

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 27, 2019



Stewardship
Share with love



Devote Time



Share Talent



Give Treasure



A way of life

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday, October 28 Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles	8:30 am	Verona Whitmore	The Van Gorp Family
Tuesday, October 29	8:30 am	Robert McDonnell Marie Westhoff	The McDonnell Family The Barry Family
Wednesday, October 30	8:30 am	Bernice Lipse	The Westerhoff Family
Thursday, October 31	8:30 am	Mary Stukel	Tom & Lucile Nichol
Friday, November 1 All Saints Day	8:30 am 7:30 pm	Balfe, Creahan, and Parlon Families All Saints Mass	Pam Oplawski
Saturday, November 2 All Souls Day	9:00 am 9:30 am 1:00 pm 3:00 pm 4:15 pm 5:00 pm	No Intentions Sacrament of Reconciliation Wedding~Sarah Sipek & Charlie Lawler Wedding~Marissa Olszewski & Jim Hermle Sacrament of Reconciliation Chris Grech John Kelly	The Grech Family Pat & Tom Lester
Sunday, November 3	7:30 am 9:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 pm 6:00 pm	Mary T. McGivern Richard Martin People of the Parish Joseph Sutton Eleanor O'Connor Don Schwendner People of the Parish	The Carroll Family The Filbin Family The Driscoll Family Dolores Lewis Dolores Lewis

Please Pray For...

James Boardman
Jay Carroll
Chili Challender
Anthony Dina
Blake Donegan
Pat Eaton
Lily Fielding
Baby Collins Fitzpatrick
Peter Ganzel
Adam Gawrysh
Lilli Gregory
Wilson Gregory
Brian Hahn
Patricia Hassler
Linda Hillsman
Rose Ilo
Mary J.
Jane Jacobsen
Theresa Kandall
Benny Kilman
Marilyn King
Jerry Kolman
Lou Ellen Krueger

Bernard LeBeau
Marian Lucas
Emmett Miller
Patrick Morgan
Mike Morrison
Bernice Niemiec
Arnold Oppenheim
Jane O'Reilly
Ryan Patyk
Donna Pekarek
Jim Potsch
James Pridmore
Madison Raupp
Anna Rose
Marilyn Rutkowski
Matthew Schiek
Gretchen Sterwalt
Kate Frugoli Sullivan
Pat Sullivan
John Thoms
Anne Titzer
Michael Ungari
Gregory Van Gorp
Liz Wilk

Prayers are requested for our relatives and friends who are sick. To add a name to the prayer list, please call the rectory at 708-352-0168.

Names of the sick are listed for two months in the bulletin. If there is a recurrence of illness, names can be listed again. Know that our parish prays daily for the sick and the dying.

Born Into Eternal Life



Please remember in your prayers,
those who have died,
as well as their families:

Colin Mayo

Son of Bob & Beth Mayo
and Brother of Claire

Weddings

Sarah Sipek & Charlie Lawler
Marissa Olszewski & Jim Hermle
Claire Mayo & Erik Soderstrom





ST. FRANCIS XAVIER ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1, 2018-JUNE 30, 2019

Good Stewards in Faith

Twenty-six years ago, we gathered for the funeral of a deacon who lived with his wife in the St. Francis Xavier Parish; we also were the parish of the family of one of his two sons. The other son lived in the South. On the way home from the funeral, this son and his wife were involved in a fatal car accident, leaving behind three children. The son remaining in our parish had been designated as guardian of the children. The deacon's widow, her surviving son and three daughters, and their families received much love and support from members of this faith community. St. Francis Xavier was a place of healing and comfort, gradually helping to dispel the shadows of a tragic series of events.



The matriarch of this family died recently at the age of 89. Although she moved out of the parish, she continued to consider St. Francis Xavier her home. Her son's family remained connected to the parish, celebrating the weddings, baptisms, and First Communion of the next generation. They are another of the multi-generational families who call St. Francis Xavier home. For more than three decades, this family has been blessed and supported by the *stewardship of time* through the prayers and personal wishes for this family in moments of joy and sorrow; the *stewardship of talent* from bereavement ministers, women preparing meals, catechists, and musicians bringing vibrancy to weddings, funerals, and Sunday Mass; and the *stewardship of treasure* of those who provide the funds necessary to support our being here and what we do here.

The enclosed Annual Parish Report for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2019 continues the story of a vibrant, strong faith community. We remain a home of hope and healing within a culture that attempts at times to set us in opposition; and a Church whose hierarchy failed in recent history to make protection of the most vulnerable among us their top priority. We, the faith community of St. Francis Xavier, *are the church that challenges our authorities* to greater accountability; *we are those who welcome all* who seek the healing and wholeness that we find together in Christ.

This report also indicates some challenges we face in remaining vibrant and strong for current and future generations: enhancing our faith formation programs at all age levels; outreach to those who look to us for help; personnel costs such as health care; preventive maintenance of our buildings. *Please review the Financial Report and the letter from the Finance Council on the next two pages and review your financial investment in the parish.* From those of you whose families have called SFX home for generations to those who are new to our parish, YOU make all the difference in enabling SFX to sustain our mission in this part of the globe.

God bless all of you whose faithful stewardship made St. Francis Xavier a place of healing and hope for the above family and many others. Serving as your pastor is a great blessing. May we continue to live and celebrate the Gospel of Jesus Christ and commit to live in communion for the sake of our mission in Christ.

Peace,

J. Bill

FINANCIAL REPORT

During budget preparation, the Finance Council, Business Manager, and Principal strive to present the Pastor with a budget for approval whereby income equals expenses. The 2019-2020 Operating Church Revenue budget projects a 2% increase in Sunday collections over the previous fiscal year.

