



SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 3, 2024

All Souls Day, Saturday, November 2, 2024 during the 5:00 PM Mass

Jackie Abbs
Helen Adams
Fr. Michael Ahlstrom
Betty Allison
Dave Armstrong
Rita Ashcraft
Robert Baeza
Judith Bandyk
Eugene Bastedo
Edith Brisson
Jennifer Buchta
Dorothy Burnicks
Norine Byrne
Richard Callahan
Maryalice Carl
Jay Carroll
William Cepolski
Anita Chilson
James Chilson
Dominick Colantuono
Michael Condon
Laurie Coughlan
Fr. Edward Cronin
Nancy Cuppage
Patrick Cusack
Jeanne Davis
Bill de Jonge
Joan Deiters
Timothy Devereux, Sr.
Irene DeYoung
Casey Dillon
Vincent DiTomasso
Pedro Dominguez
Fr. Gino Donatelli
Patrick Doyle
Nancy Duffy
Diane Durham
Jim Egan
Mary Elmslie
Dominic Eorio, Sr.

Josephine Eorio
Sue Ellen Flockencier
Jacquie Flood
Tom Flynn, Jr.
Anna Garber
Vesna Garber
Bishop Raymond Goedert
Zygmunt Golinski
Robert Gregory
Leslie Harvey
Bob Hauck
James Heller
Bob Hill
Jim Holt
Joyce Jacks
LaVergne Jenkner
Eugene Jobin
Edward Jones
Janet Joyce
Janice Kaminski
Mark Kiley
Leslie Koenig
Janice Krolicki
Lottie Kryczka
Raymond Lang
Roger Laven
Gloria Leiber
Joseph Leicht
Barbara Lord
John Madden
Rick Mahoney
Peggy Maney
Ann Marie Mason
Richard Mathis
Dorothy Mattas
Suzanne McKee
Jay Meehan
Renee Miga
Susan Miller
Jean Mohan

Noreen Murphy
Thomas Murphy
Julie Murray
Connie Navarro
Muriel Nerad
Tom O'Brien
Moirra O'Hara
Dave Orsic
Michelle Pasko
Marjorie Passananti
Geri Pfluger
Fr. Bernie Pietrzak
Adam Potesak
Mary Raftery
Mike Rayniak
Peter Ritten
Robert Rodak
Adrian Romero
Judy Sagilio
Dennis Schumacher
Richard Slowik
Leo Smietanski
Scott Sowa
Jerry Spearman, Sr.
Steven Stirn
Rose Stoiber
Catherine Stubitsch
Katherine Swiderski
Richard Szatkowski
Mary Tio
Edward Urbanek
Carol Vargo
Don Veverka
Rosemarie Wall
Paul Wehner
Norman Werner
Cindy Williams
Loretta Zderad

BELONG • BELIEVE • BE LOVE

Week at a Glance

			Intention	Requested By
Monday, November 4	Mass	8:30 am	Special Intention Gloria Lieber	Jackie & Tom Morsch
Tuesday, November 5	Mass	8:30 am	Suzann McKee	The Lenti Family
Wednesday, November 6	Mass	8:30 am	Francis Napleton	The Napleton Family
Thursday, November 7	Rosary	8:15 am		
	Mass	8:30 am	David Kruger	Joan Potsch
Friday, November 8	Mass	8:30 am	Jim & Joan Dunne	The Dunne Family
Saturday, November 9	Mass	8:30 am	Thomas Chlebowski	The Cummings Family
	Reconciliation	9:00 am		
	Mass	5:00 pm	Helen Wargo	The Sangiacomo & Martens Families
Sunday, November 10	Mass	7:30 am	Mary Tio	John R. Washbish
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mass	9:00 am	Rosemarie Agnello	Yvonne Agnello Adams
	Mass	11:00 am	James F. Dougherty	Family
	Mass	5:00 pm	Emmett McDermott	The Cooley Family

Presider's Schedule for November 2-3, 2024

5:00 pm Fr. Tkachuk

7:30 am Fr. Milek

9:00 am Fr. Tkachuk

11:00 am Fr. Milek

5:00 PM Fr. Cyscon

Please pray for . . .

