

**SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH**  
**1st Sunday of Advent**  
**December 3, 2017**



**FEAST OF**  
**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER**



**Prayer to St. Francis Xavier**

***Creator God  
inspired by the example  
of St. Francis,  
we pray to you for the  
courage to be missionaries,  
reaching out and leading  
others to Jesus.  
Like St. Francis  
may we help those in need,  
may we live a life rooted  
in prayer and  
may we bring Christ to all  
those we meet.  
This we ask through your Son,  
our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.***



## Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday, December 4 Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church	7:45 am 9:00 am	Marianna Curtin Bill Riordan Word & Communion Service	The Sullivan Family The Riordan Family
Tuesday, December 5	7:45 am 9:00 am	Word & Communion Service David Webber	Mary Lou & George Braasch
Wednesday, December 6 Saint Nicholas, Bishop	7:45 am 9:00 am	Don Cushing Michael Engels Word & Communion Service	The Dunne Family Nancy Cozzi
Thursday, December 7 Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	7:45 am 9:00 am	Word & Communion Service Word & Communion Service	
Friday, December 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	7:45 am 9:00 am	Giulia & Dino Lusetta Chris Killeen The Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier	The Frustaci Family The Westerhoff Family
Saturday, December 9 Saint Juan Diego Cuauhlatoatzin	9:00 am 9:30 am 3:00 pm 4:15 pm	Betty Hartley Alfreda Zvonek Sacrament of Reconciliation Wedding—Kerry Fox & Dan Bean Sacrament of Reconciliation	The SFX Wedding Ministry The Moles Family

## Please Pray For...

Ryne Baird	Emmett Miller
Tony Banda	Mike Morrison
Keeley Barr	Fr. Jim O'Connor
Blake Donegan	Leanne Oleson
Fr. Dave Dowdle	Jane O'Reilly
Pat Eaton	Ryan Patyk
Bill Elliott	Donna Pekarek
Lily Fielding	Carissa Pessetti
Baby Collins Fitzpatrick	James Pridmore
Lilli Gregory	Baby Madison Raupp
Wilson Gregory	Karen Reato
Frank Grippo	Anna Rose
Patricia Hassler	Marilyn Rutkowski
Linda Hillsman	Matthew Schiek
Diane Hughes	Greyson Edward Stanley
Rose Ilo	Kate Frugoli Sullivan
Jane Jacobson	Jerry Tazic
Mike Kelly	Marty Thuerk
Benny Kilman	Anne Titzer
Jerry Kolman	Michael Ungari
Virginia Kottaridis	Amanda Valerugo
Molly Anne McKenna	Gregory Van Gorp
	Josita Witte

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:

### *Mary Ellen Shannon*

Sister of Patrick, Lisa, Tim, Meg, Paul, David, Jay, Molly, Matthew, Peter and Christopher

### *Anna Mary Plucinski*

Mother of Laure, Theodore & Karen

### *Rudolph Wendes*

Father of Karen & William

### *Sr. Anne Marie Dolan, BVM*

Aunt of Jim Andreoni

### *Douglas Peterson*

Father of Craig Peterson & Mary Gibbons

### *Charles Sirridge*

Father of Maryellen Peniccook

### *Sr. Jude Marie Van Baalen*

*Tom Comer*

## Weddings



Kerry Fox & Dan Bean  
Marissa Mackenzie & Anthony Weihofen

## Pastor's Notes

*"What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"*  
Mark 13:37

Advent has only 22 days this year. For those of us with busy schedules and long lists of things to do, there will not seem to be enough days. For those of us who live in anticipation of Christmas morning, there will seem to be too many days. For all of us, there will be 22 days. How we experience them is a matter of mind and heart.

Jesus challenges us to remain alert and watchful: not in fear, but so that we may *recognize* the Lord when he appears among us and be ready to *celebrate* his presence. Perhaps children are the best ones to lead us into an Advent attitude. They do not live in fear that all will not be ready; they do not expect to be disappointed when Christmas arrives. *They live in anticipation and joy* of what they believe they will discover on Christmas morning. Their wonder invites us to *let go of that which burdens us* and to allow ourselves to experience the mystery of Emmanuel, God with us. The Word was a child born in a Bethlehem stable when God first became one like us. The Word continues to take flesh in the people and events of even the most ordinary of days. And the Word will come one day to lead us into a banquet feast beyond our dreams. We need only watch with attentive eyes, ears, and hearts as we engage with one another and those beyond our community.

This Sunday, we celebrate the feast day of our patron, St. Francis of Xavier, a missionary who went out with others to bring light to the world through the message of Jesus. The children of our parish elementary school did the same this past Friday as they served people specific to the service focus of their respective grade. Our religious education students have collected toys for the children of the St. Agatha community in Chicago. Our high school youth invite us this weekend to take a tag and support a family or organization in need. Last week our Food Pantry volunteers fed 125 households; those at the Thanksgiving Day Mass contributed over \$1,300 to an interfaith group that serves immigrants living in local detention centers through prayer, advocacy, and caring support. In all of this, Jesus asks us to *be watchful*, to *be alert*; to *recognize his presence in each person* even as he or she meets Christ in me.

**Daily Mass goes please note.** I will be away this week, and we could not find enough available priests to cover the regular weekday Mass schedule. One of the Masses on Monday through Wednesday, and the regular Mass on Thursday will be celebrated as a Communion service. To allow our maintenance staff to replace bulbs in the sanctuary, some of these Masses and services will move to Unity Hall. We appreciate your patience and flexibility.

*Peace,*

*F. Bill*

## Scripture Reflection

**Reflection for the First Sunday of Advent**  
**Liturgy Planning Team #4**  
**Marci Hermesdorf, OP, Diane Walsh, and ShirleyAugustyn**

In the gospel for the first Sunday of Advent Jesus uses the word "watch" four times. Just as we can hear but not listen, we can also see but not watch – not be alert or attentive. We are told to watch for the Lord's coming not knowing precisely the time or place. But we will encounter Jesus not only at the end of our lives, but we will meet him daily in people, places, and situations. Are we watchful for those times? Are we attentive to the times we meet Jesus in our families, our schools, our places of work – in friends and strangers alike? Do we look for ways to lighten the burdens of others? As we move through Advent let us watch for opportunities to act with kindness, generosity, and love.

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

## *Electronic Giving*

### **You can begin today!**

In our Annual Report our Parish Finance Council recommended that we increase our donations by 4% and give regularly whether through envelopes or Electronic Giving. The convenience of Electronic Giving can make it easier for us to support the important ministries at St. Francis Xavier and reach more people with Christ's love. We have set a goal of enrolling 100 new families by the end of 2017.

You can enroll online at [www.sfxlg.org](http://www.sfxlg.org) by clicking the "Donate Online" button. You will be connected to GiveCentral, our electronic giving vendor. Follow the prompts to donate to Sunday Offertory, Food Pantry, Christmas, and more!



**GIVING OPTIONS:** Choose the method of your donation:

- 1) Enter your bank account information or
- 2) Enter a credit or debit card of your choice.

Schedule recurring gifts or make a one-time gift at any time.



**ENROLLMENT:** Creating an account on GiveCentral is simple. After you choose the item (or items) to which you would like to donate, click on "Complete Profile" during the checkout process and fill in your contact and payment information. Registration on GiveCentral ensures that your donations are attributed to your giving record and allows you to access a list of your donations at any time.

## Features and Benefits



**ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT:** The online system lets you manage all aspects of your account so you are always in control of your donations.



**PEACE OF MIND:** You'll be able to support your parish on a consistent basis, whether you're out of town or unable to attend Mass.



**SECURITY:** Know that your information is protected, every transaction is secure, and your donations are automatically transferred to St. Francis Xavier Parish's bank account.

