



# CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

## A JESUIT APOSTOLATE

West 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NYC • Phone: 212-627-2100 • Fax: 212-675-6997

Mailing Address: 55 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10011-6801  
(Wheelchair Accessible 55 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street - All Masses are Handicapped Accessible)  
E-Mail Address: [StFrancisXavier@sfxavier.org](mailto:StFrancisXavier@sfxavier.org) • Website: [www.sfxavier.org](http://www.sfxavier.org)



Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.  
(1 Peter 1:3)

## ***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 Handicapped 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](http://www.sfxavier.org)

## ***Staff***

Rev. Robert VerEecke, S.J. (Pastor) — 204

*Email: RVerееcke@sfxavier.org*

Cassandra Agredo (Executive Dir. Xavier Mission) — 208

Luz Marina Díaz (Dir. of Religious Education) — 207

Stephanie Fuentes (Assistant to the Pastor) — 222

Moraima Hernandez (Plant Manager) - 201

James Martinez (Dir. of Stewardship and

Assistant for Financial Planning) - 205

Gregory Timmes (Assistant Dir. of Business) - 201

Damely Tineo (Dir. of Business) - 221

Rev. Sean Toole, S.J. (Associate Pastor) - 206

Receptionist — 201

John Uehlein (Dir. of Music Ministries) — 202

## ***Pastoral Council***

Jack Schmitt (Chair); Adel O'Regan (Vice-Chair);

Deborah Olley Murphy (Secretary); Stephen Alfieri;

Kathleen Cagnina; John Karle;

Bob Lepisko; Charles Mileski;

Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe; David Pais

[PastoralCouncil@sfxavier.org](mailto:PastoralCouncil@sfxavier.org)

## **Mission Statement**

The Church of St. Francis Xavier, a Roman Catholic parish in the Jesuit tradition, strives to be a prophetic, welcoming community, and an inclusive witness to the presence of Christ Jesus in our midst. Mindful of our utter reliance on God, and need for God's grace, we rejoice together in our celebration of the sacraments and proclamation of the Gospel.

As a people of hope, we commit ourselves through prayerful and creative discernment to respond to God in our time by: Being a respectful community Where seekers and their questions are welcomed, Where injustice is challenged, Where the poor, the alienated and the marginalized find a home, And where people are refreshed, reconciled and renewed.



## ***OFFICE HOURS***

**Weekdays:** 10:00 am to 7:30 pm

**Saturday:** 11:30 am to 6:00 pm

**Sunday:** 8:30 am to 6:00 pm

**NOTE:** for Bulletin Notices and Space Requests send e-mails to [sfuentes@sfxavier.org](mailto:sfuentes@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.**

## ***Next Weekend Presider Schedule***

### **Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>**

5:00pm Vigil Mass: *Rev. Samuel Sawyer, SJ*

### **Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**

9:00am Mass: *Rev. Sean Toole, SJ*

11:30am Mass: *Rev. Robert VerEecke, SJ*

5:00pm Mass: *Rev. Patrick Gilger, SJ*

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

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

*Sean Adcroft, Maria Antonia Araujo, John Bucki SJ, Alex Campbell,  
Luceil Carroll, Normita Crystal, Florence Demopoulos,  
Monsignor Neil Graham, Fr. Thomas Kallumady,  
Robert Lapidis, June LeBell, Molly Mae LeBlanc,  
Marian Lizzio, Lou Mauro SJ, Nicole Minson, Marisol Miro,  
Kathy Mulvaney, Lillian May, Edminda Sanchez,  
Rocco Scura, Sal Talarico, Carl Wassmann, Diane Weyers*

Pray for the peaceful rest of all our beloved departed parishioners and friends, especially:

*Nicholas Antamos Sellas, Michael Barbagallo,  
Amelia Blanquera, Fr. Neil Connolly, Brian Danis,  
Jim Donohue, Pablo Forte  
and Gloria Maldonado*

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.

## *From the Pastor's Desk*

Now that the Triduum and Easter Sunday are completed, I wanted to thank the countless people who made these three days and Easter Sunday such a beautiful and reverent experience of prayer and community. The musicians, dancers, environmental artists, liturgical ministers (lectors, ministers of communion and hospitality, coordinators), the RCIA team and parish and staff who worked “behind the sanctuary”, all contributed to make these days such an exquisite expression of faith and worship.