Melissa Aravalo	Brenda Kardatzke
Orlando Ares	Michelle Kram
Ed Barrett	Ayanna Kucera
Angela Bowman	Eleanor Love
Vivian Brickhouse	Jill Miller
Kevin Brooks	Patrick Morgan
Aiden Curtis	Bill Mroz
Blake Donegan	Rosemary Nash
Pat Eaton	Ann Marie Nidos
Tom Flynn	Laureen Rabe
Bob Fredriksen	Darshana Shah
Baby Lupe Baker Garcia	June Sheehan
Lilli Gregory	Michael Smith
Vincenzo Guzzo	Lorine Solimeno
Junie Haase	Gregg Stephenson
Sr. Marci Hermesdorf	John Stopka
Angela Hill	Amanda Szila
Jessi Rita Hoffman	Olivia Tarsney
Tiffany Kahn	

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

Kelly Collins & Christopher Ellsworth
Molly Piech & Sean McMahon
Angelina Timm & Ian Rodnick



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



**This Sunday,
November 3
2:00 AM**

Pastor's Letter

"Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

There is no other commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31

Jesus and his disciples have entered the holy city of Jerusalem as we enter the final chapters of Mark's gospel. He is confronted by a series of challenges, many motivated by a desire to catch Jesus in something that they can use against him. A scholar of the law asks Jesus, "Which is **the first among all the commandments?**" By the time of Jesus, the original ten commandments given to Moses on Mount Sinai had grown to include *hundreds* of laws covering many details of daily life. It is not clear whether the scribe's intent is to test Jesus or whether he genuinely seeks wisdom. Jesus quotes the Torah, the holiest scriptures of the Jewish people. **Total love of God** with all one's heart, soul, and strength comes **before all else**. Jesus adds "all of one's mind" to the original words of Moses, rooting even the study and discussion of the commandments in love of God.

Jesus goes even further and names the second greatest commandment: to love one's neighbor as oneself. Placing all other laws under one of these two commandments, he makes it clear that all human behavior must be guided by these two commandments of love. Most in the crowd probably agreed with the scribe who affirms what Jesus has said. However, tensions arise in the Gospel of Luke, when the scribe takes the conversation one step further, asking, "And **who is my neighbor?**" Jesus responds to him with the parable of the Good Samaritan, making it clear that **the neighbor is everyone** in need of our assistance. Jesus insists that his disciples cannot set boundaries between those "worthy" of our love and those whom we can deem "unworthy." Jesus redefines what it means to be among the "chosen" people as having a greater responsibility to reach out to those who have not yet learned of God's love for them.

The challenge to love all others as our sisters and brothers may prove especially challenging for some this week. We have lived through months of harsh words, creating enemies, and being encouraged to fear the consequences of one candidate or the other winning an election that may be decided by very narrow margins. **All those who have been seeking political office are beloved daughters and sons of God** whom God has commanded us to love with the same love we have for ourselves and those closest to us. In our human weakness, we all may struggle at times to express this in our words, actions, and attitudes. This is our charge and our challenge as missionary disciples. And this is something we do only through prayer and the help of God's grace. **May we witness the love of Jesus this week in our thoughts, words, and actions.**

This Saturday evening, we pause at Mass to remember those who have died and have been in our prayers during this past year. We gather to comfort those still grieving with the pain of their loss, especially the parents among us who lost a child. I encourage you to dedicate some time in prayer this week for the relatives and close friends of those whose names appear on the cover of the bulletin this week. We live in hope of the moment when we all will be together again in the never-ending joy of God's kingdom.

Autumn Peace,

F. Bill

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Office of the Archbishop
835 North Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2030
312.534.8230
archchicago.org

October 24, 2024

Dear St. Francis Xavier Parish,

Last year, I wrote to you about Reverend William Killeen, a retired priest who served in your parish as an associate pastor from May 2011 to June 2019. The Archdiocese had received an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor while Father Killeen was assigned to St. Patricia Parish more than 40 years ago. In keeping with our child protection policies, the allegation was reported to civil authorities and the person making the allegation was offered the services of our Victim Assistance Ministry. Father Killeen cooperated with my direction to remain out of ministry while the allegation was investigated.

The Archdiocese Independent Review Board met this week to evaluate the results of the investigation. They determined that there is not a reasonable cause to believe Father Killeen sexually abused a minor. In addition, the Board recommended that Father Killeen be returned to ministry and that the file be closed. After prayerful consideration, I have accepted their recommendations and restored Father Killeen's faculties to minister in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

The welfare of the children entrusted to our care is our paramount consideration. Consequently, we take seriously all allegations of sexual misconduct. It is to the credit of our priests that they support our child protection policies. They understand that only by applying a meticulous and impartial process to all allegations can we remain committed to our work of assisting survivors and, with the help of independent advisors, thoroughly evaluate all allegations.

