

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH
Palm Sunday
March 28, 2021



HOSANNA

Blessed is he who
comes in the name
of the LORD

Open wide the doors
and gates.

Lift high the
ancient portals
The KING of GLORY
enters!

Week at a Glance

Monday, March 29	Morning Mass	8:30 am	Cookie Hofstetter	The Metzger Family
Tuesday, March 30	Morning Mass	8:30 am	Joan Swade	The Stephenson Family
Wednesday, March 31	Morning Mass	8:30 am	Bernard Urycki John & Joyce Yelnick	The Urycki Family Scott & Jill Burson

Presider's Schedule for March 27-28, 2021~Mass Time

5:00 pm Fr. Tkachuk **9:00 am** Fr. Barrett **11:00 am** Fr. Milek **5:00 pm** Fr. Ilo

The 5:00 pm and 9:00 am Palm Sunday Masses will be livestreamed on our Face book page and accessible through our website sfxlg.org (no Facebook account needed).

Please Pray For...

Diane Bereckis	Patrick Morgan
John Bovard	Mike Morrison
Nick Bowman	Baby Amy Nesterowicz
Jay Carroll	Carolyn Nesterowicz
Chili Challenger	Bernice Niemiec
Marek Chyczewski	Gert Ogilvie
Kevin Corrigan	Joan O'Halloran
Carol Coughlan	Arnold Oppenheim
Mary Culin	Jane O'Reilly
Anthony Dina	Shawwna Palazzolo
Blake Donegan	Ryan Patyk
Matt Doyle	Donna Pekarek
Wendy Einspar	Carolyn Peters
Lily Fielding	James Pridmore
Will Fleming	Baby Lucia R.
Leo Gannon	Fran Rassi
Mary Grand	Madison Raupp
Lilli Gregory	Anna Rose
Wilson Gregory	Rita Scalcon
Frank Hoos	Matthew Schiek
Rose Ilo	Larry Skippet
Mary J.	Greyson Stanley
Jane Jacobsen	James Stapel
Michael Janus	Marc Such
Peter Johns	Sarah Such
Jerry Johnson	Kate Frugoli Sullivan
Theresa Kandall	Jodee Tuttle
Wayne Kardatzke	Michael Ungari
Rose Kazan	Gregory Van Gorp
Mark Kiley	Helena Walden
Robert Kozak	Marian Ward
Jim Martin	Maribeth Watkins
Enrique Martinez	Liz Wilk
Lisa Massaro	Scott Young
Mary McMahan	

Prayers are requested for our relatives and friends who are sick. To add a name to the prayer list, please call the rectory at 708-352-0168.

Names of the sick are listed for two months in the bulletin. If there is a recurrence of illness, names can be listed again. 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.

Readings For The Week of March 28, 2021

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 (procession)/
Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39
Monday: Is 42:1-7/Jn 12:1-11
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Mt 26:14-25
Thursday: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/1 Cor 11:23-26/
Jn 13:1-15
Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/
Jn 18:1—19:42
Saturday: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/
Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/
Ex 14:15—15:1/Is 54:5-14/Is 55:1-11/
Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/
Rom 6:3-11/Mk 16:1-7
Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4 or
1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:17

Pastor's Notes

*"My God, my God,
why have you forsaken me?"*

Mark 15:34

Jesus cries this question in the agony of the Cross. In his humanity, he feels alone and abandoned by God. The physical and emotional pain are so deep that he has lost his sense of God's presence and care for him. The reality that he is the Beloved Son of God cannot ease his human agony. And yet, moments after confessing his sense of abandonment, Jesus reaches out to God in his last breath. Although surrounded by the jeers of others, Jesus surrenders in trust to what he cannot feel in his suffering. *He believes what he cannot know* in his agony. And his testimony in that moment converts a soldier who is standing beneath him.

Many among us have known a similar experience at some point in their lives. It is the experience of facing human weakness and a suffering that overwhelms both body and spirit. In his book, "The Gift of Peace," Cardinal Joseph Bernardin wrote of his growing realization that, in the final stages of his cancer, he needed to rely on the prayers of *others* to support him. It was not that he did not believe that God was with him; rather, the physical pain and emotional anguish had made it impossible to connect with God in prayer. He relied on the prayers of others to lift him up when he could no longer do so for himself. His faith in God was strengthened by the encouragement of others.

As we enter Holy Week, *how do we confront the Cross of Jesus* and the ways in which the cross is present in our lives or the lives of those around us? Are we able to acknowledge how difficult it is to confront the power of suffering and evil in our lives and our world? Are we able to give witness that we, too, surrender ourselves to God's love and care even when we cannot know or feel it? Will we live out our mission to be present to and with others in their moments of sorrow and struggle with a deep faith that God is *always* with us? Will we choose to walk this journey through suffering and death

in the belief that it leads to resurrection and new life?

