



SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH
Palm Sunday
March 29, 2026

HOSANNA



“Hosanna to the Son of
David / blessed is he
who comes in the name
of the Lord.”

MATTHEW 21:9

BELONG • BELIEVE • BE LOVE

Pastor's Letter

Dear friends in Christ,

As we enter Palm Sunday and begin Holy Week, the Church invites us to walk closely with Christ through the most sacred days of our faith. These are not simply days to remember something that happened long ago, but to enter more deeply into the mystery of God's love for us. In a special way, we are drawn into the Paschal Mystery of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection, through which by dying, he destroyed our death and by rising, restored our life.

The Church teaches us that the Sacred Paschal Triduum - the three great days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil - is the high point of the entire liturgical year. The Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, reaches its peak in the Easter Vigil, and concludes with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday. In these sacred liturgies, we do not simply observe from a distance; we are invited to participate, to pray and to encounter Christ in a profound and personal way.

One of the most moving moments of this week is Tenebrae, a beautiful service of prayer and song that gradually leads us into darkness. As candles are extinguished and the church grows dim, we reflect on the sorrow and suffering of Christ's Passion. Yet even in the darkness, there is quiet hope, because we know that this journey does not end in the tomb. Indeed, the sorrow of Good Friday gives way to the radiant and unrestrained joy of Easter morning.

I warmly encourage you to take part in these sacred liturgies as fully as you are able. Come and walk with the Lord through these holy days, and discover once again the depth of his love, and the new life he offers to us all.

In the peace of Christ,
Fr. John

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 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
cmheraty@gmail.com
leesamaree24@yahoo.com



HOLY THURSDAY COLLECTION FOR BEDS PLUS

In 1988, LaGrange area faith and lay leaders, including St. Francis Xavier, founded **Building Ecumenical Discipleship through Sheltering (BEDS)** after seeing community residents sleeping outdoors.

Since then, BEDS provided an overnight shelter rotating among area faith-based organizations, but volunteers quickly realized that residents needed more than safe places to spend the night. Currently, they provide emergency services, case management, interim and permanent housing and a medical respite center.

Thanks to all the St. Francis Xavier parishioners who donate meals and accompany families each week!

BEDS Plus is currently providing **450** individual meals a week to at risk clients/families who are housed in motels and over **100** families and individuals who are housed and experiencing food insecurity.

We are grateful for our partnership with BEDS when clients reach out to St. Francis Xavier with housing needs.



To make a donation, please go to:
<https://www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/218/event/33537>
or scan the QR Code to lead you to the donation site.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



Good Friday Holy Land Collection

On Good Friday, we are called to stand in solidarity with the Church in the holy Land. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection is the primary source of support for the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land, which has been protecting holy sites for over 800 years.

Today, this support is more critical than ever. The ongoing conflict has severely impacted families, and the lack of pilgrims has left many without work. Your contribution, requested by pope Francis, offers a concrete sign of communion and hope.

Your generosity supports: 29 Parishes and 16 Schools, Educating over 10,000 Students. Maintaining 74 Shrines including the Holy Sepulchre and the Basilica of the Nativity. Humanitarian Aid, providing essential assistance to refugees and medical care, especially in Gava.

Please help us "give hope and sow peace" to our brothers and sisters in the land of our Lord's birth, death and resurrection.

For more information, you may visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday.

To donate, <https://www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/218/event/33626> or place your donation in an envelope marked "Good Friday" and drop it in the collection basket. Thank you for your generosity!



Bill and Diane Zdenek's Story of Perseverance in Faith

As we enter Holy Week, we are invited to walk with Christ through His suffering, death, and resurrection. This year, the story of perseverance and faith from two of our long-time parishioners, Bill and Diane Zdenek, offers a deeply personal reflection on the power of prayer, community, and trust in God's presence during life's trials.



Bill and Diane celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary in January. They are blessed with three daughters and six grandchildren, and have been part of the LaGrange community since 1985. For about 40 years, they have been active members of St. Francis Xavier Parish, serving in ministries ranging from RE catechists to Alpha support teams. Over the years, they have formed deep friendships within the parish and found great joy in helping others grow in their faith.

Their story took a life-changing turn when Bill was diagnosed with cancer. Facing the challenges of medical treatments, the couple leaned on their faith and on each other. "I put the what if's out of my mind and rely on my faith. I tell myself that I can still offer more," Bill shared.