At the same time, I am committed to restoring the good name of those so accused if the case is unsubstantiated. To that end, I publicly affirm that Father Killeen is a priest in good standing and express sincere appreciation for his many years of service to the People of God in the Archdiocese of Chicago. This period away from ministry has been challenging for him. He deserves our respect and gratitude and I hope you will join me in thanking him for his long-standing dedication.

In closing, I encourage anyone who believes they have been abused by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee to come forward. You will be received with respect and compassion. To report abuse please refer to the Archdiocesan website at www.archchicago.org.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

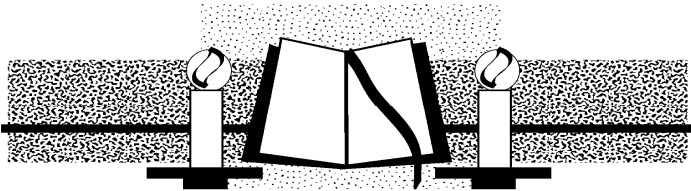
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Card. Cury".

Archbishop of Chicago



Transition Prayer

God of love, you are with us in every transition and change. As we seek our new pastor, we entrust our community to your Holy Spirit. You know the heart of our congregation and the unique gifts and challenges of our parish. May we remain united in your grace and rejoice in the promise of your will to bring the "fullness of joy." May our future pastor do the same, listening to your Spirit with courage and openness as you lead us to one another. Amen.



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Welcome

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

Edward Androwich
Frank & Jane Cosgrave
Michael & Sarah Dybalski
Vivian Garcia
Mark McCann & Shana Del Toro-McCann
Steven & Charlotte Niedzielski
Liam & Allison O'Rourke
Richard Peckham
Ryan & Sara Riemersma
Keith Spence & Angela Diaz
Stephen & Jennifer Tily
Don & Bernadette Turner



Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

The following is an excerpt from a document of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, "*Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*", which guides Catholics in how to make conscience-based decisions on political issues, including choosing candidates for public office. The complete document can be found through the following link: <https://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/upload/forming-consciences-for-faithful-citizenship.pdf>

Let us look to the example of the Good Samaritan. Jesus' parable summons us to rediscover our vocation as citizens of our respective nations and of the entire world, builders of a new social bond. This summons is ever new, yet it is grounded in a fundamental law of our being: we are called to direct society to the pursuit of the common good and, with this purpose in mind, to persevere in consolidating its political and social order, its fabric of relations, its human goals. (Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, no. 66)

As Catholics and Americans, we are blessed to be able to participate in our nation's political and public life. Our freedoms respect the dignity of individuals and their consciences and allow us to come together for the common good. Election seasons, therefore, should contain a sense of gratitude and hope. Our love for this country, our patriotism, properly impels us to vote.

But increasingly, it seems, election seasons are a time of anxiety and spiritual trial. Political rhetoric is increasingly angry, seeking to motivate primarily through division and hatred. Fear can be an effective tool for raising money. The most heated arguments online often get the most clicks. Demonizing the other can win votes.

We propose once more the moral framework of *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* precisely as pastors, inspired by the Good Samaritan, with the hope of binding these wounds and healing these bitter divisions. This document is not based on personalities or partisanship, the latest news cycle, or what's trending on social media. Instead, it reflects the perennial role of the Church in public life in proclaiming timeless principles: the infinite worth and dignity of every human life, the common good, solidarity, and subsidiarity. Not sure what these mean? We invite you to read a copy of *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* and learn more.

Allowing your conscience to be stretched and formed by these reflections can give you peace! They point to Jesus' challenge to show mercy to those in need, just as the Good Samaritan. As Pope Francis writes, "Here, all our distinctions, labels and masks fall away: it is the moment of truth. Will we bend down to touch and heal the wounds of others?" (Fratelli Tutti, no. 70.) Let this be in our hearts when we talk about politics and make political choices.

Support our Religious Education Program with Little Caesars!