This is the journey of Holy Week, when we celebrate the deepest mysteries of our faith. **Holy Thursday** celebrates Christ's saving gift of himself, his Body and Blood, in the bread and wine of the Eucharist and the invitation to do for others what he has done for us. **Good Friday** we venerate the Cross through which our Savior redeemed us through freely offering his life. At the **Saturday Vigil**, we celebrate Christ our Light and our new life in him. We celebrate the growth of our faith community as we baptize Amy Whitsitt, an adult member of our community, and her children Ellie and Jack; with Amy we welcome into the Catholic Church and confirm Amy's husband, Garrett Whitsitt, Catherine Murphy, and Robert Goshorn. Five Masses on **Easter Sunday** bring as many as possible together to celebrate our new life in Christ and our call to bring the message of that life to the world through the witness of our lives. As least one service on each of these days will be livestreamed on our parish Facebook page (via the parish website) so that all with internet access can participate.

God never abandons us, no matter what the limitations of our body and mind may tell us. May we be messengers of this truth in our presence and care for one another.

Blessings of Holy Week,

J. Bill



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HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 1 Holy Thursday

Morning Prayer	8:30 am	Diane Walsh
Mass of the Lord's Supper	7:00 pm	Fr. Rich Milek

Friday, April 2 Good Friday

Morning Prayer	8:30 am	Sue Martin
Passion of the Lord	3:00 pm	Deacon Andy Allison
Passion of the Lord	7:00 pm	Deacon Phil Gianatasio

Saturday, April 3 Easter Vigil

Morning Prayer	8:30 am	Maggie McMahon
Blessing of Easter Baskets	1:00 pm	Fr. Rich Milek
Easter Vigil	8:00 pm	Fr. Bill Tkachuk

We will be livestreaming Holy Thursday at 7:00 pm, Good Friday at 3:00 pm and Easter Vigil at 8:00 pm on our Facebook page and accessible through our website sfxlg.org (no Facebook account needed).

Holy Thursday Collection For BEDS Plus Care



BEDS (Building Ecumenical Discipleship Through Sheltering) began in 1988 to respond to those in need of shelter in our community. St. Francis Xavier became part of the BEDS mission in 1989 and provided emergency shelter in Joyce Hall on Monday nights along with dinner and a breakfast-to-go bag thanks to tremendous support from dedicated volunteers.

During the pandemic, BEDS Plus Care moved clients into housing and motels and continues to protect and support them through their full array of case management services. BEDS Plus is currently providing 830 meals a week to at-risk individuals and families who are in motels and housed but experiencing food insecurity.

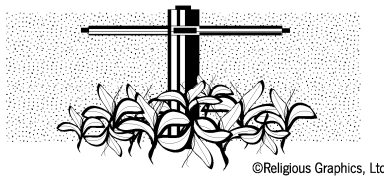
For more information: www.beds-plus.org or 708-354-0858.

Sunday, April 4

Easter Sunday

Church	8:00 am	Fr. Rich Milek
Joyce Hall Livestream (Communion distributed)	8:00 am	
Gym	9:00 am	Fr. Bill Killeen
Church	10:00 am	Fr. Bill Tkachuk
Joyce Hall Livestream (Communion distributed)	10:00 am	
Gym	11:00 am	Fr. Rich Milek
Church	12:00 pm	Fr. Stan Ilo
Joyce Hall Livestream (Communion distributed)	12:00 pm	

Please note that the Easter Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am and 12:00 pm are livestreamed on our Face book page and accessible through our website sfxlg.org (no Facebook account needed).



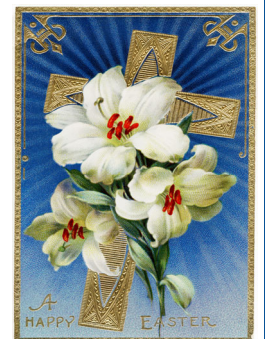
Easter Offertory

Our Easter Offertory budget is \$80,000. The collections received at this time of the year support the beautiful Holy Week and Easter liturgies as well as the many programs and outreach efforts we offer to those in need. Please be as generous as you are able, and know we remain prudent with your funds. Last year (when we were unable to host any live Easter Masses), SFX received \$68,157 in Easter offertory.

How to give:

- Envelopes are included in the Easter letter you should have received from Father Bill.
- Visit our website (www.sfxlg.org) and click DONATE under the Quicklinks section.
- Text EASTER to (708) 340-6630 and follow the return text's instructions.

God bless you!





CRS Rice Bowl Collection

Each Lent, Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through CRS Rice Bowl, families learn about how our sisters and brothers across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and malnutrition, and how through Lenten alms, we have the power to make the world a better place for all.

75% of your CRS Rice Bowl donation supports our work around the world.

25% of gifts stay in each U.S. diocese for hunger and poverty alleviation efforts.

Since 1975, people of all ages have participated in CRS Rice Bowl, putting their faith into action during the Lenten season.

