



SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 15, 2024



He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." - Mk 8:34-35

Belong. Believe. Be Love.

Week at a Glance

			Intention	Requested By
Monday September 16	Mass	8:30 am	Antonio & Terese Franzese Diane Shea DuBois Leda Knight Marie Westhoff	Sue & Phil Mullane The Kanzer Family The Zahorik Family
Tuesday, September 17	Mass	8:30 am	Dave Armstrong	Dolores Lewis
Wednesday, September 18	Mass	8:30 am	Mary Sfondilias	Patrick Daly
Thursday, September 19	Rosary Mass Adoration	8:15 am 8:30 am 6:00 pm	Margaret Nichol	Tom & Lucile Nichol
Friday, September 20	Mass	8:30 am	Tyler Duelm	The Duelm Family
Saturday, September 21	Mass	8:30 am	Anthony Savarese Richard Unger	Patrick Daly The Amendola Family
	Reconciliation Mass	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Carol Lindsay Hayes & Bill Lindsay	The Nighswander Family
Sunday, September 22 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mass Mass Mass Mass	7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Frank Lenti Tom Maracle Roger Wilson Don Schwendner & Amy Nelson	The Cooley Family The McFadden Family Peter & Barbara Tomaino Marge Schwendner

Presider's Schedule for September 14-15, 2024

5:00 pm Fr. Milek

7:30 am Fr. Tkachuk

9:00 am Fr. Milek

11:00 am Fr. Tkachuk

5:00 PM Fr. Milek

Please pray for . . .

Orlando Ares
Ed Barrett
Kevin Brooks
Aiden Curtis
Blake Donegan
Barbara Doyle
Matthew Doyle
Pat Eaton
Sasha Garber
Lilli Gregory
Vincenzo Guzzo
Junie Haase
Angela Hill
Jessi Rita Hoffman
Tiffany Kahn
Brenda Kardatzke
Michelle Kram
Eleanor Love

Patrick Morgan
Bill Mroz
Rosemary Nash
Ann Marie Niedo
Robert Potter
Laureen Rabe
Heather Riggins
Joe Scanlon
Darshana Shah
June Sheehan
Michael Smith
Loraine Solineno
Rita Mae Spearman
Gregg Stephenson
John Stopka
Linda Sullivan
Olivia Tarsney

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.

Weddings

Kiley Cox & Jeff Smart
Missy Doyle & Nathan Stadheim
Kerry Just & Christopher Sadowski
Patsy Brown & Chuck Shifley



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Thank you for your support!



Pastor's Letter

Jesus said, "Whoever wishes to come after me must take up your cross and follow me."
Mark 8:34

This weekend we enter the heart of Mark's gospel. Up to this point, Jesus has been performing miraculous cures and feeding multitudes of people from only a few loaves of bread. On each occasion, Jesus has told people not to tell anyone else what they have witnessed. However, people are so awed by these miracles that they have been *telling everyone who will listen*. Today, we learn why Jesus was asking them to keep these miracles a secret. Jesus is much more than a miracle worker. We cannot understand *Jesus the Christ* until we experience his suffering and face his death on the cross before we rejoice in his resurrection from death. He has come to heal our souls, and not our physical ills and hungers. And his mission will demand a high price.

"Who do people say that I am?" Jesus asks his disciples as they walk the road. Peter boldly proclaims Jesus as the Christ. But he does not yet realize all that this means. As Jesus begins to speak of his suffering and death on a cross, Peter takes Jesus aside and attempts to redirect him and the severity of his words. Jesus responds, "Get behind me, Satan." Those who will be his disciples must go beyond the limits of human understanding before we can know Jesus and witness to others on his behalf.

Jesus teaches that the *missionary disciple* is one who is willing to deny oneself and take up their cross; *to lose their life for the sake of the gospel*. Throughout our history, many paid the price of faithful discipleship through martyrdom. However, this is not the only way; the missionary disciple is the one who surrenders their life to God and *to whatever God asks of them*. Our human instinct is to chart our own course without interference from others. So, to surrender my own wishes and desires, or at least *to place God's desires above my own is to take up a cross*. It is to allow my wants to die *if that is what is necessary to do what God asks of me*. It is to trust that in taking up this cross to follow Jesus, I will be led to a new and richer life that I can proclaim and share with others.

