



SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH
5th Sunday of Lent
March 22, 2026

FIFTH SUNDAY OF
LENT



BELONG • BELIEVE • BE LOVE

Week at a Glance

| | | | Intention | Requested By |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Monday, March 23 | Mass | 8:30 am | Allen E. Milos Herbert & Mary Schrack Rose Battista | John & Lynn Schwaab Dave & JoAnn Urani |
| Tuesday, March 24 | Mass | 8:30 am | Living Intention Michael & Elizabeth Fagan Bob Roach | The Kanzer Family George & Mary Lou Braasch |
| Wednesday, March 25 | Mass | 8:30 am | Kenneth V. Perkins Lesley Harvey Zachary Joseph Holly | The Perkins Family Barbara & Michael Harvey Christine Holly |
| Thursday, March 26 | Rosary Mass | 8:15 am 8:30 am | People of the Parish | |
| Friday, March 27 | Stations Mass | 7:45 am 8:30 am | Lucy Harck | |
| Saturday, March 28 | Mass Reconciliation Mass | 8:30 am 9:00 am 5:00 pm | Agnes McAndrews Maureen Pipal | Monica McAndrews Class of 2002 |
| Sunday, March 29 Palm Sunday | Mass Mass Mass Mass | 7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm | Maureen Pipal Chris Cosgrove Carol Cecchin William Verven | Missy Westerhoff Regina MacAskill Mary McTigue Lynnea Paul |

President's Schedule for March 28-29, 2026

5:00 pm Fr. Milek

7:30 am Fr. Chrzan

9:00 am Fr. Tkachuk

11:00 am Fr. Chrzan

5:00 pm Fr. Milek

Please pray for . . .

| | |
|--|---|
| John Baggio Bob Barrett Poppy Booth Robert Borchardt Kent Borkovec George Braasch Irene Brewick Vivian Brickhouse Leonard Bruce Joe Canepa John Clinch Tom Davis Blake Donegan John Donegan Craig Eaton Nathan Emkow Dale Friedman Lupe Baker Garcia Allen Godlewski Vincenzo Guzzo Junie Haase Elizabeth Dodd Henley Angela Hill Jessi Rita Hoffman Richard Holbach Michelle Jackson Nora Lou Kampe | Deb Kash Terri Bergen Klein Ella Mae Kuzel Mickey Manos John McMurray Amy Miller Katie Miller Aldo Mitri Brandon Moffett Patrick Morgan Bill Mroz Ann Marie Nidos Connie O'Dette Mark Reilly Joseph Riden, Jr. Amy Robinson Juan Silva Rita Mae Spearman Gregg Stephenson Gary Sterwalt Jean Sterwalt John Stopka Sophie Stratton Olivia Tarsney Joe Vargas Liz Wilk |
|--|---|

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:

Greg Foskett
Brother of Carolyn Mahoney



**Stations
of the
Cross
Every Friday
at 7:45 am**

Weddings

Stephanie Janus & Chase Gronowski
Andrea Nudo & Richard Lecaros



Make a gift to the
Regular Sunday Offertory by
[clicking here](#) or
using the QR Code.
Thank you for your support!



Pastor's Letter

As we enter the Fifth Sunday of Lent, there is a quiet urgency in the air. The journey we began weeks ago on Ash Wednesday is coming to its fulfillment, and the vision of the Cross is now coming into view. The Church invites us to slow down, to become more attentive, to listen more closely to the voice of the Lord. Soon we will walk with Jesus into Jerusalem, but for now we stand on the threshold, aware that something sacred, solemn, and beautiful is about to unfold.

These final days of Lent are not meant to be rushed. They are a time to open our hearts more deeply: to allow Christ to meet us in our weakness, our burdens and needs, and our longing for healing and grace. The Lord does not turn away from our struggles; He enters into them. As we prepare for Holy Week, we are invited not only to remember the Lord's Passion, to walk with Him: to accompany Him in love, to stand near the Cross, and to trust that even in suffering, God is already at work bringing forth new life.

