



CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

A JESUIT APOSTOLATE

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

Mailing Address: 55 West 15th Street, New York, NY 10011-6801

(Wheelchair Accessible 55 West 15th Street - All Masses are Wheelchair Accessible)

E-Mail Address: StFrancisXavier@sfxavier.org • Website: www.sfxavier.org



From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, listen to him. (Matt 17:5)

SECOND COLLECTION
to benefit Music Ministry

Second Sunday of Lent

February 25, 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

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

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

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, March 3rd

5:00pm Vigil Mass: *Rev. Ronald Amiot, SJ*

Sunday, March 4th

9:00am Mass: *Rev. Daniel Corrou, SJ*

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

5:00pm Mass: *Rev. Daniel Corrou, SJ*

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Patrice Adcroft, Sr Mary Ann Ambrose, Jesus Andaluz, Joseph Cali, Larry Capici, Sr. Ann Citarella, Patrica Cunningham, Elizabeth Cutolo, Kathryn Fisher, Maria Formoso, Daniel Fox, Marian Githens, Thomas Glasson, Juan Garcia, Renata Johnson, Mary Korba, James Leung, Janet Lista, Marian Lizzio, John Marshall, John McLoughlin, Kathy Mulvaney, Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe, Eileen O'Keeffe, 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:

Martin Crawford, Mimi Elenbaas, Mary M. Piderit, Miriam Socorro Solares de Castañeda, Winifredo D. Samoy, 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 Friends,

In our Lenten conversation last Sunday a group of 20 or so parishioners shared our thoughts on the humanity of Jesus, especially focusing on his self-knowledge. It was a wonderful discussion and I think that all have the sense of what is at stake for our faith when we see Jesus as some “superhuman” or “simply “divine” being. (Of course Jesus was “divine” in all senses of that word ☺) This week our discussion will focus on Jesus who is “transfigured” and who again is revealed as the “beloved”. To assist us in our discussions we are using chapters from Elizabeth Johnson’s *Consider Jesus*. One of the most helpful points she makes is to remember that “human nature” is a completely different reality than “divine” nature. Being human, we do have a sense of what we call human nature. A “divine” nature is mystery and beyond our comprehension. I’m looking forward to hearing others’ insights this Sunday at 10:15 in the Xavier High School Chapel.

The Jar of Clay in the sanctuary this week will be filled with white flowers, capturing the image of the transfiguring light. “And his clothes became dazzlingly white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them”. And if I can find one, there will be a walking stick for the journey up the mountain!

To help our prayer in the Lenten Season I share with you a daily Examen related to the readings of each week.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

In the tradition of Ignatius we open our hearts and minds to God’s loving guidance through the spirit of Jesus Christ. Together let us reflect on our day with God as our guide and Jesus walking beside us.

Lord, we realize that everything, even ourselves, is a gift from you.
How have you seen that God is “for” you this day?

Lord, open our eyes and ears to see and hear you.
How have you experienced God’s transfiguring light and love within you?

Lord, show us what has been happening to us and in us this day.
Where and in whose face have you seen God today?

Lord, we are still learning to grow in your love.
What has prevented you from hearing the voice of God today?

Lord, let us look with longing toward the future.
How can you set aside your own plans and desires to walk with Jesus more closely during your Lenten Journey?

Blessings for your Lenten Journey!

Fr. Bob

If you are an adult who has been baptized and received first communion but not yet confirmed, please contact Fr. Bob rverecke@sfxavier.org. There will be an adult confirmation program on Saturdays beginning **April 21st**. Time (TBD). Confirmation service is **May 20th at 9am**.

EL RINCÓN LATINO

Primera Reunión del Ministerio Latino

Domingo, 4 de Marzo

En La Sala Oeste

3:30pm

Si vas a venir a esta reunión, comunícate con Stephanie Fuentes al correo electrónico sfuentes@sfxavier.org.



Mardi Gras Auction Now ONLINE!!

Can't join us for the Mardi Gras Masquerade?
Want to get a jump on the silent auction?

This year we've put our silent auction ONLINE!

