



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

“God will work to make us more beautiful than gold, more precious than silver”

SECOND COLLECTION
to benefit Religious Retirement

Second Sunday of Advent

December 9, 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 (Communion Service), 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. Daniel Corrou, S.J. (Acting Pastor) - 206
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 (Assistant for Financial Planning)
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; Ron Oberdick;

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, December 15th

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

Sunday, December 16th

9:00am Mass: *Rev. Thomas Feely, SJ*

11:30am Mass: *Rev. James Miracky, SJ*

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

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

*Anita Ibarra Advincula, Mary Jane Brown, Michael Carroll,
Dan Clarius, Kay Quinn Cohen, Bobby Cook, Jesús Dabu,
Isaac Falci, Maria Formoso, Kathleen Friel, Juan Garcia,
Ann Grant, James Levaggi, Manny Lopez, Robyn Luisi,
Bertha Mercedes, Joan O'Brien, Olha O'quinn, Marcy Parlow
Pomerance, Eileen O'Keeffe, Brigid Scott, Ava Sellitti, Anthony
Sellitti, Jeff Stevenson, Michael Termini, Dr. Daniel Tynan,
Carl Wassmann, Diane Weyers, Clint Winant,
David Woolwine*

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

*Adolfo O. Agra, Tim Becker, Vilma Costello, Kristina Esposito,
John Kevin Cloonan, Danilo Cuilao, Al Hurley Jr.,
Anna Jimenez, Eusebia Marzan, Aurea V. Tomines,
Ricardo Vales, Jason Vermonty*

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 Desk of Fr. Dan

This week we welcome Elisa Balestra, who has been at Xavier since 1999 and serves on the Parish Finance Council to share her remarks from each of the masses last week.

For almost five years, I have been a member of Xavier's Finance Council, and on behalf of them I want to thank you for the support you have extended to our entire Xavier family over the last year. YOU are the Parish and your gifts, whether it is your time or your money, have helped define the remarkable, dynamic, lay-centric community that is Xavier. It is that time of the year when Jim Martinez and Nancy Fava lend their talents in producing our annual report. (We have copies in the church.) I want to pause here – and take note of the fact that we are a local parish that publishes a 16 page, ready for audit annual report highlighting the life and activity that takes place here - we are engaged locally and internationally.

Thank you for your gifts – thank you for allowing them to flourish in their varied and generous forms: participation within the ministries, groups, as lectors and Eucharistic ministers, volunteers at the Welcome Table, the choir, the bell choir, and so many more. We are truly an anomaly in 2018; the level of programming here is typically seen at academic institutions. In addition to giving thanks for your support, I am also here to ask that it continue. Perhaps one of the most powerful gifts for me, one that I didn't realize until I recently lost someone very dear, is intrinsically woven into the fabric of the Xavier community. Our parish provides a valuable space for discernment and the opportunity for dialogue on what it means to be a part of the body of Christ. You are welcoming of outsiders, those who question and those who have been and might still be angry, struggling with their relationship with God. I know how challenging and sometimes sad it has been here over the last few months. But what is remarkable in both grief and injury is that Christ is with you, along with the love that comes from the community - the community we believe to be the Body of Christ, the Xavier community, which provides its own new opportunities for healing.

So when I ask you to consider supporting Xavier weekly or monthly with a gift, however you would like to do it – I am asking myself to consider this as well, and pause to examine what it takes to keep the lights on, to keep staff here to lock up at the end of a group meeting or a class, or at the end of your event. Our donations support a shared practice, blending the voices of the laity with the liturgy – together we are a strong and powerful group; we have a choice to continue to engage with these questions, to reflect, to listen, to take action, to do the small things we can - here at Xavier.

May I remind you that we are an exceptional Parish, at a pivotal point in the timeline for the larger Catholic Church – we have an opportunity, at a local level, to further refine and define what is the meaning of the Body of Christ, continue to be a beacon and expand our important and measured voice in future challenging times for the Church. We are an intentional spiritual community – I see it every time I come in contact with you. We are worth the investment.

Finally, please consider joining your fellow parishioners in giving through Faith Direct, or through thoughtful consideration, making a regular commitment to Xavier so we can continue to grow and develop as a beacon for many. Help us to continue creating a vibrant space to find peace and examine an active faith. As I can attest, we do this not only for ourselves but for those who have yet to understand they need us.