On Wednesday evening, March 25, we will gather at 7 PM for Stations of the Cross through Mary's eyes. In this moving prayer, we walk the way of the Cross with Our Blessed Mother, seeing the suffering of her Son through her sorrow and her steadfast faith. It's a powerful reminder that we are never alone on this journey of faith. I warmly invite you to join us, as together we draw nearer to the heart of Christ and prepare to enter into the mystery of His death and Resurrection.

Peace,
Fr. John

Reflection for the 5th Sunday of Lent

Liturgy Planning Team #6

Susan Lindsay, Susie Lehuta, and Sue Martin

Jesus says I AM the resurrection and the life. We, like the apostles, often misunderstand the fullness of that statement. This gets in the way of our understanding of the depth of Jesus' resurrection. We pray that our Lenten penance leads us through Holy Week to the joy of Easter.

Prayer for Peace, Healing and Love

God of justice and mercy,
You created every person in Your image
and call us to honor the sacred dignity of all human life.
We lift before You all communities and groups who are hurting.
Move our hearts to solidarity with all those burdened by
violence, injustice, fear, and division.

In Your Church, remind us that we **belong** to one another
as brothers and sisters in Christ.
Strengthen our faith so that we may **believe**
in the power of Your grace to overcome hatred and despair.
Send us forth to **be love** in a wounded world—
rejecting violence, seeking understanding,
and working for peace rooted in justice and truth.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

"Let me be clear:
the Church stands with
migrants...Families are being
torn apart.
Children are left in fear and
communities are shaken by
immigration raids and
detentions...our parishes and
schools will not turn away
those who seek comfort,
and we will not be silent
when dignity is denied
in the enforcement of the law."

Cardinal Cupich

St. Francis Xavier Parish *Lenten Season*

3/26/26: 6:30-8:00pm

Lenten Witness: Fr. Larry Dowling, Fr. Graff and Rev. Michael Woolf
The Role of Faith in Turbulent Times

The Well Spirituality Center - 1515 W. Ogden Ave., La Grange Park 60526

Contact Mary Freeman mfreeman@sfxlg.org if you would like one of 10 free tickets available OR to purchase your own \$35 ticket [Click Here](#).



Disciple Maker Index Survey—We need your perspective!

This Lent, St. Francis Xavier will launch our second run of the "**Disciple Maker Index**" survey, which last ran in 2023. The 10-15 minute survey can be accessed via [THIS LINK](#) from February 18 through March 29, and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide your perspective on our parish's efforts to help you grow in relationship with Christ. All responses will be confidential, and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole. This survey is an essential part of our understanding and meeting the spiritual needs of the parish. We greatly appreciate your time and attention in responding.



Make Yourself at Home This March!

This March we invite you to take a simple step that helps us stay connected: officially register with the parish or update your information.

Registration isn't just paperwork — it's how we care for you, include you, and walk with you in every season of life. When you're registered, we can keep you informed, celebrate milestones with you, and make sure you never miss opportunities to grow in faith and community.

Young adults

Did you grow up here and recently age out of your parents' registration? We're so glad you're still with us! As you step into adulthood, we'd love to recognize you as your own parish household. Registering helps us personally invite you to gatherings, service opportunities, and events designed just for young adults.

Families who worship, attend school, or participate in religious education

If you've been part of parish life but haven't officially registered, this is your moment! We would love to formally welcome you into the parish family and keep you connected to everything happening here — from faith formation to fellowship events.

Volunteer

Did you know we host a volunteer appreciation celebration each year? We truly want to thank you for your generosity. Keeping your information current ensures those invitations (and thank-yous!) reach you.

Those who've moved or changed contact information

A new home? New email? New phone number? Updating your information helps us stay in touch and ensures you receive parish updates, ministry news, and special invitations.

Growing families

Have you welcomed a new baby or had a family member join your household? Let us update your family information so we can celebrate with you and support you in this beautiful new chapter.