It's pizza time! Starting November 1st and for the next 4 weeks, we're selling Little Caesars Pizza Kits and Meal Deal Codes to raise money for SFX Religious Education Program. We are happy to bring back a beloved fundraiser. Help us to raise funds by purchasing some delicious Little Caesars items that will be delivered right to your home. To reach our goal, we need everyone's help. It's easy to join the fun!

Click this link:

https://fundraising.littlecaesars.com/login/join-fundraiser/6a6c0b1a-88d2-4252-9c42-a6fcb660b5d7* to set your page set up or scan this QR code to create your seller page.



Religious Education News



Our Registration for the In Person Program is now closed, but registrations for our 1 – 8 Online Program is still open until November 30th.

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!

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

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

THE BOOK FAIR IS COMING TO SFX!



Joyce Hall

Tuesday, November 5

3:15 pm to 8 pm

Wednesday, November 6

8 am to 12 pm

Visitors must sign in with the school office

145 North Waiola Avenue, LaGrange

Veterans Day Mass and Reception



The 5th grade students at St. Francis Xavier School would like to invite any Veterans and Active Duty Service Members, and their families, to a mass honoring their service to our country. The mass will be held at 8:30am on Monday, November 11 with a reception immediately following in Unity Hall. If you would like to attend, please RSVP by November 4 to Emily Bersnak at grade5service@sfxlg.org or 630-738-1369. We hope to see you there!

Church League Basketball Registration Open



High School Guys League Fee \$150
[Click here](#) to register and pay online.

High School Girls League Fee \$100
[Click here](#) to register and pay online.



With Special Guests

'85 Chicago Bear &
Super Bowl Champion

Tom Thayer

Voice of the
Chicago Bears

Jeff Joniak



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH

JOYCE HALL

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM

DINNER AT 7:00 PM

\$125 PER PERSON

*Cost for Senior members is a donation
to the Men's Club. See below for details.**



SPONSORSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE



Price Includes:

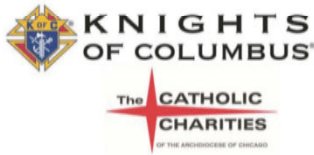
Full BBQ Spread by Beach Ave BBQ!

Open Bar ★ Beer ★ Wine ★ Soda



Register today at: sfxpigroast.com

*All male parishioners age 70 and over contact Matt Hubert directly at mthubert@gmail.com or 773-619-0554



13th Annual Warm Clothing Drive

Start: November 17 (Sunday)
through November 24 (Sunday)

In the spirit of Thanksgiving for all our blessings, we ask you to share with others in need.

“Without charity the rich man is poor, and with it the poor man is rich.” St. Augustine

Please donate your gently used or new coats, hats, gloves, scarves, boots, etc.

OPTIONS TO DONATE:

1. (St. Francis Church)

Donation boxes will be at church entrances between **November 17-24** to deposit your clothing articles.

2. (Drop-Off @ SFX Parking Lot)

On **Sunday, November 24 from 9:00am to 1:00pm**, you can drop off your donations in the parking lot behind St. Francis Xavier Church (124 North Spring Avenue) Knights of Columbus volunteers will accept your donations from your car; you do not need to leave your car!

3. (Cash Donation)

If a cash donation is more convenient, simply scan the QR code below (point camera at the QR code to lead you to the donation website).



Cash Donations Accepted.
Tax Receipts upon request.
Please contact Knights of Columbus
with questions: 708-306-2114.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

“Keep Christ In Christmas” Poster Contest



The LaGrange Council 6483 Knights of Columbus is inviting the students of St. Francis Xavier Day School and Religious Education Program from First Grade through Eighth Grade to participate in the organizations international “Keep Christ In Christmas” poster contest.

The contest will be conducted locally with winning entries advancing to District, State, National and International levels. The winning entries will serve as a basis for a series of new Christmas posters that encourage deeper understanding of the holiday. Entry forms will be available through school. Posters must be submitted to St. Francis Xavier Day School and Religious Education Program by **Friday, December 6th**.



Eagle Scout Project Update



Thank you to ALL donors from St. Francis Xavier who made my project supporting Silver Cross Hospital such a great success. Whether you contributed monetarily or by donating material supplies, your support will make a meaningful difference in the lives of countless hospital patients and their guests. Pictured are the two activity carts given to the Rehab unit. The third cart is being used by the Emergency Department and the fourth by Pediatrics. - Sean

LOVE

There is no commandment greater than this

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It is Wreath Time!



The St. Francis Xavier Cub Scout Pack is selling Christmas wreaths again this year!