Starting **Saturday, February 17th**, you can start bidding on some AMAZING items, including:

- Tickets to U2, Billy Joel, and Bon Jovi!
- Beautiful vacation homes in upstate New York!
- Tickets to the Broadway show "Come From Away" with backstage passes!
- Tickets to The Daily Show with Trevor Noah!
- One-of-a-kind hand crafted jewelry!
- A private shopping event!
- And more!

For those who will be attending the Mardi Gras Masquerade, registering now will allow you to take part in the bidding via your mobile phone on the night of the event!

For those not attending, you will be able to bid online until the end of the auction on March 3.

SO WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
REGISTER NOW AND START BIDDING!
[www.biddingforgood.com/
XavierMission2018MardiGras](http://www.biddingforgood.com/XavierMission2018MardiGras)

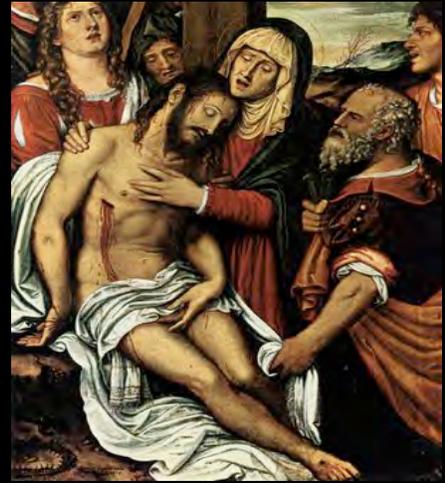
And don't forget to get your tickets at:
www.xaviermission.org/dinnerdance

This Lenten Season volunteer at the Coughlin Men's Shelter. Volunteer as a Primetime or Overnight host or make a meal for the guests. For more information please email *Christina Bowman* at cbowman@xaviermission.org

No Greater Love

Presented by *the Xavier Company*

The
Passion
of
Christ
in
drama,
song &



DIRECTOR AND CHOREOGRAPHER: CAROL FERRONE

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: GERARD DeMAN, JR.

PLAYWRIGHT: JANEEN STEVENS

FEATURING: Pasqualino Beltempo, Nikki Casseri*, Dorothy Dobkowski, Daniel Gonzalez, Diane Meck, Taylor Sumner, Brandon Schraml*, and Sam Wiegiers
Tony Bartoli, Percussionist

**Courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

Saturday March 10th at 7:30 pm
St. Francis Xavier Church
46 West 16th St. NYC 10011
Ramp access: 55 West 15th St.

[Donations Accepted](#)



XAVIER in Jamaica!

Ministry on the Margins

Do you have any interest in working with children; volunteering abroad; getting away from NYC for a week; or what it's like to sip a Red Stripe in the Caribbean Ocean in November?

If so, email Andrew Romano (romano.andrew@gmail.com). We are putting together a team to work with orphaned and abandoned children in Jamaica this Fall through Mustard Seed Communities (www.mustardseed.com).

First though, we'd like to gauge the level of interest as there is room for only 20 people on a given trip.

ALL are welcome

This came about as Andrew has worked with Mustard Seed for over 10 years, and Fr. Bob has worked through a Jesuit parish there as well. Both would like to share their love of Jamaica (and this work) with you!

ABOUT DAVID BRIGGS

1) Tell us about growing up and how that led you to make the organ a career. One of my earliest memories is of sitting on the organ bench with my grandfather who was Organist of a large anglo-catholic church in Birmingham UK for over forty years. He was a rather well-known liturgical improviser and I remember being blown away by all the stops, the buttons and the sheer sound of the instrument ... especially the Pedal Trombone! When I was 9 years old I became a choirboy at Birmingham Cathedral and fell in love with the sound of the instrument even more. Sometimes I used to be allowed to improvise the voluntaries after Friday Even-songs - I hate to imagine what they sounded like - probably rather loud and definitely not overflowing in le bon goût! I knew from that age, though, that I really wanted to be an organist.

