>**

NO MASS

**Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**

8:30am -Our Parish Family

**Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**

8:30am -Our Parish Family

**Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup>**

8:30am -Frederick Barr  
 Requested by Helen Barr

**Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

8:30am -Our Parish Family

**Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>**

4:30pm -Ann Pagnozzi  
 Requested by Paul & Carol Pagnozzi

**Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**

8:30am -Frank Kutcher  
 Requested by Mary Jane Nober  
 11:00am -George Attianese  
 Requested by Michael Attianese  
 -Mary Weiden  
 Requested by Helene Indelicato

**Collection**

February 9/10, 2019

**1<sup>st</sup> Collection**

St. Francis Xavier	\$666.00
Our Lady of the Lake	\$179.00

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection (Peter's Pence)**

St. Francis Xavier	\$230.00
Our Lady of the Lake	\$73.00

**Other (Repairs & Maintenance)**

St. Francis Xavier	\$25.00
Our Lady of the Lake	\$20.00

**Total**

**\$1,193.00**

**Thank you!**

**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Jeremiah 17:5-8**

**1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20**

**Luke 6:17, 20-26**

**Parish Heating Snapshot**

*2018/2019 season so far.....*

<b>St. Francis Xavier</b>	<b>\$5,170.00</b>
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<b>Our Lady of the Lake</b>	<b>\$3,854.00</b>
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**Please Pray for our Parish Family**

*Please see the new prayer list sign-up sheets at the back of the church.*

**For the Sick:** Christina Hubert, Peggy Lee Romano, Barbara Walter, Floyd Campfield, Lydia Newton, Kenneth "Boomer" Meyer

**For the Deceased:** Mary Weiden

**For those Serving in the Military:**