

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 3, 2023



FOLLOW



“Whoever wishes to
come after me must
deny himself, take
up his cross, and
follow me.”

MATTHEW 16:24b

Week at a Glance

			Intention	Requested By
Monday, September 4 Labor Day	Mass	8:30 am	Herbert & Mary Schrack George Lewis	Dolores Lewis
Tuesday, September 5	Mass	8:30 am	Joe Bauman	The Hannigan Family
Wednesday, September 6	Mass	8:30 am	Edward J. Fleming Thomas Nichol, Sr.	Judy Gianelli & Tony Seib Tom & Lucile Nichol
Thursday, September 7	Rosary	8:15 am		
Friday, September 8	Mass	8:30 am	Lamar Whitmore	Jacquelyn Van Gorp
Saturday, September 9	Mass	8:30 am	Don Kelly	Your Friends at SPRED
	Reconciliation	9:00 am		
	Mass	5:00 pm	Mary A. Forsyth	Mary Lou & George Braasch
Sunday, September 10 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mass	7:30 am	People of the Parish	
	Mass	9:00 am	Eleanore M. Michalek	The Michalek & Azzi Families
	Mass	11:00 am	Margaret Hudak	The Crooks Family
	Mass	5:00 pm	Richard Casey	The Cooley Family

Presider's Schedule for September 2-3, 2023

5:00 pm Fr. Milek

7:30 am Fr. Tkachuk

9:00 am Fr. Milek

11:00 am Fr. Tkachuk

No 5:00 pm Mass

Please pray for . . .

Baby Finley Adkins
Kathy Armstrong
Scott Aulinskis
John Baggio
Dick Callahan
Michael Cannon
Jay Carroll
Chili Challenger
Peter Connelly
Laurie Coughlan
Rose Delabar
Blake Donegan
Barbara Doyle
Matthew Doyle
Nancy Duffy
Lily Fielding
Sophie Francis
Dave Garland
Kathy Gleason
Lilli Gregory
Angela Hill
Dave Hyland
Rose Ilo
Mary J.
Jane Jacobsen
Theresa Kandall

Mark Kiley
Rick Mahoney
Darren Masier
Lisa Massaro
Ralph Metzger
Patrick Morgan
Gert Ogilvie
Jane O'Reilly
Rita Pantoni
Beth Pfluger
Geri Pfluger
Larry Plansky
Rob Roper
Anna Rose
Eric Skaja
Santa Snieg
Rita Mae Spearman
John Stopka
John Strougal
Mike Sullivan
Peggy Sullivan
Richie Szatkowski
Olivia Tarsney
Theresa Toher
Helen Wargo
Liz Wilk
Bill Witowski

To add a name to the prayer list who are sick, please call the rectory at 708-352-0168. 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:

Rosemary Lucas
Sister of Kathleen and
the late Daniel, Paul & Peter

Margaret Roe
Mother of Charles, Mary & Donna
and the late Margaret

Weddings

Anna Golebiowska & Jonathan Soto
Kristen Bochenek & Kent Frayn
Julianne Sinde & Jared Morton
Molly Briody & Angelo Cavalieri
Maggie Webb & Alexios Georges



Make a gift to the Sunday
Offertory with this QR Code.
Thank you for your support!



Pastor's Letter

*Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,
that you may discern what is the will of God*
Romans 12:2

Jesus praised Peter last week for his declaration of faith and named him the rock upon which Jesus will build the church. Yet when Jesus speaks of the rejection, suffering, and death that he will soon undergo, Jesus challenges Peter not to be caught up in the ways of this world. Peter had presumed that the Christ would triumph by avoiding suffering and death; that would define an earthly Messiah and certainly be expected of the Son of God. Jesus insists that Peter go deeper and realize that it is through experiencing suffering and death, not by avoiding them, that God will conquer the power of both.

We are called to witness to this truth. Our most powerful witness is not when all seems to be going our way and we seem beyond harm. On the contrary, it is when we experience rejection, failure, serious illness, personal or world tragedy, and a death that comes tragically or too soon that we can become the most powerful witnesses to who Jesus is and what his death means for us. God sent God's Son to save the world not by taking away the consequences of an imperfect world in which human beings often misuse the free will God has given us. Rather, Jesus died and rose to conquer the power of sin and death to separate us from the love of God and our life in Christ. We bring this message of hope to others not through naive phrases or denial of suffering. We witness to our faith as we face the darkness present in our world and the difficult moments in our personal and family lives. And we walk this journey together that we may be strengthened not only by Word and Eucharist, but by our coming together with and for one another.