The wreaths we sell are well priced, comparable to what you would pay at retail, and very high quality - fresh from the Northwoods. Best of all, they are delivered to your door by one of our Scouts. If you are going to buy a wreath this season, please buy through us and support your Cub Scout Pack.

This year, in addition to supporting the pack's activities, we are using the wreath sale to sponsor Christmas for families that use the SFX Food Pantry. Please help our Scouts in their effort to ensure families in our community have a memorable Christmas.

Order Deadline: Friday, November 8th

Delivery: Our truck arrives on November 23rd, the Saturday before Thanksgiving, and we then distribute to your door.



Scan the QR code or order here:

go.wreathsaleapp.com/36044f/m/6ef8eb/

Knights of Columbus Christmas Tree Pre-Sale



LaGrange Council 6483



This is the final weekend of tree-order pre-sales in the Unity Hall courtyard.

If yours is a real Christmas tree family, this year simplify your shopping process with the Knights of Columbus. Now through November 3, your Knights council will be taking orders for 6-to-12 foot Wisconsin-fresh balsam-fir trees after most Masses at

a courtyard table near the rectory's "God's Garage". Just look for the message board. Cash, check, or Venmo payment accepted.

Your custom-height tree will be delivered to the school parking lot on November 26 "Thanksgiving Tuesday". In a drive-through fashion there, Knights will load your pre-paid tree atop your vehicle for you to bring home. You won't even need to get out of your vehicle.

Local delivery and even installation into your home's tree stand is available to customers who need that level of customer service from your Knights.

Cub Scouts Pack 33 Popcorn



The St. Francis Xavier Cub Scout Pack 33 will be selling popcorn outside of God's Garage after the 5:00pm mass on Saturday and after the 9:00 & 11:00am masses on Sunday. Cub Scout Pack 33 is excited for a fun filled year full of hiking, camping, museum tours, and numerous enrichment opportunities. Sales of popcorn go toward funding these many fun activities.

Knights of Columbus LaGrange 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. **YOUNG LEADERS WANTED.** We've got good work to do in our community. Text or call Brian Lisek at 630-939-2626 to learn how you can help us serve those with the most need. To Knight!

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, November 5

Contact Matt Hubert mthubert@gmail.com or

Jack Horrigan jfhorrigan@gmail.com for more information.

Our Sharing Parish is part of a new parish with a new name: St. Simon of Cyrene

For many years, St. Agatha Parish, on Chicago's west side, has been our sharing parish. We have celebrated Mass with the people of St. Agatha at both locations, supported their Christmas outreach through toy showers and our Giving Tree, attended Peace Circles together, and provided financial support to their children enrolling in Catholic schools. Fr. Larry Dowling served as pastor until he retired in June.

In July 2022, as part of the Renew My Church process, St. Agatha and St. Martin de Porres Parishes combined to become St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish with ministry sites at both locations. Fr. Thadeo Mgimba was appointed pastor in July 2024. It so happens that we had a sharing parish connection with Fr. Thadeo when he was pastor of Ascension/St. Susanna in Harvey (which was closed in the Renew My Church process). We are delighted to reestablish our connection with Fr. Thadeo and to continue our sharing parish partnership with the renamed faith community of St. Simon of Cyrene.



SFX supporters of the 125th Anniversary Capital Campaign will recall that \$750,000 of the funds raised were used to establish an Educational Endowment Fund to benefit St. Agatha children. The earnings from that endowment have assisted dozens of students since its inception. With input from Fr. Bill Tkachuk, Fr. Larry Dowling, and Fr. Thadeo, the endowment funds will now be used to provide scholarships for students who are parishioners of the "new" St. Simon of Cyrene Parish. Surplus funds in any given year will be used to assist students of three area Catholic elementary schools (St. Angela, St. Catherine-St. Lucy, and St. Malachy) following a recommendation from the corresponding school principal.



Greetings Fr. Bill and the Faith Community of SFX,

I am grateful for this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks to the Lord for His goodness and enduring mercy. I send warm greetings from the community of hope, faith, and love at St. Simon of Cyrene.

First, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Fr. Thadeo Mgimba, from St. Simon of Cyrene, a new parish born from the unification of St. Agatha and St. Martin de Porres Parishes on July 1, 2022. My name might be familiar to some of you, as I previously served as a pastor at another sharing parish of SFX that has since closed—Ascension-St. Susanna Parish in Harvey, IL. It is a true blessing to reconnect with you through this renewed partnership between St. Simon of Cyrene and SFX.

