

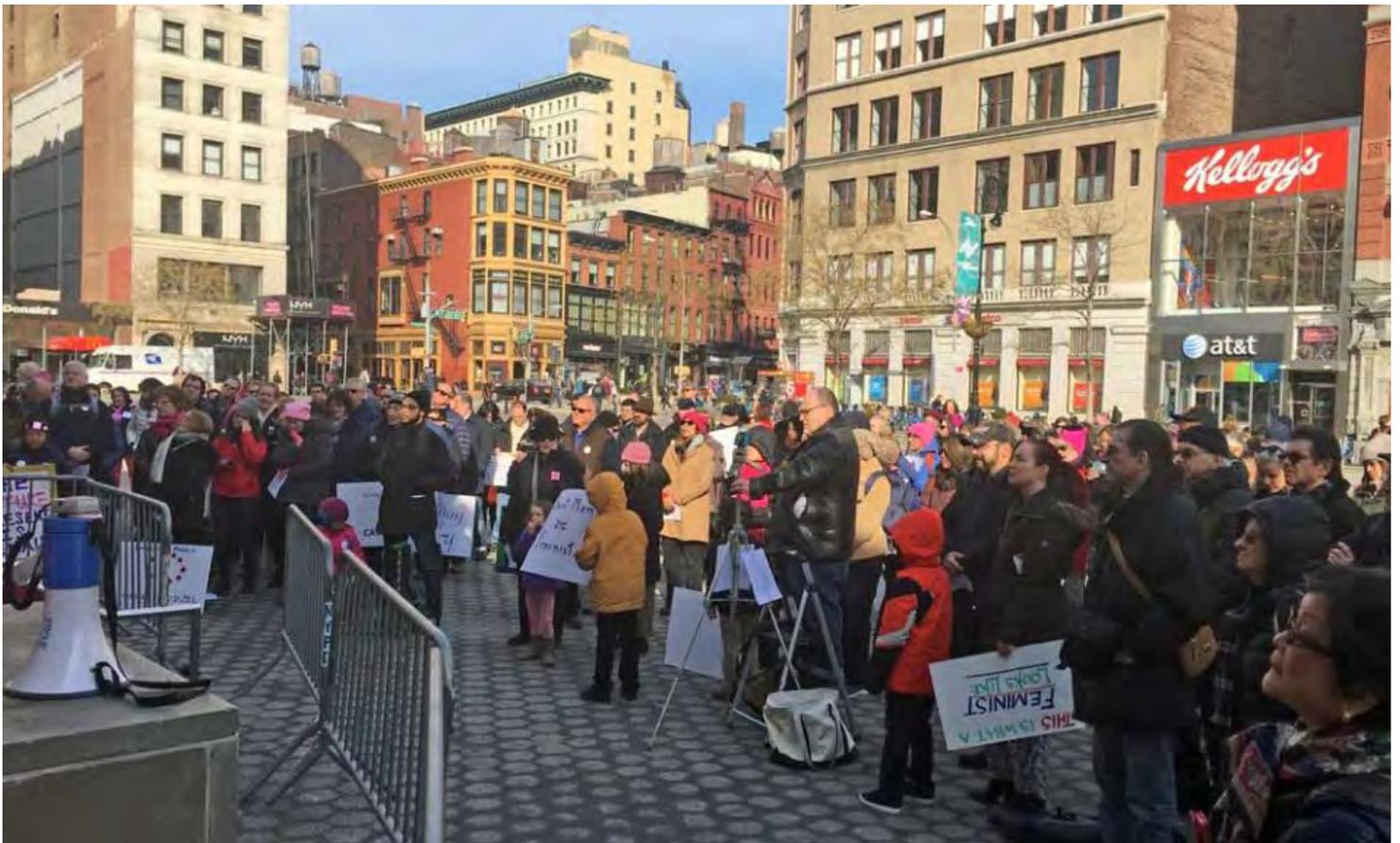


# CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

## 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 Wheelchair Accessible)  
E-Mail Address: [StFrancisXavier@sfxavier.org](mailto:StFrancisXavier@sfxavier.org) • Website: [www.sfxavier.org](http://www.sfxavier.org)



*NCR photo/Jamie Manson*

God tells the number of the stars. God calls each by name. From the psalm.