Our programs of religious formation for people of all ages are underway. The **parish Elementary School** has completed its third week, and our **School of Religious Education** held their first session this past week. Both programs for our children are developing opportunities for parents to grow in faith along with their children. **Alpha** has begun on Monday evening for adults seeking a place to share a meal and share questions of faith and meaning with others who also are questioning. **That Man Is You** began on Tuesday evening for all adult men who seek to grow in faith through learning and sharing with other men. *TMIY remains open to new participants*. Stay informed through the weekly bulletin and the parish website for additional opportunities for adult faith formation as we move through the year. Thanks to Maggie McMahon and Elis Guidice and their parishioner teams who make this all possible.

Finally, thank you to the four women who shared their reflections on the scriptures last weekend: Heather Fitzpatrick, Martie Lukanich, Katie Mulcahey, and Maureen Windmoeller. Each woman inspired me with their thoughts and nourished my spirit from perspectives too often not heard within the Church. St. Francis Xavier Parish is gifted with *many* such voices --- lay women *and men*. The Holy Spirit has blessed this faith community with the hope and gifts to offer a vision of church to engage our youth and those still outside our doors or on the edges. That is the work and promise of the Holy Spirit. **Thanks be to God!**

Peace,

J. Bill



SFX All Parish BLOCK PARTY

The SFX Block Party was a great success - a wonderful evening of making connections and building community! A special thank you to the SFX Men's Club and Women's Club for making it happen, especially to the Block Party Chairpersons: Kit Joyce, Katy Casamassimo, Jack Horrigan, Tom and Theresa Horan.





Your Gift, God's Hands Offertory Report

This Year through August 2024:

Last Year through August 2023:

Total Sunday Collection:	\$ 239,348
Total Collected through August Last Year:	\$ 250,263
Total Annual Offertory Budget:	\$1,930,000

As a community, we strive to foster a spirit of stewardship: devoting time to God in prayer, sharing our talents, and giving of our financial resources. Stewardship has different expressions, and it is important that our children learn this from an early age. We want each child to discern their OWN gift of time, talent, or treasure as an expression of who they are and how they wish to act as God's Hands. This year, in order to facilitate this, we will be adding a Children's Offertory program to our curriculum. Children enrolled in our School of Religious Education and Parish Elementary School will receive their own offertory envelopes to *bring to Mass and place in the offertory basket as it is*

passed through the pews. Our children will write notes on and in these envelopes as to how they have offered themselves to others as God's Hands.

One of the primary purposes of this effort is to teach children that *it does feel good to share who they are and to give of themselves*. As followers of the teachings of Jesus, it is good to know that all have something to offer back to the world,

including our church community. Beginning in October, we will feature a Children's Offertory Corner in our parish bulletin, where we will share how our young parishioners are practicing stewardship. As the basket is passed through church, we encourage YOU to encourage THEM with a smile or nod as they express their own offering! And thank YOU for being examples of stewardship here at SFX!

Jennifer Zeisloft
Director of Stewardship &
Development

Jimmy Bajner
Parish School Principal

Elis Guidice
Director of Religious
Education



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



INTELLECTUAL-DISABILITIES FUND "TOOTSIE ROLL" DRIVE • ESSAY CONTEST

KEEP-CHRIST-IN-CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST • SPELLING BEE CONTEST • FREE-THROW CONTEST

FOOD DRIVE • WARM-CLOTHING DRIVE • BLOOD-DRIVE SUPPORT • RETIREMENT-HOME BINGO NIGHT

An invitation

Is our Order in your calling to serve?



LA GRANGE COUNCIL 6483

Charity is at the heart of our faith and the work of the Knights of Columbus.

If you're a Catholic man from age 18 to 78 with a calling for service by focusing on others, live a life of faith in action.

JESUS CALLS US TO BEAR FRUIT.

Become a Knight. Leaders wanted. Look at all the good work we can do in the communities of the greater La Grange area listed on the blue border of this invitation.