St. Simon of Cyrene is now in its third year since its formation. As you may know, the process of merging parishes is complex. It requires a great deal of patience, attentive listening, and a lot of prayers. The most challenging aspect has been bringing people together, as many of us struggle with change. It

takes time for people to embrace change and the new identity of the parish. Some of us are still struggling to adapt to the changes brought by this process of unification. However, we continue to patiently pray and work together toward the goal of unity. Change is never easy, yet through faith, we remain hopeful.

The unification of our parish has brought with it nine buildings, some of which need capital improvements. This journey requires us to evaluate our buildings and determine which ones we can use for our mission and which we may need to sell. Many of these buildings hold sentimental value for our parishioners, making it a difficult decision to decide which we can keep and which we can let it go. I ask for your prayers that we can make these decisions soon, as the cost of maintaining them has a significant impact on our budget. Please pray for us.

Our parish is blessed with a spirit of resilience, though like many, we face challenges. In our previous October counts, we had about 500 individuals registered as attending services, though the reality is that roughly 250 join us regularly for Sunday Masses. To build a thriving church for the future, we recognize the need for a renewed focus on evangelization to bring more people to church and to celebrate more sacraments.

In partnership with the Archdiocese of Chicago, we have agreed to implement the Alpha Program as a means of evangelization. Deacon Greg Shumpert has graciously taken on this mission, working closely with the Archdiocese. Together, we plan to launch the Alpha program next year, aiming to revitalize the faith of our community and reach those seeking God. For now, Deacon Greg is leading seminars to introduce the importance of evangelization to all parish groups and ministries, with the goal of building a strong, dedicated Evangelization Team. Please pray for us, that we may reach and attract more young people to reconsider their faith and return to the Church.

Our Religious Education program and Sunday School classes began two weeks ago. Though the number of students is small, we are blessed to have passionate and committed catechists who deeply love their faith, the children, and the mission of passing on the teachings of Christ to the next generation. We currently have around twenty students in our Sunday School program and ten students in the Religious Education program. On November 3rd, Bishop Joseph Perry will join us to confirm six of our high school freshmen. This is an exciting time for these young people, and I ask for your prayers as they take this important step in their journey of faith.

Through our outreach office, we serve the community with two food pantries, led by Deacon William Pouncy, and a clothing ministry that provides for those in need. Our food pantries serve approximately 130 to 150 individuals each week, translating to about 520 to 600 people per month. Our dedicated volunteers embody the call of Christ, serving each guest with love and dignity, in the spirit of His words, "Whatever you do for the least of these brothers and sisters, you do it for me."

Additionally, at St. Agatha Church, we have partnered with the 548 Foundation, which trains 75 young men and women as solar panel installation technicians through a 13-week program. This initiative provides valuable job opportunities in the solar installation industry, offering hope and a future for our youth. We are also collaborating with Music Inc., an organization that provides music education as an extracurricular and after-school program. Currently, Music Inc. serves 45 students, ranging in age from 4 to 18, fostering creativity and a love for the arts.

I also want to take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude for the scholarships offered to our students through the St. Francis Xavier Endowment Fund. The parents and students deeply appreciate your generosity. May God bless you abundantly for your kindness.

As we continue to grow and serve, I humbly ask for your prayers, especially for our young people, for the success of our evangelization efforts, and for the many families who need our care and help. Let us continue this journey together, faith-filled and hopeful, that united we will stand, win the victory, and transform the world.

Blessings to you,
Fr. Thadeo Mgimba

Catholic Women's Club
— St. Francis Xavier - CWC —

Join us for a special
happy hour

It's a fun-filled evening at fourteensixteen
with lively guest bartenders from SFX!

Our Guest Bartenders:

- Jimmy Bajner
- Maggie McMahon
- Erin Smith

**all cash
tips
benefit
SFX**

**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20
FROM 6PM-8PM**

fourteensixteen
14 W. Calendar
La Grange



SAVE THE DATE FOR THE S.F.X. PARISH YULE FLIP PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Date: Sunday, December 8th

Time: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: Joyce Hall

Santa's Workshop will be back this year in the gym!