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**February 4, 2018**

## ***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 Wheelchair 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

Rev. Daniel Corrou, S.J. (Associate Pastor) - 206

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

Receptionist — 201

John Uehlein (Dir. of Music Ministries) — 202

## ***Pastoral Council***

Jack Schmitt (Chair);

Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe (Vice-Chair);

Stephen Alfieri (Secretary); Kathleen Cagnina;

Karen DeMasi; Patrick Egan; Michelle Jung;

John Karle; Charles Mileski; Deborah Olley Murphy;

[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, February 10<sup>th</sup>**

5:00pm Vigil Mass: *Rev. Robert VerEecke, SJ*

### **Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**

9:00am Mass: *Rev. Robert VerEecke, SJ*

11:30am Mass: *Rev. Daniel Corrou, SJ*

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

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

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

*Jesus Andaluz, Joseph Cali, Larry Capici, Patrica Cunningham, Elizabeth Cutolo, Mimi Elenbaas, Kathryn Fisher, Maria Formoso, Daniel Fox, Marian Githens, Thomas Glasson, Juan Garcia, Renata Johnson, Mary Korba, James Leung, Marian Lizzio, John Marshall, John McLoughlin, Kathy Mulvaney, Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe, Joel Rivera, Rey Santos, Vanessa Santos, Rocco Scura, Anthony Sellitti, Denise Stewart, Bobby Tinio, Dr. Daniel Tynan, Carl Wassmann, Diane Weyers, David Woolwine*

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

*Rosa Canastra, Mary Comarato, Martin Crawford, Alice Hardy, Janet Kelly, Beatriz Quinto Mendoza, John Olley, Mary M. Piderit, Miriam Socorro Solares de Castañeda, Denise Stewart*

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.

**All prayer requests are listed for at least three consecutive weeks. Please contact the parish office for an extension.**

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

I'd like to invite you to take a look at the Pastor's homilies section on the parish website for the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time. It's actually not my homily but was given by a close Jesuit friend. In it he talks about a study of why so many young Catholics are feeling alienated from the Church and why the "pews" are emptying out. Ironically it's related to a PEW study ☺.

Here at Xavier we are doing our best to "engage, excite, ignite, ignace" our community of faith and do our best to assure that all are welcome. Next Saturday, February 10th, the Parish Staff, Pastoral Council and leaders of ministries are engaging in a day of reflection. The focus will be on hospitality in the morning and "leadership" in the afternoon. We will be using Chris Lowney's "Everyone Leads: How to revitalize the Catholic Church" as a focus for our discussions.

As I mentioned last week, the Lenten season is almost upon us. As you know Lent is always a good time to 'reorient' yourself and perhaps focus more on your relationship with God. One of the most graced experiences for me as a pastor has always been listening to parishioners share their journeys of faith. So I'd like to invite you to "COME AND JOURNEY WITH JESUS". What I would like to propose is that we meet in the Xavier High School Chapel from 10:15 - 11:15 on each of the Sundays of Lent, beginning on February 18th. Please let me know if you might be interested in reflecting together on the scriptures and your Lenten journey.

I'm sure by now you have seen or read about or even experienced the seriousness of this flu season. (As I write this, I'm not feeling well and wonder if I may have it ☺) At the urging of parish medical professionals, we advise that people use good judgment in receiving the Eucharist as well as shaking or holding hands. Eucharistic ministers will be using hand sanitizers and it is recommended that all receive the Eucharist in the hand and not on the tongue which is less hygienic. You may want to refrain from receiving from the cup, especially if you have a cold or are not feeling well. Even though it is the custom here to join hands for the Our Father, people should feel free to use the ancient "orans" position with hands raised up and open. Perhaps we can think of this as part of our Lenten discipline.

And BTW, no need to ask me who I want to win the SuperBowl ☺

Sincerely,

**Bob VerEecke S.J.**

For nearly thirty years, *Mercy Center* in the South Bronx has been connected with Xavier parish. From the earliest days, parishioners have helped support Mercy Center's ability to provide free classes, services and programs to a largely immigrant population in the poorest urban Congressional District in the country. Last year over 300 volunteers helped Mercy Center serve over 2500 participants at two locations. Mercy Center's programs include Adult Education and Work Readiness, Immigrant Services, Family Skills & Development, Youth Programs, Social Services, Personal Development and Community Education. Next weekend Maria Brinkmann, a long-time Mercy Center volunteer and Xavier parishioner, will speak after communion about opportunities for involvement and support. You will be invited to learn more after Mass from Mercy Center representatives.

### **LGBTQ Catholic Today/ Shadows and Light**

A look at the new developments that have and are taking place regarding discussions of LGBTQ issues in the Church since the openings provided by Pope Francis, while candidly acknowledging the challenges that remain in order to achieve full incorporation and acceptance in and by the Church.

**Sunday February 11<sup>th</sup>/ 1pm- 2:30pm in  
Keenan Commons in Xavier High School**

*Rev. Bryan Massingale, professor of Theological and  
Social Ethics at Fordham University*



## Mardi Gras Early Bird Ticket Sales EXTENDED through February 11<sup>th</sup>!

We're giving you an extra week to get your discounted tickets to the biggest party of the year!