At St. Francis, you belong. Registering helps us make sure you feel known.

To register use this link <https://www.sfxlg.org/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/598e3bbe64054/FamilyRegistrationForm.html> or the QR Code at the right.



Lenten Season

Unless otherwise indicated, the following events will occur in the church:

MONDAYS at 7pm

hosted by the Alpha Team

Mar 23 Praise, Worship, Witness Night

Continuing into Easter:

Apr 20 Embracing the Holy Spirit

Area Reconciliation Services this Lent:

Mar 30 St. Cletus (7PM)

WEDNESDAY at 7pm

Mar 25 Stations of the Cross through Mary's Eyes

COME, FOLLOW ME

THE 120 PRESENTS

Lent Bible Study for High School Teens



March 22nd after 5 PM mass
March 29th after 5 PM mass (two hour session with adoration and confession).

**An Invitation from
St. John of the Cross Parish**

In 1889 Mother Cabrini wished to travel to China. Pope Leo XIII responded: "Not to the East, but to the West." Months before Leo XIII penned an encyclical: "*On Italian Immigrants*." Mother and her Sisters went to America and made history. The movie **Cabrini** describes the history of a courageous woman who created orphanages, hospitals and hope for Italian immigrants. She learned English and became a U.S. citizen, and the first American Saint! See this movie!

- Msgr. Rich Hynes

Provided there is enough interest, we will gather to watch the movie together in the St. John of the Cross Parish Center, 5005 Wolf Road in Western Springs on **Monday, March 23 from 1:00-3:30pm.**

Let us know if you'd like to join us by scanning the QR code or calling the St. John of the Cross parish office at 708-246-4404.



**Stations of the Cross
from Mary's point of view**

Wednesday, March 25th 7pm

All are Welcome

St. Francis Xavier Church
124 North Spring Avenue
LaGrange

**LENTEN EVENING OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION
THE HOLINESS OF WORK**

MARCH 25, 2026

7:00 PM

FOLLOWED BY HOSPITALITY

St. Cletus Parish

600 W. 55TH STREET LA GRANGE

with Fr. Dan Korenchan,
Associate Pastor
at St. Elizabeth Seaton Parish



St. Francis Xavier Church Holy Week Services 2026

Palm Sunday—March 28 & 29

Saturday at 5:00pm
Sunday at 7:30, 9:00*, 11:00am and 5:00pm

Wednesday, April 1

Tenebrae - 7:00pm
Church open until 9:00pm

Holy Thursday, April 2

Morning Prayer 8:30am/Living Stations 9:00am
Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00pm
Church open until 11:00pm

Good Friday, April 3

Morning Prayer 8:30am
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 3:00 and 7:00pm

Holy Saturday, March 4

Morning Prayer 8:30am
Blessing of Easter Food Baskets 1:00pm
Easter Vigil Mass 8:00pm
(No 5:00pm Mass)

Easter Sunday, April 5

Masses at 7:30, 9:00* and 11:00am—Church
Masses at 9:15 and 11:15am—SFX School Gym
(No 5:00pm Mass)

*This Mass will be live-streamed.



Easter Flower Collection 2026

We are Collecting Donations for Easter Florals!

We are so grateful for your past donations in memory & honor of your loved ones. These generous contributions are used throughout the year to add florals and seasonal décor to our worship space at St. Francis.

We appreciate your continued support to help us create a peaceful, prayerful and beautiful space for us to gather together to celebrate the Eucharist as one Family.

**To Donate: Use the Envelopes at the Church Exits or
Scan the QR Code Here to take you to the site.**

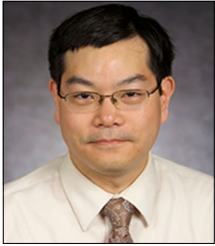


Thank you for your support,

Celine Heraty & Lisa Parolin
Arts & Environment Ministry
emheraty@gmail.com
leesamaree24@yahoo.com



Music Notes...