For more information visit www.crsricebowl.org.

To donate, go to: <https://www.givecentral.org/location/218/event/29569>, visit our parish website, or place your donation in an envelope marked “CRS Rice Bowl” and drop it off in the rectory mail slot or in a church collection box. Thank you for your generosity.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

LaGrange Council 6483
Established May 1973

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPRING FOOD FOR FAMILIES DRIVE

Are you and your youth interested in doing community service this spring? Volunteers are needed for the Spring **Food for Families** Drive in April.

- Donations benefit the St. Francis Xavier Food Pantry and Chicago Food Depository.
- Attach paper flyers to doorknobs of local homes as previous food drives.
- Volunteers can choose their own day and time in the month of April.
- Flyers and rubber bands are provided by the Knights of Columbus.
- Volunteers can choose a street in LaGrange or LaGrange Park.

This good cause, twice each year in April and October, is a partnership of the KofC, SFX Food Pantry, Chicago Food Depository, and LaGrange and LaGrange Park friends and neighbors like you.

To volunteer or for more information text or email Mike Hattie at 708-207-2780 or council6483@gmail.com.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Interfaith Community Partners

Did you know? ICP volunteers can drive older adults (60+) to get their COVID vaccines if they have no other way to get there. Please think about your older adult neighbors who may need help during this difficult time and share ICP's office phone number: 708-354-9328.

Interfaith Community Partners is a non-profit organization that works together with volunteers to provide escorted transportation for people 60 and better to get to places like physician appointments and therapies. We do not charge our clients and ask for suggested donations, when able.

Interfaith Community Partners also offers Library Home Delivery Service. We need volunteer drivers! We'll train you via Zoom. We'll work around your busy life. Background check required. Find out more about Interfaith Community Partners!

Interfaith Career Network

Follow-Up Proactively with Employers During Your Job Search

Join us on Thursday, April 15 from 7:00-8:30 pm via Zoom. A job search is a process. Whether you are unemployed or employed seeking another opportunity, it is still a process. One of the most important parts of successfully making it through a search is staying organized. This lively, interactive and informative presentation will offer insight, tools, resources and suggestions to help start, reinvigorate and succeed in your search. Our dynamic speaker, Steve Rosenblum, will also share his proven 3x3 follow up formula along with many of his learnings, experiences and best practices, while encouraging others in attendance to do the same. Steve is a dedicated Human Resources professional with over twenty years in various HR roles, including regional management, training, succession planning, diversity program leadership and talent acquisition. Join us for his valuable insight.

Everyone is welcome! The link to this Zoom meeting can be found on our website at:

<http://www.interfaithcareernetwork.org/calendar>.

The Archdiocese of Chicago Is Hiring

Are you seeking an opportunity to draw closer to our Lord through your work? Consider applying your professional strengths and experience at the service of sharing Christ with others. The Archdiocese of Chicago is in the midst of exciting changes as we renew our local Church. With our competitive salary and benefit packages, the archdiocese provides many opportunities for professional and personal growth and development. For the listing of current openings, please visit archchicago.org/careers or follow us on LinkedIn.

The Archdiocese of Chicago, pastored by Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, has more than 15,000 employees that serve more than 2.2 million Catholics in Cook and Lake Counties. Our elementary and secondary schools comprise one of the largest U.S. private school systems and have garnered more U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Awards than any system of any type.



Mass Intentions

We continue to accept requests for Mass intentions at a future date. Please call the office on weekdays from 8:30 am-4:30 pm or you can email Missy Westerhoff directly at sfxinlg@sfxlg.org. We can send the Mass card via regular post as you direct.

Parishioner Volunteers Needed

Our ability to celebrate Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, and weekday and Sunday Masses depends on the ability of the parish to provide ministers to offer a welcoming and healthy environment. We have been blessed by scores of parishioners who share their time and spirit to keep us moving forward. To establish a regular rotation of volunteers, we seek additional people, especially to greet and seat people, or to wipe down the seating areas after each service. We welcome anyone of high school age or older who is in good health.

Please contact Maureen Pipal (mpipal@sfxlg.org) who will forward your name to one of our volunteer coordinators. Basic training is provided.

Bringing Communion To You

We are aware that there are many parishioners who are not homebound due to a physical limitation, but who are not yet comfortable returning to weekend Mass for a variety of reasons. We hope you have been able to view our weekly livestreamed Mass via the parish Facebook page or the parish website. In addition, several ministers of care are now available to bring the Eucharist to you at your home. Frequency and day of the week may depend on the number of requests we receive. Please call the parish office 708-352-0168. Monday through Friday, 8:30-4:30, or Saturday morning, 9:00-Noon and we will forward the information to Scott McDonald, who coordinates our minister of care team.

40 Days for Life: February 17 – March 28

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion! Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000 volunteers! With God's help, much good has been accomplished in the effort to protect the lives of the unborn. The local 40 Days for Life Vigil in our community this Lent will take place at Access Health Center (in the public right-of-way), 1700 75th Street in Downers Grove. Vigil hours are from 7:00 am until 7:00 pm daily.

