

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 13, 2022



STEWARDSHIP



Devote Time with God

Share Talent

Give Treasure

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Week at a Glance

			Intention	Requested By
Monday, November 14	Morning Mass	8:30 am	Carol Grimes Faylene McDowell Frances & Armand Andreoni Herbert & Mary Schrack Michael & Theresa Cipriani	Donna Kurcz Therese & Tom Byrne The Andreoni Family Diane Cipriani
Tuesday, November 15	Morning Mass	8:30 am	Stephen Sfondilias	Patrick Daly
Wednesday, November 16	Morning Mass	8:30 am	Gregory Van Gorp	Marge Branecki
Thursday, November 17	Rosary Adoration	8:15 am 6:00 pm		
Friday, November 18	Morning Mass	8:30 am	Al Tassi Frank & Helen Rizzo Lorraine Pietras	SFX Resource Team The Templeton & Costello Families Dorothy & Mark Daliege
Saturday, November 19	Mass Reconciliation Mass	8:30 am 9:00 am 5:00 pm	Jennifer Smierk Carole Hayes Mary T. Discipio	Jenny Palmer & Therese O'Sullivan (Living Intention) The Hayes Family Joe Discipio
Sunday, November 20 Christ the King	Mass Mass Mass Mass	7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Gino Ressa Bob Schiffler Lawrence Joseph Jaderberg Clarke Devereux Theresa Appleby	Bob Bovenzi Jack & Mary Collins Mom & Dad The Metzger Family Lynnea & Amanda Paul

President's Schedule for November 12-13, 2022~Mass Time

5:00 pm Fr. Milek 7:30 am Fr. Milek 9:00 am Fr. Tkachuk 11:00 am Fr. Milek 5:00 pm Fr. Tkachuk

Linda Bieniek Sally Burson Jay Carroll Chili Challender Blake Donegan Victoria Donile Barbara Doyle Matthew Doyle Lily Fielding Lilli Gregory Wilson Gregory John Hronec Rose Ilo Mary J. Jane Jacobsen Theresa Kandall Mark Kiley Lisa Massaro Jodi McMahon Linda McMahon	Patrick Morgan Mike Morrison Gert Ogilvie Jane O'Reilly Ryan Patyk Donna Pekarek Beth Pfluger Geri Pfluger Madison Raupp Anna Rose Rita Scalcon Richard Schmuhl Joseph Shortino Santa Snieg Rita Mae Spearman Barbara Stewart John Stopka Olivia Tarsney Theresa Toher Liz Wilk
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Please pray for . . .

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

Know that our parish prays daily for the sick and the dying.

Born Into Eternal Life



Please remember in your prayers, those who have died, as well as their families:

Patricia Gregory

Wife of Robert

Mother of David, Christopher and Jennifer

Weddings



Maura Johnson & Patrick Foley



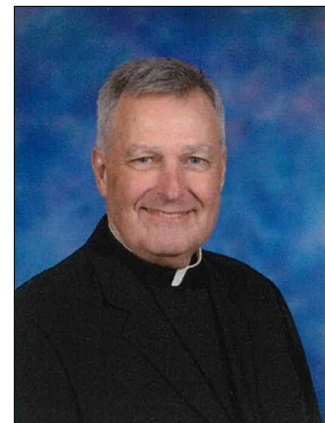
Make a gift to the Sunday Offertory with this QR Code. Thank you for your support!



Pastor's Letter

Reaching Out and Reaching Across

The fiscal year that ended June 30, 2022, was a transition to a time of connecting with one another face-to-face and person-to-person. The year opened with welcoming a new Director of Religious Education for an expanded yet still virtual program and ended with a Parish Family Party in the parking lot. We began to see familiar faces, to get to know new faces, and to return to activities that had been on hold or significantly restricted. The year also brought the first phase of Renew My Church which helped us to develop a vision of how we experience God's call on our journey forward. The Parish Pastoral Council sought parishioner feedback on ways to increase engagement in parish life and our mission. It was a year of laying the groundwork to help us **reach out** and **reach across** to even more people.