### MARDI GRAS MASQUERADE

Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

7:00pm—11:00pm

Hurtado Hall

*Cocktails, dinner and dancing!*

ONLINE Silent Auction PLUS a very special live auction event for two fantastic vacation packages!

[www.xaviermission.org/dinnerdance](http://www.xaviermission.org/dinnerdance)

#### TICKETS:

Early Bird (through 02/11—EXTENDED!):

\$80

Individual (after 02/11):

\$90

Patron (includes 2 event tickets and 4 drink tickets):

\$275

#### SPONSORSHIPS (*all include 8 event tickets and 16 drink tickets*):

Royal Court: \$5,000 (full pg ad in program, primary web listing)

Rex: \$2,500 (1/2 pg ad in program, secondary web listing)

Bacchus: \$1,000 (1/4 pg ad in program, tertiary web listing)

*Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for opportunities to receive free drink tickets!*

**TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9<sup>TH</sup>**

**6:00PM IN THE MARY CHAPEL**

## FEMINISM + FAITH IN UNION

On Sunday, January 21, one year after the first women's marches around the world, feminists of all ages and genders gathered for an interfaith blessing in Union Square, while another group inside our church sang, prayed and shared readings honoring women of faith. The two groups joined for a joyous 11:30 liturgy, when marchers from Union Square entered the church carrying signs and banners celebrating feminist energy and truth, and the wonderful diversity of ministries here at SFX.

This event originated with The Women Who Stayed, but was the work of many Xavier ministries, including Peace & Justice, Gay Catholics, and Catholic Lesbians. It was larger than Xavier, though. National Catholic organizations joined us, along with people of other faiths and denominations. We were joined by many visitors who marveled at the energy, openness and welcome that the Xavier community provided. A number of them promised to keep coming back!!! So many people worked to make this event as powerful as it was. They all deserve our thanks for bringing feminist energy, activism and sacrament together.

If you missed the event – or even if you were there – visit our website: [feminism-faith.org](http://feminism-faith.org) or check out the coverage in NCR at <https://www.ncronline.org/news/justice/feminism-and-faith-union-event-celebrates-catholic-feminist-activism>.

If you'd like to help keep the feminist spirit alive at Xavier, let us know at [thewomenwhostayed@gmail.com](mailto:thewomenwhostayed@gmail.com).

### *Catholic Lesbians*

**Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>**

**6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**

**West Room**

“Come out of the cold and warm up playing board games with Catholic Lesbians!” says Gail Kennon, our hostess and leader for the evening. “There’s sure to be good snacks and much laughter and sistership.”

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

## TWO OFFERINGS FROM XAVIER BIBLE STUDY

### THE MINISTRY OF JESUS AS THE EXPANSION OF CONSCIOUSNESS:

*A Lent and Eastertime Bible Study*

This class will meet Wednesday Evenings from February 21-May 16. We will make our way through the Gospel of Mark as we explore Jesus of Nazareth's Good News ministry. The question that will guide our curiosity: In what ways was Jesus seeking to expand the consciousness of all those he encountered? The only prerequisite for this 12-week course is an open mind.

*The suggested fee is \$60. Let's get woke with Jesus!*

### WOMEN'S POWER IN THE BIBLE:

*A Lenten Lunchtime Series*

Thinking of giving up patriarchy for Lent? For those who missed last year's Bible Study of the same name, we're offering five lunchtime sessions. After the 12:05 mass on Wednesdays, we'll explore scriptural passages that introduce us to spiritual power beyond patriarchy and help deepen our Catholic faith. No fee for this series.

To register for either study, please email [XavierBibleStudy@gmail.com](mailto:XavierBibleStudy@gmail.com)

*About the teacher: Lizzie Berne DeGear has been teaching Bible Studies at Xavier since 2002. She has her Masters in Religion and Religious Education from Fordham University, and her PhD in theology, psychoanalytic theory and Hebrew Bible from Union Theological Seminary. Lizzie is certified with the National Association of Catholic Chaplains.*

# Organ Concert

by **DAVID BRIGGS**

Organist Emeritus, GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL, UK



**Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30pm**

**Main Church**

*Fantasia and Fugue in G minor, BWV 542: J S Bach (1685-1750),  
Three Pieces for Musical Clocks: Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809),  
Variations on Greensleeves (2004): David Briggs (b.1962),  
Le banquet céleste: Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992),  
Pièce Héroïque: Cesar Franck (1822-1890),  
Poème Symphonique: L'apprenti sorcier: Paul Dukas (1865-1935)*

# Dance Night for Venezuela

Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM

Keenan Commons

Xavier High School

31 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

(between 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues)

Xavier Peace & Justice Committee  
invites you to an evening of dance to  
benefit the people of Venezuela.