Our parish Elementary School has begun a new year filled with hope and the witness of a strong and faithful administration and faculty. Our parish School of Religious Education will begin this week with the faithful witness of parishioners serving as catechists and assistants. We are inviting high school juniors and seniors to participate in the next Kairos Retreat. In collaboration with St. John of the Cross, we are exploring ways to keep our ministry to teens alive until we have found our next youth minister. *That Man is You* begins another year of formation and sharing for all men of the parish. And our parish Evangelization Team is looking at ways we can support and nourish the faith of all parishioners in the months ahead. May the Spirit inspire and guide us!

Thank you to the members of the parish Men's Club and Women's Club, who provided a great evening of food and fun for all ages at the Parish Block Party. It was great to see parishioners of all ages connect with friends and make new friends as the children tried their hands at the offered games and created new ones.

Blessings to all who labor, especially essential workers, on this Labor Day. This is a weekend to be especially aware of those who often are invisible to us yet who make possible so much of what we take for granted. Express a word of thanks when the opportunity presents itself.

J. Bill



Labor Day

In observance of the Labor Day holiday, the rectory office will be closed on Saturday, September 2nd through Monday, September 4th. We will reopen on Tuesday, September 5th at 8:30 am.



In honor of Most Rev. John Manz, who lived his life to the fullest by serving others and advocating for workers' rights, Arise Chicago re-presents Bishop Manz's Labor Day message from 2019.

Most Rev. John R. Manz
Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago

Over Labor Day weekend, I invite you to reflect on the tenets of our faith that proclaim that all workers have sacred worth and, therefore, they deserve dignity and respect. Catholic Social Teaching further instructs us that all workers should have safe work conditions and family-sustaining wages. Yet, as we know, the income gap between the wealthiest and poorest among us continues to grow, resulting in many of our hard-working families living below the poverty line.

In response to the growing income inequality around us, Pope Francis recently instructed, *"We can no longer wait to solve the structural causes of poverty, to heal our society from a sickness that can only lead to new crises. Markets and financial speculation should not enjoy absolute autonomy. Unless we solve the problems of the poor we shall not resolve the world's problems. We need programs, mechanisms and processes that lead to a better distribution of resources, the creation of jobs and all-around promotion of those who are excluded."*

Over this holiday weekend I hope you will reflect on how we as Catholics are called upon to end the exploitation of workers. The Archdiocese is proud to be a partner with Arise Chicago, a 28 year-old interfaith organization that boasts Msgr. Jack Egan as one of its co-founders. Arise teaches workers their rights, builds leadership skills, and advocates for public policy changes—all of which transform lives and communities. www.arisechicago.org This weekend, in partnership with the Chicago Federation of Labor (CFL), Arise Chicago has prepared speakers in over 100 services, lifting up the sacred link between work and faith.

As a part of our Labor Day reflection, we need to turn away from the idolatry of wealth that can deceive us into believing that we are self-sufficient, and instead embrace the truth that we are all divinely connected to each other. We cannot live in a world without car mechanics, shoe salespersons, teachers, hotel workers, grocery store clerks, nurses, etc. I invite you to honor through your prayers and actions the dignity of workers, especially those who you encounter in your daily interactions. Reflect on how each of us, through our work, contribute our unique God-given gifts to the common good of humanity. Hold in prayer all of those longing for jobs and all of those who labor under poor working conditions. Our interconnectedness in faith and our dependence on each other in life give us a lot to celebrate together! Blessed Labor Day!

Sincerely,

Bishop John R. Manz
Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago

COMING SEPTEMBER 15, 16, AND 17
BUT YOU CAN HELP IN ADVANCE



THANK YOU FOR
SUPPORTING OUR
INTELLECTUAL
DISABILITIES FUND
"TOOTSIE ROLL" DRIVE

WITH A
DEBIT CARD OR
CREDIT CARD
DONATION
USING



Open Staff Position: Youth Ministry Coordinator

We have been blessed to have Jenette Teran on staff as we restructured our program for high school youth this past year. Confirmation will now occur in the fall, beginning with the freshman class of 2023-2024. Freshmen then will join the parish youth ministry program, which is open to all high school students.

We continue the search for a new person to fill this position. The position description can be revised to accommodate a part time person; or expanded to cover one program that ministers to teens from both St. Francis Xavier and St. Cletus Parishes.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree (theology or pastoral ministry preferred, but not required)
- Excellent people skills with a heart for high school youth
- An approach to ministry rooted in personal prayer and scriptural reflection
- Experience working in a collaborative environment
- Excellent organizational skills
- Able and willing to work evening and weekend hours

If you or someone you know is qualified and interested, please contact Fr. Bill at wtkachuk@sfxlg.org or 708-352-0168 x302.