To learn more, contact Caron at 40daysdq@gmail.com.

To sign up for prayer times go to <http://www.40daysforlife.com/downersgrove>.

Outreach From Catholic Charities



Blossoms of Hope – April 25: Blossoms of Hope Virtual Event will be held on Sunday, April 25 to support the Catholic Charities Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide (LOSS) Program. All are welcome and attendance is free of charge. The event will include keynote speakers, an exciting raffle and silent auction, and the opportunity to remember and honor loved ones lost to suicide and those who survive them.

For information, please contact Kaaron Johnson at kajohnson@catholiccharities.net.



Please register for programs at The Well Spirituality Center online: www.csjthewell.org or call 708-482-5048. All programs are on Zoom during this time of Covid-19.

Crystal Bowls—Please join us on April 8 from 7:00-8:00 pm with Facilitator, Jalima Cuesta. For guided meditation, breathing techniques, and playing of various crystal bowls which brings a sense of calm and peace to participants.

Holy Week 2021

Celebrating from home? Check out these creative ideas for living liturgically this Holy Week!

3/28 Palm Sunday

- **Procession:** Do your own Palm Sunday procession in the house/backyard!

3/31 Spy Wednesday

- **Tenebrae:** Have a Tenebrae Service at the end of dinner. [Click here](#) for a “how-to!” The link also talks about a Spy Wednesday tradition of hiding 30 pieces of silver for the kids to find around the house.

THE TRIDUUM

4/1 HOLY THURSDAY

- **Foot Washing:** Due to COVID we can't do any washing at the Holy Thursday liturgies, but you can wash each other's feet at home! This is an especially intimate and beautiful reminder of how we serve each other as the hands and feet of Christ in family life.
- **Watch *The Prince of Egypt*** – On Holy Thursday we remember the Last Supper and the Passover celebrated by Jesus with his disciples. *The Prince of Egypt* is a great animated movie for kids that depicts the origins of the Jewish Passover feast! And it's fun for adults too.

4/2 GOOD FRIDAY

- **Stations of the Cross:** watch virtual stations of the cross [here](#).
- **Set an alarm for 3:00pm:** Pray together as a family at 3pm, the time of Jesus' death.
- **Veneration of the Cross:** Join us to venerate the cross (with masks and social distance, no kissing of the cross) at the parish church, or venerate the cross at home as a family.
- **Watch *The Passion*:** This movie is intense, not suitable for young children. It's hard to watch – but oftentimes helpful in recognizing the depths of Jesus' suffering and love for us.

4/3 HOLY SATURDAY

- **Quiet Preparation for Easter:** Take this day as a day of quiet preparation for the feast of Easter. Prepare food, decorate eggs, clean the house, put up Easter decorations.
- **Easter Vigil!** Join us via livestream at 8pm as we celebrate the Easter Vigil – we have 3 Baptisms (a family!) and 4 adults entering the Church by completing their Sacraments of Initiation after months of preparation!

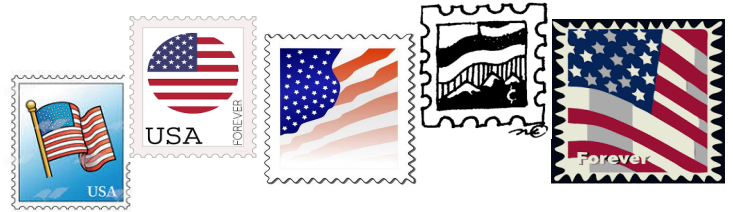
Details on Lenten groups/events can be found on the website (sfxlg.org -> Parish -> Faith Formation -> Lent 2021)

LOOKING AHEAD AT THE EASTER SEASON, COMING SOON! (email mmcmahon@sfxlg.org if interested)

- C.S. Lewis Book Club
- Listserv for families with young children – outdoor events, Zoo dates, Backyard Babies & Brews!
- **Sanctuary Course:** Exploring the Intersection of Faith and Mental Health
- **The Search:** Looking for something more from life or faith? Join us for *The Search!*

Prison Ministry

This year's Mother's Day collection for prisoners is a need for stamps. If you would like to make a stamp donation, please place the stamps in an envelope marked "Companions Journeying Together," then drop the stamps off in the rectory mail slot. Thank you and God bless you!



Outreach From Catholic Charities

Counseling Support Line:

If the pandemic has you feeling anxious or depressed and you'd like to talk with a counselor, please call the Catholic Charities Counseling Support Line at 312-948-6951 anytime Monday-Friday from 8:30 am-4:30 pm. Spanish-speaking counselors are available. If you leave a message after hours, a counselor will call you back.

