



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



And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world. (John 3:19)

SECOND COLLECTION
to benefit Catholic Relief Services

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 11, 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 17th

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

Sunday, March 18th

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

11:30am Mass: *Rev. Samuel Sawyer, SJ*

5:00pm Mass: *Rev. Robert VerEecke, 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, Fausto Felipe,
Kathryn Fisher, Maria Formoso, Daniel Fox,
Thomas Glasson, Juan Garcia, Renata Johnson,
Mary Korba, James Leung, Marian Lizzio,
John Marshall, John McLoughlin, Kathy Mulvaney,
Terence J. Murphy, Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe, Eileen O'Keefe,
Joel Rivera, Rey Santos, Vanessa Santos, Rocco Scura,
Anthony Sellitti, Denise Stewart, Michael Termini,
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, Marian Githens,
Janet Lista, 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 Parishioners,

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is Laetare or Rejoice Sunday. If we take the scriptures of this weekend to “heart”, there are many reasons for rejoicing. Paul’s letter to the Ephesians reminds us that God who is rich in mercy and love has shown us the immeasurable riches of grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. He goes on to say that we are God’s “handiwork”. We are meant to be molded and shaped in the image of Jesus Christ. All of this gives us reason to “rejoice”. Since the liturgical color of Laetare is “rose”, the jar of clay will be filled with “roses” symbolizing “joy, beauty, and a “heart-felt” response of love on God’s part. “For God so loved the world...”

IGNATIAN EXAMEN

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.
In what ways do you see yourself as part of God’s handiwork?

Lord, open our eyes and ears to be more honest with ourselves.
How has God’s love for you invited a deeper appreciation of who you are in God’s eyes?

Lord, show us what has been happening to us and in us this day.
How is God’s Spirit working within you today? How is God removing the obstacles that get in the way of your seeing God’s love for you?

Lord, we are still learning to grow in your love.
How can you participate more fully in building the Kingdom of God?

Lord, let us look with longing toward the future.
How can you love and serve the Lord and others this lent?

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**.

Lent and Easter 2018

Palm Sunday

March 24th ~ 5:00pm Mass

March 25th ~ 9:00am, 11:30am and 5:00pm Masses

Reconciliation Monday

March 26th ~ 3:00pm-8:00pm

What Wondrous Love is this?

“The Seven Last Words”

March 28th ~ 7:30pm

Holy Thursday:

Mass of the Lord's Supper

March 29th ~ 7:30pm

Good Friday

March 30th

12:00pm ~ Stations of the Cross

3:00pm ~ Solemn Liturgy of the

Lord's Passion with Veneration of the Cross

Great Vigil of Easter

March 31st ~ 7:30pm

Easter Sunday

April 1st

9:00am, 11:30am and 1:15pm Masses

The Academy of St. Joseph is a Private, Catholic school serving students in grades Pre-K through Eighth-Grade. We are still accepting applications for the fall of 2018-2019. The school empowers and challenges students with a curriculum based on the arts, sciences, and the humanities integrated with the values of the Catholic Church. The Academy fosters the intellectual, spiritual, social, emotional and physical development of students while instilling in them the highest standards of character, competence, and compassion in a joyful, welcoming community. For more information please visit our website <https://www.academyofsaintjoseph.org> or contact the Director of Admissions, *Torsie Judkins* at tjudkins@aosj.us or 212-243-5420.



Young Adults
CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

Hello ALL Twenty & Thirty-Somethings! Join us for our monthly meeting as we enter into the Fourth Sunday of the Lent Season.

We will offer and discuss various alternatives to “giving up” chocolate or soda...come learn about a social justice cause or a meaningful action you could “give-in” that will nourish the spirit and soul.

Sunday, March 11th, immediately following the 5:00pm mass in the West Room. We welcome ALL... single, married, LGBTQ, and straight. sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com



AVIER 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!

CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK AND ST. JOSEPH



with the Xavier Adult Group
Friday, March 16th at 1:00pm
West Room

This popular event is an afternoon of fun and food. This year we are having a church scavenger hunt and our annual auction of donated items. Bring a dish to share, a poem, a joke, or your favorite story. All are welcome.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



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.*

March is Women's History Month

Black Catholic Sisters in the United States
A Historical Reflection by
Shannen Dee Williams, Ph.D.

Black Sisters in the 19th Century

In 1824, black women became the first representatives of the African-American community to embrace the religious state in the U.S. Catholic Church. Barred from joining most white sisterhoods due to anti-black racism and racial exclusionary admissions policies, black women first entered religious life through the establishment of all-black congregations.

Between 1824 and 1889, at least six all black sisterhoods were organized in the United States. They were the all-black Sisters of Loretto in Kentucky (1824-1824); the Oblate Sisters of Providence in Baltimore, Maryland (1829-present); the Sisters of the Holy Family in New Orleans, Louisiana (1842-present); the Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes in New Orleans, Louisiana (1883-1.1920s/e.1930s); the Sisters of the Third Order of Saint Francis in Convent, Louisiana (1888-1913); and the Sisters of the Third Order of Saint Francis in Savannah, Georgia (1889-1910). Of these six communities, all were founded in the South, where the vast majority of the nation's black Catholics lived and labored, and all were (or slated to be) teaching communities.

