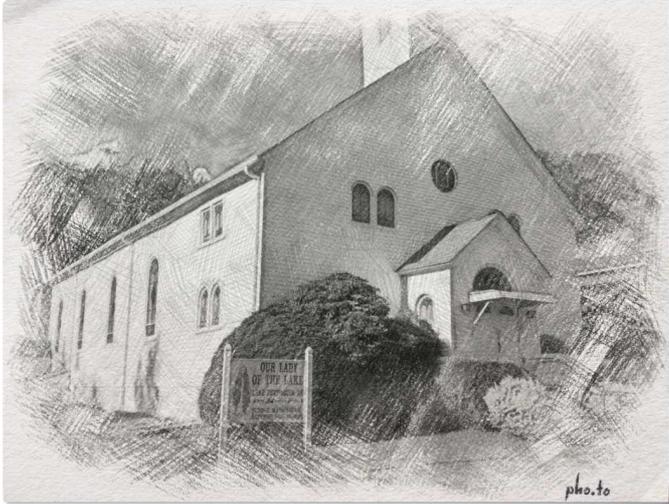


# Saint Francis Xavier Parish

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

March 3, 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,

As we draw near to the beginning of Lent this week, Ben Sirach, in the First Reading explains how our faults appear as we speak—that our speech discloses our minds. Jesus talks about “the blind” in today’s gospel. These are things for reflection! “We are all born blind as a deplorable consequence of original sin” says Father John Nicholas Grou, S.J., “We neither know God nor ourselves.” Do we see Christ in our culture? Or, are we blind, without faith, or deep faith? With faith everything changes. With faith, our world will manifest Christ, and we shall find him everywhere as our Savior.

Having said that, Lent can be a time that is more than just making sacrifices. Much of Lent can be about having or developing a certain attitude. For instance, listening to TV or radio ads, one right after the other, time and time again, you could come away with the message that money, material goods, especially the latest in technological gadgets, and power were the most important things about a person. You might be led to believe that those with money, lots of material goods, and power should flaunt what they have. Unfortunately, the reverse would also seem obvious—that if you don’t have money, lots of material things, and power there is something wrong with you; you are a failure. What should our attitude be here as Christians? Maybe ask, what shows up in our speech?

Lent always begins with us hearing that the Spirit drove Jesus into the wilderness or desert. Lent is also a time to receive. As with almost any time, the words of Jesus, “*This is the time of fulfillment!*” (Mk 1:15) would be appropriate. So, Lent can be a time for us to enter into a “kind of desert,” or maybe even to create a kind of desert, especially through prayer, where we can tune out whatever of the world’s messages is possible so as to tune into God and what God wants to give us. Most of us realize quite readily that most values shouted to us by in the media can be meaningless. Lent gives us a chance to have an “attitude adjustment” to leave worldly values behind and to go into the desert with God and there to determine true values we should have.

This can make Lent a challenge because the world is so noisy and so intrusive, however, we have to work to create that desert place. Traditionally, this was not the case. The parameters of Lent were more strictly defined. Most of us have been accustomed to think of Lenten self-denial as it pertains to food. “I’m giving up chocolate.” “I’m giving up alcohol.” “I’m giving up junk food.” And yes, disciplining ourselves as regards to food is important because our culture is so obsessed with food and drink. But if we want to get some clear vision of the values which are important to God, we need to think seriously about “giving up” those things which encourage us to take on contrary values.

For example, think about the number things that arrive in your mail each week, offering us something. Some people automatically throw things like catalogues away. Others file them someplace specific so that when they have shopping to do; they can look in those catalogues likely to carry what they are looking for. But the very presence of these things can entice us to go “window shopping” as it were. Even worse is knowing we can so easily just go online and shop through Amazon or eBay, both of which I am a “junkie,” or any of the major chains of stores. Just looking at all the items for sale, “the bargains,” can stir up in us the desire to have this or that. It’s a bit like when many of us were children and watching Saturday morning cartoons: the advertisers knew that children would want what they see on TV, so they would plug new cereals, toys, games, electronic “things,” etc. Right? Most parents learn about new items first from their children, who learn about them on TV or now on their cell phones. This can

encourage us to want things we don’t really need, to buy things which are not necessary, to spend money on things pointlessly. The emphasis is “having,” “having more,” and “having even more” can really find a spot to nestle and grow in our fallen human nature.

Lenten “desert time” can be a good opportunity to look at our attitude toward material goods and to ask ourselves some pretty blunt questions. Do I waste time (God’s time, in fact, since all time is a gift from Him) online, or otherwise, when I don’t need to buy anything? Have I fallen into the trap set for me by advertisers and manufacturers of thinking that I have to have the latest version of whatever? Do I spend money on things which I know I can’t afford? Do I act irresponsibly in this way? Do I have a clear sense of what constitutes the necessities of life and what are luxuries (although this is easily blurred these days)? Do I compare what I have with what others have and either pat myself on the back because I have more than they do, or determine to go out and get what they have so I’m not left behind? Etc.