Ministry of Care is Planning to Expand

A Minister of Care is a person who brings the gift of the eucharist and friendship to fellow parishioners and others who are homebound, living in nursing homes, or recovering in the hospital. Our visits help those in need stay connected to the parish and our faith community.

It's a very rewarding ministry and I promise you will receive more than you'll give. The time required varies depending on the activity you choose. Perhaps a few minutes or more on a homebound visit to an hour or so conducting a Prayer and Communion Service or bringing the eucharist to those in the hospital. Those visiting the homebound schedule visits convenient for the minister and the person being visited. Nursing homes and the hospital have fixed schedules.

The Archdiocese requires new ministers to receive 12 hours of instruction prior to being commissioned. After training, you will "shadow" other ministers to learn about your chosen activity. When you are comfortable, you'll receive a quarterly schedule.

One day of training is available at LaGrange Hospital. Saturday, September 16th from 8:30am-4:00pm. Lunch Provided.

So, are you ready to share your time and talent with those who are so grateful?

Please contact Scott or Mary Sue McDonald the coordinators for the Ministers of Care by phone at 847-528-1434 or by email sjmcdonal@yahoo.com or marysuecdonal@yahoo.com.



Kairos

We are on our 41st Kairos since we began, missing four during COVID. Kairos hype and advertising is typically spread by the teens—but obviously, due to COVID, our attendance for our four prior retreats was down. We are slowly building back, though, and it's exciting!

Registration for our Kairos 41st Retreat, October 19-22, opened on Monday, August 28th!

Kairos is a 4-day retreat offered through St. John of the Cross, St. Francis Xavier and St. Cletus, specifically designed for Juniors and Seniors to reflect, reset and re-discover your relationship with God. These spots will go quickly, so be sure to sign up soon. If you have any questions, please email Katie Pruitt at Kpruitt@stjohnofthecross.org.

The link will go LIVE on Monday, August 28: <https://www.stjohnofthecross.org/apps/forms2/?f=39390>.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER ALL- PARISH Children's Choir

2023 - 2024

Grades 1-8

***(District Public Schools & SFX Day School...All are welcome!)**

Weekly rehearsals:

- **CHERUB CHOIR** (grades 1-3)
Tuesdays 3:30 pm to 4:15 pm
*First Rehearsal: Tuesday, September 12th
- **SF CHORISTERS** (grades 4-8)
Thursdays 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm
*First Rehearsal: Thursday, September 14th

Choirs will sing monthly at the 5:00 pm Saturday Mass

Please fill out the registration form below or Register on-line with this link:

<https://forms.gle/bPaSCVkJ3DtpPg2s7>

NEW REGISTRATION DUE DATE!! *FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH!!

St. Francis Xavier Parish Children's Choir Registration Form 2023-2024

PLEASE PRINT

Choir (circle one) *Cherub Choir (grades 1-3) *SF Choristers (grades 4-8)

Name of Child _____

Name of Parent(s) _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Cell Phone Number _____

Home Phone Number *(if different) _____

School _____

Grade _____ **Age** _____

Birthday (month/day) _____

I am available to be a parent helper at occasional rehearsals (*circle one*) Yes No

I am available to be a parent helper at occasional Masses (*circle one*) Yes No

*Please e-mail, mail or drop off this form by **Friday, September 8th** to the attention of:

Mr. Allen Sterwalt, Director of Music Ministry

St. Francis Xavier Church, 124 N. Spring Ave., LaGrange, IL 60525

asterwalt@sfxlg.org

Make a *Joyful* noise

*Do you have an ear & a love for singing?
Consider joining one of our **CHOIRS**
for the 2023-2024 Liturgical Season...
Your voice is needed!*

Gallery Choir—9:00 a.m. Mass (Sundays)

with one Sunday a month OFF.

**rehearsals: Tuesdays - 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.*

**First Rehearsal: Tuesday, September 12th*

Celebration Ensemble—11:00 a.m. Mass (Sundays)

with one Sunday a month OFF.

**rehearsals: Thursdays - 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.*

**First Rehearsal: Thursday, September 14th*

Spirit Choir – 5:00 p.m. (Sundays)

**voices: teens (9th – 12th gr.) (rehearsals: prior to Mass)*

**First Rehearsal: Sunday, September 10th*

Interested singers should contact our Director of Music Ministry
BEFORE the first rehearsal.