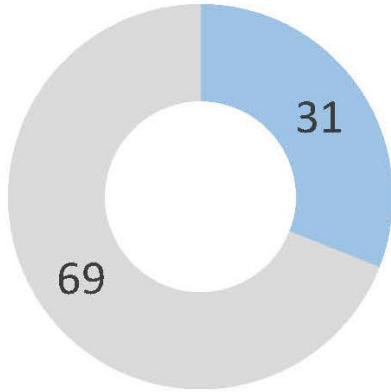


**OFFERTORY CARDS:** That can be used to represent your participation during the collection.



**QUESTIONS:** Please call Jane Bandyk at (708) 352-0168 or GiveCentral directly at (312) 929-2306.

## Electronic Giving Goal



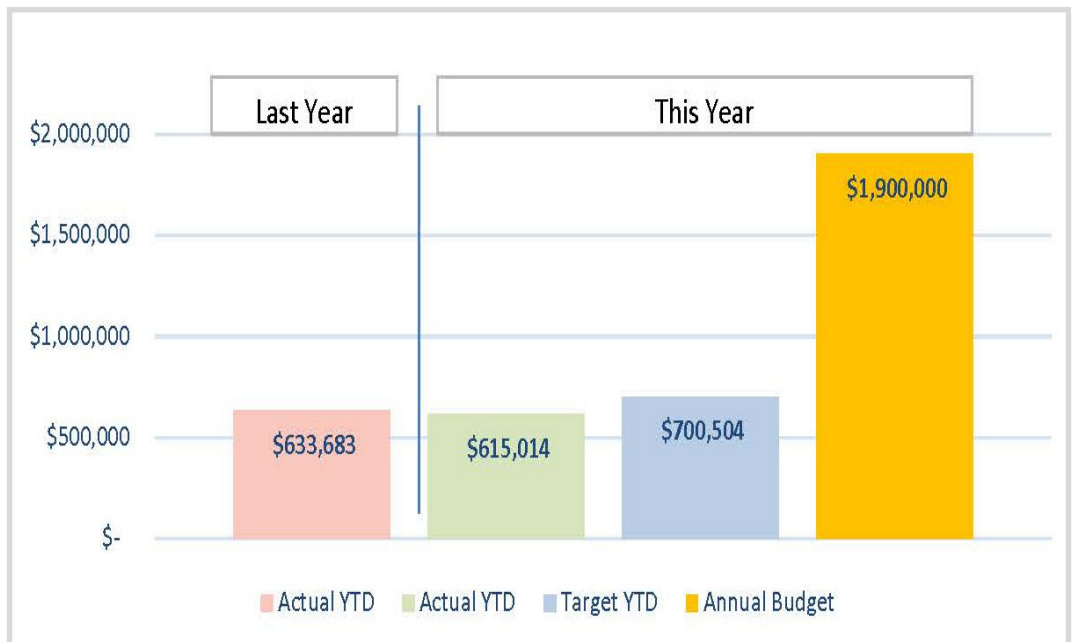
■ New Enrollees  
■ Needed to Meet Goal

We are getting closer to our goal of 100 new enrollees! After two and a half weeks, we have 31 new e-Givers. Won't you consider joining them?

Click "Donate Online" on our parish website ([www.sfxlg.org](http://www.sfxlg.org)) to enroll.

We can do this!

## Your Parish Finances



Prior Month's Offerings:	<i>EFT/Credit Card</i>	+	<i>Basket</i>	=	<i>October Total</i>
October 2017	\$ 44,367		\$ 78,972		\$ 123,339
October 2016	\$ 38,933		\$ 84,794		\$ 123,727

Note: Both October 2016 and 2017 contained 5 Sundays.

God bless you for your generosity to St. Francis Xavier Parish!

### SUGGESTIONS FOR AN INCREASE IN YOUR PARISH INVESTMENT

Please consider the following for increasing your investment in SFX Parish ministries:

- ◆ Locate your current investment.
- ◆ Prayerfully consider investing an additional 4% or more.

### CURRENT INVESTMENT

### WITH INVESTMENT INCREASE...

	<u>2.5%</u>	<u>4.0%</u>	<u>5.0%</u>	<u>7.0%</u>
\$ 10	\$ 10.25	\$ 10.40	\$ 10.50	\$ 10.70
\$ 25	\$ 25.63	\$ 26.00	\$ 26.25	\$ 26.75
\$ 50	\$ 51.25	\$ 52.00	\$ 52.50	\$ 53.50
\$ 100	\$ 102.50	\$ 104.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 107.00
\$ 250	\$ 256.25	\$ 260.00	\$ 262.50	\$ 267.50

# Preschool

We here at St. Francis Xavier School are very excited to announce the expansion of our Preschool Program beginning 2018-2019! Preschool 3 will offer half day classes with three and five day attendance options, and Pre K 4 will run Monday through Friday with half day and full day options.

Our Preschool program combines cognitive and play-based philosophies. We believe purposeful play with experiential learning fully engages the child and develops a true love of learning. In addition, SFX focuses on actively living one's faith and providing an example of character to others in daily life. Our goal is to guide children in their journey to realizing their own personal gifts and learning to value the contribution of others.

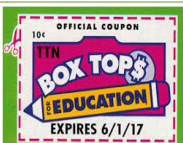
Enrollment will begin mid-November! Please contact our Advancement Director Jennifer Courier at [jcourier@sfxlg.org](mailto:jcourier@sfxlg.org) for more information or to be placed on the distribution list for applications.

## *We Give Thanks For All Who Nourish Us*

*Hearts full of gratitude to all who helped make Thanksgiving special for the 125 families who were served by the St. Francis Xavier Food Pantry.*

- *Food Drives by Gurrie Middle School, Jo's Footwork Studio, Knights of Columbus, Nazareth Academy, SFX Religious Education and St. John of the Cross.*
- *Fresh Turkeys donated by Connomac Corporation.*
- *Funds collected through Day School.*
- *Anonymous Donation for cost of frozen turkeys.*
- *Mum sale proceeds from the Khasho Family.*
- *Pie Collection through Family Ministry.*
- *Handmade scarves by Prayer Shawl Ministry.*

*Volunteers who picked up the turkeys from Casey's Market and helped prepare and distribute Thanksgiving bags.*



## **Box Tops For Education Collection**

Please help in earning cash for our school. We would like your help in collecting Box Tops For Education. There will be a drop box located at the back of church in the vestibule. Please place Box Tops that you have collected inside.

Thank you for your help!

## **Welcome Wednesdays at St. Francis Xavier School**



We would like to invite you to attend a Welcome Wednesday admissions event and learn all about our programs and tour our school. Reservations are suggested, but not required.

2018 Welcome Wednesday dates:

January 17, 2018

May 16, 2018

Welcome Wednesday kicks off at 8:30 am at our East Campus with an informal presentation from our principal and an early education teacher, and ends with a school tour.

Our East Campus (preschool 3 – kindergarten) at 21 N. Catherine Avenue, LaGrange morning begins at 8:30 am

Families interested in enrolling a child in grades 1-7, please call the school to arrange for a private tour at your convenience.

To make reservations, schedule a private tour, or request a shadow day for your child, please contact Jennifer Courier at 708-352-2175.

Our all-school **Open House is January 28, 2018.** The “Gym Fair” at the Main Campus will showcase all clubs and extracurricular activities, and teachers will be in their class rooms at both campuses to answer any questions you may have.

Open Enrollment begins mid November. Our early education classes reach capacity very quickly. Contact Jennifer Courier [jcourier@sfxlg.org](mailto:jcourier@sfxlg.org) to be placed on distribution list for the application paperwork.

## SFX YOUTH MINISTRY WEBSITE:

www.youthministry.sfxlg.org

### Christmas-y Hangout!

All teens invited! Youth Council is throwing a Christmas party on December 9<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-3:00 pm in Joyce Hall. There will be a white elephant gift exchange (\$10 limit on the gift), hot chocolate, cookies, pizza, and good cheer! Christmas sweaters recommended but not required. We hope to see you there!



### God's Garage Open Hours

God's Garage will be open weekly on Mondays and Tuesdays from 7:00-8:00 pm. I (Olivia) will be there during these times with snacks if anyone would like to stop by and say hi, use the space to hang out with friends, do homework, etc. I have set this time up as an opportunity to get to know the teens and parents of St. Francis. Don't be afraid to stop by!

### Fretus Identity Retreat: Choices

Calling all freshmen and sophomores! We have a retreat just for YOU! This year, St. Francis Xavier and St. Cletus are also joining with St. John of the Cross to create the Fretus Identity Retreat. Join us for a weekend of reflection on choices, transitions, relationships with others and God, and of course, FUN! The retreat is January 12-14, 2018. More information and registration can be found on the Youth Ministry website under Retreats. **THE DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS DECEMBER 15.** For more information please contact Olivia Hollman at [ohollman@sfxlg.org](mailto:ohollman@sfxlg.org) or 708-352-0168 x338.



### Giving Tree

Giving Tree tags will be distributed the weekend of December 2-3. Gifts and tags must be returned by 12:00 Noon December 10.

