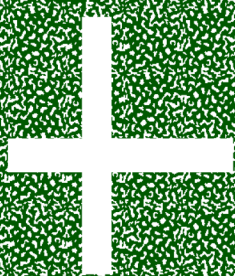


**SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH**  
**2nd Sunday of Easter**  
**April 11, 2021**



GOD of MERCY



You wash away our sins,  
give us new birth  
in the SPIRIT  
and redeem us in the  
Blood of CHRIST

## Week at a Glance

Monday, April 12	Morning Mass	8:30 am	Peggy Humecke	Jerry & Nancy Johnson
Tuesday, April 13	Morning Mass	8:30 am	Marlene Taylor	The Schwaab Family
Wednesday, April 14	Morning Mass	8:30 am	Helen Betty Gits	The McKee Family
Thursday, April 15	Rosary Adoration	8:15 am 6:00-7:00 pm		
Friday, April 16	Morning Mass	8:30 am	Antonio & Teresa Franzese	
Saturday, April 17	Reconciliation Mass	9:00 am 5:00 pm	Carol Grimes Nick & Marjorie Crnkovich	Richard & Marilyn Kosztk The SFX Parish
Sunday, April 18	Mass	9:00 am	Sally Krause	Liz Wilk
3rd Sunday of Easter	Mass	11:00 am	People of the Parish	
	Mass	5:00 pm	Thomas & Marian Vilardo	The Welch Family

### Presider's Schedule for April 10-11, 2021~Mass Time

5:00 pm Fr. Milek

9:00 am Fr. Milek

11:00 am Fr. Milek

5:00 pm Fr. Ilo



**Adoration will be held this  
Thursday, April 15 from 6:00-7:00 pm.  
Please reserve your spot on our website at [www.sfxlg.org](http://www.sfxlg.org).**

### Please Pray For...

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

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:

**Bob Barry, Jr.**  
Brother of Beth, Sue and Kathy

**Kevin Corrigan**  
Brother of Mary Ross

### Readings For The Week of April 11, 2021

Sunday: Acts 4:32-35/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31  
Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Jn 3:1-8  
Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Jn 3:7b-15  
Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Jn 3:16-21  
Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Jn 3:31-36  
Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Jn 6:1-15  
Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Jn 6:16-21  
Next Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/1 Jn 2:1-5a

## Pastor's Notes

*"Peace be with you.  
As the Father has sent me,  
I send you."  
Then he breathed on them and said,  
"Receive the Holy Spirit."  
John 20:21-22*

God breathed life into the clay of the earth and humankind was born. The Risen Christ breathes upon his disciples and the church is born and sent on mission. Resurrection is not a moment in time but rather a movement of God's Spirit upon the earth. The first disciples and those who will join them are reborn as church and sent to all peoples and places to do as Jesus did: proclaim God's love, heal those broken in body or spirit, announcing God's forgiveness to those who seek it, forming communion in Christ, and willing to sacrifice so that God's will be done.

The sights, sounds, and smells of Easter morning lift us up and fill us with joy. On your behalf, I offer thanks to all of the many parish staff and volunteers who brought so much beauty to our worship through their music, their adornment of our three worship spaces, their proclamation of the word, their greeting, setting up, and refreshing each space, and much planning and other critical work behind the scenes. Your generosity of time and talent continues to bear much fruit.

On this eighth day of Easter, **we are sent** as messengers of Easter joy to family, friends, and strangers. The Spirit that Jesus breathed on his disciples on that first Easter morning is breathed upon us. We are given all we need to do what God asks of this faith community. We are given to one another in a deep bond of communion each time we gather for Eucharist and allow Christ to shape us into his Body for the life of the world.

**Clarice Olson** has felt a call to communion with us in Christ for most of her more than 90 years on this earth. This weekend, we celebrate the fulfillment of her desire to become one with us through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. She reminds us how precious is the gift of life in Christ. She calls us to enter more deeply into Christ and the church that joins us to him and to one another.

**To whom does the Lord send you this day** with a greeting of peace and the breath of the Spirit? Where might you be an instrument of healing, if only praying for a time when old hurts are left behind? Or through whom in your life is Jesus offering you the breath of the Spirit to bring light to the shadows, love to the loneliness, or peace to your heart?