As we continue our journey through this sacred season of Lent, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge and express our heartfelt gratitude to one of our own parishioners, **Junichi Sato**, whose gifts have so beautifully enriched our worship.

Junichi is an accomplished pianist and a gifted composer. This Lent, we have had the privilege of singing a Mass setting that he composed specifically for the liturgy... "**Vincentian Mass**". To share in music written by a member of our own parish community is something truly special.

The Mass is the Church's most sacred prayer, and the music that accompanies it must serve the liturgy with reverence, humility, and theological depth. Junichi's "Vincentian Mass" setting does precisely that. Its reflective character, thoughtful melodic lines, and prayerful spirit draw us more deeply into the penitential beauty of Lent. Rather than calling attention to itself, this music gently invites us into contemplation, helping us to lift our hearts to the Lord.

What makes this even more meaningful is that this composition was not written from a distance, but from within our community—by someone who worships beside us, prays with us, and shares in the life of this parish. Junichi and his family, including his very talented wife Regina (SFX Cantor) most often attend either the 5:00 pm Saturday OR 9:00 am Sunday Masses. That is stewardship in its truest sense: offering one's time, talent, and faith for the glory of God and the good of the Church.

On behalf of myself, the SFX Music Ministry, Fr. John Chrzan (Pastor), staff and parish community – we thank you Junichi, for sharing your extraordinary musical gifts with us. May the Lord continue to bless your creativity and dedication, and may this music accompany us not only through Lent, but in many seasons to come.

Allen J. Sterwalt
Director of Church Music



Music Notes...

SFX Parish "First Communion" Children's Choir

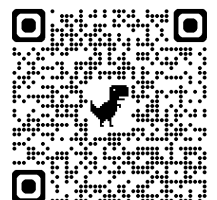
An invitation goes out to all SFX Parish children who like to sing in **grades 1, and 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8**, who are not currently singing in a SFX Parish Children's Choir, to join for the up-coming First Communion Masses, which will be held on **Saturday, May 2nd at 9:00 am, 12:00 pm and 3:00 pm**. Children are NOT required to sing at all three Masses.

IF YOUR CHILDREN ARE CURRENTLY SINGING IN ONE OF THE PARISH CHILDREN'S CHOIRS, THERE IS NO NEED TO RE-REGISTER. **Rehearsals will begin the week of April 6th.** Please see below for the breakdown:

- Grades 1 & 3.....Tuesdays: 3:40 to 4:15 pm
First Rehearsal: Tuesday, April 7th
- Grades 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8.....Thursdays: 3:40 to 4:15 pm
First Rehearsal: Thursday, April 9th

Please click the link below or scan the QR Code to register!

<https://forms.gle/2e3ZpsJCLZnFod1f9>



St. Francis Xavier Parish

TENEBRAE

A SERVICE OF DARKNESS



Presider/Lector: Susie Lehuta

Commentator: Thom Serafin

Music: PRAISE! Ensemble

Come, and be a part of a beautiful tradition of the church dating back to the eighth century. This service, through music and scripture, portrays the final hours of our Lord's life on earth, as he suffered death upon the cross. Candles are extinguished one by one to symbolize the fading loyalty of the disciples and friends of Jesus. The complete darkness at the end of the service portrays the diminishing light of the world as Christ was departing from it.

Wednesday, April 1st – 7:00 p.m.



Help us stock our Wine Cellar for the Wine Pull!!

This year's Ignite Benefit will feature a Wine Pull! We have already secured some amazing high-end bottles, but as any wine connoisseur knows, it takes all kinds to have a well-rounded collection. Our goal is to secure 50 bottles of wine for our wine pull, and we need your help! We are looking to collect bottles in value from \$25 and up. Please drop off at the rectory any time before April 10th.

Thank you for your support!!!



Ignite 2026 Raffles Are Live March 25 at 6:00 PM!!