ADVENT SEASON

Saturday, December 8th

An Advent Carol

7:30pm~Mary Chapel

Wednesday, December 12th

Feast of Guadalupe

7:00pm~Mary Chapel

Sunday, December 16th

Lessons and Carols

7:00pm~Main Church

Monday, December 17th

Advent Reconciliation

4:00pm-8:00pm~Main Church

Monday, December 24th

Christmas Eve

Family Mass with Christmas Pageant: 4:00pm

(Carols begin at 3:15pm)

Mass: 11:00pm(Carols begin at 10:00pm)

Tuesday, December 25th

Christmas Day

Masses: 9:00am & 11:30am

Wednesday, January 1st

New Years Day

Mass: 11:30am



A TIME OF PRAYER

"In the Style of the Taizé Community"

Friday, December 14th 6:00 PM
in the Mary Chapel

LESSONS AND CAROLS:

SHARING THE JOY

Come join us for our annual festival of contemporary readings, music and traditional carols celebrating the season.

*Featuring the St. Francis Xavier Choir, the Bell Choir, and The Xavier Players and Schola
John Uehlein, Director of Music Ministries*

Sunday, December 16th
at 7:00pm in the Main Church

Admission Free!

Home made Christmas cookie reception to follow!

CAN YOU BAKE COOKIES?

Bakers sought for our annual Lessons and Carols program on Dec. 16th at 7PM. Wonderful contemporary readings with many of your favorite Christmas carols will be represented. Wouldn't you like your cookies to be eaten along side these great readings and carols? We are looking for 30 individuals to commit to baking 2 dozen cookies (or other baked goods). If you think you can help out, please email John Uehlein in the parish office at juehlein@sfxavier.org or if you don't have email, call John at 646-573-0099. Start softening up the butter!!!!



(PS: leftovers will go to the shelter.)

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT IS PREPARING

Prepare yourself to experience the miracle of Christmas continuing in you: the living presence of Christ in our midst. The preparation requires an openness to let God work in us. Let us make room for God's work. Like a refiner's fire, God will work to make us more beautiful than gold, more precious than silver. In the sanctuary, you will find a container with labels along with silver and gold markers. Please write your name on one of the labels and deposit it in the vase.

SFX Environment Ministry

Boris Cortez, a Xavier High School student, started researching the impact of palm oil production last summer after seeing one of our films that had mentioned it. As you'll see from his information below, there are many other names for palm oil ingredients. With your holiday shopping, try to avoid products that contain palm oil (bar soaps etc.). Here is what Boris found:

EFFORTS NEEDED ON PALM OIL

To be responsible consumers, we should be aware of the impact of palm oil cultivation: Research the effects of palm oil production and its consequences: It's linked to massive deforestation, animal cruelty, climate change, Indigenous rights and abuses, AND it's bad for your health (Cardiovascular). Here's a good article: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/may/10/palm-oil-orangutans-multinationals-promises-deforestation> and here is a recent one by the NYTimes: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/20/magazine/palm-oil-borneo-climate-catastrophe.html>

Sign up with www.Sumofus.org if you haven't yet, and sign as many petitions related to this as possible. SumOfUs recently persuaded the global palm oil regulator, the RSPO, to strengthen its rules against deforestation and worker exploitation.

To avoid consuming palm oil, try to cook your own meals as much as possible. Use other types of oil such as olive oil, coconut oil, sesame oil, avocado oil, etc Stay away from processed foods and check if the food you buy uses palm oil: Source: <https://www.travelfordifference.com/list-palm-oil-free-products/>.

Start reading the labels on what you buy, eat, drink, etc. Look at your labels for Chips (Doritos), Cookies (Oreos), Shampoos, Soaps, Detergents, Ice cream, Lipstick and other makeup products → <https://www.worldwildlife.org/pages/which-everyday-products-contain-palm-oil>

More info on palm oil products: <https://greenglobaltravel.com/how-to-avoid-products-with-palm-oil/>

THE PASTORAL COUNCIL INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN XAVIER'S

ANNUAL CENSUS AND REGISTRATION DRIVE

In an effort to better understand who makes up the Xavier community, the Pastoral Council is conducting its annual parish census and registration drive at all Masses this weekend.

-During Mass, everyone in attendance will be asked to complete a very simple "census" on an index card to be provided in the pews.

-After Mass, Pastoral Council members will be on hand to provide information about how to register as a parishioner. There are many benefits to registration: for example, eligibility for membership on the Pastoral Council requires that one be registered as a Xavier parishioner for at least two years. We have found that many people think they are registered but they are not. We can check on that for you today, too.

Thank you for your participation!



L-STEP GRADUATION THIS WEDNESDAY!

Wednesday, December 12th, 6:15pm
Church of St. Francis Xavier, East Transept
Reception to follow in Hurtado Hall



On Friday our graduates will share with you their personal experiences of homelessness, trauma, addiction and hardship, and their hopes and dreams for the future. This is truly one of the most moving and memorable events that we have here at Xavier.