Allen J. Sterwalt

asterwalt@sfxlg.org / 708 352-0168

St. Phoebe Celebration: Weekend of September 9-10

Next weekend marks both the feast of St Phoebe and the end of the year of St. Phoebe (Sep 3, 2022—Sep 3, 2023) in which we prayerfully listened and discerned with the Holy Spirit on the topic of women in the diaconate as part of the global Synod on Synodality.



On the weekend of September 9 & 10, we invite those attending mass to:

- ⇒ **PRAY** through the intercession of St Phoebe for the Synod and the delegation going to Rome,
- ⇒ **CELEBRATE** women's gifts and contributions to the Church,
- ⇒ **HEAR** women of the parish reflect on scripture and
- ⇒ **BEAR WITNESS** to the critical and urgent need to re-think women's participation in the Church.



***I commend to you our sister Phoebe,
[diakonos] of the church at Cenchreae.
Letter of St. Paul to the Romans 16:1***

“Growing up, I never heard about St. Phoebe. She, like so many women of the early church, was lost to me for a long time...

Not until my late 20s do I recall Phoebe's name surfacing in my consciousness and even then, I couldn't place her beyond the heading "women of the early church." The reasons she remained in the shadows of my consciousness are as much a reflection of my own life and learning as of the institutions that have taught me and their conscious and unconscious influence on our wider perspectives as individuals and a church.

Phoebe appears in Paul's letter to the Romans, in which he exhorts the Romans: "I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae." Paul writes, "I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of his people and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been the benefactor of many people, including me" (Romans 16:1-2).

Brief though it is, this introduction is full of import. In these two verses, Paul provides critical information about the woman he has entrusted to deliver his letter to Rome.

Calling her sister, deacon and benefactor, Paul signals that Phoebe is his co-worker in the kingdom. He has chosen her to convey his message and it is his hope that they, like her, will come to believe and to support the Christian mission. By identifying Phoebe as a deacon, Paul indicates that she was a preacher and teacher of the faith and gives us the earliest written record of women's ordained ministry in the church..."

Excerpt from "Befriending Phoebe" by Sr. Colleen Gibson, SSJJ.

That Man Is You Men's Group



Tuesday Nights at 8pm in Unity Hall
Begins September 12

Gather for social time, an interesting video, and small group discussion about authentic male leadership in faith, family, and the workplace.

TMIY Attendees say:

"It was an amazing experience. Better than expected.
Really enjoyed getting to know the men in the group and growing in our faith journey together."

"Very positive experience! It was my first participation in a men's group. I was somewhat reluctant but was **surprised by interaction and discussion in a very positive way.**"

"Men's faith discussion group this year often leaves me still thinking on the small group prompts even after the session. I felt I was able to **open up** in TMIY in a format that made it **easy and comfortable to share and listen.** I've got more out of TMIY in my faith than my Sunday Mass attendance – **very engaging.**"

"We've covered quite a few topics, where, upon discussing, I found I wasn't alone in either a struggle or 'best practice.' The program has helped me **reflect on my role and actions as a father and husband.**"

Interested? Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to register.



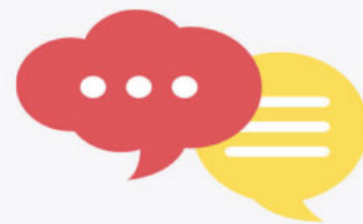
The Chosen - Season 3 Wednesdays 7:00-8:30pm



September 20-November 8
St. John of the Cross Pastoral Center

Come see the story of Jesus through the eyes of those who followed him.

Register at www.stjohnofthecross.org or email mmcmahon@sfxlg.org.



Thinking about
Becoming Catholic?

WE'D LOVE TO CHAT WITH YOU!

Email mmcmahon@sfxlg.org to start the conversation

SFX will participate in the La Grange CommUnity Diversity Summer Read with a book discussion in Unity Hall on October 11th at 6:30 pm. Come join us!

Contact Maureen Windmoeller (maurwind@gmail.com) with any questions.



Participating Organizations (Invited):

- Baha'is of La Grange
- Community Presbyterian Church of Clarendon Hills
- Emmanuel Episcopal Church, La Grange
- First Congregational Church of La Grange—Ministry of Missions
- First United Methodists Congregation of La Grange
- League of Women Voters of the La Grange Area
- Learning About Racism Together
- Pizza and Social Justice
- Redeemer Lutheran Church of Hinsdale
- St. Francis Xavier Peace & Justice Ministry, La Grange
- Sisters of St. Joseph, La Grange Park
- Together Is Better Alliance
- Union Church of Hinsdale—Ministry for Change
- Unitarian Church of Hinsdale—Racial Equity Team
- Unity Temple Unitarian Universalist Church, Oak Park

West Suburban SUMMER READ 2023

WHAT IS A SUMMER READ?