Christmas Eve Reserved Pew Raffle

Two winners will receive a reserved parking space and a reserved pew (up to 10 seats) at the 3:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass on December 24, 2026.



\$5,000 Tuition Raffle

One winner will receive a \$5,000 tuition credit for the 2026-2027 school year.

Tickets will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 6:00 PM on March 25 through OneCause. Attendance at Ignite is not required to win. We recommend setting up your OneCause account in advance to ensure smooth checkout when sales open.

[Click here](#) or scan for more information!



Join our Young Adult Ministry (YAM)

Groupme! Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to get updates on upcoming events and connect with other young adults.



Join our Toddler Moms'

Groupme! Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to get updates on upcoming events and connect with other toddler moms'.



We're Looking For A Few Good Men

Alpha men! TMIY men! Men's Club men!
OCIA men! Former college-fraternity men!

Do you have any interest in assisting the elderly, the disabled, the poor, and supporting the cause of life?

Then, man oh man, this is your invitation to join the Knights of Columbus (www.KofCLaGrange.org). The energies of our parish's younger men (18 years old and up) are especially needed. It only takes all of us.

We're a fraternal Order that is the granddaddy of all Catholic men's ministries. Our Order is first in support of those, above, with the most in need. "Vivat Jesus!" has been our Latin motto since our 1882 founding because Jesus is central to our mission. Your home council has been leading good works in the greater LaGrange community since 1973. We could do much, much more with you involved, and we're inviting you to join us. It's easy. Simply send a text message to (our rush-chairman of sorts) Brian Lisek at 630-939-2626 to get started. Today. Tomorrow. 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, April 7

Contact: Peter Brown pbrown@sfxlq.org
for more information.



That Man Is You

All men are invited to join the
Spring Sessions of *That Man is YOU (TMIY)*,
on Tuesdays at 8:00pm
in St. Francis Unity Hall

THAT MAN IS YOU! is an interactive men's program focused on the development of male leadership in the modern world. Christ didn't say, "Behold, I make new things." He said, "Behold, I make all things new."

A new day is dawning for Catholic men. Now is our hour! The future of the world and the Church is happening on our watch. His mercy is new every morning. A new hope is rising!

Interested?
Contact Patrick McMahon at
patrick.mcmahon65@gmail.com
or scan the QR code or [click here](#)
to register.



SFX PINK RIBBON COMMUNITY

Connect with
Breast Cancer Survivors
at SFX
for fellowship & support.



VBS Registration Is Opened



Registration for VBS 2026 is opened! You can register by using the QR code or the link found below. The code and link will take you to the registration site. Here you will find some important information about VBS registration.

What is VBS: VBS is a faith based, week long adventure for children. Songs, crafts, stories, snacks and other activities are included. This years theme is "Rainforest Falls" and promises to be lots of fun for participants and volunteers!

When: VBS will run June 22-26 from 9:00am-12:00pm each day.

Who can register: Traditional VBS is open to children 4 years old to 4th grade. 5th and 6th graders can register for the "Service Crew." The Service Crew spends the week doing various service projects, some Bible study, other activities and of course snacks!

Where: All participants will meet at Grace Lutheran Church each day. The Service Crew will move to the Saint Francis Xavier Day School as base camp for their activities.

Cost: Cost of VBS is \$75 for one child. If you register 2 or more children cost is \$60 per child. If one parent volunteers for the entire week cost is 50% off.

Volunteering: A successful VBS requires a small army of volunteers. We expect each family to provide one or more volunteers in some capacity. The registration site lists the various volunteer opportunities available and a sign up option. We will be in touch with you after registration to follow up. Opportunities range from a couple of hours to one week of time commitment. There are also before and after set up and break down opportunities as well. 7th, 8th graders, teens and college can also volunteer and earn service hours!

Questions: Contact Phil Zadeik pjzadeik@gmail.com for general questions. Contact Karl Olson regarding volunteer opportunities Olson.Karl@gmail.com.