~ *Olivia Hollman*

## Religious Education Important Dates & Class Dates

Sunday, December 3	Class
Wednesday, December 6	Class
Sunday, December 10	Class
Wednesday, December 13	Class
Sunday, December 17	Class
	Pajama Day
Wednesday, December 20	Class
	Pajama Day
Sunday, December 24	No Class
Wednesday, December 27	No Class
Sunday, December 31	No Class
Wednesday, January 3	No Class

## Children's Liturgy of the Word

The Word of the Lord has a message for children as well as adults. Children's Liturgy of the Word offers the children an experience to hear the scripture in words that they can understand. Here at St. Francis we are fortunate and proud to have adult volunteers and Presiders of Liturgy who journey with our children so that they can experience the Word of the Lord with a message that is relevant and fitting for them.

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 Reflectors 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 "kicked off" the school year on Saturday, October 14. Allen Sterwalt, our Director of Music, along with our Cherub Choir and SF Choristers (Children in Grades 1-8) led us in prayer with music. **Children's Liturgy of the Word takes place in church whenever the children's choirs lead us in song/prayer.** 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 to 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.

Here is the **tentative** schedule:  
December 9—Combined Choirs;  
January 6—Cherub;  
February 3—Combined Choirs;  
February 24—Choristers;  
March 3—Cherub and  
March 24—Choristers

Children in Grades K-4 will be invited to join their Reflectors 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):

December 16;  
January 13, 20 & 27;  
February 10 & 17;  
March 10 & 17;  
and April 7, 14, 21 & 28

You can call 708-352-0168 and direct your questions to:  
Terri Simeoni, RE Coordinator  
Allen Sterwalt, Director of Music

A large, stylized flame graphic in shades of yellow, orange, and red serves as a background for the text. The flame is composed of several overlapping, teardrop-shaped elements that create a sense of movement and heat.

***Sharing the Missionary Spirit  
of St. Francis Xavier Throughout the Year***

**Go Forth to Set the World on FIRE**

by sharing our gifts with:

**Human Concerns Ministries**

BEDS Plus  
Domestic Violence  
Family Outreach  
Food Pantry  
Habitat for Humanity  
Kitchen Angels  
Knights of Columbus  
Peace & Justice  
Prayer Shawl  
St. Vincent de Paul Society

**All Parish Service Day, Day School, Religious Education and Youth Ministry Outreach Partners**

Bernie's Book Bank  
Bethlehem Woods  
Big Shoulders  
Caring Place  
Catholic Heart Work Camp  
Challenger Baseball  
Community Nurse Health Center  
Companions Journeying Together  
CROP Walk  
Feed My Starving Children  
Franciscan Outreach  
Greater Chicago Food Depository  
Helping Hand Center

Interfaith Committee for Detained immigrants  
Interfaith Community Partners  
Kolbe House  
Marillac St Vincent Family Services  
Ministers of Care  
Plymouth Place  
Project cure  
Robert E Coulter Jr, Post 1941  
SEASPAR – Recreation for Individuals with Disabilities  
Soles4Souls  
SOUPer Bowling of Caring for El Nino Rey Scholarship  
St. Agatha's  
Taller de Jose



## **St. Francis Xavier** **Information about Our Patron Saint**

*“The dangers to which I am exposed and the tasks I undertake for God are springs of spiritual joy, so much so that these islands are the places in all the world for a man to lose his sight by excess of weeping; but they are tears of joy.”*

- Born 1506, in Navarre, Spain.
- Educated at the Univ. of Paris in the 1530s, where he met Ignatius of Loyola.
- In 1541, was appointed apostolic nuncio (an ambassador of the Church) to Asia, and left for Portuguese Goa. The voyage took 15 months.
- In his parting letter to Ignatius, he wrote: *“For what is left of this life, I am well assured, it will be by letter only that we shall be together – in the other we shall embrace face to face.”*
- Through his preaching he won many conversions, almost all among poor, tribal, and lower-caste peoples.
- In his travels, he tended to the needs of the sick and infirm, revitalized the liturgical and sacramental life of already existing Christian populations, and drew people to faith in Jesus Christ.
- In 1546, he explored other islands in southern Asia. Then, in 1549, he moved on to Japan, where he made a hundred converts in a year at Kagoshima. By the time he left three years later, there were 2,000 Japanese Christians.
- In 1552, Francis left for mission work in China. He became ill on the way, and died almost alone on the island of Shang-chwan, six miles off the coast of mainland China.
- His death was on December 3, 1552 at the age of forty-six.
- St. Francis Xavier remains one of the greatest missionaries in the history of the Church.
- He was canonized in 1622, along with Ignatius of Loyola, Teresa of Avila, and Philip Neri.
- In 1927 he was declared the patron saint of foreign missions.

We pray: *Make me your faithful follower, Lord Jesus, as was Saint Francis Xavier.  
May others hear and see you through me. I pray through Christ our Lord, Amen.*

# Welcome to Advent!

**Our Parish Prophetic Plan** compels us to...

“Develop opportunities for spiritual growth and prayer...

Strengthen our relationships while reaching out to all...

Create a culture of faith formation...

Live the Gospel message of peace and justice...

Respond to the needs of those within and beyond the parish...

Involve young people to share their gifts and assume leadership...

and nurture individuals of all ages and families of all types as members of our parish family.” *May we journey through this season of joyful preparation for the coming of Christ, rooted in these values, and strengthened by God’s love.*



## Prayer & Reflection

This Advent we join St. John of the Cross Parish in praying with the *Little Blue Book*.

Similar to the *Little Black Book* we use during Lent, the *Little Blue Book* contains six minute reflections on the

Advent and

Christmas seasons, found in Matthew’s Gospel. These contain Scripture passages, reflections, simple prayers, action steps, and a variety of thoughts about Advent/Christmas, feast days, traditions and customs.

**The Little  
Blue Book  
2017-2018**

## Online Resources:

- <http://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/advent>
- <http://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever/>
- <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent/>

## Daily Mass

Monday-Wednesday, 7:45 & 9:00 am;  
Thursday & Saturday, 9:00 am. Friday,  
7:45 am.

(Communion Service:

Thursday, 7:45 am & Friday, 9:00 am)

## Advent Wreath

Set up a wreath in your home, and light it for prayer and/or meals.

## Gather In Prayer

If you were in a Lenten Small Faith Group, or CRHP retreat, consider calling people together to discuss Advent and ways to moving through the season prayerfully.

## Reconciliation

Come celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation on Monday, December 11 at 7:00 pm. Individual reconciliation is available on Saturdays, after the 9:00 am mass & at 4:15 pm.

## Support the Giving Tree

Quest teens are collecting gifts for inner city families through St. Agatha. December 2-December 10.

## Taizé Prayer

Experience contemplative prayer through simple melodies, scripture, a procession of candles, prayers for peace, and silent reflection.  
December 8

## Individual Prayer

The church is open daily for prayer, 7:30 am to 2:00 pm.

## Congregation of St. Joseph Events at the Well:

### December 4

#### Transformational Breath,

7:00-9:00 pm, Cost: \$25. Please register in advance, as space is limited.

### December 9

#### Jack Shea & Kathy Sherman, CSJ: Seeing Haloes

9:00 am-Noon. An Advent morning of reflection with poetry and music to open our hearts. *Free to parishioners.*

### December 18/19

#### The Shock of Advent, Pat Bergen, CSJ

As we are drawn more deeply in Advent and Christmas, something wonderful is beginning to dawn upon us. Light changes everything!  
*Offered twice: Monday, December 18, 7:00-8:30 pm & Tuesday, December 19, 9:30-11:00 am.*  
*Free to parishioners.*

**The Well Spirituality Center,**  
Register at: 708-482-5048,  
[www.csjthewell.org](http://www.csjthewell.org), 1515 West  
Ogden Avenue, LaGrange Park

# Advent Events Calendar 2017



## December 2/3

**Feast of St. Francis Xavier,**  
Celebrated at all masses this weekend.

## December 2/3

Take a tag to donate to  
**The Giving Tree**

## December 3

Begin daily Advent Prayer with  
*The Little Blue Book*

## December 6

**Senior Women's Group:**  
*Faith & Fitness—Trusting God's Plan* presented by Linda Hillsman  
9:30 am Coffee; 10:00 am Talk

## December 8

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception,** Mass at 7:45 am, 9:00 am & 7:00 pm

**Taizé prayer,** 7:30 pm,  
at Grace Lutheran Church

## December 10

Return your wrapped gift for  
**The Giving Tree** before the noon Mass today.