Legal Assistance Available:

Catholic Charities Legal Assistance Department has attorneys and volunteer attorneys available to provide advice in numerous areas of law. If you are unsure about your legal rights or lost in the legal system, they can help. Services include in-depth advice and possible direct representation on many issues, including landlord/tenant disputes, family law, consumer and debtor rights, foreclosure, employment issues, orders of protection, power of attorney, and more. CCLA provides free to low-cost legal services to eligible low-income individuals. For help and more information, contact the legal advice line at 312-948-6821.

From Your SFX Parish Counselor

COVID-19 has taken away many of our in-person interactions. Office chitchat by the coffee maker. Happy hour with friends. Holiday celebrations. Friends, co-workers, extended family — since the pandemic began, many of us have seen them only virtually. In many ways, it's like we're all stuck on our own desert island — closed off from the outside world yet sometimes desperately wishing to vote our "fellow inhabitants" off.

- By Laurie Meyers, "Far away, so close: Negotiating relationships during COVID-19"

Consider reaching out to me at (442) 264-7589 or lolanadan@gmail.com.

At this time, our counseling sessions will be virtual/online. Video format:
<https://youtu.be/Fisg-SrOcVM>.

Lolan P. Adan, MAPC~Parish Counselor

St. Francis Xavier Parish, 124 North Spring Avenue, LaGrange, IL 60525

The Claret Center, 5536 South Everett, Chicago, IL 60637

#LPAdanAccompany (Under supervisor IL license # 071-005991)

BLOOD DRIVE

Hope springs
eternal

DONATE
BLOOD

Wednesday
April

7

3:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Helpful tip:
Make sure to eat a healthy
meal and drink plenty of
water before donating.

For eligibility questions, please
call 1-800-7TO-GIVE

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, LA GRANGE
LOCAL COUNCIL 6483 BLOOD DRIVE

St. Francis Catholic Church,
145 N. Waiola (Ogden & Waiola)
LaGrange, IL 60525

Appointments greatly appreciated; walk-ins
Welcome as the schedule and social distancing allow.

To schedule, go to www.versiti.org/IL load the
Versiti Donor app or call 800-7TO-GIVE.

**EVERY ATTENDEE MUST WEAR A MASK AND
EVERY DONOR WILL SAVE UP TO 3 LIVES!**

**ALL DONATIONS NOW TESTED FOR THE COVID-19
ANTIBODIES.**





SFX Raffle

Your chance to win **\$15,000!**

*St Francis Xavier Parish School is hosting its first-ever raffle drawing. For \$50 for one ticket (or 5 tickets for \$200), you can enter to win **\$15,000!***

One lucky leprechaun will win \$1,000 during our Early Bird drawing on St. Patrick's Day (winner is still eligible for grand prize drawing).

The Grand Prize drawing will take place April 30, and 100% of the proceeds benefit St. Francis Xavier School. No Give Back!

Visit Give Central to order your tickets today!

SFXRAFFLE.COM

<https://www.givecentral.org/location/218/29547,29552>

Ticket stubs may be picked up in gym foyer on 2/21, 3/14, 4/11 and 4/25 from 10am-1pm. Tickets may also be purchased on-site (cash or check).

Questions? Katie Mulcahy ktom@sbcglobal.net Tina Orlando tfrancis21@gmail.com

RULES: Winner will be announced at the end of the school day, April 30. Winner need not be present. If goal of 500 tickets is not met, a 50/50 split between winner and school will occur. All prizes are subject to applicable Federal and State tax. Winner will receive prize money once proper ID and social security number are provided. For complete terms and conditions visit <http://www.sfxlg.org> and click on "School". Must be 18 or older



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ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

WE PRAY • WE LEARN • WE SERVE



The St. Francis Xavier Parish School is one of the many wonderful ministries within the St. Francis Xavier Parish. We are fortunate to have an active School Advisory Board that works throughout the year on behalf of our school and parish community.

The purpose of the School Advisory Board is to:

- Develop, formulate, and adopt policies which govern the operation of the School
- Review and advise on the annual budget and determine sources of funding for the School
- Provide counsel and advise on the operation of the School
- Participate in the school's development, student recruitment efforts, and long-range plans
- Assist in obtaining the goals and objectives of the St. Francis Xavier School Mission Statement
- Promote the School and support the School's public relations and marketing efforts

The Board currently consists of eleven members who each serve a three-year term. Each Board member serves on one of the following committees:

- Catholic Identity
- Development
- Finance
- Marketing/Communications
- Strategic Planning

Interested in Becoming a School Advisory Board Member?

***** FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE 3/31/2021 *****

The St. Francis Xavier School Advisory Board is accepting applications for a three-year term on the Board. Wonder what it takes or how the process works? Below are some common questions people have about becoming a board member.

