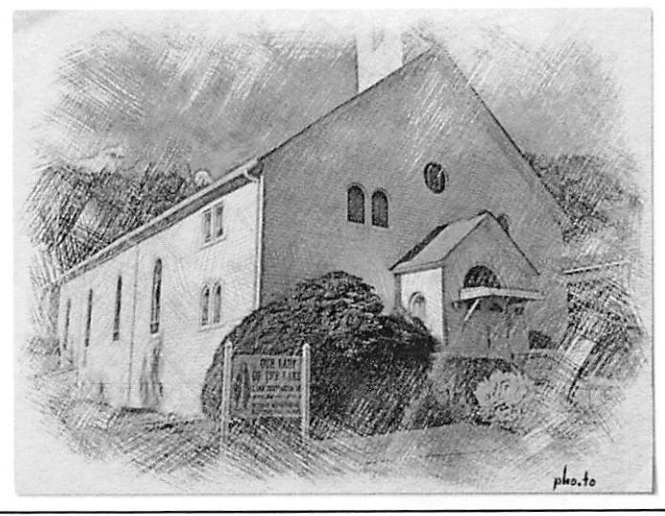


Saint Francis Xavier Parish

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 11, 2019



St. Francis Xavier Church

151 Bridge St., Narrowsburg

Masses

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

Confessions

Saturdays 4:00pm
Or by appointment

Our Lady of the Lake Church

Rt. 52, Lake Huntington

Masses

Sunday 9:00am

Confessions & Daily Mass

At St. Francis Xavier

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.

REV. DENNIS M. DINAN, PASTOR

ABBY RODDEN, PARISH SECRETARY

**OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00AM-1:00PM
OR BY APPOINTMENT**

TELEPHONE: (845) 252-6681

FAX: (845) 252-6519

WEB ADDRESSES: www.sfxnarrowsburg.com

www.ollhuntington.com

EMAIL: sfxnarrowsburg@gmail.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE: (845) 252-6681

EMAIL: sfxololre@gmail.com

Dear Parish Family,

As you can notice from the above name, there is a “new sheriff” in town. But don’t worry! Your pastor, Father Dennis Dinan, is hale and hearty and he’s still in-charge; he has taken some days off on vacation. While he’s away, I’m at your disposal for any pastoral need or emergency. By the way, my name is Father Joel Kambai Duwai, a priest of the Catholic Diocese of Kafanchan in Nigeria. It’s a pleasure to be here with you. Enough about me; let’s now focus on the message that this Sunday’s readings propose.

In last Sunday’s readings, we were reminded of the vanity of putting total trust in earthly things. Vanity upon vanity, says Qoheleth, all things are vanity (cf. Ecclesiastes 1:2). Even man (by this I mean humanity) seems to be vanity; he turns to dust when he dies and is like the changing grass, which at dawn springs up anew, but by evening wilts and fades (cf. Ps 90:3). As for the man who was prosperous and thought that he could keep his wealth all to himself in order to rest, eat, drink, and be merry, God said, “you fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?” (Luke 12:20). Attention! The bible is not emphasizing hopelessness; these words of Scripture are only trying to sting man to be conscious of where value and meaning lies. All that God has created is good (cf. Genesis 1); but man’s focus should be on the creator. For Jesus, therefore, value and meaning lies in seeking what matters to God (Luke 12:21); and for St. Paul, it is the search for “what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God”, the setting of the mind on “what is above, not on what is on earth (Colossians 3:1-2). The pertinent question is: how do we do that? How do we set our minds on things we cannot see, things that are above the earthly things? How do we set our minds on things we have not yet experienced? The solution is given to us in today’s liturgy of the Word.

Access to the divine or to the heavenly realities, according to today’s readings, is by FAITH. The second reading tells us that this faith is “the **realization** of what is hoped for and the **evidence** of things not seen” (Hebrews 11:1). To hope is to expect and to wait until it comes to pass. Faith makes what is hoped for become reality. The word **realization** is from the Greek *ὑπόστασις* (*hypostasis* = *hypo* ‘under’ + *stasis* ‘standing’); in philosophy, it means the underlying reality or substance. Faith is thus the underlying reality, the foundation of our hope for eternity; “making us taste in advance the light of the beatific vision, the goal of our journey here below...so faith is already the beginning of eternal life” (CCC 163).

The essence of faith is man’s salvation; this salvation comes about through man’s sharing in the divine nature. The divine nature in which man can have a share is revealed by God: “the invisible God, out of the abundance of His love speaks to men as friends and lives among them so that He may invite and take them into fellowship with Himself” (*Dei Verbum* 2). Man’s response to this divine invitation is by faith, the complete submission of man’s intellect and will to God (CCC 143). St. Paul refers to this total submission as “the obedience of faith” (Roman 1:5; 16:26). This obedience

of faith is exemplified in the life of Abraham. He did not know where he was going to and yet set out on a journey because God asked him to. He and “sterile Sarah” were advanced in age and yet believed that they could have a son because God said so. Abraham was ready to offer Isaac his only son in sacrifice to God because he “reasoned that God was able to raise even from the dead” (Hebrew 11:19). Man’s submission of his intellect and will to God does not make man a slave; the submission must be free. The element of freedom is essential in the act of faith. In faith, the human intellect and will cooperate with divine grace (CCC 155). It is the intellect that believes (gives assent to divine truth). Since believe is an action and the capacity to act is in the will, the assent of the intellect to divine truth becomes a prolongation of the free movement of the will that is moved by God through grace (cf. *Summa Theologica* II.II,2,9). God’s grace does not impose itself on the will but collaborates with the will towards the assent of faith. In the final analysis, it is man who lays hold on revelation and salvation by his free will.