Sponsorship Opportunities Available:

Reach out to Sarah Becker at Srbeck525@yahoo.com for more information

Brought to you by the S.F.X. Catholic Women's Club and the



**Knights of
Columbus**

Interfaith Community Partners is now Community Assisted Rides!

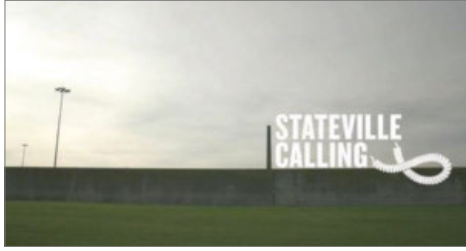


COMMUNITY ASSISTED RIDES

For 25 years, Interfaith Community Partners has served our community by providing older neighbors with convenient, safe ride services and friendly community outreach. The name Interfaith Community Partners, however, has oftentimes made it challenging to clearly communicate our services. After much study and reflection, our board of directors concluded that an updated brand offers tremendous opportunity to better connect with volunteers, donors, and community partners, and, most importantly, to raise the awareness and support necessary to bring our services to as many local older adults as possible.

It is our delight to introduce you to Community Assisted Rides (CARS)! We move forward with the same mission and commitment to connecting our older adult neighbors and communities, and now we have a name and image that supports ALL of who we are and ALL of the places we plan to go! We are so grateful to have you ride along this journey with us. Thank you for your continued support!

See our new brand in action at communityassistedrides.org



St. Francis Xavier Peace & Justice Event
Stateville Calling
Documentary & Discussion
November 10, 2024
3:00-5:00pm
Unity Hall (between the Church & School)

We will show *Stateville Calling*, a 50 minute documentary exploring parole reform and the struggle of aging inmates in Illinois followed by a discussion with Bill Ryan and Arkee Chaney.

Bill Ryan is a resident of Plymouth Place, who has spent the last several decades befriending and advocating on behalf of a group of men and women incarcerated for life, helping to abolish the death penalty in Illinois, publishing a newspaper written by prisoners, and ceaselessly negotiating with victim's advocates, legislators and lobbyists from both sides of the aisle.

"Art saved me" said Arkee Chaney about his 33 years in Illinois prisons. Arkee had been sentenced to life without the possibility of parole (LWOP) after being convicted of stealing \$110 in three different burglaries. While incarcerated, Arkee met Dr. Margaret Burroughs, the founder of the DuSable Museum and a volunteer art teacher at Stateville Prison. Dr. Burroughs encouraged Arkee's natural artistic ability. He began painting regularly in his cell and soon was teaching others to create art as well. Eventually the Illinois Prison Review board recommended his sentence be reduced to time served, Governor Pritzker approved, and Arkee was released from prison. Having no living family members who were able to take him in, Arkee came to live with Bill Ryan for two years. During that time, he continued to paint and create ceramics, setting up in Bill's garage, which became his art studio. We will display some of Arkee's art.

The film illustrates the forces that created our system, and surveys the competing arguments and data points at play to equip viewers to decide for themselves what should be done about criminal justice in Illinois.

Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Maureen Windmoeller maurwind@gmail.com.

Engage Community – Fall Events

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

We have an adventure planned at the **Elmhurst History Museum**.

Chicagoland Movie Palaces: A Century of Follies & Film

Exploring the early days of vaudeville and the golden age of motion picture theatres, examines the first movie palaces built in the Chicagoland area, delving into the architects who created them, the movie-going culture during the early age of Hollywood and the Blockbuster era, and the evolving digital movie experience. The exhibit also highlights York Theatre's centennial celebration with a special section on famous performances and films that have made a splash on the iconic marquee in Elmhurst, IL since 1924.

When: Tuesday, November 12 at 1:00 pm

Where: 120 E. Park Avenue
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Admission: Free (donations appreciated)
and Free parking too!

Website: <https://www.elmhursthhistory.org/>



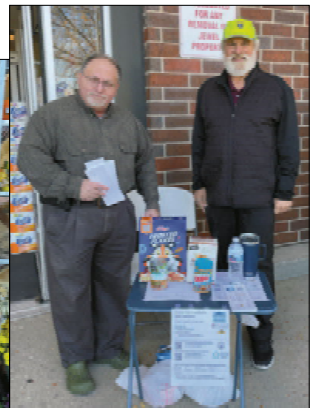
Our next formal gathering of the Engage Community will be **Thursday, November 21 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in Unity Hall at St. Francis Xavier**. We are going to dive into food security and hunger. Starting with a taste of a Solidarity Meal from Feed My Starving Children and a discussion about hunger in the US and worldwide. So that we can plan, **please RSVP to the email below**.