If you see me this weekend, you may notice that I am wearing a sling again. An MRI several weeks ago revealed that I had torn several of the rotator cuff connectors when struck by a car on New Year's Day. This past Wednesday, I had surgery to repair those tears and put me on a firmer path to full recovery. The doctor advised me to go with my body in determining how much I can do and when I can do it. I pray for the grace of patience and beg your patience as my recovery journey continues. God provides, when we let God in.

I thank all who chose to participate in the parish-wide pastor evaluation process a few months ago. I have received your feedback and that of those I specifically asked to participate in the process. I soon will share what you taught me and some of the goals I have set for myself in the next few years.

**Easter Blessings,**

*F. Bill*

### 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](http://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!**



## We Want to Expand – Parishioner Volunteers Needed

We are hoping to add a Sunday 7:30AM Mass to our schedule. However, our ability to do so depends on the ability of the parish to provide additional ministers to offer a welcoming and healthy environment. We have been blessed by scores of parishioners who have been sharing their time and spirit to make our current Mass schedule possible. We seek additional people to greet and seat people before 7:30 Mass and/or to wipe down the seating areas before the 9AM Mass. We welcome **anyone of high school age or older who is in good health**. A few volunteer comments:

*“The volunteer work is easy, totally flexible and I like being able to attend Mass as part of the experience.”*

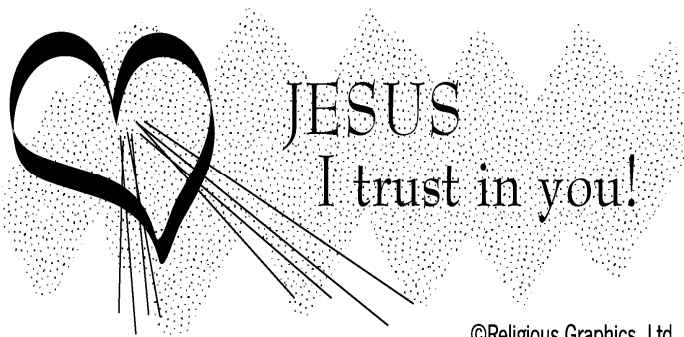
*“There isn’t a better way to start my day than seeing familiar, friendly faces. I’ve gotten to know quite a few of the regular attendees and they “fill my bucket” with their gratitude and appreciation. What I looked at as a necessity to do to keep the church open, has turned into something I truly look forward to doing each week.”*

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

## 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 more information, please contact Kaaron Johnson at [kajohnson@catholiccharities.net](mailto:kajohnson@catholiccharities.net).



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## COVID-19 MEMORIAL ROBINHOOD PARK LAGRANGE PARK, ILLINOIS

I am Liam McKeown, of St. Francis Xavier's Boy Scout Troop 33. As my Eagle Project, I have chosen to recognize the impact of COVID-19 on our community with the installation, and dedication of a COVID-19 Memorial Stone Bolder and Plaque to honor those who have lost their lives due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This Memorial will be located in Robinhood Park within the Village of LaGrange Park, Illinois. My hope is that this monument will be a cherished place for the families of those impacted by COVID-19 and a memorial to the memory of those lost to the pandemic.

My project has been approved by the Park District of LaGrange Park, The Boy Scouts of America, and my local Troop Leadership.

I realize that people only donate to causes they find meaningful. I hope you will see my support for those impacted by COVID-19 as meaningful.

In order to make my project a reality, I am asking for the financial support of family and friends. Not only will you be supporting me with this ambitious project but most importantly, you will be supporting those families who have lost loved ones to the COVID-19 pandemic.

I have estimated that the cost of my project will be about \$1,500. If you are willing and able to donate to my project, it would be greatly appreciated. Your generosity of any amount, even \$10, would help me complete my project and ultimately earn my Eagle Rank in Scouting.

Donations may be dropped off at the parish office in an envelope marked “COVID-19 Memorial Eagle Project”. Checks should be made payable to “BSA Troop 33”. Also, you may donate online at <http://fundly.com/covid-19-memorial>. Any excess funds received will be donated to the Park District of LaGrange Park to fund scholarships.

Thank you for considering making a donation to my project.