Diane, naturally positive and supportive, focused on being present and encouraging. Together they drew strength from daily prayer and reflection. Through this journey, they discovered new depths in their relationship with Christ and began moving away from worry toward gratitude, trust, and guidance in God's will.

A particularly moving chapter in their experience was the outpouring of support from the parish community. Organized by fellow parishioner Rick Olund, a healing service was held in Unity Hall after the 5:00 PM Sunday Mass. What Bill expected to be a small gathering of a few friends grew to a congregation of more than 35 parishioners, including Alpha members, family, and friends. For Bill and Diane, the moment reinforced that being part of St. Francis Xavier is about more than attending Mass. It is about belonging to a community of faith and love.

Rick shared, "The service was beautiful because the Holy Spirit was surrounding Bill and Diane with friends and family. Bill did not want this to be all about him. He wanted healing for all of us, as well." Bill reflected on the healing service: "What I was hoping for is what happened. It was that we spoke to other people as well that have needs. One of the last comments in the service was, 'Everyone is in need of healing. Everyone has some type of challenge they are facing in life.' This healing service addressed everyone's needs."

Through this journey, the Zdenek's have come to embody a message central to Holy Week: perseverance rooted in faith. Bill shared, "A day doesn't go by that I don't pray for Diane, my daughters, and grandchildren. I have to go through this, but why do they have to go through it? It always comes back to faith. We will get through this."

Their experience has also reshaped their understanding of suffering. In moments of weakness, Bill and Diane turn to prayer and place their trust in God. They have embraced the support of their parish community, recognizing that walking through life's challenges together reflects the love of Christ in tangible ways.

As we approach Holy Week, the Zdenek's encourage fellow parishioners to reflect on the power of prayer and the strength found in community. Bill shared, "Since we are all going to face challenges, I like to show joy and not closing off and being sorrowful." Diane added, "Things are taken away from us, but so much is given to us." Their story reminds us that perseverance is not simply enduring suffering. It is continuing forward in faith, supported by prayer, community, and love. As we carry our palms into this Holy Week, may we be inspired by Bill and Diane's example to trust in God's presence in every challenge and to support one another along the journey.

Bill and Diane offered this beautiful reflection to close their interview:

"Our challenges have given us the opportunity to reflect upon the beautiful life God has given us. With Holy Week ahead of us, our human trials and sufferings are put into perspective. Jesus endured the ultimate suffering in sacrificing his life for the love of all."

Divine Mercy Sunday APRIL 12, 2026

2:00 PM RECONCILIATION
IN ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH
3:00 PM—HOLY HOUR WITH THE
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT



(REFLECTION ON DIVINE MERCY,
DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET PRAYER,
SILENT ADORATION, AND BENEDICTION).

The Feast of Mercy or Divine Mercy Sunday has been celebrated in many countries, dioceses and parishes for many years. Pope John Paul II, the Cardinals, Bishops and Priests who have read the diary of St. Faustina have come to appreciate the significance of this feast. But now, ever since the Holy See had decreed that the "Second Sunday of Easter would be known as Divine Mercy Sunday," many more are seeking to go more deeply into the words of Our Lord to St. Faustina that were meant for all humanity.

Pope John Paul II in his homily at the canonization of Sr. Faustina on April 30, 2000 said: "Jesus shows His hands and His side. He points, that is, to the wounds of the Passion, especially the wound in His Heart, the source from which flows the great wave of mercy poured out on humanity".

The image of Jesus, The Divine Mercy, is to have a special place of honor on the Feast of Mercy, a visual reminder of all that Jesus did for us through His Passion, Death, and Resurrection...and a reminder, too, of what He asks of us in return—to trust Him and be merciful to others.

The Eucharist is the "Fountain of Life". The Eucharist is Jesus, Himself, the Living God, longing to pour Himself as Mercy into our hearts.

Lenten Season

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

MONDAYS at 7pm

hosted by the Alpha Team

Area Reconciliation Service this Lent:

March 30

St. Cletus (7PM)

Continuing into Easter:

April 20

Embracing the Holy Spirit



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 Men's Club

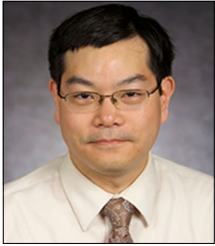
Get involved in the parish – we need your help!
Monthly meetings on the 1st Tuesday of the month!