Are you being called?

Text or call Brian Lisek at 630.939-2626 to learn how you can join and help us serve those in our communities with the most need.

To Knight!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST • FRESH CHRISTMAS-TREE SALE • DIGITAL RAFFLE

COMING SEPTEMBER 20, 21, AND 22
BUT YOU CAN HELP IN ADVANCE




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

DIGITAL DONATION

WITH A
DEBIT CARD OR
CREDIT CARD
DONATION
USING




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, October 1
Contact Matt Hubert mthubert@gmail.com or
Jack Horrigan jfhorrigan@gmail.com
for more information.



Seminarian Collection

Next weekend the second collection will be taken up for the Seminarians. The collection provides support for the training and education of men studying for the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Chicago. The fund helps to cover the cost to educate each archdiocesan seminarian as they proceed through the various stages of formation ordination as a priest of Chicago.

To donate, [Click Here](#), visit our parish website, or place your donation in an envelope marked "Seminary Collection" and drop it off in the rectory mail slot or in the church collection basket. Thank you for your generosity.



2024 Divorce and Beyond Support

Fall Series

Wednesday Evenings (7:00-8:30pm) October 9 through November 13
St. Francis Parish School Library, 145 North Waiola Avenue, LaGrange
(Please enter off the parking lot doors)

Divorce and Beyond is a faith-based process for divorced adults designed to offer support, fellowship and healing to those who are divorced or going through a divorce. Topics include: stress, anger, and forgiveness. Sessions are led by experienced Divorce and Beyond graduates committed to fostering the personal, emotional, and spiritual growth of all participants.

There is no cost to attend and a participant guide will be provided at the first session.

To register online [click here](#), use the QR Code or call Missy Westerhoff at 708-352-0168.



Town Hall Meetings at Saint Francis Xavier
Sunday, September 29, 2024 after the 11:00am mass in Unity Hall
or
Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 7:00pm in the Church

Members from the Transition Team are seeking input from parishioners on the qualities needed in our next pastor and to discuss the strengths and challenges of the parish. This Town Hall Meeting is your chance to provide information which will be used to select the next pastor of our parish.



Blessing of Pets

October 4th is the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, who preached by his life God's call for us to care for all of creation. His feast day comes at the beginning of a month in which we pray for a deepening commitment to healing our planet from the effects of climate change and a deeper respect for the sanctity of human life, from conception to natural death. The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi also has been a time when we offer blessings to pets and renew our commitment to be good caretakers. St. Francis Xavier Parish will offer a **Blessing of Pets** on **Saturday, October 5th at 10AM**. We will gather on the Spring Avenue lawn across the ramp from the Mary Garden. Pets of all types and sizes are welcome. (Speedy plans to attend). Pass the word to friends and neighbors.



Embracing The Struggles Together **Bereavement Group**

Open to all widows/widowers of toddlers through college age
residing in the Lyons Township High School district

October 9 - December 4, 2024
Wednesday evenings
7 - 8:30 pm in La Grange

A certified grief educator will lead participants in a safe space
to discuss topics such as:

- Solo Parenting
- Finding a Path Forward
- Building a Support Network
- Self Care
- Coping Strategies
- Planning For Your Future

**Free
of charge**

Scan QR code to register or visit TheLegacyGuild.com/Events
Email info@TheLegacyGuild.com with ?'s.



Morning of Meditation

Teresa of Avila, Mystic and Reformer

Saturday, September 21

St. John of the Cross Parish Center

5005 Wolf Road, Western Springs

9:30am-12:30pm and Hospitality at 9:00am

Please consider bringing a reusable cup to help reduce waste.

The morning will include periods of meditation and discussion.

Speaker: Professor Bernard McGinn. Bernard McGinn is Professor Emeritus at the Divinity School of the University of Chicago. He has written extensively on spirituality and mysticism.

Teresa was a Spanish mystic and nun who founded the Discalced Carmelite order with the help of St. John of the Cross and papal approval. In the process she suffered persecutions from the Inquisition. Her autobiography and spiritual writings (*The Way of Perfection*, *Interior Castle*) are classics in Christian spirituality.