# Faith Formation

Educational, formational, and spiritual growth opportunities for all parishioners

# Easter Season 🌿 ALLELUIA!

## CONGRATULATIONS on receiving your Sacraments of Initiation:

Robert Goshorn † Catherine Murphy † Amy Whitsitt † Garrett Whitsitt

SFX is proud to announce that Bo, Cathy, Amy, and Garrett were all received into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil! Amy and Garrett's children, Ellie and Jack, were also baptized with Amy at the Vigil.



## C.S. Lewis Book Club

On **Wednesday evenings**, beginning **April 21**, we will meet to discuss *The Screwtape Letters* –

“a classic masterpiece of religious satire that entertains readers with its sly and ironic portrayal of human life and foibles from the vantage point of Screwtape, a highly placed assistant to ‘Our Father Below.’ At once wildly comic, deadly serious, and strikingly original, C.S. Lewis's *The Screwtape Letters* is the most engaging account of temptation—and triumph over it—ever written.”

[Click here](#) for more information or to register! Email [mmcmahon@sfxlg.org](mailto:mmcmahon@sfxlg.org) with questions.

## Families with Young Children

Are you interested in any of the following events with other families of young kids?

- Brews & Babies outdoor social gathering
- Zoo dates
- Park meet-ups
- “Baby & Me” Catholic Gymboree

Or do you just want to be kept “in the loop”?

[Click here](#) (or email [mmcmahon@sfxlg.org](mailto:mmcmahon@sfxlg.org)) to join the listserv!

## The Sanctuary Course for Catholics:

*Exploring the Intersection of Faith & Mental Health*

Join a group of fellow Catholics as we hear from real people and experts about their experience of faith and mental health. This group can meet virtually or in-person (socially distant, with masks) depending on the interests of those joining us.

Email [mmcmahon@sfxlg.org](mailto:mmcmahon@sfxlg.org) if you are interested!

## MEN OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

It's the year of St. Joseph – is the Spirit moving you to enter more deeply into your faith this year?

Email [Patrick.mcmahon65@gmail.com](mailto:Patrick.mcmahon65@gmail.com) to join a community of Catholic men seeking to love God and their families well.



**WHAT**  
**SFX CWC SPRING EVENT**

**WHERE**  
**La Grange**

**WHEN**  
**Saturday, May 8th**

Psalm 46:5 "God Is Within Her She Will Not Fall"

Please join us this year for our annual CWC hosted event! This year, it's been renamed the Ladies Day Out Spring Event in lieu of our traditional Pre-Lenten Event. We created an event to offer women a way to *Relax and Revive* after the past year! We are hoping to bond the women of SFX, while also keeping everyone safe through a combination of Yoga, a Bingo-inspired shopping event, and our famous Raffle. This event will take place on Saturday, May 8th. We hope you can join us!!!

<http://sfxspringevent.org/>

Please also consider becoming an Angel Donor this year! "Angels" help defray the costs of the event through their generous donations and allow us to raise as much money as possible to support the operations of our parish and its ministries. Please use the link below to become an SFX Angel Donor today! Your support is greatly appreciated!

<https://sfxspringevent.org/become-an-angel>

**Spring Event Registration Coming Soon!**

**St. Francis Xavier School**  
**Restaurant Fundraising Night**  
**with Aurelio's**

**Thursday, April 15 from 4:00–8:00pm**



Thursday, April 15, we have another fundraising night with Aurelio's pizza! 20% of all sales (pre-tax/tip/delivery) will be donated to our school. Place your order between 4:00-8:00pm on April 15 and mention that it is for the SFX Fundraiser. Call them at 708-579-0900!

The fundraiser is valid for pick-up, delivery and dine-in. If planning to dine-in, reservations are recommended because of limited seating.

We are extremely grateful for their generous, recurring commitment to support our school via these fundraisers. Tell your friends and enjoy your pizza!

<https://www.aureliospizza.com/location/lagrange/>



**Awakening the Dreamer** on Tuesday, April 20 from 9:30 am-12:00 pm. Based on climate science and indigenous wisdom, this symposium was launched in 2005 to wake the North up, out of our trance. Dip into the dream of a world that works for everyone, with a sustainable human presence on our planet, in this morning of powerful videos and transformative conversation led by Bridget Sperduto.

**Write Your Soul** on Wednesdays: May 5, 12, 19, 26 from 9:30–11:00 am. During Covid hibernation, did you come upon a long-lost journal? Did you begin the habit of using it again? Did you want to but didn't know where to begin? Learn some creative techniques with Diane Pfahler, SND.