An early Christian letter called the “*Epistle to Diognetes*,” written probably in the first half of the second century, points out that even though Christians live in this world, they are really only visitors, being on their way to their eternal home:

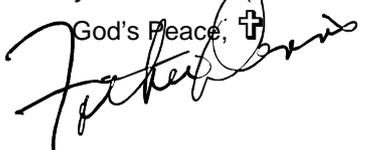
*The difference between Christians and the rest of mankind is not a matter of nationality, or language, or customs. Christians do not live apart in separate cities of their own, speak any special dialect, nor practice any eccentric way of life... They pass their lives in whatever township ... each man’s lot has determined; and conform to ordinary local usage in their clothing, diet, and other habits. Nevertheless, the organization of their community does exhibit some features that are remarkable, and even surprising. For instance, though they are residents at home in their own country, their behavior is more like that of transients; they take their full part as citizens, but they also submit to anything and everything as if they were aliens. For them, any foreign country is a motherland, and any motherland is a foreign country.... Though destiny has placed them here in the flesh, they do not live after the flesh; their days are passed on the earth, but their citizenship is above in the heavens....*

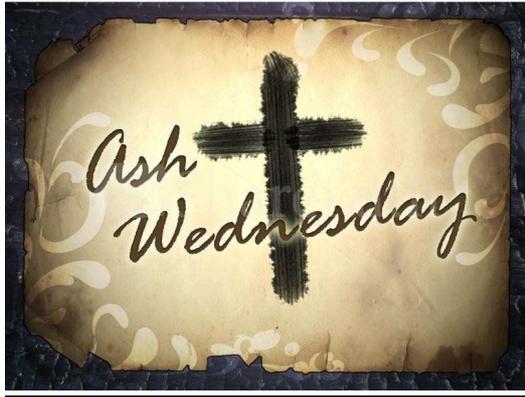
*To put it briefly, the relation of Christians to the world is that of a soul to the body....The soul, which is immortal, must dwell in a mortal tabernacle; and Christians, as they sojourn for a while in the midst of corruptibility here, look for incorruptibility in the heavens.*

Lenten “desert time” can help us recall that this world is passing away, that our true home is with God, and that we are here only temporarily. Those things being true, we need to look at how we live in this world and see whether we are approaching life here as if it were “all there is” or if we are living here knowing we are “citizens” of heaven. “All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above” says the hymn. Are we good stewards of all the good gifts God gives us, or are we squandering them or hoarding them because we are too caught up with the things of this world?

*Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and decay destroy, and thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor decay destroys, nor thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be. (Mt. 6:19-21).*

Happy & Fulfilling Lent!

God's Peace, ✠  




## Wednesday, March 6 Mass Times

St. Francis Xavier 8:30am

St. Francis Xavier 7:00pm



*Sundays 5:00-7:30pm*

*St. Peter's, Liberty*

**FREE REGISTRATION  
FREE TRANSPORTATION  
FREE DINNER**

**The Discovering Christ Series has begun, and it's a HIT!**  
**Our Parish has a group of 10 that will be going together each Sunday.**  
**Join us by calling the Rectory.**  
*It's not too late!*

## Stations of the Cross



*Every Friday evening during Lent  
at 5:30pm  
Beginning March 8  
At St. Francis Xavier Church  
Narrowsburg*



Handing On the Faith with Excellence  
www.nyfaithformation.org  
A program of the  
The Council of Bishops' Pastoral Services Dept.



CATECHETICAL OFFICE  
ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK  
SULLIVAN COUNTY REGIONAL OFFICE

### *Lenten Afternoon of Prayer*

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2019  
From 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

BKT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CENTER  
16 Frankie Lane, Liberty

*Sister Margaret Ellen Burke, SC*  
will conduct the afternoon

CONFESSIONS at 3:30 PM

LITURGY CELEBRATED  
By *Rev. Edward Bader*

at 4:00 PM

Join us for an Afternoon of Prayer, Reflection, Reconciliation and the Sunday Liturgy

Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Return To: BKT Religious Education Center  
PO Box 1011  
Liberty, New York 12754  
845-292-9100

*Please Return By March 1 - Donation \$4.00*  
Make checks payable to: *Sisters of St. Dominic*

P.O. Box 1011, Liberty, New York 12754 Telephone (845) 292-9100 Fax (845) 292-9100  
www.nyfaithformation.org

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>

4:30pm -Fr. William Scully  
Requested by His Friends

### Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

8:30am -Bruce Meyer  
Requested by Mary Jane Nober  
11:00am -Mary Weiden  
Requested by Wendell & Lillian Putz  
-Muriel Maers  
Requested by Her Family

### Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>

**NO MASS**

### Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>

8:30am -Our Parish Family

### Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>

8:30am -Martin Marinelli  
Requested by His Family

### Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>

8:30am - Our Parish Family

### Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>

8:30am -Our Parish Family

### Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>

4:30pm -Walter & Florence Hubert  
Requested by Their Children

### Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>

8:30am -Katherine Kutcher  
Requested by Mary Jane Nober  
11:00am -George Johnson  
Requested by Elanore Johnson  
-Members of The Nolan & Norton  
Families  
Requested by Wendell & Lillian Putz

## Collection

February 23/24, 2019

### 1<sup>st</sup> Collection

St. Francis Xavier	\$870.00
Our Lady of the Lake	\$193.00

### Other (Capital Improvements)

St. Francis Xavier	\$26.00
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### Other (Repairs & Maintenance)

St. Francis Xavier	\$21.00
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### Total

**\$1,110.00**

**Thank you!**

## 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 27:4-7

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Luke 6:39-45

## Daylight Savings Time



**Daylight Savings begins next weekend  
Sunday, March 10.**

**Don't forget to set your clocks  
forward 1 hour Saturday night!**

## 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, Connie Moser

**For the Deceased:** Mary Weiden, Muriel Maers

**For those Serving in the Military:**