Family Outreach Ministry is hosting **Christmas Caroling at Helping Hand Center** from 1:00-3:00 pm.

Commit to **baking for incarcerated men through North Lawndale Adult Transition Center.**  
(See December 15)

## December 11

**Reconciliation Service,** 7:00 pm

**"End Gun Violence" Prayer Service,** 7:00 pm, at The Well Spirituality Center, Congregation of St. Joseph Chapel, 1515 West Ogden Avenue

## December 12

**Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
Mass at 7:45 am & 9:00 am

## December 14

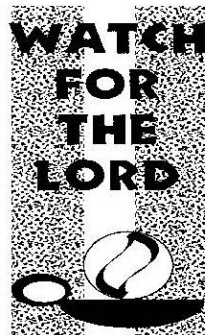
Day School—2nd, 4th & 6th Graders present **Carol & Light,** 7:00-8:00 pm, Church

## December 15

**Drop off day for baked goods** for incarcerated men, 9:00 am—5:00 pm. Details in bulletin.

## December 22

Day School—7th Graders present Advent Prayer Service, 11:00 am, Gym



## St. Francis Xavier Christmas Mass Schedule 2017

**Sunday, December 24**  
7:30 am, 9:00 am and 10:30 am  
**NO NOON MASS**

**Christmas Eve**  
3:00 pm and 5:00 pm in Church  
*are Masses for which*  
**Tickets have been distributed**

**Christmas Eve**  
3:00 pm and 5:00 pm  
**Sisters of St. Joseph**  
**Motherhouse Chapel**  
**Tickets are only required**  
**and have been**  
**distributed for 3:00pm Mass**

**Christmas Eve in Church**  
7:00 pm

**Midnight Mass in Church**  
preceded by Christmas Carols  
at 11:30 pm

**Christmas Day in Church**  
NO 7:30 am  
9:00 am, 10:30 am and NOON

**Choose a Ministry & Get Involved!** Visit [sfxlg.org](http://sfxlg.org) for a complete list.  
*2018 Ministry Resource Guide will be available in January.*

## Baptisms

We celebrate and welcome the newest members of our faith family, who were baptized:



***Jacqueline Annunciata Hernandez***

Daughter of Dominic & Catherine (Carroll) Hernandez

***Jolene Lana Berrout***

Daughter of Lizandro & Justyna (Shouse) Berrout

***Finnian Patrick Brook***

Son of Andrew & Anne (Ball) Brook

***Bennett Thomas Fox***

Son of Thomas & Michelle (McDonough) Fox

***Cailyn Catherine Johnson***

Daughter of Grant & Carrie (Kozelka) Johnson

***Beau Michael Lyons***

Son of Nicholas & Laura (Sullivan) Lyons

***Eli Bentham Mathews***

Son of John & Kim (Zdunczyk) Mathews

***Alexander Edward Tamm***

Son of Michael & Ana (Sisson) Tamm

***Katherine Frances Winkler***

Daughter of Joseph & Kara (Slattery) Winkler

***Owen James Hanson***

Son of Justin & Lindsay (Shore) Hanson

***Maeve Grace Baker***

Daughter of Ray & Rebecca (Miller) Baker

***Ryan Michael Biebel***

Son of Mike & Claire (Roddewig) Biebel

***Zachary Scott Freer***

Son of William & Stephanie (Fuller) Freer

***Deagan Michael Myers***

Son of Nicholas & Stephanie (King) Myers

***Dominic Henry Scheirer***

Son of Shawn & Sara (Rak) Scheirer

***Caitlin Grace Quick***

Daughter of Justin & Michelle (Shefcik) Quick

***Quinn Fitzsimmons Martin***

Son of Ryan & Molly (Fitzsimmons) Martin

***Emma Luaa Landivar***

Daughter of Javier & Karla (Ferrer) Landivar

***Samantha Paige Kennedy***

Daughter of James & Kathryn (O'Connor) Kennedy

***Joshua Jameson Kennedy***

Son of James & Kathryn (O'Connor) Kennedy

***Liliana Elizabeth Kennedy***

Daughter of James & Kathryn (O'Connor) Kennedy

## What's Your *Favorite Memory* of St. Francis Xavier?

Another question to consider: **People often say that St. Francis Xavier is a special place. Why do you think people feel this way?**

The SFX Staff, EnlightIN Team, our 125th Anniversary Planners and interested Volunteers are working on our *125th Anniversary Book*, and we invite your input. People of all ages are invited to write a favorite memory or answer the question above, and return it to [sfxinlg@sfxlg.org](mailto:sfxinlg@sfxlg.org) or the rectory. Please include:

- Your memory or thoughts — a sentence, a paragraph, or a page (200 word max)
- Info about You: name, phone number, email address, age (if child), and how long you have been a parishioner
- A photo of yourself or an image related to your memory (optional)

Please return your memory or thoughts to [sfxinlg@sfxlg.org](mailto:sfxinlg@sfxlg.org) or the rectory by **Jan. 15, 2018**.

Memories and thoughts selected by our editors will be highlighted in the 125th Anniversary Book, as well as in the parish bulletin and on the website. Contact Missy Westerhoff for further information: 708-352-0168 or [sfxinlg@sfxlg.org](mailto:sfxinlg@sfxlg.org).

## SFX Family Ministry

### Christmas Caroling at Helping Hand Center Group Homes



Join the SFX Family Outreach Ministry Committee on Sunday, December 10 from 1:00-3:00 pm, when we will travel to Helping Hand Center's residential homes for adults with disabilities and sing Christmas Carols. We will be visiting a various group homes in the LaGrange area to sing and share some hot chocolate with the residents. We will supply the song sheets and drinks, you just need to bring your best singing voices and holiday cheer.

Interested? Please contact Rachel Peterson by email at [petersonrtw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:petersonrtw@sbcglobal.net).

## Calling All Bakers!



Sarah Zavala and Barb Szulc are continuing a tradition of bringing a taste of Christmas to the residents and staff at the North Lawndale Adult Transition Center, a work-release program that is part of the Illinois Department of Corrections. The holidays can be very difficult for those who are incarcerated, and following the Gospel, we want to reach out in kindness at this time of the year.

This is the seventh year of our outreach, and it is a great service opportunity for parents and children, grandparents and grandchildren, Quest groups or anyone who just loves to bake! As you plan your Christmas baking, we ask you to consider setting aside some of your favorite cookies (or muffins, or brownies, or chocolate-covered pretzels) to share with the residents and staff at North Lawndale.

Sarah, Barb and their crew of helpers will collect, package, and deliver the cookies. We are planning to deliver 250 dozen cookies! In order to plan our own baking, please let us know by December 10th, if you would like to participate. Send an email to [OutreachCookie@gmail.com](mailto:OutreachCookie@gmail.com) with your name and an estimate of the number of cookies you'll donate. Cookies may be dropped off at Barb's home, 205 46th Street in Western Springs on **Friday, December 15th** from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. Please call Sarah at 708-261-3473 with any questions.

**Also an option:** If you are unable to bake, and would like to contribute to the success of this project, we ask that you consider donating brownie, muffin or cookie mixes. You may drop them off in the back of the Church through December 10th. We'll be happy to do the baking for you!

Thanks for your participation,  
Sarah Zavala and Barb Szulc

## The Christmas Wafer

The Christmas Wafer (also known as "Oplatki") is available in the Rectory during office hours Monday through Friday 9:00 am until 8:30 pm, Saturday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Sunday between 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.



The word "Bethlehem" means "the house of bread." The breaking of the bread is a sign of charity, unity and friendship. Religious family customs bring the truths of faith into the home. One of these beautiful Christmas Eve customs is the Christmas Wafer. The thin wafer bearing the Christmas characters is broken by the head of the family and distributed to each member. With a simple prayer for God's grace and the welfare of all members of the family, those present as well as those who are absent, the head of the house breaks the wafer and distributes it, one piece to each person at the table. While doing so, each member of the family is kissed and wished a joyful feast. Members then greet one another in the same way.

The spiritual lesson in this age-old custom is that the unity of the family is grounded in God's love for us. May you experience unity and love through this simple celebration.

## The Giving Tree

Please help make Christmas a special time of year for families supported by our sharing parish, St. Agatha's on the west side of Chicago as well as some outreach organizations in our community. Giving Tree tags will be available after all masses this weekend **December 2 and 3.**



**Wrapped gifts with gift tags affixed to them, need to be returned by noon next Sunday, December 10** so that we can deliver them to St. Agatha's who will distribute them to members of their community that afternoon. We are grateful for your generous support of this annual Christmas tradition sponsored by the QUEST teens of our parish.