But let's not forget that Easter is not just a day it's a whole season of 50 days. We have so much to look forward to. Today we celebrated the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation for those in the RCIA who were already baptized in other Christian Churches but who have asked to be part of the Roman Catholic community. Later on in the Easter season we will celebrate First Eucharist with our children and Confirmation with our teens. Much to celebrate!

I'd also like to invite you to another parish “read” during the Easter season. What I would like to suggest is that we read Richard Rohr's *The Divine Dance: The Trinity and your Transformation*. There would be three conversations: Sundays May 7, May 14th, May 21st. We would meet from 10:15 till 11:15. If you are interested, in reading, please let me know.

May the blessing of the Risen Lord Jesus be with you during this beautiful and joyful season of the year!

In the Risen Christ,

**Father Bob**

### **THE CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2017**

Thank you for all of your pledges. You can still pledge online at [www.cardinalsappeal.org](http://www.cardinalsappeal.org) towards our parish goal of **\$100,500**. Please consider making a pledge. Thank you so much for your support of the Appeal and please pray for its success at our parish.

## **WHOM SHALL I SEND?**

*A Musical*

**Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30pm**

*The call of the disciples... The call to conversion... A story of faith, love and friendship*

**Director and Choreographer:** Carol Ferrone, Musical

**Director:** Gerard Deman, Jr.,

**Script By:** J.s. Pecorella

**Music by:** Laurence Rosania, Michael Ward & others

**Featuring:** Nikki Casseri, Kyle Jack, Diane Meck  
Elijah Noll and Brandon Schraml, Tony Bartoli,  
Percussionist

*Whom Shall I Send?*, an exciting new musical, finds its roots in the New Testament as it depicts God's call to the disciples and their response. The play explores the humanity of the disciples – their doubts, fears and joys – as they respond to the call of the risen Christ. The energetic dialogue, vibrant songs and dances celebrate the spiritual journey of Peter, Paul, John, Mary Magdalene and Lydia. It explores the unique way that each character is called by God and inspires audiences to reflect on the call of God in their own lives. This poignant and moving drama engages the audience in a story of faith, love and friendship.

*The Xavier Company is a group of professional actors, singers and dancers in residence at St. Francis Xavier Church in Manhattan under the direction of Carol Ferrone, who holds a PhD from Columbia University. The Xavier Company has been producing musical plays that proclaim the gospel and explore themes of spirituality and social justice for more than 30 years in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. Whom Shall I Send has been previously performed at St. Malachy's, the Catholic Actors Chapel in New York and for the American Bible Society.*

Please mark your calendars for *Whom Shall I Send*, an inspiring event for the Lent and Easter Season.

*Please mark your calendars for this  
very powerful and timely event:*

## **FILM SCREENING AND DISCUSSION**

**Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 PM in Keenan Commons  
31 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
(Doors will open at 6 PM)**

13th is a powerful 2016 American documentary by director Ava DuVernay. Titled after the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution which freed the slaves and prohibited slavery (unless as punishment for a crime) it explores the “intersection of race, justice and mass incarceration in the United States”.

The film will be followed by discussion of:

- The fact that 25 percent of the people in the world who are incarcerated are incarcerated in the U.S., which has only 5 percent of the population;
- How the “war on drugs” contributed to the rise in the number of people in prisons despite the rate of crime declining since the late 20th century;
- How the over-incarceration of adults has severely damaged generations of black and minority families and their children;
- How private prison contractors have entered the market to satisfy demand as arrests and sentences increased, forming an independent group with its own economic incentives to criminalize minor activities and lengthen sentences to keep prisons full.

*We hope to see and hear from you, your families, and  
your friends at this event. Peace and Love.  
Thrive for Life Prison Project &  
Xavier Peace and Justice*

## **AIDS WALK NEW YORK 2017 XAVIER TEAM**

As a parish, we encourage as many individuals as possible to JOIN OUR TEAM and/or contribute whatever is comfortable. There are three convenient ways to register to walk or donate: Visit the parish Facebook page and follow the link, on-line at [www.aidswalk.net/newyork](http://www.aidswalk.net/newyork) or call 212-807-9255.

**BE SURE TO USE THE  
CHURCH OF SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER TEAM'S  
NUMBER, #1250**

*Interested in growing closer to God?*

*“Open the eyes of your heart and see.”-Isaiah 60:3*

## **THE LAY SPIRITUALITY PROGRAM OF THE CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER OFFERS YOU A WAY.**

For 30 years, Lay Spirits has sponsored a spiritual formation program. Through presentations from guest speakers, personal reflection and spiritual conversation, participants seek a closer connection to God and accompany each other on the journey.