	Actual 6/30/2018	Actual 6/30/2019	Budget 6/30/2020
OPERATING CHURCH REVENUE			
Sundays, Holy Days, Christmas & Easter	\$ 1,823,346	\$ 1,842,411	\$ 1,876,100
Other Operating Income	84,474	87,888	91,595
Parish Fundraising	-	5,831	6,500
Religious Education Tuition, Fees, and Fundraising	142,647	136,548	131,025
Total Church Revenue	\$ 2,050,467	\$ 2,072,678	\$ 2,105,220
OPERATING CHURCH/RECTORY EXPENSES			
Salaries, FICA, Health, Retirement Share, Prof Growth	\$ 808,387	\$ 827,225	\$ 843,460
Archdiocesan Admin, Priest Retirement	245,832	253,500	252,672
Occupancy Expense	264,496	238,384	223,756
Liturgical and Administrative Expense	169,122	133,382	139,317
School Subsidy (see below)	524,650	470,652	467,940
Religious Education Expenses	171,250	172,696	178,075
Total Church/Rectory Expenses	\$ 2,183,737	\$ 2,095,839	\$ 2,105,220
Church Operating Excess (Deficit)	\$ (133,270)	\$ (23,161)	\$ -
Plus: Annual Catholic Appeal Rebate	37,520	*	*
NET CHURCH OPERATING EXCESS (DEFICIT)	\$ (95,750)	\$ (23,161)	\$ -

* The Annual Catholic Appeal Rebate covered capital improvements (non-operating expenses).

DAY SCHOOL REVENUE			
Tuition, Fees and Misc. Operating Income	\$ 2,418,619	\$ 2,446,826	\$ 2,355,514
Fundraising	298,176	271,792	250,000
Total School Revenue	\$ 2,716,795	\$ 2,718,618	\$ 2,605,514
DAY SCHOOL EXPENSES			
Salaries, FICA, Health, Retirement Share, Prof Growth	\$ 2,617,016	\$ 2,564,402	\$ 2,534,523
Occupancy Expense	354,760	364,218	272,161 **
Instructional, Technology, and Other Operating Expense	269,669	260,650	266,770
Total School Expenses	\$ 3,241,445	\$ 3,189,270	\$ 3,073,454
(DEFICIT/SUBSIDY FROM PARISH)	\$ (524,650)	\$ (470,652)	\$ (467,940)

** budget reflects termination of lease with First Baptist Church

The SFX Finance Council Members

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STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE: THE MISSION CONTINUES

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL REPORT

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

It is our privilege again to update you on the impact of your investment in parish life over the past year. Please take a look at the next page, which notes:

- Couples who have joined in Matrimony;
- Parents who have begun the journey of raising their infants as disciples of Jesus;
- Children to whom we have brought Christ's teachings; and
- Families that have received comfort after a loved one has departed from life.

There is no doubt that those who are represented in these numbers have been enriched in faith, and have enriched others with their stewardship and witness of faith. Yes, the number of people who attend Mass in the United States has decreased significantly over the past few decades. Whether you come through our doors once or often, we pray you have been comforted through Outreach, enriched by Formation and humble Worship, and blessed with the strength of Relationships within the SFX community.

Our results on the previous page reflect an operating loss last year of \$23,161. To balance the budget this year, we have planned a 2% increase in offertory and have managed expenses as tightly as possible without significantly impacting our ability to fund vital ministries. These expense controls include deferring the hiring of the new pastoral associate to January 2020. **If our collections continue to fall short of budgeted goals**, we will need to reassess each ministry and consider reductions in funding, which could limit our capacity to provide the experiences and opportunities which we as a parish desire and expect.

Funding enables our Mission. While funding is not our only driver, without it we cannot maintain our place in the Archdiocese of Chicago as a parish with high quality ministries. As members of the Finance Council, we ask that you prayerfully consider your financial contribution to the parish to continue our impact on outreach, formation, and many other blessings. Join us in our devotion to steward our parish for the next generation and continue the Parish's Mission: *We, the community of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Parish, wholeheartedly live and celebrate the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We commit ourselves to live in communion with God, others and all of creation to create a more just world through sacraments and worship, learning and service.*

Prayerfully,
The Finance Council

Where Did Your Contribution Dollar Go?

44% Educational, Liturgical & Ministerial¹ 23% Parish Support² 16% Building Maintenance & Insurance³



Archdiocesan Assessment⁴ 9% ↑
Priests Related Expenses⁵ 8% ↑

- 1) Ministries of the Day School and Religious Education, Adult and Youth Formation, Music and Community Outreach; Ministerial Staff; Sacramental Preparation; Lent, Easter, Advent and Christmas Liturgies
- 2) Parish Support Staff; Office Materials, Technology Support, Offertory Supplies; Hospitality
- 3) Facility Support Staff and Management; Minor Capital Improvements; Yearly Maintenance and Repairs
- 4) Covers Archdiocesan Support Services such as Legal, Capital Projects, Human Resources and Risk Management
- 5) Pastor, Associate Pastor, and Supply Priests; Annual Retirement Contribution

ENROLLMENT AND SACRAMENTAL STATISTICS



Day School Enrollment
September 2019 ~ 464



Quest Participation
October 2019 ~ 260



Religious Education Enrollment
October 2019 ~ 717



Baptisms
121

Confirmations
160

First Communions
130

Funerals
40

Marriages
35



RCIA Participants
6

STEWARDSHIP: MISSION-DRIVEN GIVING

Non-Operating Contributions (July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019)

Our parishioners responded generously to the needs of our brothers and sisters through special collections, contributing over \$240,000. The summary below is per our records; much more is given directly to these organizations, so these amounts do not completely reflect the total contributions by SFX parishioners.