Last year, I asked each household to focus on stewardship of time by devoting regular time to prayer and presence with God. I hope you and your household have developed some new habits to deepen your relationship with Jesus. **This year, I am asking us all to focus on the stewardship of talent.** With the restrictions of the past few years, the number of active parish ministers decreased for various reasons. This now provides a great opportunity for those of you not yet engaged in parish ministries to bring your talents to the table. Consider whether you are being called to share your gifts with the parish in some area of ministry. Let go of any thought that this invitation is "not really to you." **This invitation is for you to get engaged** as your talents and availability permit. We each have some part in bringing our mission in Christ to life in our community.

An inspiring example of our mission in action was the development of a virtual, grade-level Religious Education Program. Since the Education Building remained unavailable due to COVID restrictions, our new DRE, Elis Guidice, recruited thirteen catechists to record bi-weekly lessons for each grade level. Many parents chose to sit in on these broadcasts and learn along with their children. This generous **stewardship of talent** provided a quality program to engage our children in their ongoing faith formation. You will find more about what was accomplished in another part of this report.

I do ask each household to consider prayerfully the financial investment you can offer to fund our mission and ministries this year. I offer a special word of thanks to you who donate to the parish electronically or via special gifts. All of you who have made monetary offerings by any method kept us stable through the uncertainties of the past two years and **you keep our mission vibrant.** See the letter from the parish Finance Council for their perspective on our current financial situation.

I thank you for taking the time to review the enclosed Annual Report. I thank our Director of Stewardship and Operations, Jennifer Zeisloft, our Accountant, Jane Bandyk, and the parishioners who serve on our parish Finance Council for their dedication and counsel during the past year. We are blessed to have such wise stewards of our resources.

God bless you all. Your faithful stewardship of Saint Francis Xavier continues to make us a community of faith in which all are welcome to come to know and serve the Lord Jesus. May we continue to **reach out and reach across** and live our mission in Christ.

Peace,

J. Bill

Stewardship

Devoting Time in Prayer

Devoting time in prayer is the most powerful way we, as Catholics, can minister to others. The SFX Ministry of Care program serves this purpose in two major ways: **through our dedicated priests and compassionate volunteers.**

Our priests administer the Anointing of the Sick at all hours of the day and night. SFX uses an outside answering service so that parishioners who call for emergencies can be connected to Fr. Bill or Fr. Rich, no matter the time. Fr. Rich shared, *“My cell phone rang, and I thought that it was a clock alarm reminding me that it was time to get up and go to Mass. Then I realized that it was 4:00 AM and it was an emergency call from La Grange Hospital requesting a priest for anointing. I went there immediately, and I met the whole family and we prayed together. After performing the priestly duties, I was surprised and dumbfounded by the appreciation shown to me by the family. Sometime later I was asked to do the funeral service for the deceased father, and his son-in-law sent me this email: ‘Father Rich, we met briefly about a month ago when you were kind enough to administer last rites in the middle of the night for my father-in-law at La Grange Hospital.’ The Parish mission is to be there for those who need us the most.”*



Volunteer parishioners bring the gift of the Eucharist and fellowship to those who are homebound, living in nursing homes, and recovering in the hospital. Their visits help those in need stay connected to SFX and our faith community. **Scott McDonald, our Ministry of Care Coordinator**, shared a story about how this devotion of time in prayer with others brought a deeper spiritual awareness of the impact made through his service. *“I was bringing weekly Communion to a gentleman who was staying at his daughter’s home. He was very ill and soon entered hospice. We became close over several months until his passing. I went to the wake and funeral. I was so surprised*

at the wake when many people turned as I entered, and the daughter said, ‘This is the man I was telling you about.’ The family was so grateful. It was truly a spiritual awakening for me.”