2) What do you feel differentiates you from other organists? I remember the great British Organist Peter Hurford (who famously founded the St Albans International Organ Festival and also was the first Brit to record the complete works of Bach, on mechanical action) gave me some very salient advice when I was appointed as Organist of Gloucester in 1994 - "take my tip, my boy, make sure that you do something which no-body else is doing". I think it's rather fun that not all organists play the same repertoire and sound the same! I've always loved orchestral music (especially from the late nineteenth century) and so have made a bit of a niche in transcribing the symphonies of Elgar, Tchaikovsky, Mahler and other works by composers like Maurice Ravel and J S Bach. I've also always loved to improvise, and probably about 1/3 of my concerts are silent movie improvisation concerts. I love being inspired by the visual image and find it very liberating.

3) What excites you most about playing the organ? These days I only play music which I'm really passionate about. One of many wonderful aspects about my job is

that I get to perform on some of the world's very finest instruments. Each time you rehearse you have to make very quick decisions, and foster a symbiotic relationship with the instrument. Concert pianists maintain that each Steinway is totally different, but I think organists are obliged to be even more flexible. It's a two-way thing - a fine instrument can influence the way you play a particular piece, but you also have to find a way to communicate your own musical voice. The most important thing is to use your ears and to imbue each measure with rhythmic energy and expressive character.

4) What (if any) are common misconceptions about the organ/organ music? The biggest misconception is that it is boring, grey, and something which people used to try to talk over while meeting people after church. I believe, very strongly, that the organ has the power to move people in a unique and deep way. It's something about vibrations and resonance. My passion in life is to give newcomers their first taste of this marvelous feeling. Once it's in the bloodstream, it's rather hard to shake off. It can truly change peoples' lives.

5) What would you say to someone who is about to attend their first organ concert? Well, it depends on the instrument and the player! The ideal scenario is that each member of the audience should feel as moved, stimulated and energized as they would after a symphony concert, or a concert by a great choir, chamber ensemble, pianist

6) Other than playing the organ, what are some interests of yours? I used to fly in my thirties and am now rather addicted to the App called 'Flightradar24', on which you can track the flight plan of every commercial aircraft in the skies. Living in New York City, with some of the busiest airspace anywhere on the planet, it's surprising I ever get any work done!

Organ Concert



DAVID BRIGGS
Free Will Offering

Tuesday, February 27th
7:30pm
Main Church



**SUPPORT FARMWORKER WOMEN
JOIN THE
FREEDOM FAST AND MARCH
IN SUPPORT OF THE FAIR FOOD
PROGRAM**

The Fair Food Program, launched in 2011, put an end to generations of sexual violence against farmworker women. Many retail food companies, and major fast-food brands, signed on. Wendy's, however, declined to sign on and shifted their tomato purchases from Florida to Mexico, where women are not protected.

From March 11-15, Immokalee farm workers and their consumer allies will be fasting outside the offices of Wendy's board chairman to urge Wendy's to change their policy, and to protest the human rights abuses faced by produce workers in Mexico.

The Freedom Fast will be from 8 am to 7 pm each day, culminating in a march from Dag Hammarskjold Plaza on 3/15 at 5pm.

If you are interested in joining a group from Xavier visiting and praying with the fasters, or marching on the 15th, or if you simply want more information, please email us at: xavierpeaceandjustice@gmail.com

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD: *Led by the LGBT Ministries
6:30 PM in the Main Church.*

FRIDAY, MARCH 2ND: *Led by the Social Justice Study
Group - 6:30 PM in the Mary Chapel.*

FRIDAY, MARCH 16TH: *Led by the Lay Spirits -
"Praying the Stations of Mercy with Pope Francis" -
6:30 PM in the Main Church.*

FRIDAY, MARCH 23RD: *"A Soul's Journey With The
Way Of The Cross," written by Ann Suriano; sponsored
by The Women Who Stayed and The Xavier Company
- 6:30 PM in the Mary Chapel.*

JOIN AMERICA'S BISHOPS

CALL-IN FOR PROTECTION FOR DREAMERS

The leaders of the USCCB are calling on Catholics to speak out on Monday, February 26 in support of DREAMERS. Their statement reads, in part:

"We are deeply disappointed that the Senate was not able to come together in a bipartisan manner to secure legislative protection for the Dreamers. With the March 5th deadline looming, we ask once again that Members of Congress show the leadership necessary to find a just and humane solution for these young people, who daily face mounting anxiety and uncertainty.