Some people and some Churches believe that faith is a punctual event; that is, you make your profession of faith and all is done and dusted. No! Faith is a process just as salvation is a process; it is a journey towards perfection. This is why Jesus speaks of the faithful servants who awaits the return of his master. The unfaithful servant, on the other hand, knows his master’s will but does not **make preparations** in accord with this will; this servant shall be punished severely. By faith, we know that we shall be saved. Faith, however, requires that we act accordingly. The Israelites knew of the night of the Passover and they “awaited the salvation of the just and the destruction of their foes” (Wisdom 18:7). Abraham is a typical example of someone who had to wait for the fulfilment of the promise of God. The promise of a child was made him when he was about 75 years old. The child came when Abraham was 100 years old; he had to wait for about 25 years.

The journey of faith is a leap into the unknown, a leap into the dark. The catechism says, “Even though enlightened by him (God) in whom it believes, faith is often lived in darkness and can be put to the test. The world we live in often seems very far from the one promised us by faith. Our experiences of evil and suffering, injustice, and death, seem to contradict the Good News; they can shake our faith and become a temptation against it” (CCC 163). However, we should not lose hope. It was in the darkest of nights that salvation was wrought for the people of Israel from Egypt: the Passover night. Jesus speaks of the master coming in the second (midnight) or third watch (dawn). Blessed as those servants whom the master finds waiting for his return. As servants, we should not take God’s gift for granted. The servants who misuse the graces given to them and fall into a life of debauchery, presuming that the master will not come, will have themselves to blame for their misfortune.

We have been **chosen by God** for his inheritance; let us live our lives for God, who is our help and shield.

Peace be with you!



Holyday Mass Schedule
The Assumption of the
Virgin Mary

Wednesday, August 14
No 8:30am Mass
4:30pm Vigil Mass at SFX

Thursday, August 15
9:00am Mass at OLL
6:30pm Mass at SFX



Thank you to all who donated to
our Food Pantry.

Your donations are helping
families from all over our area
receive nutritious foods that they
may not otherwise be able to
afford.

This week's 2nd Collection is for The
Church in Africa.
Thank you!

Support the **Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa**
Apoye al Fondo de Solidaridad para la Iglesia en África

Thank you for your
support for the Solidarity
Fund for the Church in
Africa! Your gift is a sign of
solidarity with our brothers
and sisters in faith in Africa.



*¡Muchas gracias por
su apoyo al Fondo de
Solidaridad para la Iglesia
en África! Su donativo es
una señal de solidaridad
con nuestros hermanos y
hermanas en la fe en África*



For more information, contact: Para más información, póngase en contacto con:
Office of National Collections | United States Conference of Catholic Bishops | PO Box 96278 | Washington, DC 20090-0278 | www.usccb.org/africa
Phone: 202-546-5600

Homebound
Ministry

Thursday, August 15, 2019
Holyday Mass
The Assumption of the Virgin Mary

Is someone you love unable to join us
at church for the August 15 Holyday of
the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin
Mary? Please invite anyone who
cannot get out to church to experience
the spiritual comfort of the joy-filled
Catholic Mass. Online video will be
available all day at
www.HeartoftheNation.org.

*For those who can get to church, the online liturgy
will not fulfill the Holy Day Mass obligation.*

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 10

SFX 4:30pm -Our Parish Family

Sunday, August 11th

OLL 9:00am -Barbara Walter
Requested by The Rosary Society at
Lake Huntington

SFX 11:00am -David Kelly
Requested by Betty Kelly

Monday, August 12th

NO MASS

Tuesday, August 13th

SFX 6:30pm -John Boccio
Requested by Christina & Frank
Passarella

Wednesday, August 14th

SFX 8:30am -Our Parish Family

Thursday, August 15th

SFX 6:30pm -Our Parish Family

Friday, August 16th

SFX 8:30am -Our Parish Family

Saturday, August 17th

SFX 4:30pm -Our Parish Family

Sunday, August 18th

OLL 9:00am -Stan Rembish
Requested by The Rosary Society at
Lake Huntington

SFX 11:00am -George Johnson
Requested by Eleanor Johnson

Collection

July 27/28, 2019

1st Collection

St. Francis Xavier	\$1,298.00
Our Lady of the Lake	\$291.00

2nd Collection (R & M)

St. Francis Xavier	\$418.00
Our Lady of the Lake	\$130.00

Other (Air Conditioning)

St. Francis Xavier	\$80.00
Our Lady of the Lake	\$45.00

Total

\$2,262.00

Thank you!

Readings

Wisdom 18:6-9
Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11: 1-2,
8-12
Luke 12:32-48 or 12:35-40

Please Pray for our Parish Family

For the Sick: Christina Hubert, Lydia Newton, Kenneth "Boomer" Meyer, Jane Cutita, Bonnie Feeler, Judy Tufo, Connie Moser, Elizabeth Stoddard, Pam Kocher, Vincent Gentile, Kathleen Jamieson, Peter O'Leary Jr.

For the Deceased: Mary Weiden, Muriel Maers, Stan Rembish, Eugene Harrison, Terry McCarthy, John Werner, Lillian Yacino, James Lingle, Patricia Lyons, Peggy Lee Romano, Emory Robert Kaub, Muriel F. Edwards, Andrew Casimir, Barbara Walter, Jessica Hartley, Eileen Dempsey, Christopher Kells

For those Serving in the Military: Justin Warnick, Joseph A. Choffo IV, Carmen Hamstrom, Joseph R. Gonzalez