If you have any questions, please contact Olivia Hollman at [ohollman@sfxlg.org](mailto:ohollman@sfxlg.org) or 708-352-0168 x338.

## SPRED Christmas Liturgy

Please join the St. Francis Xavier SPRED group on Sunday, December 10 at the 6:00 pm. Mass for the SPRED Christmas liturgy. This Mass will incorporate some of the special ways our SPRED group celebrates liturgy. Come experience our unique way to celebrate God's love for all of us.

After Mass, we will continue our celebration with a reception in Joyce Hall, hosted by 6<sup>th</sup> Grade students and families from the Day School. All are welcome!

## Taizé Prayer

St. Francis Xavier  
and  
Grace Lutheran

*All are invited to our  
Taizé Evening Prayer  
Friday, December 8  
7:30 pm  
at  
Grace Lutheran*



Taizé Prayer is contemplative and most importantly communal, combining simple repetitive melodies that are sung by all, prayerful silence, scripture reading and intercessory prayer. This prayer can promote a kind to inner unity of person, allowing the spirit to be more open and attentive to what is essential. It is our hope that you will join us, especially at this time when our world is much in need of prayer.

## OUR JOURNEY. OUR VOICE. SFX Music Ministry CD



In honor of our parish's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the SFX music ministry released the CD recording entitled, "**Our Journey. Our Voice.**" This two-disc set highlights music created and performed at St. Francis Xavier through Sunday worship and special concert events over the past 25 years! Featured are diverse and inspiring performances by our past and present **Celebration Ensemble, Gallery Choir, Spirit Choir and Children's Choirs**. Also featured is **Kairos** with vocalists Jenny Palmer, Carolyn Kline, Jennifer Kerr Budziak and Meriel Owens.

This journey will take you through the timeline of music directors and music leaders within the last 25 years including Kathy Sherman, Ed Nowak, Jennifer Kerr Budziak, and most currently Allen Sterwalt. A warm thank you and gratitude goes out to Sr. Therese Fassnacht for her musical service and leadership as music director as well.

Highlighted are pieces from the SFX-sponsored *Frontiers of the Heart* (1996), the premiere of *At Bethlehem's Door* – a musical journey to the heart of Christmas (1995), *Amazing Grace*—A gospel concert collaboration with Rev. Calvin Bridges and Chicago Praise Ensemble (1998), *Roses in the Snow* Advent performance (2004), *Ecumenical Concert* (2004), and the *Epiphany Christmas Concert* (2015).

The CD is available for purchase at St. Francis Xavier for the holidays! The cost is \$15 per two-CD set; or buy multiple copies for holiday gifts and receive a discount. Proceeds will help support a community outreach organization, and the SFX Music Ministry.



## CD Sales to Benefit SFX Food Pantry

During Advent and Christmas, SFX cantor Barb Kalnes once again offers her CDs for sale to benefit the St. Francis Xavier Parish Food Pantry. This year, two recordings are featured: *Dream Traveler*, a 2017 release featuring Multiplicity Jazz Ensemble; and the Advent-themed recording entitled, *Roses in the Snow*. These recordings are available for purchase at Anderson's Bookshop and Veni Vidi Val in downtown LaGrange, as well as LaGrange Park Antique Mall located at the corner of Barnsdale and 31<sup>st</sup> Street. The price is \$12 per disc.

Your purchase of *Dream Traveler* and/or *Roses in the Snow* will directly benefit SFX community outreach. Half of all proceeds from the CD sales will go directly to the SFX Food Pantry to help stock the shelves and provide meat, fresh produce, and dairy products to those in need. Thank you for supporting these local music projects and the parish Food Pantry.

SENIOR WOMEN'S GROUP

*Linda Hillsman*

PARISHIONER, CANCER SURVIVOR, AUTHOR, CRHP SISTER  
PRESENTS

*Faith and Fitness - Trusting God's Plan*

FAITH & FITNESS-TRUSTING GOD'S PLAN. WHERE ARE YOU ON YOUR FAITH JOURNEY? IS YOUR BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT ALL CONNECTED? DO YOU TRUST THAT GOD'S PLAN FOR YOU IS BETTER THAN THE PLAN YOU HAVE FOR YOURSELF? A FEW CHAPTERS FROM HER BOOK, *BLANKET OF HOPE THROUGH FAITH & FITNESS*, WILL BE HIGHLIGHTED, AS WELL AS LIGHT MEDITATION AND MOVEMENT. COME WITH AN OPEN MIND AND A WILLINGNESS TO LOOK DEEP WITHIN YOUR HEART AND SOUL.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2017**

**9:30 AM COFFEE**

**10:00 AM PRESENTATION**

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER  
124 N. SPRING AVENUE  
LA GRANGE  
EAST RECTORY MEETING ROOM

Are you Thriving or Just Surviving?

**Welcome.** CRHP 2.0

There is More to Life

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**January 20-21**

**The Welcome (Christ Renews His Parish/CRHP 2.0) women's retreat offers a wonderful opportunity to connect with others and share experiences on a journey to renew your relationship with the Lord and build a bond with other women of the parish. All women are welcome on this spiritual journey. Registration forms are available in the parish rectory.**

Questions, please contact Tammy Walczyk at 708/354-7312.

*Experience the weekend*

## Why Buy

### Fair Trade Coffee??

The coffee sold at St. Francis Xavier is purchased from *Equal Exchange Fairly Traded*. There is a lot behind this coffee. "We work closely with our farmer partners, year after year, to better understand each other's needs. The result is a trusting relationship and delicious coffee."

Beth Ann Caspersen, Quality Control Manager

Fair Trade builds right relationships between buyers and sellers that are rooted in the principles of human dignity and solidarity.

Fair Trade:

- Respects human dignity
- Promotes the common good
- Advances economic justice
- Empowers disadvantaged people
- Connects us with the people who create the things we buy
- Cultivates global solidarity

The Catholic Relief Services Fair Trade Program creates opportunities for us to bring these core values of our faith to bear on the choices we make as consumers—choices that have the power to lift our brothers and sisters out of poverty.

Effort is made to see that these coffee farmers are given a fair wage!!!

## Welcome

We welcome the following parishioners who have registered during the month of November:

James Apraia

Brigid White

Patrick & Sara Tomazin

Charles & Mercedes Eitz

Michael & Jacqueline Otmanski

Timothy & Margaret Sheldon

William & Grace Burke

Francisco & Kerry Gamboa

Edward Lezza, Jr. & Elizabeth Ciaccia

Roy & Mary Ellen Leslie

Peter & Cathleen Sullivan



## SFX Men's Club

All men of the parish are welcome.  
For further information, please contact:

Matt Hubert at [mthubert@gmail.com](mailto:mthubert@gmail.com) or  
Joseph Enright at [joseph\\_owen@hotmail.com](mailto:joseph_owen@hotmail.com).

## A Call To Ministry

A new year with new challenges! What about that nagging feeling deep in your hearts? Is God calling you to be more fully a part of the ministries here at SFX? Have you thought that maybe you'd like to minister to those assembled as an extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion? As a Eucharistic Minister, you would be a sign and carrier of Eucharistic joy. Please consider His call to serve our parish in this way.

At SFX we are in need of ministers especially at the 10:30AM and Noon Masses. To discuss the possibility of becoming a member of this ministry please contact either David at [d2rsherman@aol.com](mailto:d2rsherman@aol.com) or George at [Grutkowski@aol.com](mailto:Grutkowski@aol.com).

## Workbooks for Lector and Commentators

The workbooks for Lectors and Gospel readers have arrived. If you would like a workbook, please stop by the Rectory Office at your convenience. Please let the receptionist know your name so that we can check your name off our list.

We ask that you take only one book per family. Thank you.

## Winter Ministry Schedules

The new Winter Ministry Schedules have been emailed and you will be able to find a hard copy in the Priest Sacristy.

Thank you for ministering to our parish.

## Lost and Found

The Lost and Found cabinet located outside the church restroom is emptied each month. Please check it if you think that you have left something in church. In the upcoming week, items in lost and found will be brought to the Community Nurses' Resale Shop.



# 2017 Nationwide Vigils & Events to #EndGunViolence

Come together to remember half a million Americans killed or injured by guns since the Sandy Hook shooting tragedy.