"We are also announcing a National Catholic Call-In Day to Protect Dreamers.... asking the faithful across the nation to call their Members of Congress on Monday, February 26, to protect Dreamers from deportation, to provide them a path to citizenship, and to avoid any damage to existing protections for families and unaccompanied minors in the process.

"Our faith compels us to stand with the vulnerable, including our immigrant brothers and sisters. We have done so continually, but we must show our support and solidarity now in a special way. Now is the time for action."

To contact your legislators, go to <https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials>

For more information on supporting immigrant rights, contact sanxnyc@gmail.com

CATHOLIC LESBIANS

Friday, March 9th

6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.~ West Room

Anne Duquette and GH will give us the history of the Catholic Worker and share their firsthand experience of living and breathing Dorothy Day's Mary House. Please bring a snack or beverage to share for the evening's presentation, and contact SFXWomen@aol.com or (917) 297-6804 for more information

Scriptures & Announced Masses

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT:

Gen 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31b-34;
Mark 9:2-10.

SECOND MONDAY OF LENT:

Dan 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38.

7:45AM RYAN HAYES (D)
12:05PM PEGGY HAYES (D)

SECOND TUESDAY OF LENT:

Isa 1:10, 16-20; Matt 23:1-12.

7:45AM LILLIAN GALEA (D)
12:05PM MARY CICALE (D)

SECOND WEDNESDAY OF LENT: Jer 18:18-20; Matt 20:17-28.

7:45AM GODO FREDO ORDONA (D)
12:05PM ALICE AGRO (D)

SECOND THURSDAY OF LENT:

Jer 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31.

7:45AM MELISSA IRELAND (D)
12:05PM WANG CHENGHUA (D)

SECOND FRIDAY OF LENT:

Gen 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matt 21:33-43, 45-46.

7:45AM JOSEPH ELWOOD (D)
12:05PM NANNI SCIOLLA (D)

SECOND SATURDAY OF LENT:

Mic 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.

12:05PM LUIS CONDE (D)

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT:

Exod 20:1-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25; John 2:13-25.

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

XAVIER YOGA FOR ALL

Tuesdays from 6:00pm-7:00pm
in the Main Church.

Classes are donation based. All are welcome.

For more information: ko@nyyogalife.com

Ongoing Parish Happenings

ABILITY XAVIER: Celebrating persons with disabilities. Contact abilityxaviernewyork@gmail.com

XAVIER ADULT GROUP: Once a month we have informative meetings or attend interesting events around the city. Contact xaviersharingandlearninggroup@gmail.com

CATHOLIC LESBIANS: Ministry since 1993, meets 2nd Friday of each month, 6 p.m., West Room, SFXWomen@aol.com, (917) 297-6804.

EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT GROUP:

Contact Katherine Cleary, 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

GAY CATHOLICS: Men meet in a caring and affirming environment on the first and third Fridays, 7pm Mary Chapel. Contact sfxgcgroup@gmail.com

THE XAVIER IMMIGRATION INITIATIVE: Advocacy, support, and education to empower immigrants. For more information contact sanxnyc@gmail.com

INTERFAITH COMMITTEE: works toward ending religious discrimination and persecution, through prayer, education and other activities. Contact Jose Ramon, 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

LITURGICAL COMMITTEES: See website or Contact Luz, LMDiaz@sfxavier.org

MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND: To become a volunteer or arrange visits, Contact James Fox, 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.

SPIRITUAL MINISTRIES: Offers spiritual programs, including spiritual direction. Contact Rose Alloca, allocarose@gmail.com or Marie Bannister, 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

ZEN MEDITATION GROUP: Mondays at 7pm. Newcomers welcome. Contact Peggy & Paul schubertnyc@gmail.com

XAVIER MISSION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

CLOTHING ROOM: 2nd & 4th Sundays, contact Ann Mary: xmClothingRoom@gmail.com

FOOD PROGRAMS: Every Sunday soup kitchen and 2nd Saturday food pantry, contact Christine: xmFoodPrograms@gmail.com

L-STEP: Spring and Fall semesters, contact J: xmLSTEP@gmail.com

SHELTER: Every night, contact Jim: xmShelter@gmail.com