Sharing Talents

For the past five years and more, SFX is blessed to have the expertise of committed parishioners serving as members of our **Buildings and Grounds Committee: Jim Andreoni (architect), Patrick Lach (civil engineer), Keli Dudek (structural engineer), Clay Edwards (commercial construction), and Frank Mungo (not pictured) (heating/cooling).** This committee is a consultative body which assists the Pastor, Facility Manager, and Finance Council in planning for building improvements and repair of our entire campus, including our beautiful church. In the past, their talents were on full display throughout the construction of Unity Hall and renovations of the gym, Joyce Hall, and exterior parking lot renovations. As Frank Mungo notes: *“Each committee member brings an expertise that reflects their talents, which are lovingly accepted by the people of our faith community. It’s an honor to serve St. Francis Xavier Parish!”*



Stewardship

(continued from the previous page)

Looking ahead, **the B&G Committee has recommended the replacement of the second-floor roof of the Education Building during the summer of 2023.** In order to gain the correct pitch to rid problems with standing water, the B&G Committee has also advised replacement of the south-facing windows, on the third floor of the school, with new masonry, before the new roof is constructed. Based on bids received, **SFX is setting aside \$630,000 in cash savings** for this project. Our development efforts will endeavor to raise funds to partially offset the cost of these capital improvements. The talents shared by the B&G Committee keep our parish facilities running smoothly and wisely!

Giving Treasure

A portion of your offertory gift to SFX supported 538 students enrolled in our Religious Education (RE) program last school year, whose families committed to a Catholic foundation for their young ones. Led by Elis Guidice, our Director of Religious Education, we navigated our second school year of COVID-19 disruption by creating purposeful and faith-filled connections between our catechists, our students and our RE families. Some highlights include:

- Sunday Mass participation. A deliberate focus was placed on weekly Mass attendance (in-person or virtual) by all RE families, emphasizing the importance of devoting time in prayer and thanksgiving to God, one of the main tenets of stewardship.
- Parent engagement. The online nature of our School of RE brought some unexpected blessings to our parish families. Parents have always been the primary source of teaching their children about Christ's love, but this instruction took on another dimension last year. Even with 13 volunteers stepping forward to share their talents as grade-level catechists, parents (and maybe even some older siblings!) also became "formal" catechists in their own homes. RE parent and **catechist Lisa Parolin** shared, *"Our family enjoyed the flexibility the on-line religious education program provided and it allowed us to come together as a family to discuss our faith and the concepts being taught. As a catechist and parent, I was reminded of things I was taught in my Catholic school years and also learned some things along the way through my children's lessons. I am extremely grateful for our on-line experience and the important conversations it fostered in our home."*
- Technology. Before our return to an in-person program this year, we invested in technology in the Education Building classrooms that enables our RE catechists to incorporate the new up-to-date Loyola Press digital library in our children's bi-monthly formation. For example, lessons now involve interactive tools and videos, providing a new way to engage the RE students.



The logistical challenges of offering a virtual grade-level RE program last year served as a springboard to offer BOTH online AND in-person classes this year. Not many parishes are offering both options, but we felt that it was important to allow families to have the option to select the program that fit their family best. We have a total of 611 students enrolled this year – an increase of over 10% from last year!

*"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others,
as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms...If anyone serves,
they should do so with the strength God provides,
so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ."*