Consider joining the next Lay Spirits group scheduled to begin in September 2017.

Join us for an information meeting.

**SUNDAY, MAY 7<sup>TH</sup> AT 1:30 PM  
IN THE MARY CHAPEL**

**THURSDAY, MAY 25<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30 PM  
IN THE WEST ROOM**

Questions?

Claudette Pulido – [claudettepulido@gmail.com](mailto:claudettepulido@gmail.com) or  
Pat Galligan – [patg48@hotmail.com](mailto:patg48@hotmail.com)

Call or email Lay Spirits:  
(212) 627-2100, ext. 216 [layspiritsnyc@gmail.com](mailto:layspiritsnyc@gmail.com)

Visit our website at [www.layspiritsnyc.org](http://www.layspiritsnyc.org).

## **WANTED: A FEW GOOD WOMEN OR MEN**

We have an urgent need for persons who would be willing/able to bring Communion to some of our 300+ Catholic patients at Mount Sinai Hospital. The commitment would involve between 1 ½ and 2 hours one day a week on a day of your choice. We are also in need of persons who might be available to “sub” over the summer when our “regulas” are away. If you are not currently a Eucharistic Minister, we will provide training.

If you are interested or for more information, please contact Sr. Nadine at [nadine.koza@mountsinai.org](mailto:nadine.koza@mountsinai.org).



The Metro NY Catholic Climate Movement invites you to join us on our bus for the

**PEOPLE'S CLIMATE MARCH  
IN WASHINGTON, D. C.,  
SATURDAY, APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>**

If you share our concern for \*the climate \*the environment \*global warming \*the food we eat \*the air we breathe \*the water we drink and that sustains life on the planet \*how vulnerable low-income communities are dealing with climate change already \*the future of our children and grandchildren

If you share Pope Francis' concern for care of the earth and care of the poor.....

Come on board!! Get on the bus!!

We will leave from 9th Ave. between 59th and 60th St. in front of St. Paul the Apostle Church near Columbus Circle. Departure time 5:45 am, and we will leave D.C. at 4 pm to be back in the city at 8:30 pm. We will form a Catholic section within the People of Faith contingent of the march.

Cost of a ticket is \$45. Discounted tickets for low-income individuals are available on a limited basis contingent on donations. Please contact *Nancy Lorence* at [n.lorence2013@gmail.com](mailto:n.lorence2013@gmail.com) if you would like to reserve a seat on the bus.

*The Pastoral Council invites  
you to join us for a*

**PARISH-WIDE COFFEE HOUR**

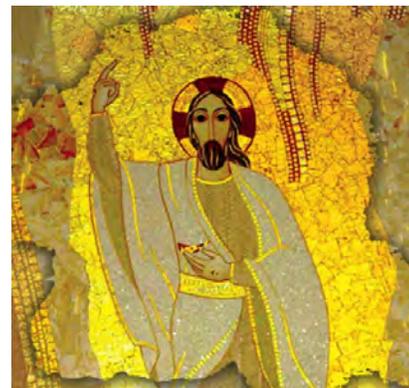
as we welcome  
parishoners  
New to SFX on  
**THIS SUNDAY,**  
**April 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
in the  
**Mary Chapel**  
(following the  
11:30 Mass)



All are welcome.

**VIA LUCIS  
STATIONS OF LIGHT:  
AN EASTER RETREAT**

*The Ignatian Way of  
Praying the  
Post-Resurrection Life  
of Christ on Earth*



The Official Vatican prayer book for the Jubilee Year 2000, *Pilgrim Prayers*, includes a Via Lucis along with the traditional Via Crucis.

Similar to the Via Crucis (Stations of the Cross) and the four passion narratives, the Via Lucis (Stations of Light) reflects upon the final chapters of each of the four gospels, which narrate the appearances of the Risen Lord from Easter to Pentecost.

We hope that the 14 "Stations of Light" will help Xavier community and friends walk boldly into the light with the Risen Christ!

**Tuesdays 4/25, 5/2, 5/9, 5/16 and 5/23  
from 6:30-8:30pm  
Xavier High School Chapel (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)**

For information or registration contact *Marie Bannister* at [mariebannister1@gmail.com](mailto:mariebannister1@gmail.com) or call 917 301 2426.