Read or listen to the selected book over the summer, then attend a book discussion in the Fall. ***

“How do we love in a time of rage? How do we fix a broken world while not breaking ourselves? Valarie Kaur--renowned Sikh activist, filmmaker, and civil rights lawyer--describes revolutionary love as the call of our time.... It enjoins us to see no stranger but instead look at others and say: You are part of me I do not yet know. Starting from that place of wonder, the world begins to change: It is a practice that can transform a relationship, a community, a culture, even a nation. Kaur takes readers through her own riveting journey, ... reclaim[ing] love as an active, public, and revolutionary force that creates new possibilities for ourselves, our communities, and our world.”

***Discussions to be held in September.



Contact lagrangediversity@gmail.com or UCHraciaequityteam@gmail.com to host or join a book discussion



SFX ANNUAL GOLF OUTING 2023

New this
year!

TIME FOR NINE!

9-hole Morning Option
Limited Spots!
Register by 9/1

\$200 per golfer

Price includes:
grab-n-go lunch, range balls,
golf and a buffet dinner.

Optional VIP Package.

Each golfer will receive an
SFX Golf Outing Swag Bag!

FRIDAY
September 15th

LUNCH 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

1:00 PM SHOTGUN START

DINNER, AWARDS & RAFFLE TO FOLLOW

No in person registration on the day of the event.
All registration payments due two days prior to the event.
All necessary guidelines will be followed for the
safety of the golfers and the course.

Please join us
for our annual raffle,
closest to the pin,
longest drive contests,
and much more!

Event sponsorships are
available on Give Central.

Please use the
SFX Golf Outing Link
below to register for any
golf package plus
purchase raffle tickets
or event sponsorships.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER AT: [SFXGOLFOUTING.COM](https://www.sfxgolfouting.com)

Old Oak Country Club, 14200 Parker Rd., Homer Glen, IL 60491

Any questions? Email Chairs: Lindsey & JB Mackenzie at sfxgolfchairs@gmail.com / Registration Chair: Katie Lutzow

FIND YOUR FORESOME!

Welcome

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

Peter & Leandra Arboleda
William Brennan & Shaye Loughlin
Judy Closius
Patrick & Stephanie Cole
Adam & Danielle Daoud
Walter Diaz & Juana Murillo
Joe & Lauren Donahue
Anthony & Wendy Gonzales
Michael & Joanne Harrigan
McKenzie Hollander
Rob & Sandy Jacklin
Kevin & Sara Kennedy
Doug Kropp & Kelly Brummet
Mickey Manos
Michael Mathews & Danielle Songero
Anthony & Lindsay Merlo
Sergio & Melissa Minniti
Michael & Sara Murphy
Ryan Pinkos & Angela Corvo
Nicholas & Margaret Salvatore
Dane Sana & Alexandra Coletto
Garold & Heather Sherlock
Leo & Lora Solana
Adam & Ashley Szudarski
Francis & Laura Ustach
Mark & Bridget Warren
Sarah Weaver
Steven Wojtowicz & Ellen Iggulden
Kathleen Zajac



It's GAME ON!

You are invited to our 21st Annual Fall Benefit

Friday, September 29, 6-10pm
\$100 Per Person
Holiday Inn Countryside
6201 Joliet Rd., Countryside, IL 60525

Includes: Fun and games, dinner, beer and wine, cash bar for liquor, silent auction, paddle raise, sing-a-long and karaoke

Interfaith Community Partners



Religious Education News

Register Now for K – 8 Religious Education, Classes begin September 10th!

The School of Religious Education is now accepting registration for the 2023-2024 school year.

We are happy to be able to offer two options to families:

In person bi-monthly grade level program held on Sunday Mornings and Wednesday afternoons and our virtual asynchronous grade level program with lessons being released bi-monthly on Sundays for families with busy schedules. Families are strongly encouraged to also attend Mass at least twice a month and will receive a separate weekly Google form to complete for “car ride” home liturgy discussions in our Weekly Parent Newsletter.

Please don't delay in registering your children today as some classes are already closed!

Visit our website for complete information on registration, tuition and calendar:

Click **“Registration for the 2023-2024 school year is now open!”** to register.



Your Gift and Talent is Needed for our Wednesday Classes!

Are you ready to share your faith with the youth of our parish?! WE NEED YOU for our Wednesday Classes! You don't need training as a teacher, you just need a love for Jesus! I am looking for many volunteers to step forward to join in this new journey. Please contact me if you are interested in becoming a catechist or catechist assistant for

the 2023-2024 school year at sfxreligioused@sfxlq.org.