Next meeting is Tuesday, April 7

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



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

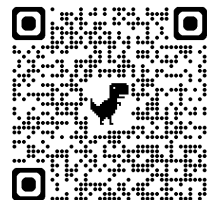
An invitation goes out to all SFX Parish children who like to sing in **grades 1, and 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8**, who are not currently singing in a SFX Parish Children's Choir, to join for the up-coming First Communion Masses, which will be held on **Saturday, May 2nd at 9:00 am, 12:00 pm and 3:00 pm**. Children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

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.

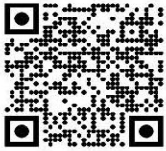
4 Tamale Options: Pork in Red (Rojo) sauce
Chicken in Green (Verde) sauce
Pepper and Cheese
Bean and Cheese



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!

COME FOLLOW ME

THE 120 PRESENTS

Lent Bible Study for High School Teens



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



Young Adult Ministry

GAME NIGHT

Bring your favorite card games, board games, and snacks to share!

Monday
April 20, 2026

6:30 pm | SJC Parish Center
5005 Wolf Rd, Western Springs

Want to join YAM?
Scan the QR Code below!





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.

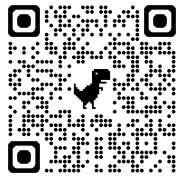
Join our Toddler Moms'



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

SFX PINK RIBBON COMMUNITY

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



Kitchen Angels



The Kitchen Angels are a group of parishioners who help people by bringing meals to their homes. The Kitchen Angels have been in existence for many years yet many of our parishioners are not aware of this outreach ministry.

If you know of a person or a family who could use some meals, or if you are interested in becoming a Kitchen Angel, please contact **Susie Lehuta** by phone at 708-354-6380 or email lehutams@gmail.com.



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!



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.

J
U
S
T
I
C
E

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.



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.



Free Resume Review

Join Interfaith Career Network on Saturday, April 11th from 9:30-11:30am for a helpful 20-minute one-on-one conversation with an HR or other professional. Pick up some new ideas and suggestions that could enhance or refresh your resume. Looking for some helpful job search strategies? Want to brush up on LinkedIn? Come see us at St. Cletus Parish Center, 700 West 55th Street in LaGrange.

Looking For a New Job?

Interfaith Career Network offers FREE assistance; OPEN TO ALL!

"Energize Your Job Search Using Your New LinkedIn Profile"

Denis Curtin, Presenter

Thursday, April 16th at 7:00pm at St. John of the Cross Parish Center, 5005 Wolf Road in Western Springs.

LinkedIn is more than just a job board – it is a powerful tool that can help you elevate your job search, grow your professional network, and accelerate your career growth. Denis Curtin is a LinkedIn Trainer and Coach who helps job seekers and companies optimize their LinkedIn profiles and is recognized as one of the leading LinkedIn experts in the Midwest. We look forward to seeing you!

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 Niedos
- **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 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 (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.

HAIL / STORM DAMAGE?

PROUD INSTALLER OF
OWENS CORNING®
PRODUCTS



Roofing • Siding • Windows

State of Illinois Roofing License # 104-020228

630-242-2040 • Burr Ridge
www.KeystoneExt.com

Free Claim
Analysis by
our licensed
Public Adjusters



@properties | CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

Heraty Christensen Group
Celine Heraty & Jean Christensen
Real Estate Brokers & Home Stagers
Proud Sponsors of the 2025
LaGrange Area Home & History Tour

YourSuccessOurGoal.com

Call Us For a Complimentary Consultation
Celine: 708.261.5742 | Jean: 708.218.1390

HITZEMAN FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES

HONORING THE LIVES OF LOVED ONES SINCE 1904

One Family - One Name

Hitzeman Funeral Home
Family & Staff wishes you
a very blessed season!

708-485-2000

www.HitzemanFuneral.com

9445 31st Street,
Brookfield, IL 60513

CONBOY'S-WESTCHESTER

FUNERAL HOME

Family owned and
operated since 1885

Peter Conboy, Matthew Conboy
Jean Conboy Hanson

10501 W. Cermak Rd, Westchester

708-562-5900

www.ConboyWestchesterfh.com

NAZARETH ACADEMY



7th Grade
Shadow Days
February - May
(select dates)

nazarethacademy.com

ANNE MONCKTON
GROUP

WE love LOCAL.
Live Local. Sell Local.