Though African-American entry into historically white Catholic sisterhoods was overwhelmingly restricted to the post-World War II era, there were some notable exceptions in the nineteenth century. Between 1824 and 1885, at least eighteen U.S.- born black women entered white congregations in and outside of the United States. The majority of these women were lightskinned and deliberately sought to pass for white. In three known nineteenth century cases in which white orders admitted or assisted in the novitiate training of black women, who could not pass for white, those pioneering sisters, like the nation's first black priests, did not receive their spiritual training on American soil. Instead, Frederica Law of Savannah, Georgia, Frances Johnson of Baltimore, Maryland, and Mathilda Beasley of Savannah, Georgia (by way of New Orleans, Louisiana) all traveled to Europe to undergo their respective novitiate training in the early to mid-1880s.

Visit www.sfxavier.org/the-women-who-stayed for the full article. Every week for the month of March we will highlight the history of women.



HOW SAFE ARE THE WORKERS WHO PICK YOUR TOMATOES?

YOU CAN HELP END SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

On Wednesday, March 14th, at 4:30pm, representatives from Jesuit parishes and other organizations will be standing in solidarity and praying with the Immokalee farm workers and their allies who are in New York for a Freedom Fast.

The fast, happening outside Park Avenue office of Wendy's board chairman, has been organized to urge Wendy's to join other fast food chains and adopt the Fair Food Program (FFP), rather than move their tomato production from Florida to Mexico, where workers' safety and rights are not protected by the FFP. Women agricultural workers are especially vulnerable to sexual abuse and harassment, and need the protection that FFP offers.

The Freedom Fast, from March 11-15, culminates in a march from Dag Hammarskjold Plaza to the Trian Partners offices on Park Avenue on Thursday, March 15, at 5pm.

If you are interested in joining a group from Xavier visiting and praying with the fasters on the 14th, or marching on the 15th, or if you simply want more information, please email us at: xavierpeaceandjustice@gmail.com



WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DACA DEADLINE?

DON'T LET DREAMERS GET LOST IN THE CHAOS!

As of this writing, the DACA deadline of March 5th had passed without action from Congress, but the Supreme Court has blocked the Trump administration from ending the program, at least while court challenges continue.

Congress needs to come up with a permanent solution for the DREAMERS, not push the immigration debate past the November elections, leaving nearly 700,000 DREAMERS in uncertainty.

Urge lawmakers to keep DACA and Immigration Reform on the legislative agenda. Find information on contacting your legislators at: <https://networklobby.org/actnow/>

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

CABRINI IMMIGRANT SERVICES NYC HONORS COLLEAGUES AT ANNUAL BENEFIT

The Benefit Dinner features a cocktail hour from 6:00pm - 7:00pm with a performance by Grammy Award nominee *Hector Martignon and the Foreign Affair Trio*. Dinner, dessert and award presentations are from 7:00 - 9:30. A raffle of donated items will benefit the Family Trips Program which coordinates recreational activities for low-income immigrant children.

Cabrini Immigrant Services of NYC, Inc. is a sponsored ministry of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Located at 139 Henry Street in Manhattan, it has served and advocated for immigrants since 1999, with a team of professionals and volunteers who thereby help build a stronger community for all New Yorkers.

For more information contact
Ella Nimmo 212-791-4590
ellanimmommo@cis-nyc.org

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

Scriptures & Announced Masses

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT:

2 Chron 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2:4-10; John 3:14-21.

FOURTH MONDAY OF LENT:

Isa 65:17-21; John 4:43-54.

7:45AM FAMILY OF ANGELA RUGEN
12:05PM SISTER MARYANN DIRR (D)

FOURTH TUESDAY OF LENT:

Ezek 47:1-9, 12; John 5:1-16.

7:45AM LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)
12:05PM BENJAMIN GONZALES (D)

FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF LENT:

Isa 49:8-15; John 5:17-30.

7:45AM RALPH CHIARELLO (D)
12:05PM NORA DONAHUE (D)

FOURTH THURSDAY OF LENT:

Exod 32:7-14; John 5:31-47.

7:45AM ROBERT VEREecke (L)
12:05PM ARMAND CIFRA-ASERADO (D)

FOURTH FRIDAY OF LENT:

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30.

7:45AM ROBERT VEREecke (L)
12:05PM SEAN COSTELLOE (D)

FOURTH SATURDAY OF LENT:

Jer 11:18-20; John 7:40-53.

12:05PM LUIS CONDE (D)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT:

Jer 31:31-34; Heb 5:7-9; John 12:20-33.

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

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

Ongoing Parish Happenings

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

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

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

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

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