St. Agatha Parish (excluding Capital Campaign)	\$ 22,347	Holy Land	\$ 2,200
Ascension-St. Susanna Parish	580	Aid Churches Central/East Europe	2,438
Olancho Aid Foundation (Holy Thursday)	702	Catholic Charities	6,018
Daughters of Divine Love	2,037	Peter's Pence	6,810
(Holy Thursday & Lenten Mission)		World Mission Sunday/Propogation of Faith	3,540
Feed Our Future (Souper Bowl Collection)	3,639	Campaign for Human Development	12,472
St. Vincent DePaul	10,217	Habitat for Humanity	6,213
Food Pantry	23,450	Religious Retirement	8,695
Latin America	2,788	Missionary CO-OP	5,715
Seminaries	2,919	Operation Rice Bowl - CRS	1,681
Annual Catholic Appeal as of June 2019	109,564	Archdiocesan Priest Retirement	4,582
Solidarity Bridge (Thanksgiving)	1,621	Women's Care Center (baby bottle envelopes)	850
		Total:	<u>\$ 241,078</u>

SFX also sets aside some of its own budget for mission-driven giving beyond the parish. Examples include: financial support to Interfaith Community Partners whose mission is to maximize independence and well-being for older adults; Exodus World Service for a hands-on simulation to bring awareness of the refugee journey; and Peace Camp, an ecumenical summer bible camp for school-aged children in the community.

In addition, SFX provides programs such as the Day School Service Day, Religious Ed Toy Shower and Youth Ministry Giving Tree for St. Agatha Parish, Teen Mission Trip, and All Parish Service Day. Parishioners provide ongoing donations of food, clothing and household items to strengthen outreach to our local community through the Food Pantry. The parish hosts a weekly overnight shelter in Joyce Hall in collaboration with the BEDS Plus organization.

Auxiliary and affiliated organizations also benefit missions beyond the parish. For example, Catholic Women's Club hosts The Tyler Toy Drive in support of the Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest Foundation; Men's Club financially supports Habitat for Humanity and BEDS Plus and Knights of Columbus sponsors drives for the Food Pantry and Catholic Charities and supports SPRED and Misericordia.



OUR INVESTMENT IN SFX FACILITIES (over \$5 million from 2014 – 2019)

Our Investment in SFX Facilities (over \$5 million from 2014 – 2019):

UNITY HALL

- ✓ New addition to our worship space, with two bathrooms, an ADA accessible lift, meeting space, and just a whole lot of beauty!
- ✓ Digital audio visual system, including the ability to view/hear services in church

JOYCE HALL

- ✓ New family/ADA accessible bathroom
- ✓ Partitioned walls that allow for two additional meeting rooms
- ✓ Ductwork, floor tile, paint
- ✓ Acoustical ceiling to dampen sound transfer from gymnasium, with dimmable LED lighting
- ✓ Asbestos removed
- ✓ New, digital audio/visual system with two side monitors and a center screen



GYMNASIUM

- ✓ LED lighting
- ✓ Higher ceilings, new ductwork, fresh air returns under stage
- ✓ Wood floor, with new concrete subfloor (added to accommodate all thresholds in the gymnasium)
- ✓ Asbestos removed
- ✓ Digital AV system
- ✓ ADA accessible gym bathrooms, updated office space
- ✓ ADA accessible viewing area during sporting events



EDUCATION BUILDING

- ✓ New fire alarm annunciator panel and control panel, with Fire detection devices in all school hallways
- ✓ Interior accessible handicap ramp from Unity Hall to gym
- ✓ Second buzzer security system added to interior Education Building doors
- ✓ New roof over third floor
- ✓ Video-recording cameras at entrances

EXTERIOR PROJECTS

- ✓ Renovated entrance to Unity Hall from the south (Unity Garden) with engraved brick pavers
- ✓ New ADA accessible ramp and stairway between school and church
- ✓ New retaining wall between school and church; south retaining wall renovated
- ✓ Tuck pointing of all buildings on our campus
- ✓ Improved exterior parking lot lighting and dumpster enclosure
- ✓ Garage for priests' cars and storage
- ✓ Church cooling tower replacement

CHURCH

- ✓ West transept plaster repair and paint

125TH ANNIVERSARY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN AND CAPITAL PROJECTS

This fiscal year is our final year of the Capital Campaign, which secured over \$4 million in pledges and about \$900,000 in bequests. Over 95% of these pledges have been realized! Pledge payments began in 2014 and are scheduled to continue through June 2020.

The opposite page *highlights examples of the benefits of your investment* of capital campaign dollars AND church savings from donations, built up over years of sound financial management. God bless the families who support the parish through regular Sunday giving AND the 125th Anniversary Capital Campaign, investing in these wonderful parish facility enhancements!

We have a few more things to do as pledges are fulfilled from the Capital Campaign. One is to complete our commitment to St. Agatha Parish's Education Endowment Fund (final contribution of about \$105,000 to be made in June 2020). With the closing of the elementary school at St. Agatha's, the Fund can be used to provide scholarships for St. Agatha's parishioners at other Catholic elementary schools or high schools. In fact, some of the recipients are attending Nazareth Academy!

Phase Two of our upgraded fire alarm system is scheduled for summer 2020. The fire alarm system was required by the Village of LaGrange in order to approve the permit for our entire scope of the Capital Projects.



An added note: the parish published its commemorative 125th Anniversary book this past year, which joins the volumes for our 75th and 100th anniversaries. This Anniversary book highlights Years 100 through 125 of our beloved ministries and memories, as well as lists all the donors of the Capital Campaign.