– 1 Peter 4:10-11

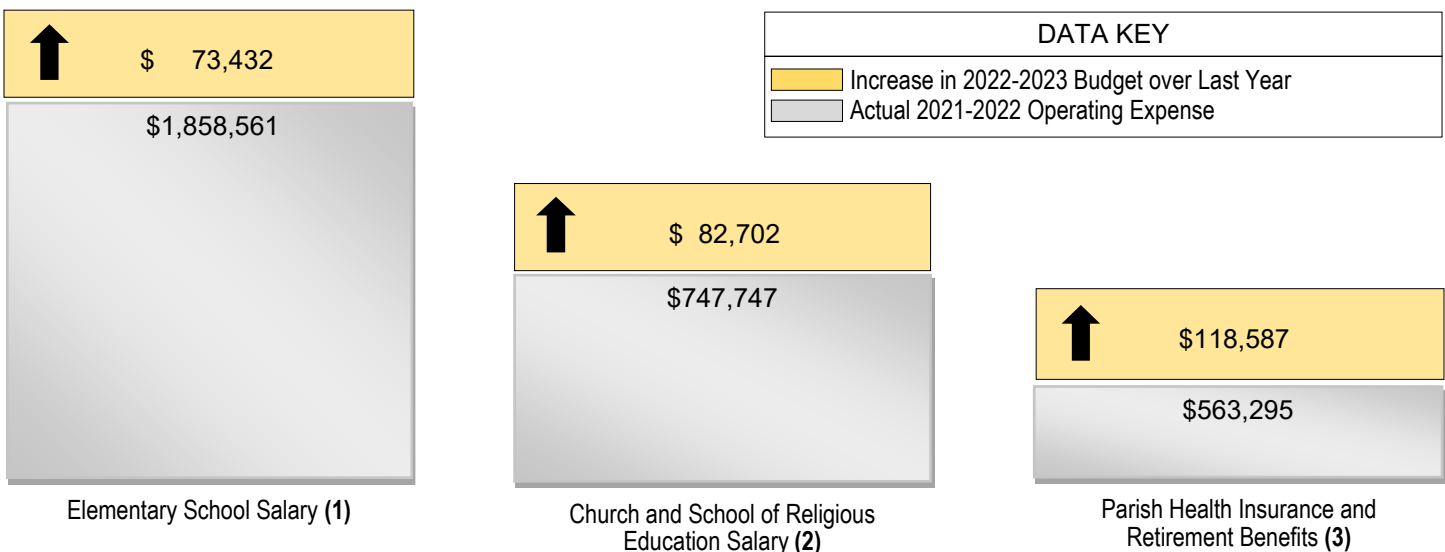
Finance Council Letter

To our Fellow Parishioners,

We have immense gratitude and appreciation for what our church family has been able to accomplish together. Last year, we asked you to support our mission with a 4% offertory increase and **we are happy to report that you helped us meet that goal**. We were able to sustain our commitment to enriching the faith life of those who call St. Francis Xavier home, and plan for a strong and sustainable future for the parish.

As members of the Finance Council, we are charged with mapping out not only how our parish will thrive financially this year, but for years to come. While we give thanks to God for his abundant blessings of increased Mass attendance and offertory giving in comparison to last year, it is prudent that we take a clear and deliberate look at our financial future as a faith community. Areas of focus for the Finance Council include maintaining our high quality elementary school and parish ministries during a time of increasing operational and capital costs. In an effort to address these factors, we realigned our resources and charged Jennifer Zeisloft to devote half of her time towards further developing our Stewardship of Treasure as the Director of Stewardship and Operations. In addition, we hired an outside consultant to help formulate a strategy to ensure there is a deliberate focus on fundraising and long-term financial growth.

While we did meet our offertory goals last year, the operating surplus was largely due to a few large budgeted expenses that were not actualized. As you see in the charts below, **these expenses will be back in the budget this fiscal year as well as an increase in operating expenses associated with inflation**.



(1) Salary raises averaging 4%

(2) Addition of youth minister position and evening rectory receptionists; salary raises

(3) Return of retirement contributions to all benefits-eligible employees after two year suspension of this benefit; 10% health care increase

In order to continue the fullness of our mission, we ask our fellow parishioners to consider a 5% increase in your offertory gift for fiscal year 2023. Our budget for this fiscal year was approved with an operating deficit of \$178,000, after taking into account a 5% offertory increase. The expense increases noted above return our services and employee benefits to pre-COVID levels. Please know that every dollar you contribute to St. Francis Xavier is purposefully and prayerfully used in service of our shared purpose and commitment to growing in a faith community.

While we invite everyone to consider a **5% increase** in giving, we know this might not be possible for all of our parishioners. Please know that no matter the amount, **your gift matters**. Whether you contribute stock, commit to a recurring electronic gift or place a \$5 bill in the offertory basket on Sunday - you are making a difference. All we ask is that you spend some time in prayer and commit to a gift that is meaningful to your family.

With gratitude,

The SFX Finance Council

Mike Bruni, Jennifer Driscoll, Tom Kostal, Rob Metzger, Meredith Ritchie, Jim Owen

Finance Report

During budget preparation, the Finance Council, Operations Director, and Principal strive to present the Pastor with a budget for approval whereby income equals expenses. For the 2022-2023 budget, the Finance Council recommended the use of the \$152,062 surplus from the 2021-2022 year, combined with a 5% offertory increase, to substantially offset the \$178,512 deficit.