OPEN STUDIO

Sneak peek of new work for the exhibit *“Delirious New York”* opening uptown in January, 2019, and a chance to view two works in progress- “Encarnación” and “La Cena”. The dates for this open studio will be **December 9th**, from **10:30am- 5:00pm** in the choir loft.

Art Prints will be on sale and 10% of all proceeds will be donated to the Church of St. Francis Xavier.

PEACE AND JUSTICE FAIR TRADE HOLIDAY SALE

THIS WEEKEND

After all Masses in the back of the church

Find goods that are all sourced from Fair Trade companies that will make perfect gifts!

Please support us as we work to build long-term trade partnerships that are economically just and environmentally sound while empowering workers with every purchase! Proceeds from the sale will benefit the Sisters of Charity, Thrive for Life Prison Project NYC, the Peace and Justice programs and LifeWay Network, one of only two organizations in the NY Metro area providing safe housing for women survivors of human trafficking.

ALL SALES WILL BE CASH OR CHECK ONLY

On **Wednesday December 12th at 6:30pm** at the Xavier High School Chapel, please join The Women Who Stayed and our guest, Katie Mahon, co-author of *The Miracle Chase*, *Three Women*, *Three Miracles* and *a Ten Year Journey of Discovery and Friendship*, for a discussion about miracles. Katie will share the extraordinary stories at the heart of their “Chase” and the many discoveries they made about the nature of miracles along the way. There will also be plenty of time for Q&A, discussion, and fellowship. We look forward to seeing you there!

HOLIDAY CARD SALE TO BENEFIT HONDURAS PROJECT

The Honduras Companion Communities Project will again offer a selection of Alternative Giving holiday cards for sale after all the masses during the weekends of December 9, 16 and 23. The cards provide a way for you to remember friends and loved ones while contributing to the local community projects in Honduras which Xavier and its parishioners have supported for the last 19 years. This is our major fund raising event for sustaining our efforts with several local community groups in Honduras, a country where the challenges of daily life in an environment of high crime, lack of opportunity and government corruption have led to the formation of caravans of people searching for a better life for themselves and their children.

Again this year, our cards are artwork created by children who have lived in Casa Corazon, the home operated by the Sisters of Mercy for children who are HIV+. Aside from printing expenses, you can be sure that all the proceeds from the sale are used for continuing the scholarships we have been providing for secondary school students so that perhaps they can find satisfactory employment opportunities and contribute to the development of their country rather than leaving in caravans.

As always, thank you for your support !

Catholic Lesbians & Friends—All Are Welcome!

16TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS WRAPPING PARTY

Friday, December 14th
6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. Larkin/Hurtado Hall

24 kids! 5 days! Bring Christmas cheer to children from Picture the Homeless, Community Voices Heard, Life Experience & Faith Sharing, and STEPS to End Family Violence. Contact SFXWrap@gmail.com or (929) 333-5011 for one, two or three kids' names, and bring your gifts to the wrapping party.



Scriptures & Announced Masses

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT:

Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6.

SECOND MONDAY OF ADVENT: Isa 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26.

7:45AM: WILLIAM YEUNGLING (D)
12:05PM JOHN CORRIGAN (D)

SECOND TUESDAY OF ADVENT: Isa 40:1-11; Matt 18:12-14.

7:45AM: LUCEIL CARROLL (D)
12:05PM KATE GALEONE (D)

WEDNESDAY~FEAST OF OUR LADY

GUADALUPE: Zech 2:14-17; Luke 1:39-47.

7:45AM: FAMILY EILEEN
FITZPATRICK DESALME (L)
12:05PM: LILLIAN WALL (D)

THURSDAY~FEAST OF ST. LUCY: Isa 4:1:13-20; Matt 11:11-15.

7:45AM: MANUEL FREYRE RODIL (D)
12:05PM: ELVIRA WINTERS (D)

FRIDAY~FEAST OF ST. JOHN THE

CROSS: Isa 48:17-19; Matt 11:16-19.

7:45AM: DENNIS BUCKLEY (D)
12:05PM: EUSEBIA MARZAN (D)

SECOND SATURDAY OF ADVENT: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Matt 17:9a, 10-13.

12:05PM MARY O'HARA (D)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT:

Zeph 3:14-18a; Isa 12:2-6; Phil 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18.

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

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

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 (offsite July & August), SFXWomen@aol.com (929) 333-5011.

EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT GROUP: Contact Katherine Cleary, krcoff5th@netzero.com

THE ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY: promotes care for all of God's creation, and follows the message of Laudato Si. For more information refer to the link on the parish website under Outreach Programs or contact: SFXEnvironmentMinistry@gmail.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

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 Marie Bannister, mariebannister1@gmail.com or Gerry Moss, gerrymoss@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

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

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

XAVIER YOGA: Tuesdays at 6pm. Open to all levels. Contact Ko_ko@nyyogalife.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