Free will offering appreciated. Reservations requested but not required. Contact Joan Binder 708-699-1002 or billjoanbinder@sbcglobal.net.

Minister of Care Training

Thursday, October 3, 10, and 17 from 9:15-11:30am

Participation in these sessions meets the Office for Divine Worship, Archdiocese of Chicago, requirements to be eligible for mandating as a parish Minister of Care, ministering to the sick and homebound members of the parish. Participants must be approved and sent by a member of their parish Pastoral Team. The sessions will include such topics as spirituality of ministry, ministry to the aged, the experience of suffering, dying and death, pastoral listening skills, prayer and Eucharistic, and the theological and practical dimensions of ministry. This seminar provides fresh theology and insights into the pastoral practice of the Ministry of Care.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish (Great Room, use Church Entrance) 15050 S. Wolf Road, Orland Park, (708-460-0042).

Our presenter is Sr. Gael Gensler, who is the pastoral associated at St. Francis of Assisi.

To register go to <https://ministrycommissionv5.com> or email Sr. Gael directly at ggensler@sfaorland.org for more information.

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 training is available at LaGrange Hospital on Saturday, September 21st from 8:30am until 4:00pm, lunch will be provided.

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

For information regarding the training please contact: Scott or Mary Sue McDonald, Coordinators for the Ministry of Care at sjmcdonal@yahoo.com or marysuecdonal@yahoo.com or 847-528-1434.

Great Adventure Scripture Study



It's not too late to join! Over the next year we will cover the following in-depth, all-encompassing series that places each individual book and era of Scripture in the greater context of our Story of Salvation history! This is an incredible series for not only understanding individual pieces of the Bible better, but for understanding how it all fits together in God's incredible plan for humanity.

We will split this Great Adventure into two "semesters," a Fall and a Spring semester.

Thursdays at 9:30am in Unity Hall

The dates for the entire fall semester are as follows: September 19, 26; October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; and November 7, 14, 21

All participants will receive a workbook and a "Bible Timeline." The cost to the parish for these materials is \$40. **A suggested donation of \$20 per registrant can be made by [clicking here](#) or via cash donation at the first session.**

Email mmcmahon@sfxlq.org to register!



Attention all high school teens: Are you looking to grow stronger in your Faith? Are you looking for ways to navigate the challenges and complexities of your high school years? Do you wonder how our Faith fits into a world which often seems to dismiss or be disrespectful to our Faith? Please join a group of like-minded teens to explore these issues at Crossroads. We will meet twice per month on Sunday nights to explore faith, build community, and share perspectives. We will also have some outreach/volunteer opportunities.

Our next meeting will take place Sunday, September 15th in Unity Hall from 6:00-7:15pm (following the 5:00pm teen mass). ALL meetings will include dinner. This program is in its second year at St. Francis Xavier, and we are excited about being able to support the faith journey of our teens. We welcome all high school students regardless of faith/parish, so bring your friends.

Please use link or QR code for more information including dates and details and to sign up!

<https://bit.ly/SFXCrossroads>



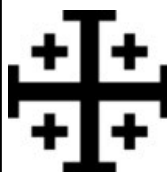
Questions?

Please reach out to Laura and Greg Ozark at greg.ozark@gmail.com or lauraozark@yahoo.com



**Save the Date
for the
Falcon 5K
Run/Walk**

**Saturday
November 2nd
8:00 am**

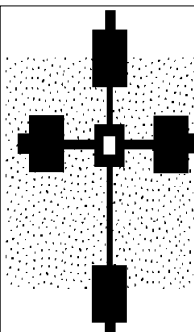


Kairos 43 Retreat

Hosted by St. John of the Cross Parish
November 14-17, 2024

Offered for current
High School Juniors and Seniors

Registration for the retreat will open on September 27th on the SJC website www.stjohnofthecross.org, and will close on October 25th. Please contact MaryClaire Zurowski with any questions at mczurowski31@gmail.com.