Common Questions:

- Do you need to have experience on a board or have a career in education? NO, you do not need to have prior experience on a school board or experience in education to apply.
- How much time is this commitment? We meet once per month plus 1-2 supplementary meetings each month. Expect approximately 6-8 hours per month.
- Do you need to have a child at the school to apply? NO, we encourage parent (guardian) of a Religious Education student, young adult parishioners and alumna/us of SFX. Candidates need not be parents.
- How does the application/selection process work? There is a one page application, a face-to-face meeting with the members of the Board and then the Board votes on the slate of applicants.

To receive an application or for more information regarding the application process and timing, **any interested parishioner or school parent (guardian)** can contact School Board selection committee members Katie Kanzer at k.f.kanzer@gmail.com or 773-860-5283; or Jim Schaeffer @ 312.953.0353

The application and more detailed information about the Board can be found on the St. Francis Xavier School Web site <http://school.sfxlq.org/parents/school-board/>. **Please remember that all submissions for candidacy are valued and will be reviewed.** We look forward to receiving your application!

We encourage all to follow SFX School on social media



SFX School Instagram: [@sfxlg_school](https://www.instagram.com/sfxlg_school)

Facebook SFX School site:
<https://www.facebook.com/SFX.LG/>

Facebook SFX Alumni site:
<https://www.sfxlg.org/vnews/display.v/ART/595d889cdee3e>

SFX School Website:
<https://www.sfxlg.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/School>

See the latest happenings at the day school:

A very very nice congratulatory message to the SFX community from Dr. Jim Rigg, Superintendent of Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools.
<https://vimeo.com/465845503>

Socially distanced Rosary:
<https://vimeo.com/465845340>

"Father Christmas" (Fr. Rich) makes a surprise appearance: <https://vimeo.com/489897966>

CandyGram to Falcon Families
<https://vimeo.com/488728809>

#BetterTogether - 2020 - A Year in Review at SFX Parish School"
<https://vimeo.com/492240023>

On behalf of the Food Pantry at St. Francis Xavier Parish, La Grange, IL, and the Positive School Committee, we thank you for your overwhelming support on Essential Items Day!
<https://vimeo.com/516377296>

On St. Paddy's Day, a lucky leprechaun won \$1,000 in our early bird drawing. Watch the video below to find out who. Don't forget to enter the drawing for our grand prize of \$15,000!!! <http://www.sfxraffle.com>
<https://vimeo.com/525158832>

St. Francis Xavier Family Ministry

This year brings many challenges to volunteering and giving back to others in our St. Francis Xavier Community. The idea behind the Family Ministry is to give families a chance to have fun and work together while serving others in need. Please help us make a difference.

March

Sue Devers of Beds is coordinating dinners for homeless people staying in local motels and individuals living in the resident building on Ogden Avenue. They are in need of families to prepare and deliver meals on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays in March and beyond. This would be a great volunteer opportunity for families to do in their homes. Please reach out to Sue Devers at Beds (dever@beds-plus.org).

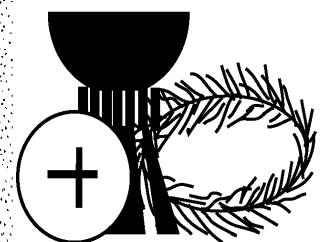
April

We are partnering with the Salt Creek Watershed Network to clean up garbage at Salt Creek Forest Preserve on Saturday, April 24th. All supplies will be provided. Please join us if interested, and contact Elizabeth at elizabeth.fanta@yahoo.com. This is a tentative event due to COVID. More details to follow.

October through May

Some of you may already be aware that the guests of the BEDS program are not staying at St. Francis Xavier due to COVID-19 concerns. The guests are staying at various locations, so for now, please drop all dessert donations on Monday mornings before noon at the BEDS Plus facility on the corner of East Avenue and Ogden Avenue but please contact Theresa Sullivan at thsully28@yahoo.com to sign up.

*enter into
the passion
and glory
of the Lord*



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KIDS ONLY GET ONE CHANCE AT A QUALITY EDUCATION

Empower Illinois expands quality education options for low-income and working-class families of Illinois by granting scholarships to students attending private schools.

Why Donate to St. Francis Through the Tax Credit Scholarship Program?

Donors who give to St. Francis Xavier- LaGrange through the Tax Credit Scholarship Program receive a 75% state tax credit for their gift and the funds will provide scholarships for students at St. Francis for the 2021-22 school year. ***There are currently five students enrolled at St. Francis on the waiting list to receive scholarships for the 2021-22 school year through this program. This would amount to over \$30,000 in new scholarship funding for St. Francis.***

What is the Tax Credit Scholarship Program & Empower Illinois?