To register go to vbspro.events/p/fa96ee or use the QR Code.

Space is limited and last year VBS sold out, so please register early!



Religious Education News



*Registration for our 2026- 2027
K – 8 Religious Education Program is
now open (as of 3/14/26)!*

We are happy to continue to offer
two in-person sessions and a virtual option
for families for the 2026-2027 school year.

Our options are:

In person bi-monthly grade level program held on Sunday Mornings
and Wednesday afternoons.

Our virtual asynchronous grade level program has lessons being
released bi-monthly on Sundays and is best 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.

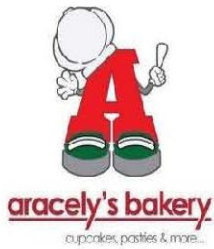
Please don't delay in registering your children today as classes fill up fast!

***Families who register by April 22nd will be entered into a raffle for
free tuition. The drawing will take place at our last class in person
event on April 26th. You must be present at the event to win!***

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

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





The SFX Religious Education Program is once again partnering up with Aracely's Bakery and selling their *delicious tamales* for our end of year fundraiser. We hope for this to be our biggest fundraiser of the year. All proceeds will support our program and students. We are asking all our families and community for support. We will be taking pre-orders for the tamales and will only have a limited quantity available for sale the day of pick up.

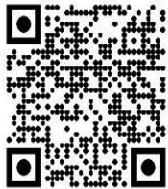
4 Tamale Options: Pork in Red (Rojo) sauce
Chicken in Green (Verde) sauce
Pepper and Cheese
Bean and Cheese



You can order in quantities of a dozen or a half dozen

Order deadline is April 19, 2026

[Click Here](#) for the link or scan the QR code below and it will take you directly to the order form page to order and pay for your tamales.



Pick up for the tamales will be at our End of Year Religious Education Event which will be held in the Education Building. Pick up for Tamales will be in the Gym on Sunday, April 26th, 2026 from 12:30PM – 2:30PM. Thank you so much for your continued support!

Engage Community – Events Building Community with Neighbors and Friends



March 26:

Monthly Meeting – **Civil Discourse Practice**

Where: 7:00-8:30pm, Unity Hall.

Details: Looking to build your abilities to listen and talk about different viewpoints? Here's a low risk, high fun opportunity. We're holding a 'debate' about what makes either Christmas or Easter the most meaningful holiday to you. Participants will work as teams according to initial opinions (Christmas or Easter) so there's no pressure on any individual. Groups will present the merits and drawbacks of their group's choice. Afterward, each individual will anonymously "vote" as to whether their initial opinion changed. We will then review what we are taking away from the evening.

For questions or to RSVP, please email Jane at janeLGPark@gmail.com. Engage focuses on building Christian community through a variety of social and service activities. All are welcome, parishioners and non-parishioners, adults of all ages and life stages.

Beware of Email Scam Using Pastor's Name

An email scam continues to use Fr. John's name as part of an email scam that is sent to random parishioners. This has been happening to pastors and ministers of other communities for several years. The pastor is listed as the sender with a fake (though sometimes credible) email address. An emergency request is made for money through the purchase of gift cards. If you respond, the sender asks you to reveal the PIN number on the gift card and return a picture of the card that includes the PIN. The scammer can use this information to redeem the gift cards.

Fr. John and the parish staff will NEVER make a personal request for money in this way. Requests for financial contributions to the parish or parish school will come via direct communication from the parish or school.

Special Circumstances For Receiving The Eucharist

The Catholic Church has historically recognized the intimate relationship of wheat hosts and wine as matter for the Eucharist. However, if you have Celiac Sprue Disease or a family member suffers from a gluten intolerance or if you are alcohol intolerant, receiving the Eucharist is life-involving in seriously challenging ways. The logistics or manner of accommodating lay persons with gluten or wine intolerance in a parish setting during the Liturgy of the Eucharist is left to the afflicted party and the pastor to decide the best way during Mass for the afflicted party to safely receive the Precious Body or the Precious Blood.