Service on Monday, December 11



The EnlightIN Communications Team is looking for people with



to help enhance the SFX website and Facebook pages, and document the life of the parish over the past 25 years. If you can help in any of the ways listed below, please contact Kate DeVries, kdevries@sfxlg.org or 708-352-0168.

- Photographers
- Video takers
- Web, Facebook & Twitter users
- Interviewers
- Writers
- Video editors

## Catholic Women’s Club

Save the date for the SFX CWC's holiday shopping night!

Come enjoy an evening of shopping, wine, and cheer at Vintage Charm and Stockholm Objects.

**6:30-8:30 pm.**

**Thursday, December 7th**

**Please RSVP to [lylach@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lylach@sbcglobal.net) by 12/5.**

All women of the parish are members of the Catholic Women's Club. If you would like to get involved or if you would like to receive monthly newsletters about our upcoming events via email, please contact Tiziana Lambert at [tizianalambert@gmail.com](mailto:tizianalambert@gmail.com).



*Mark your December calendars for two outstanding programs:*

**Transformational Breath:** Experience what it feels like to open restricted breathing and release negativity, bringing your whole being to a state of relaxation, through the power of your own breath. Monday, December 4, 7:00-9:00 pm. Please register in advance, as spaces are limited. Free to SFX parishioners.

**Jack Shea & Kathy Sherman, CSJ: Seeing Haloes** During this Advent morning of reflection, Jack will share his poetry and Kathy her songs, opening our hearts and bringing us into Christmas memories we may have forgotten and experiences we may have overlooked. Saturday, December 9, 9:00 am-Noon. Co-sponsored by SFX and SJC; free to parishioners.

**The Shock of Advent, Pat Bergen, CSJ** As we are drawn more deeply into Advent and Christmas something wonderful is beginning to dawn on us. When it comes to light, everything changes. If you can't figure out what is happening in the world and you are tired of walking around in the dark, join us! Offered twice: Monday, December 18, 7:00-8:30 pm and Tuesday, December 19 from 9:30-11:00 am. Co-sponsored by SFX and SJC; free to parishioners.

The Well Spirituality Center, 1515 Ogden Avenue in LaGrange Park. To register: 708-482-5048 or [thewell@csjoseph.org](mailto:thewell@csjoseph.org); [www.csjthewell.org](http://www.csjthewell.org).





**Breakfast  
with  
Santa**  
(All you can eat)

**DATE:** Sunday December 10th

**TIME:** 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM

**Location:** St. Barbara's Parish Center  
4015 Prairie Ave  
Brookfield, Illinois

**Cost:** \$5 Adult, \$3 Children (6-12),  
\$15 Family of 5 (Parents & Children under 18)

**Sponsored by St. Barbara's K of C Council**



JACK SHEA  
and  
KATHY SHERMAN, CSJ

## SEEING HALOES

Christmas Poems and Music to Open the Heart

Saturday, 9:00 - Noon, DECEMBER 9

Christmas is unavoidable. But whether it happens for us is a question. It depends if we get in its way. Getting in its way means slowing down and doing something out of the ordinary, something that has to do with the spiritual meaning of the feast and the season.

During this Advent morning of reflection, Jack will share his poetry and Kathy will inspire us with her original music. These poems and songs hope to bring us into memories we may have forgotten and experiences we may have overlooked. When this happens, Spirit arrives to illumine our minds, inspire our wills, and gladden our hearts. Christmas happens.

Program is free for St. Francis Xavier parishioners.

Advance registration is requested, please call The Well Office at 708-482-5048.



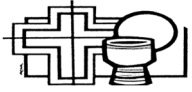
1515 West Ogden Avenue, LaGrange Park, IL 60526  
708-482-5048 | [thewell@csjoseph.org](mailto:thewell@csjoseph.org) | [www.csjthewell.org](http://www.csjthewell.org)  
A sponsored ministry of the Congregation of St. Joseph



## 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
- **Staff Sgt. Rhonda Russell, USAF**—daughter of Deidre & John Russell and granddaughter of Mary F. Russell
- **Ensign Jonathan Devitt Brown**—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
- **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
- **Master Sgt. Andrew Lang**—son of Marge & Ray Lang
- **Scott Conway, U.S. Navy**—nephew of Robert Dunne & Mark Conway
- **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 William Baker, U.S. Army**—son of Meg & Barry Baker
- **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 Julia & Anthony Ciaccia and granddaughter of Harold Held
- **Chris Johnson, USCG**—nephew of Judi Kudlacz and grandson of Jerry & Nancy Johnson
- **SPC Matthew Alvis, U.S. Army**—cousin of the Tschaikovsky Family
- **Michael Rodden, USAF & Christopher Osterhaus, USMC**—son and nephew of John & Vicki Rodden
- **Dominic James Greco, U.S. Navy**—nephew of Rita Pantoni
- **Robert Weiler, U.S. Navy**—brother of Rebecca Dionisio

**Please inform us of those serving in the military overseas...  
and please let us know when friends and loved ones  
return from their deployment overseas.  
Email the [bulletineditor@sfxlg.org](mailto:bulletineditor@sfxlg.org).**



## Liturgical Ministers' Schedule—December 9-10, 2017

Mass Time	Presider	Lectors/ Commentators	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Cantors	Greeters
5:00 PM	Fr. Killeen	M. Perkovich D. Veverka D. Mulvenna	K. Corrigan J. Denson K. Kanzer J. Kelly F. Kudia K. Preussner A. Saladino P. Saladino C. Witt	E. McFadden C. Kachmarik A. Dillon	SF Choisters & Cherub Choir	S. Devitt
7:30 AM	Fr. Killeen	R. Hillsman M. Kalkowski T. Marthaler	S. Augustyn M. Hermesdorf K. McInerney J. Morsch P. Olson	E. Akalaitis B. Griffin A. Fix	K. Fron	J. Morsch T. Morsch
9:00 AM	Fr. Muccino	J. O'Connor J. Stopka M. McFadden	R. Barker M. Branecki V. Bracht D. Carlson C. Pratali R. Pratali D. Sherman J. Van Gorp L. Weyrauch	S. Kostal C. McLaughlin N. Havenaar	T. Pangan Gallery Choir	J. Burson
10:30 AM	Fr. Tkachuk	J. Nowak B. Boyd M. Justak	R. Caragher A. Clark J. Clark N. Cummings L. Egan M. Joscelyn K. Parisi G. Rutkowski K. Witowski	J. Eraci L. Nowak	L. DiGianfilippo	P. Sbertoli
12:00 PM	Fr. Killeen	L. Freda J. Gatsos L. Freda	A. Chimento L. Donegan B. Edelmann A. Gatsos M. K. Pasin	B. Michel M. Hayford R. Garcia	K. DeVries	O. Lozano
6:00 PM	Fr. Tkachuk	SPRED Mass	B. Metzger K. Metzger M. K. Kelly M. Cooley M. Cooley		Spirit Choir	

### Readings For The Week of December 3, 2017

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2b-7/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

Monday: Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24

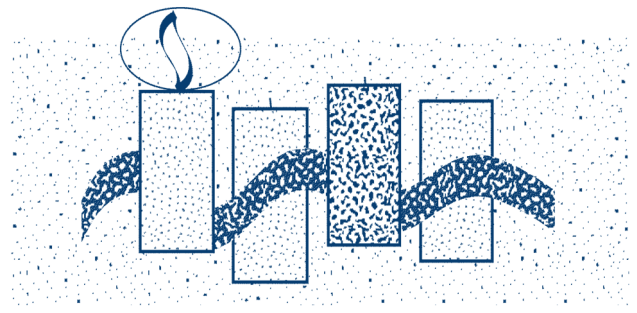
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8



## St. Francis Xavier Personnel

### Pastoral Ministry

Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Deacon  
Pastoral Associate  
Weekend Sacramental Ministers  
Weekend Sacramental Ministers

*Rev. William Tkachuk*  
*Rev. William Killeen*  
*Mr. Andrew Allison*  
*Dr. Kate DeVries*  
*Rev. Stan Ilo*  
*Rev. Keith Muccino, S.J.*

wtkachuk@sfxlg.org  
bkilleen@sfxlg.org  
aallison@sfxlg.org  
kdevries@sfxlg.org

### Education Ministry

Day School Principal  
Assistant Principal  
Assistant to Day School Principal  
Day School Secretary (Main Campus)  
Day School Secretary (East Campus)  
Coordinator (East Campus)  
Advancement Director  
Tuition Accounts  
Religious Education Coordinator/Sacrament Prep  
Religious Education Office Staff  
Religious Education Office Staff