In 2017, bipartisan lawmakers passed the Invest in Kids Act. This historic law – the first of its kind in Illinois – transforms lives by providing up to \$100 million in scholarships for kids from low-income and working-class families in Illinois. Scholarships are funded through private donations to Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGOs), like Empower Illinois, who then administer the application and scholarship process. Illinois donors to the scholarship program can designate their gift to St. Francis and are eligible for a 75% state tax credit. Empower Illinois' mission is to expand quality education options for low-income and working-class families across Illinois. Empower Illinois partners with approximately 92% of all Illinois recognized private schools, including St. Francis to ensure families have options to find their child's best fit school. Empower Illinois supports St. Francis in their tax credit scholarship fundraising efforts, assists students and their families through the awards process, and leads advocacy efforts to support and expand the Tax Credit Scholarship Program.

How Does the Donation Process Work?

Making your tax credit scholarship donation is a three-step process:

1. **register** with MyTax Illinois,
2. **reserve** your credit, and
3. **make your donation** through Empower Illinois.

The donation process does include multiple steps, but in addition to helping students in need, your gift earns you a 75% Illinois state tax credit. It is a win-win! Additionally, Empower Illinois has a dedicated customer service team that can assist with any questions that may arise during the donation process. They can be reached at donors@empowerillinois.org or 800-616-7606. Parishoner Carolyn Broughton is a member of Empower Illinois team and would be happy to help anyone with the process as well carolyn@empowerillinois.org.

Questions? Contact Carolyn Broughton at carolyn@empowerillinois.org.

WE GIVE THANKS for all the Blessings the Food Pantry Ministry has received since mid-March 2020 when shelter-in place took effect and we moved outdoors to provide a drive-thru service for our clients.

HEARTFELT THANKS to everyone who drops off food donations every Monday. The variety provides wonderful choices and helps meet the dietary needs of our clients.

BOXES OF CEREAL: 4908
Please keep them coming!



NEEDS: Cans of fruit, pasta, tomato sauce, rice, peanut butter, coffee & tea.



DONATION DROP OFF
Mondays 9am-Noon
south door of Rectory.
We kindly request NO EXPIRED Food

SINCERE THANKS to all our volunteers who pack weekly bags, sort and stock food, and distribute to our clients in ALL KINDS of weather.



TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS: 1653



TOTAL BAGS PACKED & DISTRIBUTED:
6469 or an average of **127** bags/week



SPECIAL THANKS for monetary donations. We received over **\$170,000!** The outpouring of financial support was beyond anything we could have hoped for and ensures that our Pantry is financially secure to provide long-term recovery from COVID-19 food insecurity. These donations have purchased meat, produce, dairy, personal hygiene products, holiday meal items and special dietary needs for our clients.



DONATIONS CAN BE MADE VIA:
(1) Parish Give Central - [Click Here](#)
(2) text **PANTRY** to **708-340-6630**
(3) Checks made payable to
SFX Food Pantry
Drop off or mail to the Rectory



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

- **Sgt. David Phillips**—brother of Rebecca Casiple
- **Commander Robert O'Donnell**—son of Agnes O'Donnell
- **Staff Sgt. Bryan Pickens, U.S. Army Airborne Ranger 1-75th Ranger Battalion RGR REGT**—
son of Rob & Bernadette Pickens and brother of Robert & Gabriel
- **Technical Sgt. Rhonda Russell, USAF**—daughter of Deidre & John Russell and granddaughter of Mary F. Russell
- **Lt. Commander Jonathan Devitt Brown, U.S. Navy**—nephew of the Devitt Family
- **LCPL Gregory Allen, USMC**—nephew of Barbara Triggs & Anthony Anscombe
- **Kevin Peterson, U.S. Army Infantry, Major Marcos Melendez, USMC and Major Michelle Melendez, USMC**—
son, nephew and niece of Jon Peterson
- **Staff Sgt. Nolan Kemna, USMC**—nephew of John & Linda Hill
- **Capt. Maura Hoffman & Capt. Christopher Hoffman**—niece and nephew of Margie & Steve Hull and
cousins of Kate, Janie & Caroline Hull
- **Phil Lukanich, U.S. Navy & Lt. M. Ryan Lukanich, U.S. Army**—husband and brother-in-law of Joanna and
sons of Mark & Martie Lukanich
- **Staff Sgt. Scott Blunk**—husband of Brianne and son-in-law of Maureen Becker
- **Lt. Daniel McGue**—grandson of Sue Ryan
- **Lt. Col. Jeremy Hutchins, USAF**—brother-in-law of Valerie & Michael Schierl
- **Commander Brian Riegler, U.S. Navy**—husband of Elizabeth and father of Kaylee, Mackenzie, Grace & Liam
- **Capt. Colt Marcyan, USMC**—nephew of Noel Cusack
- **Capt. Trent McMullen, USAF**—son-in-law of Tom & Maureen Hunt
- **Private Jerry Delgado, U.S. Army**—friend of Liz Wilk
- **Spec Timothy Lucas U.S. Army**—nephew of Rosemary and Sr. Kathleen Lucas, and Kate & Beau Medlock
- **Deanna Ciaccia, U.S. Navy**—daughter of Julie & Anthony Ciaccia
- **Chris Johnson, USCG**—nephew of Judi Kudlacz and grandson of Jerry & Nancy Johnson
- **Dominic James Greco, U.S. Navy**—nephew of Rita Pantoni
- **Robert Weiler, U.S. Navy**—brother of Rebecca Dionisio
- **Major Meghan Cumpston, U.S. Army**—cousin of Lauren Schultz
- **Airman Jeffrey Niemiec, USAF**—nephew of Nancy & Harry Devereux
- **PFC Rob Parisi, U.S. Army 19K**—son of Chuck Parisi, Brother of Caitlin & Jack and Grandson of Robert J. Lynch
- **Lt. Brendan Short, U.S. Army Airborne**—nephew of Don & Rita Baumgart
- **Capt. Richard Hoover, U.S. Army & Neil Donegan, U.S. Navy**—nephew and grandson of Lorraine Donegan
- **Capt. Matt Waite, U.S. Army**—cousin of Justin, Maggie, Winona & Bea Waite