Please register for programs at The Well Spirituality Center online: [www.csithewell.org](http://www.csithewell.org) or call 708-482-5048. All programs are on Zoom during this time of Covid-19.

**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!





## 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.

## 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](mailto:sfxinlg@sfxlg.org). We can send the Mass card via regular post as you direct.

## Knights of Columbus Spring Food For Families Drive



Please join the Knights in helping families and seniors struggling to make ends meet.

Donate to St. Francis Xavier Food Pantry online:  
[www.givecentral.org/location/218/category/167/event/5199](http://www.givecentral.org/location/218/category/167/event/5199)

Donate to Chicago Food Depository online:  
[www.MyFoodDrive.org/#LGKofC2021](http://www.MyFoodDrive.org/#LGKofC2021)

Donation pick-up at your home:  
Text or email F4FPICKUP to 708-207-2780 or  
[council6483@gmail.com](mailto:council6483@gmail.com).

Non-perishable food and items needed:  
cereal, pasta & sauce, mac n' cheese, rice, potatoes, tomato sauce, tuna, peanut butter, jelly, low sugar canned fruits, low sodium can veggies, soup, beans, toilet paper, personal hygiene items, baby items, laundry soap, dish soap, coffee and tea.

Questions, please text or email Mike Hattie at 708-207-2780 or [www.council6483@gmail.com](mailto:www.council6483@gmail.com).

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

## Taller de José Builder's Day Celebration



Taller de José invites you to join us for our virtual Builder's Day Celebration on Saturday, April 17!

This year, Taller de José will be presenting the Companion Award to Joan Stopka, a long-time volunteer at Taller de José and St. Francis Xavier parishioner.

We'd love to have you join us (virtually) on Saturday, April 17 to celebrate Joan and thank her for her 10+ years of volunteer service at Taller de José. With three different options to participate in the event, there's sure to be something for everyone. Please visit our website at [www.tallerdejose.org](http://www.tallerdejose.org) for more information.

Mission: Taller de José accompanies individuals, serving as a bridge to connect them to the health, legal, and social services needed to achieve their goals. As a member of the Congregation of St. Joseph Mission Network, we create more connected communities.



## 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!

## Area Respect Life Ministry

*Parishioners from St. Cletus, St. Francis Xavier and St. John of the Cross meet several times during the year to discuss ways we can partner together and advocate for a world that joyfully sees God in every human person in all stages and in all conditions.*

**Next Meeting via Zoom: Tuesday, April 13 at 7:00 pm.** Contact Kendall at [kgrant@stcletusparish.com](mailto:kgrant@stcletusparish.com) for link to meeting. See below for Letter from the IL Bishops about state legislation.

### March 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We, the diocesan bishops of Illinois, write today out of great concern. Bills have been introduced before the Illinois General Assembly to repeal Illinois' Parental Notice of Abortion Act. They are **House Bill 1797** and **Senate Bill 2190**. The enactment of this legislation would lead to tragic and irreversible outcomes.

The Parental Notice of Abortion Act simply requires that when a minor girl seeks to have an abortion, a parent or guardian is notified 48 hours before the procedure. The obvious hope of the law is that parents, by their deep love and moral obligation, will act to protect, support and guide their children. In every other facet of life, we are taught—and we teach—that parental involvement is key to the child's best interest. Repealing the Act is nothing less than an invasion into the sacred space of family life by the state, with no provision to support the minor emotionally, humanely or materially at a critical moment in her life.

It is unfortunately true that not all young people come from loving homes. In these cases, when the threat of abuse or neglect outweighs the rights of parents, the current law allows a young girl the opportunity to declare in writing that there is abuse, or she can seek an emergency hearing before a judge to explain her situation. We acknowledge that this can be emotionally difficult; however, such difficulty must be weighed against the harm done when our laws effectively undermine family life by separating children from the care of parents who love them the most. The state should do everything to support families, not destabilize them.

The existing Parental Notice of Abortion Act provides important safeguards against the evils of sexual abuse and human trafficking. If a minor girl can be taken by any adult man to an abortion clinic, in the hopes of erasing the evidence of his abuse, what protection exists outside of the girl's parent or

guardian being informed? Why would we want to create such a dangerous environment?