*Mrs. Sharon Garcia*  
*Mrs. Janice Carr*  
*Mrs. Mary Hoffman*  
*Mrs. Peggy Evans*  
*Mrs. Kathie Kinahan*  
*Mrs. Margaret Houston*  
*Mrs. Jennifer Courier*  
*Mrs. Jennifer Zeisloft*  
*Ms. Terri Simeoni*  
*Mrs. Cindy Johnson*  
*Mrs. Lucile Nichol*

sgarcia@sfxlg.org  
jcarr@sfxlg.org  
mhoffman@sfxlg.org  
pevans@sfxlg.org  
kkinahan@sfxlg.org  
mhouston@sfxlg.org  
jcourier@sfxlg.org  
jzeisloft@sfxlg.org  
tsimeoni@sfxlg.org  
cjohnson@sfxlg.org  
lnichol@sfxlg.org

### Youth Ministry

Coordinator

*Ms. Olivia Hollman*

ohollman@sfxlg.org

### Music Ministry

Director

*Mr. Allen Sterwalt*

asterwalt@sfxlg.org

### Parish Office Staff

Business Manager  
Parish Accountant  
Pastor's Secretary  
Parish Secretary  
Staff Secretary

*Mrs. Jennifer Zeisloft*  
*Mrs. Jane Bandyk*  
*Mrs. Maureen Pipal*  
*Mrs. Melissa Westerhoff*  
*Ms. Debra Soulje*

jzeisloft@sfxlg.org  
jbandyk@sfxlg.org  
mpipal@sfxlg.org  
mwesterhoff@sfxlg.org  
dsoulje@sfxlg.org

### Food Pantry/Community Outreach

Coordinator

*Mrs. Mary Freeman*

mfreeman@sfxlg.org

### **Contact Information**

Parish Office 124 N. Spring .....708-352-0168  
St. Francis Xavier Day School .....708-352-2175  
School of Religious Education .....708-352-4555  
S.P.R.E.D. (Special Religious Education) .....708-352-0168  
Fax Number .....708-352-4904  
e-Mail .....sfxinlg@sfxlg.org  
Main Day School e-Mail.....sfxmain@sfxlg.org  
Main Religious Education e-Mail.....sfxreligious@sfxlg.org  
Parish Web Site .....www.sfxlg.org

### **Rectory Hours**

Monday-Friday.....8:30 am-8:30 pm  
Saturday.....9:00 am-5:00 pm  
Sunday.....9:00 am-2:00 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)

Holy Days of Obligation as scheduled in bulletin.

### **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 Wednesday .....7:45 and 9:00 am  
Thursday.....9:00 am  
Friday.....7:45 am  
Saturday.....9:00 am

### **Word Communion Services**

Thursday.....7:45 am  
Friday.....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. All articles must be emailed 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, call  
our parish counselor, Nancy Kennedy, 773-643-6259 ext. 31 at the  
Claret Center or email nkennedy4@luc.edu.

# Hitzeman Funeral Home, Ltd.

Family Owned and Operated For Over 113 Years  
 Established 1904 — Generations of Dignified Service  
 Pre-Need Insurance and Pre-Need Insurance Payment Plans Available

9445 W. 31st St., Brookfield, IL 60513

www.HitzemanFuneral.com

(708) 485-2000



## LASSAK Market & Deli

**\$5 OFF**  
 any purchase  
 of \$50 or more w/ad

Hot Foods • Deli • Dessert  
 Catering Platters • Delicious Meats  
 Delicious Cheeses • Produce & Groceries  
 Polish and Lithuanian  
 Family Owned Business  
 7145 S. Kingery Hwy. Route 83  
 Willowbrook, IL  
**630.655.2200**  
 www.LassakDeli.com

### Small Group Personal Training



Strength Training • Cardio  
 Nutrition • Accountability

**One Month FREE**  
 with a Purchase of any  
 Membership Package  
 (New clients only) Expires 1/31/18

**708.557.7890**

79 S. La Grange Rd.  
 La Grange

www.getinshapeforwomen.com

### If You Live Alone You Need LIFEWatch!

24 Hour Protection at HOME and AWAY!  
 ✓ Ambulance  
 ✓ Police ✓ Fire  
 ✓ Friends/Family  
 Solutions as Low as **\$19.95 a month**  
 FREE Shipping  
 FREE Activation  
 NO Long Term Contracts

CALL NOW! **800.809.3352** No Landline? No Problem!  
 \* Real Time GPS Tracking \* Fall Detection

Photo Courtesy of Bing Crosby Enterprises

## DUPLEX ELECTRIC

**708-387-9400**

Expert Troubleshooting

Electrical Rehab/Repair

Greg Fiffis - Parishioner

www.duplexelectricservice.com



Conboy's Westchester  
 Funeral Home

10501 W. Cermak Rd.  
 Westchester, IL 708-562-5900

### Catholic Cruises and Tours

Brian or Sally, coordinators  
 an Official Travel  
 Agency of Apostleship  
 of the Sea-USA  
**860.399.1785**  
 CST 2117999-70  
 www.CatholicCruisesAndTours.com

### Carolyn Bronke Wind, DDS, SC

Member: American Dental Assoc.  
 Illinois State Dental Society  
 47 S. 6th Ave., Suite F  
 708-354-1335

### INNOVATIVE COUNSELING PARTNERS

Se Habla Español  
 Depression • Anxiety • Child & Family Therapy  
 Grief/Trauma Counseling • Marriage Counseling  
 Offices in Oak Park, North Riverside & Hinsdale  
**773-312-3612** • www.InnovativeCounselingPartners.com

## ED THE PLUMBER ED THE CARPENTER

Best Work • Best Rate  
 Satisfaction Guaranteed As  
 We Do All Our Own Work  
 Lic# 055-026066  
 \$\$ Parishioner Discount \$\$  
**708-652-1444**



## ATTORNEYS AT LAW

HANDLING CRIMINAL & FAMILY LAW  
 Call Us First for All Your Legal Needs  
**630-230-0101**  
 www.AntoniettiLaw.com  
 Serving LaGrange and Local Areas  
 15 Salt Creek Ln. Suite 321 • Hinsdale, IL

## Ruzicka's

PROFESSIONAL HOME  
 MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST  
 Quality Work 25 yrs. Experience  
 At Reasonable Prices  
 Carpentry, Painting, Flooring &  
 Remodeling • Misc. Jobs  
 Interior-Exterior  
 Parishioner Discounts  
 Paul Ruzicka  
**708-602-9366**  
 References - Free Estimates

## Saint Margaret Sunday Missal

An Ideal companion  
 for personal prayer.  
 In Stock & Ready to Order Today.  
**CALL OR ORDER ONLINE. \$39.95**  
  
**800-566-6150** • www.wlpmusic.com

## SMaRT

www.TheSMaRTInst.com  
**630-922-5071**

Treat Joint Pain Without Surgery  
 Stem Cell & PRP Treatments • Joint Care & Supplements  
 Ultrasound Guided Therapies • Wellness Lab Studies  
 Medicare and other insurances accepted  
 Board Certified Physicians  
 12 Salt Creek Lane, Suite 300, Hinsdale

KIRSCHBAUM'S BAKERY  
 Quality and Variety  
 Full Service Bakery  
 825 Burlington Ave.  
 Western Springs 708-246.2894

## FINDaPARISH.com

Check It Out Today!

The Most Complete  
 Online National  
 Directory of  
 Catholic Parishes

## Palmer

Restaurant & Biergarten  
 Place  
 Family Owned & Operated Since 1988

"WHERE NEIGHBORS BECOME FRIENDS"  
**(708) 482-7127**  
 56 South La Grange Rd., La Grange, IL 60525  
 Steve & Jenny Palmer - Parishioners

## Donald J. Veverka

ATTORNEY AT LAW

ESTATE PLANNING  
 WILLS & TRUSTS  
 PERSONAL INJURY  
 NURSING HOME

FREE CONSULTATION

Cell 312 560 8649

Home 708 354 4839

Your Local Attorney  
 Here To Serve You

## WHY ADVERTISE IN YOUR LOCAL CHURCH BULLETIN?

**GREAT COVERAGE - 97%** of all households attending church take at least one church bulletin home every Sunday.  
**GREAT VALUE - 70%** of all households are aware of and look at the advertising in the church bulletin and 68% of households surveyed when making a choice between businesses are inclined to choose the one who advertised in the church bulletin.  
**GREAT LOYALTY - 41%** of households do business with a company specifically because they are advertising in the church bulletin.  
**GREAT PRODUCT - 62%** of households keep the church bulletin the entire week as reference.