SFX Hospitality Ministry

Are you looking for a small, simple way to serve and love others? Look no further! St. Francis expanded their hospitality ministry last year, and it is easier for anyone to jump in and play a part in welcoming others to our community.

Through the established sign up on the SFX website, anyone can contribute meaningfully to the culture of hospitality and welcome – on your own schedule and at your own paces! Offer to write a few welcome notes to new parishioners, to greet at one or many Masses, or to attend a New Parishioner Prayer Service.

We are practicing hospitality as a way of life here at St. Francis! Even if you don't have the capacity to sign up for a service spot at this time, just smiling and introducing yourself to someone new this week can make a huge difference in our parish community.

[Click here](#), scan with your phone below or visit www.sfxlg.org – Parish – Ministries/Organizations – Hospitality Team to sign up for a small act!



Add to the Beauty of the St. Francis Gardens



If you would like to donate any Mums or Black-eyed Susan's, please drop them off in the Rectory Courtyard between the church and rectory (enter from the stairs next to God's Garage).

Email Cathy at cmskokna@att.net to tell her what you dropped off and she will make sure they are planted.

Cathy Skokna will then plant them around the parish grounds.



Thank you!

SFX MEN'S CLUB

Get involved in the parish –
we need your help!
Monthly meetings on the
1st Tuesday of the month!

Next meeting is Tuesday, September 5

Contact Matt Hubert mthubert@gmail.com
or
Jack Horrigan jfhorrigan@gmail.com
for more information.



Mark your calendar for the Cossitt Elementary School's bi-annual children's consignment sale on Saturday, September 23, from 9:30am to 1:00pm. Explore 20,000+ quality name-brand items from infants to size 16, including fall/winter clothes, coats, shoes, sports gear, and books.

Catch the amazing HALF PRICE deals from 12:00 to 1:00pm. Plus, your purchases support local children in need – unsold items are donated to Chicagoland non-profits. Shop smart, help the community, and care for the environment!

For details and involvement opportunities, visit www.cossittptc.org/clothingsale.

Catholic Women's Club

The St. Francis Xavier CWC (Catholic Women's Club) is seeking volunteers to support 2022/2023 efforts including service projects, event planning (including Ladies Day Out) and more.

Join the fun and reach out to either Lauren Desmond lauren.e.desmond@gmail.com or Erin Thunander erin.thunander@gmail.com if you'd like to get involved.



Knights of Columbus LaGrange Council 6483

Catholic men 18 years and older are invited to our monthly meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm in Unity Hall at St. Francis Xavier Parish. Our social is held on the third Wednesday of the month.

For more information, please contact Mark Azzi at 708-732-5287.

SFX FOOD PANTRY GRATITUDE!!!

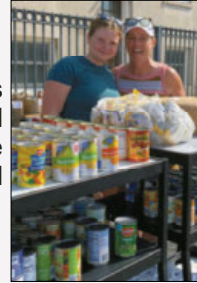


SCHOOL SUPPLIES & SUMMER TREATS

Our food pantry families were so grateful for the school supplies! It is an expensive time of year for families with school-aged children. Thanks to your overwhelming generosity, we served **106 kids!** Our volunteers also provided popcorn, lemonade and ice cream while socializing with our clients.

SUMMER VOLUNTEERS

A special thanks to our volunteers who will be returning to high school this Fall: **Caroline Hull and Riley & Finn McCarthy.** Their positive energy and willingness to do whatever was needed was appreciated by all the volunteers and guests. We pray that all our students have a safe and healthy school year!



CEREAL

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our shelves filled with a variety of cereal. We distribute about **80 boxes** each week.

FRESH PRODUCE and HERBS

We are so fortunate to provide weekly selections of fresh produce thanks to donations from: The Greater Chicago Food Depository, Grace Seeds Ministry, parishioner gardens and Penicook Farm.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry at St. Francis Xavier began in 2005. Members knit and/or crochet shawls and lap blankets. They work with their hands and the kindness of their hearts to provide comfort and strength to those needing this support. These handmade gifts are available to anyone who reaches out to the rectory staff and mentions they would like to have a prayer shawl or lap blanket.

Our partnership with the Fisher House at Hines VA has been a pure joy. We have now delivered 12 lap blankets and 8 shawls to Fisher House. They are available to the veterans hospitalized at Hines or a family member.

The blessing of shawls/lap blankets and their distribution mass is scheduled for 5:00pm mass on **Saturday, October 14.** Shawls and lap blankets will be displayed for distribution at the Sunday masses that weekend until our supply runs out.