	Actual 6/30/2021	Actual 6/30/2022	Budget 6/30/2023	Budget Change
OPERATING CHURCH REVENUE				
Sundays, Holy Days, Christmas & Easter	\$ 1,679,364	\$ 1,743,632	\$ 1,833,000	
Other Operating Income	104,932	59,015	71,250	
Religious Education Tuition, Fees, and Fundraising	99,725	93,785	114,585	
Total Church Revenue	\$ 1,884,021	\$ 1,896,432	\$ 2,018,835	\$ 122,403
OPERATING CHURCH/RECTORY EXPENSES				
Salaries, FICA, Health, Retirement Share, Prof Growth	\$ 766,177	\$ 824,898	\$ 956,522	
Archdiocesan Admin, Priest Retirement	256,736	256,736	232,166	
Occupancy Expense	195,726	236,242	223,995	
Liturgical and Administrative Expense	124,963	126,696	155,581	
School Subsidy (see below)	388,124	152,507	455,424	
Religious Education Expenses	131,824	147,291	173,659	
Total Church/Rectory Expenses	\$ 1,863,550	\$ 1,744,369	\$ 2,197,347	\$ 452,978
NET CHURCH OPERATING EXCESS (DEFICIT)	\$ 20,471	\$ 152,062	\$ (178,512)	

DAY SCHOOL REVENUE				
Tuition, Fees and Misc. Operating Income	\$ 2,318,463	\$ 2,509,566	\$ 2,388,780	
Fundraising	203,457	266,148	274,000	
Total School Revenue	\$ 2,521,920	\$ 2,775,714	\$ 2,662,780	\$ (112,934)
DAY SCHOOL EXPENSES				
Salaries, FICA, Health, Retirement Share, Prof Growth	\$ 2,431,847	\$ 2,422,000	\$ 2,578,627	
Occupancy Expense	244,368	279,956	270,577	
Instructional, Technology, and Other Operating Expense	233,829	226,265	269,000	
Total School Expenses	\$ 2,910,044	\$ 2,928,221	\$ 3,118,204	\$ 189,983
(DEFICIT/SUBSIDY FROM PARISH)	\$ (388,124)	\$ (152,507)	\$ (455,424)	

Financial Summary of this fiscal year compared to last fiscal year:

- Elementary School revenue is budgeted to decrease by \$112,934 this year, with enrollment declining from 449 to 418 students. This decline was the result of the graduation of a large 8th grade class, combined with lower enrollment in the three-year-old preschool class.
- Church and School of Religious Education expenses are budgeted to increase \$150,061 over last year.
- Elementary School expenses are budgeted to increase \$189,983 over last year.

The subsidy of \$152,507 to the Elementary School last fiscal year was the lowest in decades, and mainly the result of higher tuition from enrollment and federal/state funding grants, as well as lower expenses associated with the suspension of certain retirement benefits. The projected subsidy of \$455,424 this year is in line with subsidies prior to 2020. Current tuition for a family with one student (K – 8th grade) is \$6,360.

Operating church revenue is budgeted to increase by \$122,403, with most of that budget relying on a 5% increase in offertory donations from our parishioners. The offertory target of \$1,833,000 approaches our last “normal” operating fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, when offertory totaled \$1,842,411.

Other Financial Information and Statistics

STATEMENT OF CASH POSITION

	<u>6/30/2019</u>	<u>6/30/2020</u>	<u>6/30/2021</u>	<u>6/30/2022</u>	
Unrestricted Funds					
Cash and Savings on Deposit	799,186	944,564	1,758,742	1,460,214	Note 1
Current Cash Liabilities	439,461	471,293	540,551	545,359	
Net Cash Position	<u>\$ 359,725</u>	<u>\$ 473,272</u>	<u>\$ 1,218,191</u>	<u>\$ 914,855</u>	
Restricted Funds					
Building Fund	68,938	69,362	197,301	178,559	
Education Building Roof				630,000	Note 1
Payroll Protection Program (PPP)	-	690,202	-	-	
Capital Campaign Fund	165,822	98,742	-	-	
Parish Endowment Fund	213,172	211,928	277,486	267,155	Note 2
Educational Endowment Fund	777,733	783,427	1,032,065	976,425	Note 2
Restricted Funds on Deposit	<u>\$ 1,225,665</u>	<u>\$ 1,853,660</u>	<u>\$ 1,506,852</u>	<u>\$ 2,052,139</u>	

Note 1: Unrestricted Savings have been reclassified as restricted in order to fund the Education Building Roof project, which will commence in summer 2023. For more details about this project, see this Annual Report under Stewardship of Talent.

