

Saint Francis Xavier Parish

Pentecost Sunday

June 9, 2019



REV. DENNIS M. DINAN, PASTOR

ABBY RODDEN, PARISH SECRETARY

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

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WEB ADDRESS: www.sfxnarrowsburg.com

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St. Francis Xavier Church

151 Bridge St., Narrowsburg

Masses

Saturday	4:30pm
Sunday	11:00am
Daily (Wednesday & Friday)	8:30am
Daily (Tuesday & Thursday)	6:30pm

Confessions

Saturdays	4:00pm
Or by appointment	

Our Lady of the Lake Church

Rt. 52, Lake Huntington

Masses

Sunday	9:00am
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Confessions & Daily Mass

At St. Francis Xavier

PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2019

FATHER DENNIS M. DINAN

Dear Parish Family,

Do you know someone, I mean do you know someone well, who went away for a weekend or a week and came back very different? Upon questioning, you found that they went on a retreat, or on a Cursillo, or to a spiritual or bible seminar, or a youth camp or conference. They keep talking about it and the experience and that things are not the same! For you, this is also new! These persons never spoke about their faith and, as a friend or acquaintance they now seem to be a bit much! We may not recognize what happened, but there has definitely been a change. Some call it *Baptism in the Spirit*, but it is simply that the Gifts of the Holy Spirit have come alive! Yes, alive! Like at Pentecost! And this is forever happening since the Church lives in a sort of ongoing state of Pentecost.

At Baptism we received the flame of faith, hope and charity and at Confirmation the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. These gifts and theological virtues for many, starting with me, remained long-dormant, un-watered, un-nurtured, inhibited from growing. We also don't even recognize them when we see them active in others. We all have the means, but are not seriously pursuing what was promised to those who do as Jesus directed us, "*Let anyone who thirsts come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as scripture says: 'Rivers of living water will flow from within him.'*" He said this in reference to the Spirit that those who came to believe in him were to receive" (Jn 7:37-39).

Saint Cyril of Jerusalem explains that calling the Spirit "water," is at once a similarity easy for us to grasp. He says,

Because all things are dependent on water, plants and animals have their origin in water. Water comes down from heaven as rain, and although it is always the same in itself, it produces many different effects, one in the palm tree, another in the vine, and so on throughout the whole of creation. It does not come down, now as one thing, now as another, but while remaining essentially the same, it adapts itself to the needs of every creature that receives it.

This includes us too, only bodily. Stop there and we miss the point. Jesus is telling us of the supernatural, the Holy Spirit, who transcends human nature. With him, we can rise above and beyond our fallen humanity. In the chapter "Things in their Identity" from *Seeds of Contemplation*, Thomas Merton asks, "But what about you? What about me?" and answers,

- Unlike the animals and the trees, it is not enough for us to be what our nature intends. It is not enough for us to be individual persons. For us, holiness is more than humanity. If we are never anything but persons, never anything but our natural selves, we will not be saints....

- To be a saint means to be myself. Therefore the problem of sanctity and salvation is [that] ... of discovering my true self.

- Trees and animals have no problem. God makes them what they are ... and they are perfectly satisfied.

- God leaves us free to be whatever we like.... [But]: *since God alone possesses the secret of my identity, He alone can make me who I am or rather, who I will be....*

Saint Basil the Great tells us, "To the Spirit all creatures turn in their need for sanctification; all living things seek him according to their ability. His breath empowers each to achieve its own natural end." Surely, how else can the needed renewal take place to raise us up? Are we convinced that we need new and continual outpourings of the gifts of the Holy Spirit? Unless we are, how will we understand our need of this persevering prayer the Lord asks of us? How will we persist in appealing to obtain what we need? How will we advance unless we accept that, "The Spirit is the source of holiness, a spiritual light, and he offers his own light to every mind to help it in its search for truth. By nature the Spirit is beyond the reach of our mind, but we can know him by his goodness," as Saint Basil teaches? Can we spot his gifts at work, "*The fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control*" as Saint Paul taught in his *Letter to the Galatians*?

Are the fruits of the Spirit present in our lives? In a letter

from Archbishop Fénelon's *Let Go*, he told some soul, striving through a difficult period of aridity, "Do not be surprised at again finding yourself becoming sensitive, impatient, haughty, and self-willed. You must realize that this is your natural disposition, and without God's grace, you will never be anything different." Then he quotes Saint Augustine, "We must bear the yoke of the daily confusion of our sins." More importantly, he adds, "we must be made to feel our weakness, our wretchedness, our inability to correct ourselves. We must give up our hope in ourselves, and have no hope but in God." He says that we must know that we are a people who "are waiting for God to change us." If we're not praying incessantly for the Spirit to change us, we should be praying for God to reveal to us our real spiritual condition. If we do not recognize it in this life, we will certainly in the next. Merton exclaims,

If I never become what I am meant to be, but always remain what I am not, I shall spend eternity contradicting myself by being at once something and nothing, a life that wants to live and is dead, and a death that wants to be dead and cannot quite achieve its own death because it still has to exist.