**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
Retired Weekend Sacramental Minister
Retired Weekday Sacramental Minister
Weekend Sacramental Minister

Rev. William Tkachuk
Rev. Richard Milek
Mr. Andrew Allison
Mr. Phil Gianatasio
Mrs. Margaret McMahon
Rev. William Killeen
Rev. Ed Barrett
Rev. Stan Ilo

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

Education Ministry

Parish School Principal
Assistant Principal
Administrative Assistant
Parish School Secretary
Advancement Director
Tuition Accounts
Religious Education Coordinator/Sacrament Prep
Religious Education Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Sharon Garcia
Mrs. Janice Carr
Mrs. Mary Hoffman
Mrs. Peggy Evans
Mrs. Mary Tassi
Mrs. Jennifer Zeisloft
Ms. Terri Simeoni
Mrs. Cindy Johnson

sgarcia@sfxlg.org
 jcarr@sfxlg.org
 mhoffman@sfxlg.org
 pevans@sfxlg.org
 mtassi@sfxlg.org
 jzeisloft@sfxlg.org
 tsimeoni@sfxlg.org
 cjohnson@sfxlg.org

Youth Ministry

Coordinator

youthministry@sfxlg.org

Music Ministry

Director

Mr. Allen Sterwalt

asterwalt@sfxlg.org

Parish Office Staff

Business Manager
Parish Accountant
Pastor's Secretary
Parish Secretary
Staff Secretary
Facilities Manager

Mrs. Jennifer Zeisloft
Ms. Jane Bandyk
Mrs. Maureen Pipal
Mrs. Melissa Westerhoff
Ms. Debra Soulje
Mr. Frank Roccasalva

jzeisloft@sfxlg.org
 jbandyk@sfxlg.org
 mpipal@sfxlg.org
 mwesterhoff@sfxlg.org
 dsoulje@sfxlg.org
 froccasalva@sfxlg.org

Food Pantry/Community Outreach

Coordinator

Mrs. Mary Freeman

mfreeman@sfxlg.org

Contact Information

Parish Office 124 N. Spring708-352-0168
 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 Number708-352-4904
 e-Mailsfxinlg@sfxlg.org
 Main Day School e-Mail.....sfxmain@sfxlg.org
 Main Religious Education e-Mail.....sfxreligiused@sfxlg.org
 Parish Web Sitewww.sfxlg.org

Rectory Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am-8:30 pm
 Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm
 Saturday9:00 am-5:00 pm
 Sunday9:00 am-1:00 pm

At this time due to COVID-19 the rectory offices are closed. Staff members will now be answering phones Monday through Friday from 8:30 am-4:30 pm and on Saturdays from 9:00 am-12:00 Noon. The answering service will answer calls after that time.

Weekday Masses at St. Francis Xavier Church

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30 am

Rosary at St. Francis Xavier Church

Thursday 8:15 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday morning9:00-10:00 am
 Reconciliations are being heard in the lower vestibule of Unity Hall between the church and education building.

Private Prayer at Neighboring Churches

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesdays at St. Cletus

St. John of the Cross (Monday - Saturday)8:00 -10:00 am

Bulletin Deadline

The deadline for submitting all bulletin articles is 9:00 am on the Monday preceding the Sunday of publication. If a holiday falls on a Monday, articles are due by 12:00 Noon on the previous Thursday. Please email all articles to the bulletineditor@sfxlg.org.

Domestic Violence Resources

Family Shelter Services—24 hr. counseling 630-469-5650
 LaGrange Police Emergency Assistance 911 or 708-579-2354

Food Pantry

The St. Francis Food Pantry is open every Tuesday from 10:00 to 11:30 am. The pantry serves clients who live in the 60525 and 60526 zip codes.

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

At this time, our counseling sessions will be virtual/online.

(Video format: <https://youtu.be/Fisg-SrOcVM>)

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, Lolan Adan, from the Claret Center who can be reached by phone 442-264-7589 or email lolanadan@gmail.com.

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