Organized by ISEL  
(Ignatian Spirituality in Every Day Life)

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

The parish is looking for people who work with social media, websites and other areas of communication to come together and look at our use of media and help us to improve communications with our parishioners and others. If you have the skill and the interest, please contact *Stephanie Fuentes* at [sfuentes@sfxavier.org](mailto:sfuentes@sfxavier.org)

## HONDURAS PROJECT EVENT REV. DR. MONICA MAHER TO SPEAK AT XAVIER

*Monica Maher*, a former pastoral assistant at Xavier and now a resident of Quito, Ecuador, will speak at Xavier on Sunday, May 7 after the 11:30 mass in the West Room. Monica helped start the Honduras project back in late 1998 and subsequently received her PhD from Union Theological Seminary and was later ordained by the United Church of Christ. Currently, she is employed by the Quakers as coordinator for the work of the Friends Peace Teams in Central America.

Monica will focus on the Friends Peace Teams work in Honduras, both in a prison with former gang members and with indigenous and Afro-descendent women who are resisting illegal takeovers of their ancestral lands by mining companies and tourism.

### *Catholic Lesbians*

**Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**  
*(note first Friday of the month!)*  
**6:00 pm—9:00 pm**  
**West Room**

*Dr. Jackie Starkey* continues her series on mystics. The first thirty minutes will be for settling in and socializing and then we'll begin at 6:30 p.m. Please bring a beverage and/or snack to share.

Contact [SFXWomen@aol.com](mailto:SFXWomen@aol.com) or (917) 297-6804 for more information.

Join members of the Catholic LGBT community and their families for a Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark on Sunday, May 21 at 3:30PM. After Mass, there will be a tour of this historic building, the largest French Gothic church in the US, which was elevated to a minor basilica by Pope John Paul II when he visited Newark in 1995. Finally, we hope to go to a restaurant in the Ironbound/Portuguese section of Newark for dinner.

For more information, email [sacredheartigi@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartigi@gmail.com). RSVP would be appreciated, especially if you are planning on joining us for dinner.

## Stewardship at SFX

The Lord is risen! As Christ's disciples, we are called to go forth and spread the good news of His Resurrection. Our parish's many ministries are examples of how many of you answer that call. Our ministries require not only gifts of time and talent, but also of financial help. Please prayerfully consider supporting Xavier with our Faith Direct e-giving option. Faith Direct provides a convenient and secure way to support the parish via automatic payment from your checking account or credit card. There is no cost to you for using Faith Direct. You can sign up online by clicking the Donate Now button on the upper-right hand corner of our homepage or mail in an enrollment form available from the parish office.

### ST. AGNES CATHEDRAL CHOIRS OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*DIRECTED BY MICHAEL L. BOWER*



**Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:30pm**  
**Main Church**

The Choirs of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, Long Island, under the direction of Michael Bower will fill our church with great sacred music from all ages highlighting such composers as Byrd and Tallis, Bach, Handel and Mozart through to John Rutter.

With the founding of the Diocese in 1957, the Choir of Men and Boys was established and the group performed with Leonard Bernstein at the Opening of the Kennedy Center, Washington D.C. In 1980, women's voices were added to the singing ensembles of the Cathedral, and this group (The Chorale) has performed such masterworks as Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, and Mahler's Symphony No. 2.

## Scriptures & Announced Masses

### SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER:

Acts 2:42-47; 1 Pet 1:3-9; John 20:19-31.

### SECOND MONDAY OF EASTER: Acts 4:23-31; John 3:1-8.

7:45AM ELENA P. YU (D)  
12:05PM MICHAEL ALLOCCA (D)

### TUESDAY~FEAST OF ST. MARK: 1 Pet 5:5b-14; Mark 16:15-20.

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

### SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EASTER: Acts 5:17-26; John 3:16-21.

7:45AM ALICIA MAROTTA (D)  
12:05PM OIVIND BJORNEN (D)

### THURSDAY~FEAST OF ST. PETER

**CANISIUS:** Acts 5:27-33; John 3:31-36.

7:45AM JAMES HAWKES (D)  
12:05PM PATRICIA KEENAN (D)

### SECOND FRIDAY OF EASTER: Acts 5:34-42; John 6:1-15.

7:45AM EUGENE CURTIS (D)  
12:05PM MARIE VAN BRUNT (D)

### SATURDAY~FEAST OF ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA: Acts 6:1-7; John 6:16-21.

12:05PM CATHERINE KEENAN (D)

### THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER:

Acts 2:14, 22-33; 1 Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35.