Saint Paul insisted, "*those who are in the flesh cannot please God. [and]. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him*" (Rom 8:8-9). We must live so as to belonging to Him! Once again, Thomas Merton, in Chapter 25, "Inward Destitution," describes the resultant failure to do so,

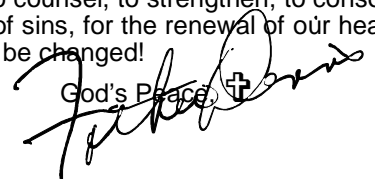
Measure the sorrow, if you can, measure the sorrow of realizing that you have a nature destined by God for the gift of an existence, an activity, a beatitude which utterly transcend[s] everything that you are and can ever be; of finding yourself left with nothing but yourself; of finding yourself without the gift which is the only meaning of your existence. Then the highest perfection of natural life, of human understanding, the purest and finest tension of the human will reaching out in desire for everything that is perfect, appears to you as something essentially vulgar and worthless. Even without your mistakes and your sins, everything that you are or can be or have or can possess appears to you as if it were nothing, because it has no value, no power to procure for you the immense gift which is utterly beyond you and which is the only real reason why you were created.

But when, on top of all that, you see that your nature is still twisted and disfigured by selfishness and by the disorder of sin, and that you are cramped and warped by a way of living that turns you incessantly back upon your own pleasure and your own interest, and that you cannot escape this distortion: that you cannot even deserve to escape it, by your own power, what will your sorrow be? This is the root of what the saints called compunction: the grief, the anguish of being helpless to be anything but what you were not meant to be.

Is this what any us really want? There is a well-known story that many of us have used in a homily about three devils who were selected to tempt and ruin people on earth. They were asked of their method. The first one said, "I will tell them that there is no God." However, Satan the chief of the devils said, "That won't do, for the people know that there is God." The second devil said, "I will proclaim that there is no hell." "This too is an old and useless trick for people know there is hell as a punishment for sin." Then the third one said, "I will convince them that there is plenty of time. So don't hurry, don't worry!"

Isn't that where we find ourselves many times? In this age of "self," we can have so much trouble letting God make us into our real selves! Rather, as Saint Cyril says, we can let the Spirit come "with the tenderness of a true friend and protector to save, to heal, to teach, to counsel, to strengthen, to console" as a power of forgiveness of sins, for the renewal of our hearts and our lives. And we shall be changed!

God's Peace



*Catholic Daughters
of the Americas
Court Fr. Raphael #1542*

We are proud to report that we have been sponsoring the Wellness Program Annual Blood Analysis for the past 39 years! Our 2019 program is scheduled for Saturday, June 15, at the Narrowsburg Community Hall on Bridge St./Rt 52. Walk in between 7am-10am or call to make an appointment. Blood sampling takes about 15 minutes.

The 30 plus blood tests determine problems with: coronary disease, diabetes, anemia, kidney disease, liver disease, and other issues. There are also other optional tests for an additional cost. Please call: 800-234-8888 for further information.

For anyone struggling with divorce or separation

There is a free “webinar-like” support and sharing group sponsored by the *St. Raymond Nonnatus Foundation for Freedom, Family, and Faith*. This group meets every first Tuesday of the month from 8-9pm. There is prayer, reflection, guidance by Church teachings, and it is attended by a Mercedarian friar from the Order of Mercy and the organization’s director. The group allows for listening and (optional) sharing guided by an experienced facilitator.

To learn more or sign in, visit the website: www.nonnatus.org or call, text, or email the director of the foundation at 215-870-9913/director.srnf@gmail.com.

Care360®

Wellness Program
Annual Blood Analysis
coming to your area!



Sponsored by CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE

AMERICAS
Date JUNE 15, 2019
Time 7:00AM – 10:00AM
Place NARROWSBURG COMMUNITY HALL
RTE 52, 210 BRIDGE STREET
NARROWSBURG, NY 12764

Call to make your reservation today **1-800-234-8888**

Operators are available Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm. Please have your doctor's name and address available when you call. Personal physician authorization is required.

Note: This screening is not covered by Medicare and most other insurance companies. Check or money order only will be accepted the day of the program and should be made payable to AMBA Wellness Programs.

Sponsor group may charge a separate handling fee. PHI forms required for patient copies. Photo ID required.