Our scheduled meetings for the remaining of 2023 will be at Unity Hall on the following dates & times:

Wednesday, September 13~7:00-8:00pm
Thursday, October 12~7:00-8:00pm
Wednesday, November 8~4:00-5:00pm (**change in time**).

We welcome new members with open arms. New members are required to have basic knitting or crocheting skills.

Any questions, contact Mary Ellyn Witt at mewittlagrange@yahoo.com.



Past and Present

On Wednesday, September 6, the Senior Women's Group of St. Francis Xavier Parish presents Nancy Kenney and Beth Kenney Augustine. This mother and daughter combination will trace the history of LaGrange through the evolution of liquor laws in the LaGrange Area. This is an encore presentation originally given for the LaGrange Area Historical Society titled "No Saloons Allowed."

Nancy and Beth are direct descendants of F. D. Cossitt, the founder of LaGrange, and long-time parishioners and residents of the area. Beth attended St. Francis Xavier School, Lyons Township High School, and the University of Dayton. She returned to LaGrange in 2011 to raise her family and has been active in the community since then. Following in her mother Nancy's footsteps, Beth currently is a village trustee, serving a second term.

Please join us on Wednesday, September 6, in Unity Hall at 9:00am for light refreshments and fellowship. The presentation will begin at 9:30am. All are welcome.



We invite you to consider the upcoming programs at The Well Spirituality Center, 1515 Ogden Avenue in LaGrange Park for questions call 708-482-5048. To register visit our website to see our entire lineup of fall programs and retreats, please register in advance at: www.csithewell.org/offerings/.

Called to Ecological Conversion Retreat on Wednesday, September 20 from 9:00am–3:00pm. The state of the world is calling us personally and as a human community to an ecological conversion, with no time to waste! Ecological conversion will give us the hope and energy we need to save each of us and the planet as a whole. Cost: \$75 (includes lunch).

Little Ravinia "Fun-raiser" on Saturday, September 23 from 3:00–5:00pm Performer: Russell Schmidt In the spirit of Ravinia, Chicagoland's famed outdoor concert venue, The Well invites you to Take It Easy with us, for a lazy Saturday afternoon Fun-raiser in our courtyard. Enjoy the best of yesterday's and today's music, and sing along with a musician who specializes in Lite/Soft Rock, Americana, and Folk Rock genres. Cost: \$25, children under 12 are free

On the Shores of Lake Michigan Retreat on Wednesday, September 27 from 11:00am through Thursday, September 28, 7:00pm with Facilitators: Mary Fishman and Bridget Sperduto Revel in native beauty and peacefulness along Lake Michigan in the Beverly Shores, IN, and Grand Beach, MI area, staying in private homes. Activities will include community and personal reflection time, meditation, ritual, a guided walk through the dunes or forest, and an evening of stargazing. Cost: \$200 (includes all meals).

**IN THE BEGINNING
WAS THE WORD
AND THE WORD
WAS WITH GOD
AND THE WORD WAS GOD**

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January 11-March 7, 2024

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mrace@csjoseph.org or 708-363-6728



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

- **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. Commander 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**—son of Jon Peterson
- **Major Marcos Melendez, USMC**—nephew of Jon Peterson
- **Major Michelle Melendez, USMC** niece of Jon Peterson
- **Staff Sgt. Nolan Kemna, USMC**—nephew of John & Linda Hill
- **Phil Lukanich, U.S. Navy**—husband and brother-in-law of Joanna and son of Mark & Martie Lukanich
- **Lt. M. Ryan Lukanich, U.S. Army**—son of Mark & Martie Lukanich
- **Staff Sgt. Scott Blunk**—husband of Brianne and son-in-law of Maureen Becker
- **Lt. Daniel McGue**—grandson of Sue Ryan
- **Lt. Col. Jeremy Hutchins, USAF**—brother-in-law of Valerie & Michael Schierl
- **Capt. Colt Marcyan, USMC**—nephew of Noel Cusack
- **Private Jerry Delgado, U.S. Army**—friend of Liz Wilk
- **Chris Johnson, USCG**—nephew of Judi Kudlacz and grandson of Jerry & Nancy Johnson
- **Dominic James Greco, U.S. Navy**—nephew of Rita Pantoni
- **Major Meghan Cumpston, U.S. Army**—cousin of Lauren Schultz
- **Airman Jeffrey Niemiec, USAF**—nephew of Nancy & Harry Devereux
- **Sgt. Rob Parisi, U.S. Army 7ATC**—son of Chuck and Kathi Parisi, Brother of Caitlin & Jack and Grandson of Robert J. Lynch
- **Lt. Brendan Short, U.S. Army Airborne**—nephew of Don & Rita Baumgart
- **Colonel Jessica Nichol, USAF**—daughter-in-law of Tom & Lucile Nichol
- **Capt. Jack Albertini, USMC**—son of Bob & Susan Albertini
- **Felix Estrada, U.S. Army**—friend of John & Dawn McCormick
- **Lt. Ryan Lavine, U.S. Army**—nephew of Kim & Vince Henehan
- **Chief Petty Officer Marko Mandac, U.S. Navy**—husband of Anna, son-in-law of David & Lynn Rogers