Simply put, the Parental Notice of Abortion Act works. According to statistics gathered by the Illinois Department of Public Health, since the law's final enactment by the Illinois Supreme Court in 2013, abortions performed on minors in Illinois have decreased over 30 percent. The lives saved by this law are real and present among us.

These are the reasons every state in the Midwest and 37 states overall have laws requiring some form of parental involvement in the decision of a minor to have an abortion. Illinois has been among those states for 8 years and no obvious problems or detriments have been publicly exposed. The repeal of Parental Notice of Abortion is a tragic solution in search of a problem.

So what can you do? As Catholics of good will, we call on you to engage your elected officials—state representatives, state senators and the Governor—and urge them to oppose House Bill 1797 and Senate Bill 2190.

Possible methods of contact include phone calls, letters, emails, and Zoom meetings between legislators and you, their concerned constituents. For all of these efforts, you will need to be able to identify your legislators and secure the appropriate contact information.

Here is how:

Visit the Catholic Conference of Illinois' website—[www.ilcatholic.org](http://www.ilcatholic.org)—scroll nearly to the bottom of the homepage, click on "Find Your Legislator" and input the asked-for information. Doing this will identify one's state elected officials, and simply clicking on their names will provide the contact information.

In our concern for all human life, and particularly for the struggles of young girls in these difficult circumstances and their unborn children, we ask you to participate in this effort. Together we are strong, and we can make a difference. Thank you.

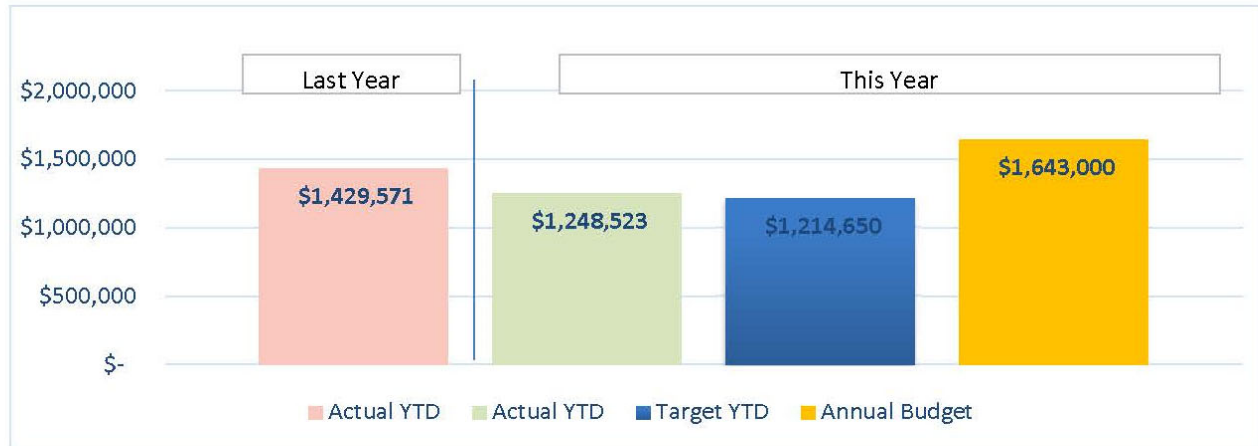
Sincerely,

His Eminence Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago  
Most Reverend Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C., Bishop of Peoria  
Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki, Bishop of Springfield  
Most Reverend David J. Malloy, Bishop of Rockford  
Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks, Bishop of Joliet  
Most Reverend Michael G. McGovern, Bishop of Belleville





# Our Finances as of March 31, 2021



**Note: This budget target of \$1,643,000 assumes an operating deficit of \$148,000 by the end of the fiscal year.**

Sunday Offertory	EFT/Credit Card	+	Basket	+	Other Offertory*	=	March Totals
March 2021	\$ 78,803		\$ 39,993		\$ 3,212		\$ 122,008
March 2020	\$ 76,408		\$ 38,592		\$ 4,857		\$ 119,858

\* Includes donations from stock, donor-advised funds, Holy Day contributions, and other miscellaneous gifts

The graph above, through March 31, shows our offertory is \$181,000 below a year ago. The parish implemented significant expense controls, including deferred hiring of open parish positions, and the reduction of retirement plan contributions and building-related expenses. The school has reduced expenses, with the most significant reductions due to the elimination by the State of Illinois of this year's standardized testing and lack of professional development opportunities for faculty and staff. The school has also experienced increased revenue through a donor support program and higher than expected tuition receipts. Therefore, we are currently projecting the budgeted deficit to be substantially reduced by the end of our fiscal year [on June 30, 2021](#). We are truly blessed to be a part of this community - thank you for your investment in our mission here at St. Francis Xavier!