**YOU MAY RESERVE AN AVAILABLE MASS FOR  
YOUR INTENTIONS BY CONTACTING THE  
PARISH OFFICE AT 212-627-2100.**

## THE LITURGICAL MINISTRY

The Church of St. Francis Xavier offers different opportunities for adults, young adults, adolescents, and children to participate actively in our parish life. One of these opportunities is as liturgical minister at each Mass. At the moment we need women willing to serve as Eucharist ministers. We also need men and women ministers of hospitality at every Mass. For more information on these ministries, please visit our website <https://sfxavier.org/liturgical-ministries>.

## Ongoing Parish Happenings

**ABILITY XAVIER:** Celebrating persons with disabilities. Contact [abilityxaviernewyork@gmail.com](mailto:abilityxaviernewyork@gmail.com)

**XAVIER ADULT GROUP:** Once a month we have informative meetings or attend interesting events around the city. Contact [bowcol@hotmail.com](mailto:bowcol@hotmail.com)

**BAGA:** A parish youth group (for teens) that meets monthly to promote peace and justice by performing corporal works of mercy. Contact [b.a.good.apostle@gmail.com](mailto:b.a.good.apostle@gmail.com)

**CATHOLIC LESBIANS:** Ministry since 1993, meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month, 6 p.m., West Room, [SFXWomen@aol.com](mailto:SFXWomen@aol.com), (917) 297-6804.

**EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT GROUP:**  
Contact Katherine Cleary, [krcoff5th@netzero.com](mailto:krcoff5th@netzero.com)

**FAMILY FAITH:** Catechetical ministry for parents/guardians and children pre-K through 12th grade. Meets Sundays 10:00am, Mary Chapel. Contact Luz, [LMDiaz@sfxavier.org](mailto:LMDiaz@sfxavier.org)

**GAY CATHOLICS:** Men meet in a caring and affirming environment on the first and third Fridays, 7pm Mary Chapel. Contact [sfxgsgroup@gmail.com](mailto:sfxgsgroup@gmail.com)

**INTERFAITH COMMITTEE:** works toward ending religious discrimination and persecution, through prayer, education and other activities. Contact Jose Ramon, [joseramonperezlopez@gmail.com](mailto:joseramonperezlopez@gmail.com)

**SFX WOMEN:** We continue to stay to address the specific concerns of women in the church. Xavier women are invited to join our ministry. Contact [thewomenwhostayed@gmail.com](mailto:thewomenwhostayed@gmail.com).

**LITURGICAL COMMITTEES:** See website or Contact Luz, [LMDiaz@sfxavier.org](mailto:LMDiaz@sfxavier.org)

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND:** To become a volunteer or arrange visits, Contact James Fox, [sumiko120@nyc.rr.com](mailto:sumiko120@nyc.rr.com), (212) 427-5070

**PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE:** Examines root causes of injustice and works towards a more just and sustainable world. Contact Tracey Tynan at [xavierpeaceandjustice@gmail.com](mailto:xavierpeaceandjustice@gmail.com).

**SPIRITUAL MINISTRIES:** Offers spiritual programs, including spiritual direction. Contact Rose Alloca, [allocarose@gmail.com](mailto:allocarose@gmail.com) or Marie Bannister, [mariebannister1@gmail.com](mailto:mariebannister1@gmail.com).

**YOUNG ADULTS GROUP:** Spiritual, Service, and Social Activities for Xavier's 20's-30's. Meets every 2nd Sunday of the month after the 5pm Young Adult's Mass, in the West Room. Contact [sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com](mailto:sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com)

**ZEN MEDITATION GROUP:** Mondays at 7pm. Newcomers welcome. Contact Peggy & Paul 212-260-2486, [schubertnyc@gmail.com](mailto:schubertnyc@gmail.com)

### XAVIER MISSION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**CLOTHING ROOM:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, contact Ann Mary: [xmClothingRoom@gmail.com](mailto:xmClothingRoom@gmail.com)

**FOOD PROGRAMS:** Every Sunday soup kitchen and 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday food pantry, contact Christine: [xmFoodPrograms@gmail.com](mailto:xmFoodPrograms@gmail.com)

**L-STEP:** Spring and Fall semesters, contact J: [xmLSTEP@gmail.com](mailto:xmLSTEP@gmail.com)

**SHELTER:** Every night, contact Jim: [xmShelter@gmail.com](mailto:xmShelter@gmail.com)