CONTACT US TODAY
at 312.533.0882

@properties | CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

**DUPLIX
ELECTRIC**

708-387-9400

Expert Troubleshooting
Electrical Rehab/Repair

Greg Fiflis - Parishioner
www.duplexelectricservice.com

**Innovative
COUNSELING PARTNERS**

Depression • Anxiety
Child & Family Therapy
Grief/Trauma Counseling
Marriage Counseling

773-312-3612
www.InnovativeCounselingPartners.com

**Linnea
Jewelers**

- Expert Jewelry & Watch Repair
- Exquisite Diamonds & Colored Gems
- Affordable Restylings & Restorations
- Religious & Children's Jewelry

Tues-Fri 10-6 • Sat 10-3 • Closed Sun & Mon

23 S. Ashland Ave.
Downtown La Grange, IL
708.482.0007

Since 1981 • Unique Designs
Friendly Professional Service

Brookfield
Breakfast

**Serving
Breakfast
& Lunch**

3755 Grand Blvd.
Brookfield, IL
708-905-5960
Open 7 Days

La Grange
Breakfast Cafe

24 W. Burlington Ave.
La Grange, IL
708-469-7319
Closed Mondays

www.brookfieldbreakfast.com • www.lagrangebreakfastcafe.com

IF YOU LIVE ALONE

MDMedAlert!™ STARTING AT \$19⁹⁵/mo.

- ✓ Ambulance ✓ Police/Fire
- ✓ Family/Friends ✓ GPS & Fall Alert

CALL NOW! 800.809.3570 *md-medalert.com

Sun - Thurs 11am-11pm
Fri - Sat 11am-12pm

YORK TAVERN
OAK BROOK, IL

630 323-5090
3702 York Rd Oak Brook

www.yorktavernoakbrook.com
-Carry Out & Delivery Available-

PLUMB SQUAD

For All
Your
Plumbing
Needs!

312-278-7900

www.plumb-squad.com

Thinking About Buying or Selling A Home?

**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY
HOMESERVICES** | CHICAGO

Michael Lampariello - REALTOR
20 years of Construction Expertise
Let's have a cup of coffee & talk Real Estate

Call or Text: 708-299-2000

THE ELM
est. 2020

Restaurant | Bar | Private Events

(708) 639-4068
events@theelmlagrange.com
www.theelmlagrange.com

FROM 5-500,
WE HOST IT ALL!

- Weddings
- Christenings
- Baby Showers
- Celebrations of Life
- Bridal Showers

RITE WAY BRICK RESTORATION

- Tuck Pointing • Masonry Work
- Expert Chimney Repairs • Chimney Liners
- Foundation Repairs • Building Cleaning
- Lentil Repairs • Mailbox Repairs
- Waterproofing and Caulking
- Stone Veneer • Glass Block Windows & More

45 Years of Experience • Free Estimates • Fully Insured and Bonded
Senior Discounts • Voted Best in the Suburbs ★★★★★

Residential & Commercial Service 708-354-2501 | ritewaybrick@sbcglobal.net

Say Good-bye to Clogged Gutters!

Receive a \$100 Visa gift card with your FREE in-home estimate

\$99 Installation*

Call today for your FREE estimate and in-home demonstration
CALL NOW 708-462-6373

LeafGuard®
is guaranteed never to clog or we'll clean it for FREE!

- Seamless, one-piece system keeps out leaves, pine needles, and debris
- Eliminates the risk of falling off a ladder to clean clogged gutters
- Durable, all-weather tested system not a flimsy attachment

ENGLERT LeafGuard®
Get it. And forget it.™




ASPIRED LIVING OF LA GRANGE
a Senior Lifestyle community
 Experience Comfort and Connection Every Day
 Offering Assisted Living and Memory Care Services
 35 Shawmut Ave, La Grange IL 60525
 (708) 206-9899




Donahue Insurance Agency Inc.
Parishioner 1005 E. 31st St.
 La Grange Park, IL 60526
 708-354-1616
 jimdonahue.com




Peterson TRAVEL GROUP
 Theresa Sullivan Travel Consultant
 773-592-7155 | www.petersontravelgroup.com
 tsullivan@petersontravelgroup.com
 Personalized journeys, seamless planning.
 Relax before your adventure begins.