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

STATEMENT OF CASH POSITION

	<u>6/30/2016</u>	<u>6/30/2017</u>	<u>6/30/2018</u>	<u>6/30/2019</u>	
Unrestricted Funds					
Cash and Savings on Deposit	931,171	989,016	879,031	864,176	Note 1
Current Cash Liabilities	<u>440,619</u>	<u>518,300</u>	<u>384,364</u>	<u>439,461</u>	
Net Cash Position	<u>490,552</u>	<u>470,716</u>	<u>494,667</u>	<u>424,715</u>	Note 1
Restricted Funds					
Capital Campaign Fund	2,506,804	243,457	564,935	165,822	
Building Fund	135,207	88,933	107,640	3,948	Note 1
Parish Endowment Fund	176,254	195,398	207,433	213,172	
Educational Endowment Fund	<u>643,424</u>	<u>713,225</u>	<u>765,401</u>	<u>777,733</u>	
Restricted Funds on Deposit	<u>3,461,689</u>	<u>1,241,013</u>	<u>1,645,409</u>	<u>1,160,675</u>	

Note 1: Cash and Savings include \$64,990 received in 2018-2019 fiscal year for restricted use (capital improvements). Therefore, Unrestricted Funds on June 30, 2019 are \$359,725 (overstated by \$64,990) and Building Fund is \$68,938 (understated by \$64,990). This adjustment was made on the financial records in October 2019.

A note on Unrestricted Cash position:

Historically our strong unrestricted cash position has allowed us to rely primarily on operating income to cover facility emergencies that may arise. In recent years, due to operating losses resulting from lower-than-expected collections and the completion of significant (non-capital campaign) improvements such as the new garage, parking lot lighting, and the dumpster enclosure, our unrestricted cash position has declined from \$490,552 in 2016 to \$359,725 in 2019 (after adjustments are made for Note 1). In the upcoming year, it may be necessary to use some unrestricted savings for the second floor school roof (\$150,000) and rectory air-conditioning systems. Our long-term goal is to rebuild our unrestricted savings to anticipate future needs.

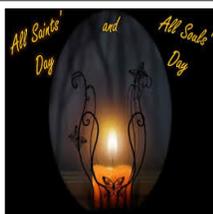
A note on Restricted Cash position:

Our Building Fund is used to pay for building improvements and repairs which are significant in nature. Sources of these funds include designated gifts from parishioners, Catholic Women's Club Fundraisers, Annual Catholic Appeal Rebate, and Bequests and Memorials.

Our Parish Endowment Fund's growth is solely attributable to investment market gains. We welcome contributions to this endowment, the purpose of which is to fund parish ministries and capital needs.

Our Educational Endowment Fund's growth is primarily attributable to investment market gains, although we have received some donations in the past few years. We welcome contributions to this endowment, the purpose of which is to fund education ministries of the parish and tuition assistance for the elementary school. The Finance Council has set a goal of \$1 million for this fund; upon reaching that goal the intent is to use the investment returns to offset operating education expenses.

November is a Month For Remembering



All Saints Day Mass

We remember All Saints on Friday, November 1 with a Mass at 7:30 pm.

All Souls Day Remembrance Mass

We will remember All Souls on Monday, November 4 at a special Mass at 7:00 pm. We will be remembering all family members and friends that have died this past year. We invite you to bring a picture of your loved one(s). Please place the picture on the table in front of the altar before Mass. After Mass, please take the picture with you as you leave church.

As we remember the dying and rising of the Lord, may we feel the embrace of God, not only for those who have died, but also for all that mourn their loss.

*St. Francis Xavier Parish
New Parishioner Welcome*

DINNER

Wednesday, November 13th
6:30 - 8:00 pm

St. Francis Xavier Rectory
124 N. Spring Ave., LaGrange

Welcome to St. Francis Xavier!
We look forward to meeting you!!!
Please join us for a casual dinner
and fellowship with other parishioners
and the SFX Welcome Committee.

Please RSVP by Friday, November 8th
Call or text Laura Duelm 708-309-9079
or email lauraduelm@hotmail.com



Come for Eucharistic Adoration November 14 from 6:00-7:00pm

As Catholics, we proclaim the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, not only during the Mass but in the preserved Hosts. **“Jesus remains in the Blessed Sacrament to give us the privilege of approaching him personally as so many people were able to do two-thousand years ago in Galilee and Judea”** (Fr. F. Racine). During Eucharistic Adoration, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the altar for individual, silent adoration.

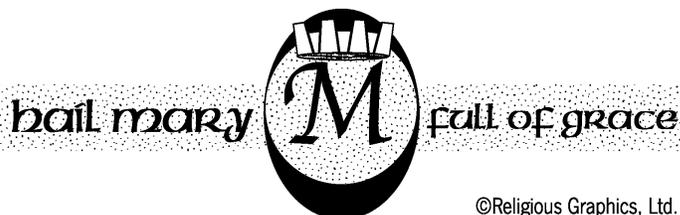
The next Eucharistic Adoration will be **Thursday, November 14, 2019**. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 6:00pm-7:00pm. Come when you are able for as long as your schedule allows. If you have any questions, please contact Katie @ k.f.kanzer@gmail.com.