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

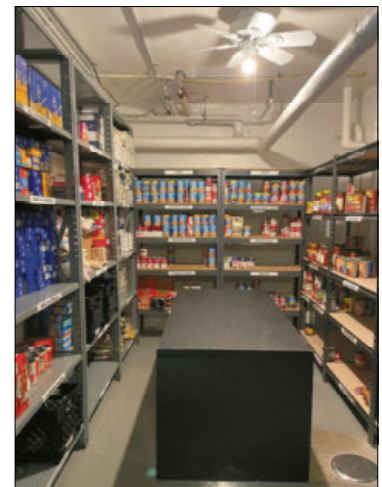
FOOD PANTRY GRATITUDE

At this time of year, our shelves are empty. While we can always order food through the Greater Chicago Food Depository, we lack the choices that we like to offer our pantry families. We give special thanks to the Knights of Columbus and Nazareth Academy for their recent food drives.

A special thanks also to SFX Day School 4th graders for their generous donation that will help us provide holiday pies!



WOW!!!
What a difference a week makes!
Thanks to everyone
who supported these
generous food drives!





GET YOUR TICKETS NOW FOR *THE OUTSIDERS!*

The Outsiders transcends time and still speaks to us since S.E. Hinton, a girl masquerading as a boy author, wrote it in high school, half a century ago. We see that even though society may change, the experience of being trapped as "an outsider" is something that everybody has felt at one time or another, at any age.

This international bestseller, and inspiration for a beloved movie, is a heroic story of friendship and belonging...when the world seems stacked against you. It has been a staple in the classroom across our country helping people to see and fight against adversity...And sometimes the best fight against adversity is not to physically fight, but to find a better way, to "Stay Gold". And this story has helped generations figure out how to "Stay Gold". A great opportunity for intergenerational discussions!

LATTE Theater Show Times:

7:00 pm Friday, November 15
2:00 pm Saturday, November 16
7:00 pm Saturday, November 16
2:00 pm Sunday, November 17

Plymouth Place Auditorium
315 North LaGrange Road
708-655-0989

Tickets:
\$5-\$15

Purchase at: www.lattetheater.com



Unassigned seating.

Doors open
30 minutes
before show.



Family Outreach Committee

The SFX Family Outreach Committee is partnering with the Saturday Meals Program at First Congressional Church of LaGrange on Saturday, November 16 from 9:00 am-1:00 pm. We will be preparing and serving a meal to our neighbors in need and would love your help! There are two time slots. Come to one or both!

9:00-11:00 am: Food prep and cooking
11:00 am-1:00 pm: Food serving & clean up

Volunteers must be at least 16 years old or 13 years old if accompanied by an adult. Sign up today at this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0445A5A62DAA8-saturday1>

Questions? Contact Rachel Peterson by email at petersonrtw@sbcglobal.net or call 708-870-8808.



Adult Open Gym Basketball Ministry

St. Francis Xavier has a year-round, adult open gym basketball ministry. If interested, the gym doors are open to you. Here's how to connect to the program. On a weekly basis, a person interested can be added to an email thread and is invited to participate to either the Saturday morning session, Sunday evening session or to a special Summer session on Tuesday evenings. Players are asked to RSVP to make sure enough players can attend a session and no more than 15 can participate for each session.

For information, you can text or call Kevin McGann at 708-408-8731 or email him at kevin.mcgann.us@gmail.com or Josh Pasquesi at joshua.pasquesi@gmail.com.

Prayer Shawl Ministry



We distributed 60 prayer shawls and blankets at masses this month.

Next Meeting: **Wednesday, November 13** from **4:00-5:00pm** in the Rectory Courtyard Room. Anyone with crochet or knitting skills is welcome!



**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
-
- **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
-
- **Lt. Matthew Edinger, DO, U.S. Navy**—son of John Edinger & Maria Nidos

**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 our parish counselor, Bennett Ferguson, from the Claret Center. He can be reached by phone at 312-880-7606.



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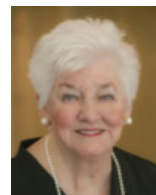
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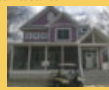
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