Learn More About Advertising In Your Parish Bulletin

Call us at **1-800-621-5197** Email: sales@jspaluch.com

Complete Psychological  
 Evaluation & Treatment  
 Individual - Marital - Family  
**Lorraine D. D'Asta, Ph.D.**  
 and Associates  
 HINSDALE 630-655-9040

Store Systems Technology  
 Point of Sale Equipment  
**708-588-1773**  
 Parishioner

Home  
 Helpers®  
 State Licensed

COMPASSIONATE HOME CARE  
 • Meals • Personal Care • Companionship  
 • Light Housekeeping • Laundry • Errands  
**708-783-1220** www.MaryAndMikeCare.com  
 Michael & Mary Doepke, RN



Grow Your Business, Advertise Here.  
 Support Your Church & Bulletin.  
 Free professional ad design & my help!  
 www.jspaluch.com  
 email: biancow@jspaluch.com

**Call Wanda Bianco**



**\$25 Gas Card with FREE**  
 in-home estimate!

**\$99 Install!**

**beldon**  
 CHICAGO  
**WINDOWS**

**CALL NOW**  
**(630) 599-7147**

New orders only. Gas card (\$25.00) with in-home estimate to homeowner(s). Limit one per household. Minimum purchase of \$2,500.00

**Hallowell & James**  
Funeral Home  
Providing Distinguished Service Since 1923

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

1025 W. 55th Street, Countryside  
(708) 352-6500  
[www.HJfunerals.com](http://www.HJfunerals.com)

Quality Work – Reasonable Prices

**DEMMIS PLUMBING & SEWER**

Ask for a PARISHIONER DISCOUNT

708.420.0806 EMERGENCY SERVICE  
demmisplumbing@yahoo.com

**Kevin E. Collins, DDS**  
475 W. 55th St., La Grange  
Office 708-354-5575  
After Hours Emergency 708-408-3676  
Parishioner

**CFS CORRIGAN FINANCIAL SERVICES INC.**

Specialist in Creating Tax Advantaged Retirement Income Solutions  
Mike Corrigan 708-482-3800  
Parishioner  
913 Hillgrove LaGrange, IL.  
mike@corriganfs.com  
Working with Families & Business Owners Since 1980

**The Lehman Group**

Selling homes in St. Francis Parish for 40 years!

Patricia Lehman & Kathleen Henneberry  
708-507-0162

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

219 W. Hillgrove, LaGrange, IL 60525

Richard A. Battistoni, DDS  
William Beam, DDS, MS

**B**  
BATTISTONI AND BEAM  
922 S. La Grange Road • La Grange  
708.352.4500 [awesomebraces.com](http://awesomebraces.com)

**PC MD**  
PC & MAC Sales & Service  
Networking • WIFI • Internet  
(630) 789-3971 Tom  
pcmdusa@gmail.com [www.pcmd.com](http://www.pcmd.com)  
WE STILL MAKE HOUSE CALLS!

**Carol L. Martin**  
Attorney Licensed in Illinois & Florida  
Real Estate • Wills • Trusts • Probate  
708-246-7570

**BLUEBERRY HILL CAFE**

- Breakfast • Lunch
- Catering/Parties

49 S. La Grange Road  
La Grange 708.352.4900  
[www.blueberrybreakfastcafe.com](http://www.blueberrybreakfastcafe.com)

**Jim Donahue**  
Agent Parishioner

Protecting The SFX Community For Over 25 Years  
708-354-1616  
[jim@jimdonahue.com](mailto:jim@jimdonahue.com)  
**StateFarm**

**LA GRANGE FITNESS**

**REGISTER NOW!**

Monday-Friday 5am-10pm  
Saturday 6am-9pm  
Sunday 7am-9pm

**NOW OPEN** Register in person at La Grange Fitness

536 East Avenue, La Grange IL  
[www.palg.org](http://www.palg.org) 708.588.2260

**Home & Hearth Caregivers**

Personal Care, Meals, Light Housekeeping, Laundry, Transportation & more  
Live-in or hourly service, and no minimums

708-352-4663 [www.homeandhearthcare.com](http://www.homeandhearthcare.com)

Complete Remodeling By

**FILA CONSTRUCTION**

• KITCHENS • BATHS • BASEMENTS  
• FLOORING • PLUMBING • ELECTRIC

PARISHIONER DISCOUNT

Licensed, Insured  
Mawinyi Po Palaku  
708.361.5772  
[www.filaconstruction.com](http://www.filaconstruction.com)

**LAWN DOCTOR**  
Joe Gratzke

630.324.6985  
[group1198@lawndoctor.com](mailto:group1198@lawndoctor.com)

Fertilization ~ Weed Control  
CoreAeration ~ PowerSeeding  
Insect & Disease Control

**JoAnn May**  
CPA / PES MBA CFP®

FOREST asset management  
Fee Only Certified Financial Planner  
708.447.7086

3401 S. Harlem Ave., Ste. 202  
Berwyn, IL 60402

**THREE SOUTH WAIOLA AVE., LA GRANGE**

**ROBERT T. CORTE, D.D.S.**  
PARISH MEMBER

[www.cortedental.com](http://www.cortedental.com) 708-354-1003

WINE TASTINGS • EVENT PLANNING • GIFTS  
On York • 1/2 Block North of Ogden Ave.  
3821 S. York Road, Oak Brook  
630-325-6550

Protecting Seniors Nationwide

Medical Alert System

24/7 SEN

\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly

- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation

Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608

**catholicmatch® Illinois**

CatholicMatch.com/myIL

**KARA KENNEDY O'CONNELL**  
Broker

Named Top 10 Broker  
LaGrange/LaGrange Park Market 2016

(708) 207-5311  
karaohomes@gmail.com  
[WWW.KARAKOCONNELL.COM](http://WWW.KARAKOCONNELL.COM)

708-579-3321  
IL license # 055-017412  
Guaranteed  
7 day, 24 Hour Service

**Scott's PLUMBING, INC.**  
Since 1988

<http://scottsplumbinglagrange.com>

**Gemini Gymnastics Academy**

Providing quality gymnastics instruction in a nurturing & positive atmosphere for kids age 3 & up

Register Today  
708-352-2977  
La Grange

d'aprile properties

**JOE CAPUTO**  
708.902.3000

"Serving Chicago and Chicagoland Suburbs"  
daprilereproperties.com  
joe@daprileproperties.com  
Full Time Broker and Parishioner  
Licensed since 2004

DONATELLI & COULES, LTD.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**PATRICK C. MCGINNIS**  
Attorney at Law Parishioner  
Direct Line: (630) 920-0406  
[Patrick@donatellicooules.com](mailto:Patrick@donatellicooules.com)

- REAL ESTATE
- ESTATE PLANNING
- PROBATE
- BUSINESS FORMATION & TRANSACTIONS

[www.DonatelliCoules.com](http://www.DonatelliCoules.com)

**BOBBIE CLEANING SERVICE**  
32 YEARS EXPERIENCE

REFERENCES AVAILABLE 708.259.9116

**ONE PARISH**

Grow in your faith, find a Mass, and connect with your Catholic Community with OneParish!

Download Our Free App or Visit [MY.ONEPARISH.COM](http://MY.ONEPARISH.COM)

**DeSitter FLOORING**

DeSitterFlooring.com

Tom Cunningham - Parishioner & Alum  
LaGrange - Kensington & Hillgrove  
780.352.3535

Carpet | Wood | Rugs | Tile | Stone

**beyond redesign**

From Color Consultations to Room Renovations

Beth Bernardi  
630.640.5953  
[beyondredesign.com](http://beyondredesign.com)

**WEBSTER DENTAL CARE**

LAGRANGE PARK, LTD.  
539 N. LAGRANGE ROAD SUITE 1  
708.354.1070  
[www.webdentalchicago.com](http://www.webdentalchicago.com)

**ILLINOIS BRICK COMPANY**

8995 W. 95th Street  
Palos Hills, IL 60465  
(708) 344-1000  
[www.illinoisbrick.com](http://www.illinoisbrick.com)  
Owned & Operated by the Oremus Family

**John F. O'Connell III, D.D.S.**  
Parishioner

Restorative & Implant  
General Dentistry

930 N. York Rd., Suite 120  
Hinsdale 630-455-1666