*Please join us as Kathleen Cagnina, Faith  
Pilger, Robert Vereecke, Luz Marina Diaz,  
Janeen Stevens, Stefano Nappi & dancers  
from the Lindy Hop Community perform  
mixtures of several dance styles in an  
informal setting.*

Suggested Donation: \$20

*All proceeds will be used to  
purchase food for the  
Venezuelan people*

Due to the continuing humanitarian crisis in Venezuela,  
people are in desperate need of food and basic supplies.  
Please be generous so we can touch as many lives as  
possible.

*\* Snacks & beverages will  
be available for purchase*



## For Valentine's Day – or Any Day Choose Fair Trade Chocolate – It's Just + Sweet!

As we approach Valentine's Day, the Peace and Justice committee makes these resources for fair trade chocolate available so that our tokens of love and friendship also show our concern for just wages and human dignity: two key pillars of Catholic Social Teaching. In recent years, it has become easier to find fair trade products both online and at traditional retailers. The following is not an exhaustive list, and if you find additional sources, please let us know.

Here are some brands with all or some fair trade products: Divine Chocolate, Little Secrets, Lake Champlain Chocolates, Theo, Justin's, Alter Eco, and Dagoba. In addition, some major chains including Whole foods, Fairway, Trader Joe's and Walgreen's carry some fair trade chocolate and coffee. A number of smaller stores do so as well, so another action you can take to support fair trade initiatives is to tell your local branch of a major chain or a neighborhood business that you would purchase fair trade products if they stocked them. Finally, parishioners will be familiar with the range of products available from equalexchange.coop through our annual fair trade sales. Other helpful websites are serrv.org [which includes fair trade gifts], justcoffee.coop, novica.com [which also includes jewelry and gifts] and amazon.com [add the key words "fair trade" to your product search].

## THE XAVIER IMMIGRATION INITIATIVE THANKS YOU FOR STANDING UP FOR JUSTICE A FEDERAL JUDGE AGREED WITH US AND RELEASED RAVI!

We have been praying and advocating for the release of Ravi Ragbir, Executive Director of the New Sanctuary Coalition. In her January 29 decision to release Ravi, U.S. District Judge Katherine B. Forrest wrote:

*There is, and ought to be in this country, the freedom to say goodbye. That is, freedom to hug one's spouse and children, the freedom to organize the myriad of human affairs that collect over time. It ought not to be—and it has never before been—that those who have lived without incident in this country for years are subjected to treatment we associated with regimes we revile as unjust, regimes where those who have long lived in a country may be taken away without notice from streets, home, and work, and sent away. We are not that country; and woe be the day that we become that country under a fiction that laws allow it. We have a law higher than any that may be so interpreted--and that is our Constitution.*

Heartfelt thanks to everyone who prayed, signed postcards, joined the Jericho Walks or advocated in any other way. Ravi still faces potential deportation, but ICE's practice of summarily deporting immigrants has been declared unconstitutional in a court of law.

For more information on supporting immigrant rights, contact [sanxnyc@gmail.com](mailto:sanxnyc@gmail.com)

## Scriptures & Announced Masses

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:**  
Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39.

**MONDAY~FEAST OF ST. AGATHA:**  
1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13; Mark 6:53-56.

7:45AM THOMAS GORRA (D)  
12:05PM TOM O'MARA (D)

**TUESDAY~FEAST OF ST. PAUL MIKI:**  
1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30; Mark 7:1-13.

7:45AM LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)  
12:05PM JOHN ROGERS (D)

**FIFTH WEDNESDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:** 1 Kings 11:4-13; Mark 7:24-30.

7:45AM HELEN SCHMIDT (D)  
12:05PM DANIEL O'BRIEN (D)

**FIFTH THURSDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:**  
1 Kings 11:4-13; Mark 7:24-30.

7:45AM ROSE SCHULTZ (D)  
12:05PM ROSA CANASTRA (D)

**FIFTH FRIDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:**  
1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19; Mark 7:31-37.

7:45AM NESTER QURANTSAS (D)  
12:05PM MARTIN CRAWFORD (D)

**SATURDAY~FEAST OF ST. SCHOLASTICA:** 1 Kings 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Mark 8:1-10.

12:05PM WILLIAM DELGADO (D)

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:**  
Lev 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45.

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

## 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 [xavieradultgroup@gmail.com](mailto:xavieradultgroup@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 [sfxgcgroup@gmail.com](mailto:sfxgcgroup@gmail.com)

**THE XAVIER IMMIGRATION INITIATIVE:** Advocacy, support, and education to empower immigrants. For more information contact [sanxnyc@gmail.com](mailto:sanxnyc@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)

**THE WOMEN WHO STAYED:** nurtures, empowers, calls forth and celebrates the emotional, intellectual and spiritual growth of women and men at SFX. For more information: [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, [suniko120@nyc.rr.com](mailto:suniko120@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 [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)