“Do you realize that Jesus is there in the tabernacles expressly for you, for you alone? He burns with desire to come into your heart.” St. Therese of Lisieux”

Stewardship Reading

The end of all things is at hand. Therefore, be serious and sober for prayers. Above all, let your love for one another be intense, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace. Whoever preaches, let it be with the words of God; whoever serves, let it be with the strength that God supplies, so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

-1 Peter 4:7-11



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BEWARE OF EMAIL SCAM USING PASTOR'S NAME

Last weekend, the most recent attempt to use Fr. Bill's name as part of an email scam was sent to many parishioners. This has been happening to pastors and other ministers of other communities. The pastor's name and title are listed as the sender with a fake (though credible) email address. An emergency request is made for money through the purchase of gift cards. The sender eventually asks the purchaser to reveal the PIN number on the gift card and return a picture of the card with the PIN. The scammer can use this information to redeem the gift cards. It is unclear how those operating the scam obtain email addresses. There is no indication that the parish database or Fr. Bill's personal computer have been hacked.

Fr. Bill and the rest of the parish staff will NEVER make a personal request for money via email. Any requests for financial contributions to the parish or a parish/school event will come through the regular parish or school electronic communications.

All are invited to the **BOOK FAIR** in Joyce Hall

20% of
purchase
benefits
St. Francis
Xavier

Tuesday, Nov. 5, 5:30 - 8:30 pm:

Open shopping time
6:30 pm drop-off storytime
while parents shop

Wednesday, Nov. 6, 8:15 am - noon:

Open shopping time
10:45 am drop-off storytime
while parents shop



LIMITED EDITION
"St. Francis Xavier Loves To Read"
tote bags available. \$10

Veterans Day Mass and Reception



The 5th grade students at St. Francis Xavier School would like to invite any veterans and active duty service members, and their families, to a mass honoring their service to our county. The mass will be held on Monday, November 11th at 8:30 am with a reception immediately following in Unity Hall.

If you would like to attend please RSVP by November 4th to Sara Edwards by phone at 773-844-8474 or email saraedwards9@hotmail.com. We hope to see you!

Join us
for the 14th Annual



Sign up today for the St. Francis Falcon 5K!

www.sxfalcon5k.com

Saturday, November 2nd

Kids' Fun Run (~0.5 mile), Junior Falcon 100 yd. Dash, 3.1 mile Run/Walk

Be a part of the fun, start training today
Strollers, walkers, non-SFX parishioners, and all ages welcome!

- USATF certified*, chip timed, flat, tree lined La Grange Park neighborhood course
- 5K and Kids Fun Run participants receive a technical t-shirt (Register by 10/14)
- Under 19 discount
- Indoor post-race celebration with Flash Magnets & fabulous treats from local vendors!

Want to volunteer? Questions? Please contact Meghan Fijal at Falcon5KSFX@gmail.com

**IL 17026WR Race benefits St. Francis Xavier School, a not-for-profit organization.*

Domestic Violence Outreach St. Francis Xavier, St. Cletus and St. John of the Cross



How to Respond if Someone Is Pressuring You
Perpetrators of sexual violence often use tactics, such as guilt or intimidation, to pressure a person into something they do not want to do. It can be upsetting, frightening, or uncomfortable if you find yourself in this situation. Remember that it's not your fault that the other person is acting this way—they are responsible for their own actions. The following tips may help you exit the situation safely.

Remind yourself this isn't your fault. You did not do anything wrong. It is the person who is pressuring you who is responsible.

Trust your gut. Don't feel obligated to do anything you don't want to do. It doesn't matter why you don't want to do something. Simply not being interested is reason enough. Do only what feels right to you and what you are comfortable with.

Have a code word. Develop a code with friends or family that means "I'm uncomfortable" or "I need help." It could be a series of numbers you can text, like "311." It might be a phrase you say out loud such as, "I wish we took more vacations." This way you can communicate your concern and get help without alerting the person who is pressuring you.

It's okay to lie. If you are concerned about angering or upsetting this person, you can lie or make an excuse to create an exit. It may feel wrong to lie, but you are never obligated to remain in a situation that makes you feel uncomfortable, scared, or threatened. Some excuses you could use are: needing to take care of a friend or family member, not feeling well, and having to be somewhere else by a certain time. Even excusing yourself to use the bathroom can create an opportunity to get away or to get help. Whatever you need to say to stay safe is okay—even if it may seem embarrassing at the time.

Think of an escape route. If you had to leave quickly, how would you do it? Locate the windows, doors, and any other means of exiting the situation. Are there people around who might be able to help you? How can you get their attention? Where can you go when you leave?

If you have to find a way out of a situation where someone is pressuring you, or if something happens that you didn't consent to, it is not your fault. **Take care of yourself**, and know you're not alone.

To speak with someone who is trained to help, call the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800.656.HOPE (4673) or chat online at online.rainn.org.

October is Respect Life Month

*"If you want peace, work for justice.
And if you want justice, defend life!"*

Saint Pope John Paul II

Baby Bottle Collection for Women's Care Center

Donation Envelopes benefiting the mission of the Center will be available at all the church exits for the month of October. Envelopes can be dropped off in the collection baskets or Rectory.

Area Respect Life Ministry Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **November 12 from 7:00-8:30 pm at the Women's Care Center, 136 North LaGrange Road.**

About Women's Care Center

Women's Care Center provides free, confidential counseling, support and education to women facing unplanned pregnancies. Free pregnancy testing and ultrasounds help determine viability and dates (prenatal medical care and abortions not provided). We serve 26,000 women annually from 32 centers in 11 states, including Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

About Respect Life Ministry

Parishioners from St. Cletus, St. Francis Xavier and St. John of the Cross partner together on a Respect Life Ministry, jointly advocating for a world that joyfully sees God in every human person in all stages and in all conditions. If interested in this ministry, please contact Mary Freeman mfreeman@sfxlg.org.