**MAY I NEVER
BOAST OF
ANYTHING
EXCEPT IN THE
CROSS OF OUR LORD**

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

**Register Now for K – 8 Religious Education,
Registration for In Person Classes closes on September 27th!**

The School of Religious Education is still accepting registration for the 2024-2025 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.

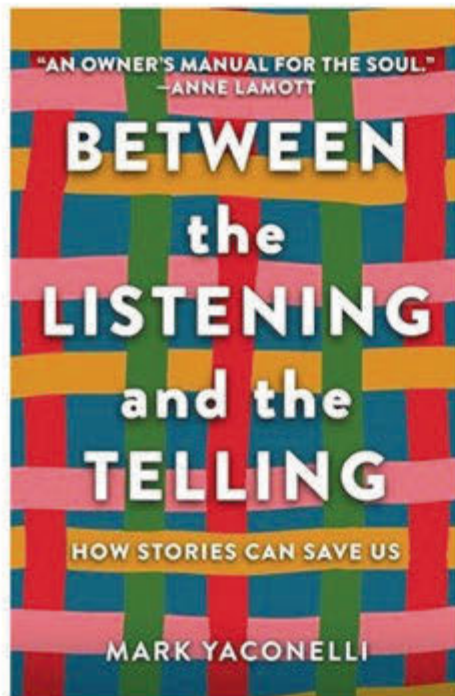
Please don't delay in registering your children today as some classes are already closed!

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

Click Here: <https://www.sfxlg.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/Religious%20Education>



West Suburban SUMMER READ 2024



“This is how stories can save us: we step into the reality of another person’s existence and instead of judgment feel kinship.”

Join Us for a Book Discussion!

September 24, 2024

6:30-8:30pm

St. Francis Xavier Courtyard Room
124 North Spring Avenue, LaGrange

Light Refreshments will be served

RSVP to Maureen Windmoeller maurwind@gmail.com

ALL ARE WELCOME!

“Storyteller, author and activist” Mark Yaconelli brings “an eloquent, impactful treatise on the need to tell and listen to stories...Yaconelli offers practical ideas based on his real-life work in cultivating storytelling for the purpose of forming identity, resolving differences, and finding healing.”

~Josh Olds, LifelsStory.com

Organizations Invited to Participate (partial list):

- • Baha'is of LaGrange
- • Community Presbyterian Church of Clarendon Hills
- • Emmanuel Episcopal Church, LaGrange
- • First Cong. Church of LaGrange—Ministry of Missions
- • First United Methodist Congregation of LaGrange, IL
- • Learning Anti-Racism Together (LART) (Western Springs)
- • Pizza and Social Justice (Glen Ellyn)
- • Redeemer Lutheran Church of Hinsdale
- • St. Francis Xavier Peace & Justice Ministry, LaGrange
- • Sisters of St. Joseph, LaGrange Park
- • Together Is Better Alliance (Chicago)
- • Unitarian Church of Hinsdale—Racial Equity Team

Author interviews, other resources [HERE](#)

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

THE ST. FRANCIS XAVIER MUSIC MINISTRY
PRESENTS A...

CLARINET *RECITAL*



Allen Sterwalt, *clarinet*

Mark Bilyeu, *piano*

...with Claire Jakubisin, *voice*

19 SATURDAY

OCTOBER 2024

7:00 PM

FREE ADMISSION!

Free-will offering baskets
will be placed at the doors
in support of the SFX Music
Ministry. Thank you!



Family Outreach Ministry

Hello SFX Parishioners! We are excited for the upcoming volunteer opportunities with the Saturday Meals Program through the First Congressional Church of LaGrange. St. Francis Xavier is continuing this great volunteer opportunity with the Saturday Meals Program starting on Saturday, September 28 and continuing through May 2025.

From 9:00-11:00am, food prep and cooking and 11:00 am-1:00pm, food serving and clean up.

The age of volunteers is 13 and must be accompanied by an adult and volunteers over the age of 16 can come by themselves.

To register or if you have questions, about the Saturday Meals Program at the First Congressional Church of LaGrange, please contact Ana Dimailig at apd3@core.com.

Thanks and we hope to see you at one of these Saturday Meals Program events!