AMBA Panel

Coronary Disease	Kidney Disease	Anemia	Liver Disease	Other Tests
Cholesterol	Blood Urea Nitrogen	Red Blood Indices (MCV, MCH, MCHC, RDW)	Albumin	Calcium
HDL Cholesterol	Creatinine	Hemoglobin	Globulin	Chloride
Cholesterol/HDL Ratio	BUN/Creatinine - Ratio (GFR)	Hematocrit	Albumin/Globulin Ratio	Potassium
Triglycerides		Red Blood Cell Count	AST	Sodium
LDL Cholesterol		White Blood Cell Count	ALT	Carbon Dioxide
			Total Bilirubin	
			Total Protein	
			Alkaline Phosphatase	

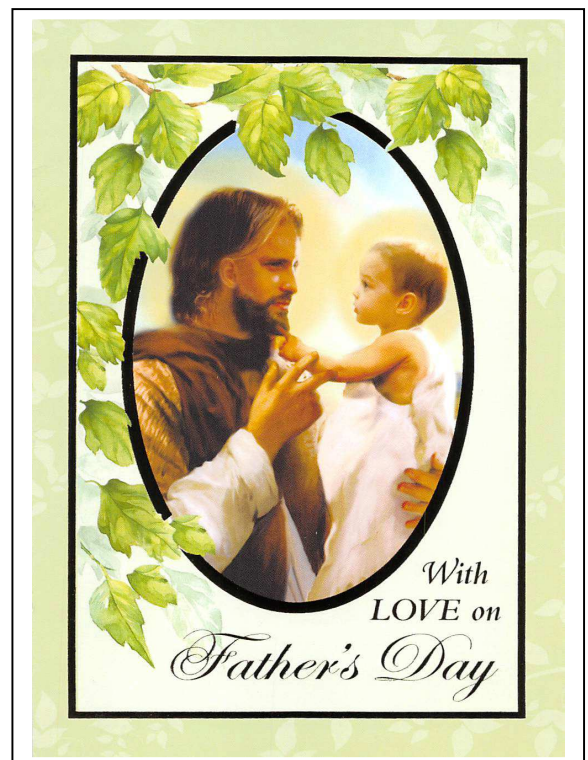
AMBA Panel includes all tests listed above - \$40.00 AND A \$5.00 HANDLING FEE.

Optional Tests

Test Code	Test Name	Price
5363	Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA)	\$25.70
899	TSH	\$12.00
17306	Vitamin D - 25	\$25.00
496	Hemoglobin A1C	\$12.00
11290	Insure Colon Rectal Kit	\$20.00

A separate physician order is required for any of the optional tests. Please present a separate physician order at the time of the testing if you elect an optional test. There will be no exceptions at the program.

Father's Day Remembrance Cards are available at the back of both of our Parish Churches.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, June 8th

SFX 4:30pm-Kathleen Jamieson
Requested by Dorothy Schultz

Sunday, June 9th

OLL 9:00am-Our Parish Family
SFX 11:00am-Our Parish Family

Monday, June 10th

NO MASS

Tuesday, June 11th

SFX 6:30pm-Our Parish Family

Wednesday, June 12th

SFX 8:30am-Lloyd Bassney
Requested by Dorothy Schultz

Thursday, June 13th

SFX 6:30pm-Our Parish Family

Friday, June 14th

SFX 8:30am-Our Parish Family

Saturday, June 15th

SFX 4:30pm-Edward Schultz
Requested by Dorothy Schultz

Sunday, June 16th

OLL 9:00am-Father's Day Intentions
SFX 11:00am-Father's Day Intentions

Collection

June 1/2, 2019

1st Collection

St. Francis Xavier	\$755.00
Our Lady of the Lake	\$270.00

2nd Collection (R & M)

St. Francis Xavier	\$303.00
Our Lady of the Lake	\$120.00

Other (Ascension)

St. Francis Xavier	\$17.00
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Total

\$1,465.00

Collection

Ascension Thursday

Vigil & Holyday Collections

St. Francis Xavier	\$152.00
Our Lady of the Lake	\$89.00

Total

\$241.00

Readings

Acts 2:1-11

1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Romans 8:8-17

John 20:19-23 or John 14:15-16, 23b-26

*Welcome back to all of our
summer residents!*

Please Pray for our Parish Family

For the Sick: Christina Hubert, Peggy Lee Romano, Barbara Walter, Lydia Newton, Connie Moser, Elizabeth Stoddard, Pam Kocher, Judy Tufo, Vincent Gentile, Kathleen Jamieson

For the Deceased: Mary Weiden, Muriel Maers, Stan Rembish, Eugene Harrison, Terry McCarthy, John Werner, Lillian Yacino, James Lingle, Patricia Lyons, Emory Robert Kaub, Muriel F. Edwards, Andrew Casimir

For those Serving in the Military: Justin Warnick, Joseph A. Choffo IV