THREE SOUTH WAIOLA AVE., LA GRANGE
ROBERT T. CORTE, D.D.S.
 PARISH MEMBER
 www.cortedental.com 708-354-1003

Ed the Plumber Ed the Carpenter
 708.652.1444
 Best Work • Best Rates
PARISHIONER DISCOUNT



Ed the Plumber Ed the Carpenter
 708.652.1444
 Best Work • Best Rates
PARISHIONER DISCOUNT



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



The Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph are inviting lay individuals to live with them at **Joseph House, 1515 W Ogden Avenue** in La Grange Park. Assisted living apartments now available.
 For a tour contact us at
 708.482.1279 • www.csjinitatives.org/la-grange-park/

Life is for living. Let's partner to help you make every single moment matter. We care as much about why you're investing as what you invest in. Our personalized approach to investing is what sets us apart. We'll partner with you every step of the way. As your needs evolve throughout your life, we'll strive to help you build the future you desire. So you can enjoy all the special moments life has to offer.
 Our process? We listen. Really listen. Stop by.
 Bob Burns - Financial Advisor
 4705 Willow Springs Rd Ste 107 • La Grange, IL 60525
 708-354-1250

NORTH WOODS GETAWAY
 2 Bedroom Cottages w/ Boat Dock
 John Hill 312 /576-4689
 Linda Hill 708 / 296-6371
 email: john@jdhillassociates.com
 Hamlin Lake, Ludington, MI



Sav Way Fine Wines & Spirits since 1933
 St. Isaac Jogues Parishioner Owned & Operated
 Over 5,000 Wines Available
 Extensive Craft Beer & Whiskey Selection
 Present this Ad for **10% OFF** Any Non-sale Item
 On York Road • 1/2 Block North of Ogden Ave.
 630.325.6550
 www.savwaywines.com

Honesty, Heart, Home




Elizabeth McManus
 SFX Parishioner and Catechist
 708-805-1524

SENIOR CAREGIVER/COMPANION
 Parishioner for 30 years
 WORK WITH SENIORS NEEDING HELP OR COMPANIONSHIP
 Bathing, Dressing, Laundry, Cooking Transportation, Grocery Shopping Doctor's Visits or Socializing & Outings
 Available 7 Days | 773.744.9841 | www.caregivelg.com

WOODFORD CONSTRUCTION
 FRAME, TRIM CARPENTER, & CONCRETE
 New Construction & Remodeling
 10% PARISHIONER DISCOUNT
 FREE ESTIMATES • 708-670-2179



Experience matters Joe Thorne
 St. Francis Parishioner
 708-205-9028
 Areas: La Grange, La Grange Park, Western Springs, Brookfield, La Grange Highlands, and surrounding areas
 @properties

Quality Work – Reasonable Prices
DEMMIS PLUMBING & SEWER
 Ask for a PARISHIONER DISCOUNT
 708.420.0806 EMERGENCY SERVICE
 www.demmisplumbing.com

Our Caregivers Care Deeply, Serve Humbly, and Bless Many
 Personal care • Dementia care • Up to 24/7



Home Helpers Home Care
 630.323.7231

Robinson Accounting & Tax, LLC
Victoria A. Robinson
 Accountant | Parishioner
 Office: (708) 937-9366 Fax: 866-375-5652
 Accounting, Payroll & Tax Services
 915 55th St. Ste #101 | Western Springs, IL 60558
 victoria@mcgrealrobinson.com | robinsontaxllc.com



DeSitter FLOORING
 CARPET • RUGS • HARDWOOD LUXURY VINYL WOOD REFINISHING
 La Grange - 708.813.2933
 DeSitterFlooring.com

Little space. Big impact.
 Advertise here
 Call 800-950-9952

CertaPro Painters®
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
 708 / 588 / 9705
 • Residential • Commercial • Interior • Exterior
 certapro.com/lagrang

RUZICKA'S HOME MAINTENANCE
 "Quality Work at Reasonable Prices"
 Carpentry • Electrical • Painting Plumbing • Flooring
 Basement, Kitchen & Bath Remodeling Soffit • Fascia • Misc. Jobs
 PROFESSIONAL HOME MAINTENANCE SPECIALISTS
PAUL RUZICKA • 708-602-9366
 STICKNEY, IL 60402



Larry's Plumbing • Sewer • Electrical
 Residential & Commercial
 847-455-4150
 24 Hour - Emergency Service

Let Go. Let God.