Rachel Peterson & Ana Dimailig
SFX Family Outreach Ministry

Engage Community – September

Thursday, September 19: Dinner at Santiago's in LaGrange at 6:00 pm. Separate checks.
RSVP is required by September 16.

Thursday, September 26: First meeting since summer and GAME NIGHT!

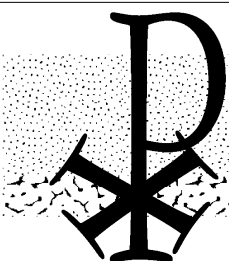
Where: Unity Hall at St. Francis Xavier, 124 North Spring Avenue, LaGrange.

When: 7:00-8:30 pm.

What: Bring your favorite board game or a deck of cards. We'll choose what to play based on the group's size and interests. Feel free to bring carpet-friendly beverages. We'll also pre-view plans for the rest of the year. Service opportunities, education and enrichment and, of course, creating community.

For questions or to RSVP, please email Jane at janeLGPark@gmail.com.

All are welcome. Engage is for adults; single, married, divorced, widowed, parishioners and visitors to foster Christian community through social and service events.



I am the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIGHT

Interfaith Career Network

Staying Motivated and Marketable During Your Career Transition

Mark your calendar now, then join us on Thursday, September 19 from 7:00-9:00pm. As you already know, navigating a career transition can be both exciting and challenging. We're going to provide you with an engaging presentation on how best to stay motivated and marketable during this pivotal time. You'll discover practical strategies and mindset shifts that can help you maintain momentum, overcome obstacles and achieve your professional goals. Changing industries? Seeking advancement? Starting a new venture?

Our speaker, Deborah O'Donnell, will provide you with the tools and inspiration needed to thrive in your career journey. Deborah is an Executive Coach with more than 20 years of experience enhancing the performance of executives, teams and organizations. She is currently the Senior Executive Coach at Felix Global, an organization specializing in talent solutions, leadership development and outplacement services. Deborah specializes in developing executives to optimize their career and leadership performance while assisting them in enhancing their reputation and their ability to succeed at the highest level.

We look forward to seeing you at St. John of the Cross Parish Center, 5005 Wolf Road in Western Springs. Everyone is welcome!

Visit <http://www.interfaithcareernetwork.com>
for additional resources.

We are excited to announce the Cossitt School FALL Clothing Sale on September, 28, 2024!



Exciting news! The Cossitt Elementary's consignment sale is on Saturday, September 28, from 10:00am to 1:30pm. Explore over 20,000 high-quality items for infants to size 16, including fall/winter clothes, coats, shoes, sports gear, and books.

Get involved by **selling** or **donating** your gently-used children's clothing. It's a great way to declutter and give your items a new life! Plus, you can **volunteer** to help out and **shop** for amazing deals. Don't miss the **HALF PRICE** bargains from 12:30 to 1:30pm.

Your participation supports our school and promotes sustainability by keeping textiles out of landfills. Join us in making a difference!

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



Diversity Days in LaGrange

ORIGIN Film Screening

Origin recreates the journey of author Isabel Wilkerson as she investigates the global phenomenon of caste and its dark influence on society. [Watch the trailer.](#)

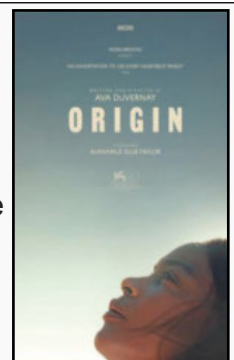


Screening & Discussion:
Saturday, October 5, 1:00-4:30 pm
LaGrange Public Library
10 West Cossitt Avenue, LaGrange

Special Zoom Presentation on Sunday, October 6 at 3:00pm with Dr. Suraj Yengde, who played himself in the movie, will join us for a Zoom presentation.

Film screening and presentation sponsored by a collaboration of churches, libraries and other organizations. See registration page for more information. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED** and space is limited: <https://tinyurl.com/2024Octmovie>.

For more information: email LaGrangeDiversity@gmail.com visit www.communitydiversity.org.



Christmas Midnight Mass CHOIR: New Singers Welcome!