If you or a member of your family is affected by this circumstance, please contact our pastor, Fr. John Chrzan, to discuss the particulars of your situation. Fr. John can be reached by calling the Rectory Office at 708-352-0168.

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

Catholics Are Responsible Environmental Stewards (CARES)

PEACE 

An environmental ministry in collaboration with St. John of the Cross and St. Cletus.

CARES is called to protect all of Creation and our Common Home. With a Christ-Centered focus, **CARES** models, promotes, and integrates environmentally sustainable and socially protective actions and practices throughout the parish and surrounding communities.

Advocacy: Raise awareness and inspire transformative actions

Education: Provide educational resources and opportunities

Programs: Organize events and plan initiatives

CARES follows the directives and guidance from the 2015 Laudato Sí Papal Encyclical, Catholic Doctrine, and Social Justice teachings, and the Chicago Archdiocese Office of Parish Vitality and Missions. For more information, please use the QR Code or go to:
https://www.stjohnofthecross.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=543577&type=d.



Any questions, contact SFX CARES Rep. Kevin McGann at kevin.mcgann.us@gmail.com.

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SAVE THE DATE!

ALL PARISH SERVICE DAY
SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2026*

Shelter Homeless Feed Hungry Bury Dead
Clothe Naked Care for Sick Visit Imprisoned

*Events will be available June 1-6, 2026

If you have questions, ideas, or would like to lead an outreach team, please contact:
Mary Freeman, Director of Community Outreach mfreeman@sfxlg.org or 708-352-0168.

Volunteers Needed

My name is Jim Tvrdik, and I would like to introduce you to a benevolent organization by the name of Project C.U.R.E. PC (as I like to call it) was founded in 1987 to address the staggering shortage of medical resources around the world. Each week, PC delivers approximately four-to-five semi-truck sized cargo containers packed with medical equipment and supplies that are desperately needed to save lives in hospitals and clinics in resource-limited countries outside the United States. In this way, PC continues to address critical issues such as maternal and infant mortality, natural disasters, victims of violence and strengthening of healthcare systems. In addition, many healthcare professionals travel with PC to provide medical treatment and training to communities in need. Currently, PC is supported by over 30,000 volunteers annually and operates a local distribution warehouse in Woodridge, IL.

Personally, I have been volunteering for PC for over 7 years and find the time spent very fulfilling. Our warehouse team in Woodridge is continually looking for volunteers with flexible schedules to keep the mission moving forward; volunteer groups are also most welcome.

Please feel free to checkout www.projectcure.org for additional information, or feel free to send an inquiry email to chicagovolunteer@projectcure.org.





St. Cletus Pancake Breakfast

The St. Cletus Holy Name Society is having its Annual Pancake Breakfast on **Sunday, March 29**, in the St. Cletus Parish Center, from 7:45am to 1:00pm, \$10 adults - \$5 kids 12 and under.

REFLECT Weekend Retreat

Mid-life Singles (mid-30s to 50s): Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose and belonging? Register today for a life-changing REFLECT weekend retreat at the Carmelite Spiritual Center, in Darien on the following dates April 17-19, 2026. Take a chance and get involved...you won't regret it! Any questions please, e-mail reflect.chicagoland@gmail.com, or call 630-222-8303 for details.

No matter how much
you're hurting

No Marriage is Beyond Hope

A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES
RETROUVAILLE
OF JOLIET ILLINOIS

There is a light at the
end of the tunnel.

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#RetrouvailleJoliet

Retrouvaille is a program designed to help married couples who are struggling. We will help you learn to communicate on a deeper level, approach conflict constructively, build a stronger marriage, and rediscover the love you once had for each other.