40 Days for Life September 25-November 3

www.40daysforlife.com

November 4 at 7:00 pm, the Closing Mass for 40 Days for Life at St. Mary of the Angels Church (1850 North Hermitage Avenue in Chicago).



MYTH:

Verbal or emotional abuse is "no big deal."

FACT:

Verbal and emotional abuse in a relationship can result in long-lasting effects, like trauma, PTSD, and various physical illnesses. Victims of verbal abuse often begin to believe the negative words their abusers use to attack them.

www.verbalabuse.com



Religious Education Important Dates & Class Dates

Pizza Fundraiser

Pizza Order Pick-up on October 30



Eucharistic Liturgies

Grade 4

November 9

Practice 4:15 pm

Mass 5:00 pm

Class Dates

Sunday, October 27

Class

Wednesday, October 30

Class

Sunday, November 3

At Home Lesson

Wednesday, November 6

At Home Lesson

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Our Saturday evening 5:00 pm Mass offers the opportunity for children in Grades Kindergarten-Fourth to experience hearing and reflecting on the Word of the Lord in a way that is an empowering experience. Children in these grades are invited to follow their Reflector of the Word to a prayer space away from the gathered assembly to hear the Scriptures in words they can understand.

Children's Liturgy of the Word takes place in church whenever the children's choirs lead us in song/prayer AND when a Grade Level Mass is celebrated. The Scriptures we hear will then be taken from the Children's Lectionary and the homily will be given in a way that children are able to relate a little more readily. The children in Grades K thru 4 will go to their prayer space on the Saturdays that the choirs are not singing and when a specific grade is not scheduled to celebrate liturgy at the 5:00 Mass.

Here is the tentative schedule with the children's choirs: November 16; January 25; February 29; March 14.

Here is the schedule when a Grade Level Mass is celebrated: November 9; February 1 & 8; April 18.

Children in Grades K-4 will be invited to join their Reflector in a prayer space away from the adults and to hear the Word of the Lord in words they can better understand on the following Saturdays (subject to change): October 26; November 2 & 23; December 14 & 21; January 11 & 18; February 15 & 22; March 7, 21 & 28; and April 28.

You can call 708-352-0168 and direct your calls to: Allen Sterwalt, Director of Music or Terri Simeoni, Coordinator of Religious Education.

What's going on in Youth Ministry???



Boys Church League Basketball

Don't forget to register for Boys Church League Basketball! The registration form, along with more information, can be found on the Youth Ministry website. Form and fee must be turned in to St. Francis Xavier by October 30th. Contact Olivia Zurowski at ozurowski@sfxlg.org or 708-352-0168 with any questions.

There is a meeting for Freshman players, parents, and coaches on Wednesday October 30th at 7:30 pm in Unity Hall.

Christmas Midnight Mass Choir: New Singers Welcome!



A special invitation goes out to those of you who have not been able to join the choir full time OR have been wanting to join, but just haven't taken that step yet. This is a call for those of you who have an ear and a love for singing to be a part of the St. Francis Xavier Christmas Midnight Mass Choir at **12:00 am on December 25th**. The choir will be joined with the sounds of strings and brass to proclaim the wondrous mystery of Jesus' birth.

Rehearsals will begin on **Tuesday, November 12th from 7:00 pm to 8:15 pm**, and will continue every Tuesday evening through December 17th.

Please consider singing, and experience the joy and beauty that music can bring during this special time of year. Interested singers should contact Allen Sterwalt, before the first rehearsal on **November 12th** at asterwalt@sfxlg.org or 708 352-0168.



**The Well Spirituality Center
1515 Ogden Avenue
LaGrange Park**

Helen Prejean

River of Fire: My Spiritual Journey

Talk/Book signing/Reception on Wednesday, October 30 from 7:00-9:00 pm with CSJ Sister Helen Prejean returns to The Well to speak about her latest book and her own spiritual journey from near cluelessness to social activism. Known the world-over for her efforts to abolish the death penalty and her book *Dead Man Walking*, the spirit and joy of this remarkable woman is infectious. Cost: free to members of co-sponsoring parishes SFX and SJC.

Mirabai Starr–Wild Mercy: Living the Fierce and Tender Wisdom of the Women Mystics

On Friday, November 8. Talk/Book Signing at The Well from 7:00-9:00 pm. After party at Steak & Vine, 37 South LaGrange Road.

A frequent contributor to Richard Rohr's Center for Action and Contemplation, an author and a bridge-builder among spiritual traditions, Mirabai Starr's work builds upon years of contemplating, writing and teaching about the mystics. *Wild Mercy*, her latest book, will inspire those who are thirsty for the life-giving essence of feminine wisdom to find their own lyrical voice. Cost: free to members of co-sponsoring parishes SFX and SJC, books will be available for purchase.

Pre-holiday Recalibration

On Saturday, November 16 from 9:00 am-Noon join us for the beauty and sacredness of the Christmas season which can be drowned out by our hectic pace. Take time with Bridget Sperduto and Kate Wester to pause, walk the labyrinth, ground through yoga and move in celebration. You will leave the morning feeling refreshed and recalibrated. Cost: \$30.

**To register:
www.csjthewell.org or
call 708-482-5048**



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708-354-0858 ext. 113



**Coat and Outerwear Drive VII
Drop-off Boxes at St. Francis Church
November 2 & 3 and
November 9 & 10
(Church Entrances - All Masses)**

The Knights of Columbus SFX Council 6483 is coordinating the Sixth Annual Outerwear Drive and will be collecting clean, pre worn-outerwear for those in need this winter.