As we prepare our annual budget for the fiscal year [beginning July 1, 2021](#), we are projecting that the parish will need to return to pre-COVID offertory levels in order to break even. With the reinstatement of the retirement plan contributions, return to normalized staffing levels and other expenses as our campus reopens, our expected breakeven offertory level is in the \$1.85 million range, similar to 2019 fiscal year levels. The 2021-2022 fiscal year budget is currently being developed. Look for an update in our June bulletins.





## 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](mailto: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](mailto:carolyn@empowerillinois.org).

*Questions? Contact Carolyn Broughton at [carolyn@empowerillinois.org](mailto:carolyn@empowerillinois.org).*



# 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](mailto:ktom@sbcglobal.net) Tina Orlando [tfrancis21@gmail.com](mailto: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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## We encourage all to follow SFX School on social media



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

### SFX VIRTUAL SCHOOL TOUR

<https://vimeo.com/506617250>

### See the latest happenings at the day school:

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

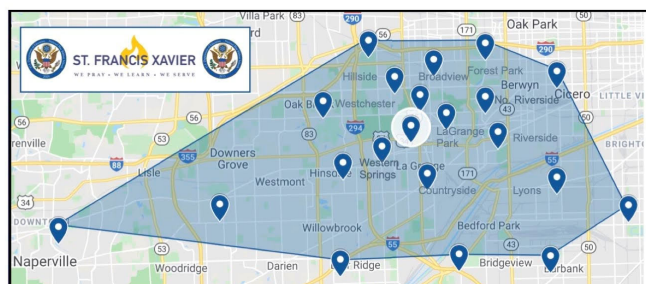
On St. Paddy's Day, a lucky leprechaun won \$1,000 in our early bird drawing. Watch the video below to find out who. Don't forget to enter the drawing for our grand prize of \$15,000!!!  
<http://www.sfxraffle.com>

### Family Reading Night - Dr Seuss Day 2021

<https://vimeo.com/519201281>

### Drawing the Face of Jesus

<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/527955124>



## LA GRANGE *and* BEYOND

Saint Francis Xavier School has students from 20 different ZIP Codes.

Contact us today to learn more about what Saint Francis Xavier School can offer your family!

[sfxlg.org/school](https://www.sfxlg.org/school)

## 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.

### April

**The Family Ministry event Clean the Creek Watershed project scheduled for April has been cancelled.**

### 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](mailto:thsully28@yahoo.com) to sign up.


## Interfaith Career Network

### Free Virtual Resume

Interfaith Career Network will be available to do a resume review with you on Saturday, April 17 from 9:00-11:00 am...on your phone!

Simply email a copy of your existing resume to [Resumereview@interfaithcareernetwork.org](mailto:Resumereview@interfaithcareernetwork.org). Please include the telephone number at which you wish to be called. You will be notified of your 30-minute time slot via an email from ICN prior to the review. **Please respond by NOON on Friday, April 16..** Join us for a helpful one-on-one conversation with a HR or other search related professional. Pick up some ideas and suggestions that may enhance or refresh your resume. Looking for some helpful job search strategies? Now is the time to add impact and clarity to your existing resume. We look forward to hearing from you! There is no charge for this service. ICN offers job support through various programs.

Please visit us at [www.interfaithcareernetwork.org](http://www.interfaithcareernetwork.org) for further information.

Blessed are they   
who have not seen  
and yet have believed.



## 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](mailto: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. 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.....sfxreligiused@sfxlg.org  
 Parish Web Site .....www.sfxlg.org

### **Rectory Hours**

Monday-Thursday ..... 8:30 am-8:30 pm  
 Friday ..... 8:30 am-4:30 pm  
 Saturday .....9:00 am-5:00 pm  
 Sunday .....9:00 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 morning .....9:00-10:00 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:lolanadan@gmail.com).



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