**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
Associate Pastor
Deacon
Deacon
Pastoral Associate
Director of Community Outreach
Retired Weekend Sacramental Minister
Weekend Sacramental Minister

Rev. William Tkachuk
Rev. Richard Milek
Andrew Allison
Phil Gianatasio
Margaret McMahon
Mary Freeman
Rev. William Killeen
Rev. Stan Ilo

wtkachuk@sfxlg.org
rmilek@sfxlg.org
aallison@sfxlg.org
pgianatasio@sfxlg.org
mmcmahon@sfxlg.org
mfreeman@sfxlg.org

Education Ministry

Parish School Principal
Assistant Principal
School Office Coordinator
Parish School Secretary
Director of Marketing & Enrollment
Tuition Accounts
Director of Religious Education
Religious Education Administrative Assistant

Sharon Garcia
Janice Carr
Ashley Augustyniak
Peggy Evans
Erin Smith
Jane Bandyk
Elis Guidice
Cindy Johnson

sgarcia@sfxlg.org
jcarr@sfxlg.org
aaugustyniak@sfxlg.org
pevans@sfxlg.org
esmith@sfxlg.org
jbandyk@sfxlg.org
eguidice@sfxlg.org
cjohnson@sfxlg.org

Youth Ministry

Coordinator

Jenette Teran

jteran@sfxlg.org

Music Ministry

Director

Allen Sterwalt

asterwalt@sfxlg.org

Parish Office Staff

Director of Operations
Director of Stewardship and Development
Parish Accountant
Pastor's Secretary
Parish Secretary
Staff Secretary
Facilities Manager

Peter Brown
Jennifer Zeisloft
Jane Bandyk
Maureen Pipal
Melissa Westerhoff
Debra Soule
Antonio Franceschi

pbrown@sfxlg.org
jzeisloft@sfxlg.org
jbandyk@sfxlg.org
mpipal@sfxlg.org
mwesterhoff@sfxlg.org
dsoule@sfxlg.org
afranceschi@sfxlg.org

Contact Information

Parish Office 124 N. Spring.....708-352-0168
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 Number.....708-352-4904
e-Mail.....sfxinlg@sfxlg.org
Main Day School e-Mail.....sfxmain@sfxlg.org
Main Religious Education e-Mail.....sfxreligoused@sfxlg.org
Parish Web Site.....www.sfxlg.org

Rectory Hours

Monday-Friday.....8:30 am-4:30 pm
Saturday.....9:00 am-12:00 pm

Weekday Masses at St. Francis Xavier Church

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 8:30 am

Rosary at St. Francis Xavier Church

Thursday 8:15 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every 3rd Thursday 6:00-7:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday morning.....9:00-10:00 am
The Reconciliation room is located off the walkway behind the tabernacle prayer area.

Private Prayer at Neighboring Churches

St. Cletus (Monday - Friday).....9:00 am-12:00 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesdays at St. Cletus

St. John of the Cross (Monday - Saturday).....8:00 -10:00 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 10:00 to 11:30 am. The pantry serves clients who live in the 60525 and 60526 zip codes. Donation drop off Mondays 9:00 am-Noon at South door of rectory.

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 to schedule your child's baptism or email Missy Westerhoff at sfxinlg@sfxlg.org to schedule a date.

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 and respectful. If you are curious about self-exploration, need help managing your mood and anxiety, long for a quiet and safe space, or feel the need to recalibrate, consider making an appointment, with our parish counselor, BC Shelly, from the Claret Center. He can be reached by phone 704-750-0686 or email bc.shelly.claret@gmail.com.



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A squirrel is shown holding a red and white striped candy cane. The squirrel is positioned in the center of the page, with its body facing forward and its head turned slightly to the right. The background is a solid green color. There are several green leaves scattered around the squirrel, some of which are partially cut off by the edges of the page. The overall style is simple and cartoonish.

[illegible]

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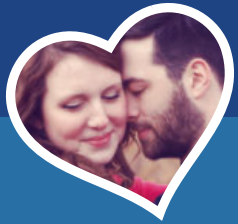
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