There will be drop off boxes at church entrances to deposit outerwear before each mass on November 2 and 3 and on November 9 and 10. Clothing will be donated to Catholic Charities which distributes the coats, sweaters, hats and gloves to the needy, without charge. The Knights thank you for your generosity in past years. Tax receipts will be provided. God bless you.

Please contact Knights of Columbus with questions at 708-380-3101, or email gutheriepike@msn.com

Thank you for your support!





Please Pray For...all those Serving Overseas in the Military including:

- **Sgt. David Phillips**—brother of Rebecca Casiple
- **Commander Robert O'Donnell**—son of Agnes O'Donnell
- **Staff Sgt. Bryan Pickens, U.S. Army Airborne Ranger 1-75th Ranger Battalion RGR REGT**—
son of Rob & Bernadette Pickens and brother of Robert & Gabriel
- **Lt. Christopher Ocasio, U.S. Army**—friend of the Berger Family
- **Technical Sgt. Rhonda Russell, USAF**—daughter of Deidre & John Russell and granddaughter of Mary F. Russell
- **Lt. Jonathan Devitt Brown, U.S. Navy**—nephew of the Devitt Family
- **LCPL Gregory Allen, USMC**—nephew of Barbara Triggs & Anthony Anscombe
- **Kevin Peterson, U.S. Army Infantry, Major Marcos Melendez, USMC and Major Michelle Melendez, USMC**—
son, nephew and niece of Jon Peterson
- **Staff Sgt. Nolan Kemna, USMC**—nephew of John & Linda Hill
- **Capt. Maura Hoffman & Capt. Christopher Hoffman**—niece and nephew of Margie & Steve Hull and
cousins of Kate, Janie & Caroline Hull
- **Phil Lukanich, U.S. Navy & Lt. M. Ryan Lukanich, U.S. Army**—husband and brother-in-law of Joanna and
sons of Mark & Martie Lukanich
- **Staff Sgt. Scott Blunk**—husband of Brianne and son-in-law of Maureen Becker
- **Lt. Daniel McGue**—grandson of Jack & Sue Ryan
- **Lt. Col. Jeremy Hutchins, USAF**—brother-in-law of Valerie & Michael Schierl
- **Commander Brian Riegler, U.S. Navy**—husband of Elizabeth and father of Kaylee, Mackenzie, Grace & Liam
- **Capt. Colt Marcyan, USMC**—nephew of Noel Cusack
- **Capt. Trent McMullen, USAF**—son-in-law of Tom & Maureen Hunt
- **Private Jerry Delgado, U.S. Army**—friend of Liz Wilk
- **Spec Timothy Lucas U.S. Army**—grandson of Marian, nephew of Rosemary and Sr. Kathleen Lucas,
and Kate & Beau Medlock
- **Deanna Ciaccia, U.S. Navy**—daughter of Julie & Anthony Ciaccia and granddaughter of Harold Held
- **Chris Johnson, USCG**—nephew of Judi Kudlacz and grandson of Jerry & Nancy Johnson
- **Dominic James Greco, U.S. Navy**—nephew of Rita Pantoni
- **Robert Weiler, U.S. Navy**—brother of Rebecca Dionisio
- **Joseph Somers, U.S. Navy**—nephew of Maureen & Nick Burriesci
- **Major Meghan Cumpston, U.S. Army**—cousin of Lauren Schultz
- **Sgt. David T. Benson**—son of Linda & Charles Benson
- **Sgt. Matthew Alvis, U.S. Army**—cousin of the Tchaikovsky Family
- **Airman Jeffrey Niemiec, USAF**—nephew of Nancy & Harry Devereux
- **1st Lt. Alexander Dale Fisher, USMC**—nephew of Michelle & Bill McKeown and cousin to Elizabeth & Liam
- **Rob Parisi, PV2, U.S. Army 19K**—son of Kathi & Chuck Parisi, Brother of Caitlin & Jack

**Please inform us of those serving Overseas in the Military...
and please let us know when friends and loved ones
return from their deployment Overseas.
Email the bulletineditor@sfxlg.org.**

St. Francis Xavier Personnel

Pastoral Ministry

Pastor

Rev. William Tkachuk

wtkachuk@sfxlg.org

Deacon

Mr. Andrew Allison

aallison@sfxlg.org

Retired Weekend Sacramental Minister

Rev. William Killeen

Retired Weekday Sacramental Minister

Rev. Ed Barrett

Weekend Sacramental Minister

Rev. Stan Ilo

Education Ministry

Day School Principal

Mrs. Sharon Garcia

sgarcia@sfxlg.org

Assistant Principal

Mrs. Janice Carr

jcarr@sfxlg.org

Assistant to Day School Principal

Mrs. Mary Hoffman

mhoffman@sfxlg.org

Day School Secretary (Main Campus)

Mrs. Peggy Evans

pevans@sfxlg.org

Advancement Director

Mrs. Mary Tassi

mtassi@sfxlg.org

Tuition Accounts

Mrs. Jennifer Zeisloft

jzeisloft@sfxlg.org

Religious Education Coordinator/Sacrament Prep

Ms. Terri Simeoni

tsimeoni@sfxlg.org

Religious Education Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Cindy Johnson