Our next weekend is coming on :

April 24 – 26, 2026

at the Carmelite Spiritual Center in Darien, IL

For more information call us at (815) 246-2080, email us at JolietRegistration@HelpOurMarriage.org, or visit us online at www.HelpOurMarriage.org/Joliet



Church Audio Update—Adaptive Audio System

SFX has installed a Bluetooth accessible Listening System. To access this new system you must have a smartphone along with earphones or Bluetooth capable hearing aids. Follow the steps to connect your device:

Step 1) (At home or at SFX) Download the Listen Wi-Fi App from your app store or scan the provided QR Code below.

Apple Users



Android Users



Step 2) (In SFX Church) Download the Assistive Listening Wi-Fi Connection by scanning the provided QR Code below Please make sure to turn on Wi-Fi for auto detection in your settings.

Assistive Listening Wi-Fi Connection



We plan to have non-Bluetooth options available in the upcoming months. For assistance please call the rectory at 708-352-0168 or email sfxing@sfxlg.org to set-up an appointment.



Please Pray for All Those Serving Overseas in the Military:

- **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
- **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 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 Parisi, Brother of Caitlin & Jack and Grandson of Robert J. Lynch
- **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
- **Lt. Matthew Edinger, DO, U.S. Navy**—son of John Edinger & Maria Nidos
- **ETNC Andrew Cihak, U.S. Navy**—grandson of John & Marilyn Lux
- **Capt. Michael Sullivan, U.S. Army**—son of Gene and Mary Pat Sullivan
- **Capt. Sean Kampe, U.S. Army**—grandson of Nora Lou Kampe, nephew of Anne & Rob Knez, cousin of Sarah Dybalski and Rachel Patterson
- **Capt. Michael Shriber, U.S. Army Reserves**—friend of the Mackey 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
Weekend Sacramental Clergy

Rev. John Chrzan
Rev. Richard Milek
Andrew Allison
Phil Gianatasio
Margaret McMahon
Rev. Stan Ilo
Rev. Phil Cyscon
Rev. Tom McCarthy, OSA
Rev. Bill Tkachuk

jchrzan@sfxlg.org
rmilek@sfxlg.org
aallison@sfxlg.org
pgianatasio@sfxlg.org
mmcmahon@sfxlg.org

Liturgical Music Ministry

Director
Associate Musician
Associate Musician

Allen Sterwalt
Ann Maney
Bob Voves

asterwalt@sfxlg.org

Community Outreach Ministry

Director

Mary Freeman

mfreeman@sfxlg.org

Parish Office Administration

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

Peter Brown
Jennifer Zeisloft
Jane Bandyk
Melissa Westerhoff
Debra Soulje
Antonio Franceschi
Hope Arenas

pbrown@sfxlg.org
jzeisloft@sfxlg.org
jbandyk@sfxlg.org
mwesterhoff@sfxlg.org
dsoulje@sfxlg.org
afranceschi@sfxlg.org
harenas@sfxlg.org

School Education Administration

Parish School Principal
Assistant Principal
Administrative Assistant
Front Office Coordinator (Morning)
Front Office Coordinator (Afternoon)
Director of Marketing & Enrollment
Special Events and Development Manager
Business Operations/Virtus Coordinator
Tuition Accounts
Director of Religious Education
Religious Education Administrative Assistant
Youth Ministry Coordinator

Jimmy Bajner
Janice Carr
Jeanne Grimes
Joni O'Halloran
Betsy Sullivan
Erin Smith
Katie Adams
Brooke Cermak
Jane Bandyk
Elis Guidice
Cindy Johnson
Christina Alagna

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

Contact Information

Parish Office 124 N. Spring 708-352-0168
St. Francis Xavier Day School 708-352-2175
School of Religious Education 708-352-4555
S.P.R.E.D. (Special Religious Education) 708-352-0168
Fax Number 708-352-4904
e-Mail sfxinlg@sfxlg.org
Main Day School e-Mail sfxmain@sfxlg.org
Main Religious Education e-Mail 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 (Door #5).

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 counselor, Benjamin Horen, from the Claret Center. Please call for an appointment at 630-923-8380.

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