A special invitation goes out to those of you who have not been able to join the choir full time OR have been waiting to join, but you haven't taken that step yet. This is a call for those of you who have an **ear** and a love for singing to be a part of the St. Francis Xavier **Christmas Midnight Mass Choir at 12:00am on December 25th**. The choir will be joined with the sounds of strings and brass to proclaim the wondrous mystery of Jesus' birth. This will also be coupled with participation in the **Christmas Epiphany Concert & Candlelight**, which is scheduled for **Saturday, January 4th at 7:00pm**. There will be a mandatory CONCERT run-through rehearsal on **Thursday, January 2nd at 7:00pm**.

REHEARSALS will begin on **Tuesday, October 22nd—7:00 to 8:00pm**, and will continue every Tuesday evening through December 17th.

If you have an **ear** and a **skill** for choral singing, please consider this invitation, and experience the joy and beauty that music can bring during this special time of the year. Interested singers should contact **Allen Sterwalt**, our **Director of Music**, before the first rehearsal on **October 22nd** at asterwalt@sfxlg.org.



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

- **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
- **Capt. 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. 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
- **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
- **Capt. Jack Albertini, USMC**—son of Bob & Susan Albertini
- **Micah Peralta, DC3 U.S. Navy**—daughter of Mila Esleta
- **Private Julian Vela, U.S. Army**—friend of Joe, Cari, Maddie & Mike Ramaglia
- **Specialist Esteban Vela, U.S. Army**—friend of Joe, Cari, Maddie & Mike Ramaglia
- **Sean Kramer, U.S. Army**—friend of the Cooley Family

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
Weekend Sacramental Minister

Rev. William Tkachuk
Rev. Richard Milek
Andrew Allison
Phil Gianatasio
Margaret McMahon
Mary Freeman
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
Administrative Assistant
Front Office Coordinator
Director of Marketing & Enrollment
Office Operations/Events Manager
Tuition Accounts
Director of Religious Education
Religious Education Administrative Assistant

Jimmy Bajner
Janice Carr
Jeanne Grimes
Joni O'Halloran
Erin Smith
Brooke Cermak
Jane Bandyk
Elis Guidice
Cindy Johnson

jbajner@sfxlg.org
jcarr@sfxlg.org
jgrimes@sfxlg.org
johalloran@sfxlg.org
esmith@sfxlg.org
bcermak@sfxlg.org
jbandyk@sfxlg.org
eguidice@sfxlg.org
cjohnson@sfxlg.org

Music Ministry

Director

Allen Sterwalt

asterwalt@sfxlg.org

Parish Office Staff

Director of Operations
Director of Stewardship and Development
Finance Manager
Administrative Assistant
Parish Secretary/Receptionist
Staff Secretary/Bulletin Editor
Facilities Manager

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

pbrown@sfxlg.org
jzeisloft@sfxlg.org
jbandyk@sfxlg.org
mpipal@sfxlg.org
mwesterhoff@sfxlg.org
dsoulje@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.....sfxreligioused@sfxlg.org
Parish Web Site.....www.sfxlg.org

Rectory Hours

Monday-Thursday.....8:30 am-7:00 pm
Friday.....8:30 am-4:30 pm
Saturday.....9:00 am-12:00 pm

Weekday Masses at St. Francis Xavier Church

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

Weekday Masses at Neighboring Churches

St. Cletus (Monday-Friday) 8:00 am
St. John of the Cross (Monday-Saturday) 9:00 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.

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 the Claret Center by calling 773-643-6259.

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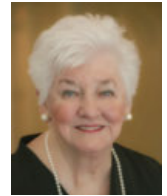
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Parishioner

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Email: tess@seniorlivingspecialistschicago.com

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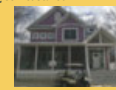
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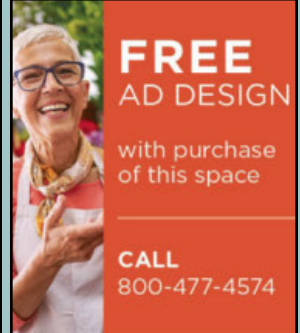


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