cjohnson@sfxlg.org

Youth Ministry

Coordinator

Mrs. Olivia Zurowski

ozurowski@sfxlg.org

Music Ministry

Director

Mr. Allen Sterwalt

asterwalt@sfxlg.org

Parish Office Staff

Business Manager

Mrs. Jennifer Zeisloft

jzeisloft@sfxlg.org

Parish Accountant

Ms. Jane Bandyk

jbandyk@sfxlg.org

Pastor's Secretary

Mrs. Maureen Pipal

mpipal@sfxlg.org

Parish Secretary

Mrs. Melissa Westerhoff

mwesterhoff@sfxlg.org

Staff Secretary

Ms. Debra Soulje

dsoulje@sfxlg.org

Facilities Manager

Mr. Frank Roccasalva

froccasalva@sfxlg.org

Food Pantry/Community Outreach

Coordinator

Mrs. Mary Freeman

mfreeman@sfxlg.org

Contact Information

Parish Office 124 N. Spring708-352-0168
 St. Francis Xavier Day School708-352-2175
 School of Religious Education708-352-4555
 S.P.R.E.D. (Special Religious Education)708-352-0168
 Fax Number708-352-4904
 e-Mailsfxinlg@sfxlg.org
 Main Day School e-Mail.....sfxmain@sfxlg.org
 Main Religious Education e-Mail.....sfxreligiused@sfxlg.org
 Parish Web Sitewww.sfxlg.org

Rectory Hours

Monday-Thursday..... 8:30 am-8:30 pm
 Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm
 Saturday.....9:00 am-5:00 pm
 Sunday.....9:00 am-1:00 pm

Sabbath Liturgy

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 am, 12:00 Noon and
 (6:00 pm September until first weekend of May)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday morning.....After 9:00 am Mass
 Saturday afternoon.....4:15 pm
 The Reconciliation room is located off the walkway behind the
 tabernacle prayer area.

Liturgy Schedule

Monday through Friday8:30 am
 Saturday9:00 am
St. Cletus (Monday - Saturday).....8:00 am
St. John of the Cross (Monday - Saturday).....9:00 am

Bulletin Deadline

The deadline for submitting all bulletin articles is 9:00 am on the Monday preceding the Sunday of publication. If a holiday falls on a Monday, articles are due by 12:00 Noon on the previous Thursday. Please email all articles to the bulletineditor@sfxlg.org.

Domestic Violence Resources

Family Shelter Services—24 hr. counseling 630-469-5650
 LaGrange Police Emergency Assistance 911 or 708-579-2354

Food Pantry

The St. Francis Food Pantry is open every Tuesday from 9:30 to 11:00 am. The pantry serves clients who live in the 60525 and 60526 zip codes.

Home or Hospital Visitation & Communion Calls

If you would like a priest or Minister of Care to visit, please contact the Parish Office directly. In the case of hospitalization, specifically request that the hospital contact the parish. Hospitals do not routinely inform churches of admissions due to Privacy Laws.

Infant Baptisms

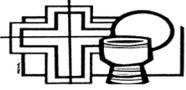
Please call the Parish Office for scheduled 1:30 pm Sunday Baptismal dates. Baptism Preparation Classes: 4th Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm. We encourage participation in this program before the baby's birth or adoption.

Marriage

Please call the rectory office at the time of your engagement to schedule your wedding. We ask that you are a registered parishioner for 6 months before requesting your wedding date. Saturday wedding times are 1:00 and 3:00 pm. Rehearsals are usually scheduled on Friday evening. We do not schedule weddings during Lent.

Parish Counselor

All counseling services are confidential, respectful, understanding, and take place in a safe environment. Counseling and psychotherapy services are available for individuals, couples, and families experiencing difficulty with anxiety, depression, grief, relationship conflicts, work stress or job loss problems, or feelings of being overwhelmed. For further information or to make an appointment, our parish counselor, Patrice Nerone, from the Claret Center can be reached by phone 312-884-9879 or email patricenerone@protonmail.com.



Liturgical Ministers' Schedule—November 2 & 3, 2019

Mass Time	Presider	Lectors/ Commentators	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Cantors	Greeters
5:00 PM	Fr. Tkachuk	M. Kanzer H. Fitzpatrick K. Prenger	C. Cooke K. Corrigan J. Denson K. Kanzer D. Mulvenna K. Preussner L. Young C. Witt Open	M. Mullen E. Kostal Open	TBA	R. MacEntee
7:30 AM	Fr. Tkachuk	M. Carroll R. Hillsman M. Hermesdorf	D. Challender K. McInerney K. Stetz J. Van Gorp P. Olson	K. Grubish T. Mulcahy M. Kudlacz	TBA	C. Urbain
9:00 AM	Fr. Killeen	M. Perkovich J. Schaeffer E. Newman	R. Barker J. Cogelja D. Nighswender M. Lukanich B. Olson C. Pratali R. Pratali L. Nichol M. Hull	A. Edwards N. Edwards M. Kanzer	TBA	J. Burson
10:30 AM	Fr. Tkachuk	K. Justak L. Nowak M. Justak	A. Clark J. Clark L. Egan L. Oswaldo P. McGinnis J. Nowak P. O'Malley S. Martin A. Krol	A. Grech A. Grech S. Parkes	TBA	P. Sbertoli
12:00 PM	Fr. Killeen	E. McGovern D. Lewis T. Bezouska	N. Dekoker B. Edelmann L. Donegan Open Open	E. Geraghty J. O'Halloran B. Griffin	TBA	J. Svehla
6:00 PM	Fr. Tkachuk	Quest Teen	Quest Teens		Spirit Choir	

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LOVE**

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Readings For The Week of October 27, 2019

Sunday: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14

Monday: Eph 2:19-22/Lk 6:12-16

Tuesday: Rom 8:18-25/Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday: Rom 8:26-30/Lk 13:22-30

Thursday: Rom 8:31b-39/Lk 13:31-35

Friday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a

Saturday: Wis 3:1-9/Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40

Next Sunday: Wis 11:22--12:2/2 Thes 1:11--2:2/Lk 19:1-10

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of \$250 or more. Offer will be made to the participant via first class direct mail.
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