Note 2: Decrease is primarily attributable to market losses.

OTHER GIVING

In addition to the Operating Revenue noted in our Finance Report above, SFX received directed donations for the following Outreach ministries:

Annual Catholic Appeal 2022 (Payments through June 2022)	\$ 90,304
SFX Food Pantry Donations from Individuals	63,480
SFX Food Pantry - Donations from Organizations	5,626
St. Agatha Parish	18,690
Other Charitable Organizations (for complete list click here)	<u>70,975</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$249,075</u>

Enrollment Statistics Current Fiscal Year (as of October 2022)

Day School Enrollment
418

Religious Education Enrollment
611

Confirmation Formation
125
(formerly Quest)

Parish Statistics 2021-2022 Fiscal Year

Baptism
70

Confirmations
115

Funerals/Burials
73

First Communions
134

Marriages
63

Newly Registered Families
105

IT'S BACK!

The St. Francis Xavier Parish presents: YULE FLIP PANCAKE BREAKFAST (in Joyce Hall)

Sunday, December 11th - 8 a.m. to Noon (last seating at 11:45 a.m.)

Purchase Tickets for Breakfast time at sfxlg.org

Admission: \$12

Children (12 and under): \$5 - Seniors (65 and older): \$10

**Featuring
Santa's Workshop
(in Gym)**

from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
(more information to come)

**Sponsored by the SFX Catholic
Women's Club and the**



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS®**



SHHHHH, I HEARD SANTA WILL BE THERE!

**Looking For Your Community?
Join ours.**

The **Engage Community** is for middle-age people, 50 and up (single, divorced, widowed or married) to foster Christian community through social and service events.

Potential upcoming events are movies and discussion, game/social nights and group service opportunities.

Volunteers needed with some event planning experience to help launch Engage. If interested, email Amy at sspagetts@aol.com.



GREAT NEWS FOR SFX & CATHOLIC SCHOOLS!

There has been a lot of buzz about a recent Wall Street Journal article on Catholic Schools leading the nation in test scores, while making a difference in students' lives. If you have not had the chance to read it, you can read the article at bit.ly/3UB5BN9



AT SFX WE ARE KEEPING UP OUR BLUE RIBBON ACADEMIC STANDARDS!

We are excited to report that the **Fall iReady scores at St. Francis Xavier School are once again ABOVE the National Board of Education Blue Ribbon eligibility standards for 22-23 School Year in all grade levels in reading and math!** We are proud of our hard-working students, talented faculty & staff along with our dedicated parents for working as a team to keep our achievement standards high! St. Francis Xavier School was awarded our 2nd National Blue Ribbon Award for Excellence in Education in the fall of 2020. Schools are eligible to apply five years after being the recipient of the award.

STUDENT RETENTION RATE AT SFX SCHOOL IS ABOVE THE NORM!

We are PROUD to report that retention at St. Francis Xavier School in grades 1-7 from 21-21 to 22-23 is a **96% retention rate**. This is **ABOVE the Archdiocese of Chicago and National norms**. The average retention rate in schools in communities of similar income level as ours' was 92%. The average retention rate for all school in the Archdiocese is 91%

NEW FAMILY OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR 2023-2024 BEGINS IN DECEMBER!

From Preschool 3 through 8th Grade, St. Francis Xavier School provides students with academic excellence centered in the Catholic values of prayer, learning and service. All grades offer academic excellence firmly rooted in our Catholic faith. Beginning with our youngest students, the St. Francis Xavier Early Childhood Program welcomes children into a safe, consistent, nurturing environment that encourages the social, emotional, physical, and intellectual growth of children at their own rate. The unique personality, needs, abilities and learning style of each child are accepted and appreciated. The teachers work with the parents to make this experience the best for each child.



Would you like to learn more about St. Francis Xavier Parish School? You may request information at bit.ly/3WqkFi1 Please email enrollment@sfxlg.org and our Advancement Director, Mary Tassi, will reply with information on our Blue-Ribbon school, and opportunities for you to take a tour! We can't wait to meet you! The SFX new family enrollment protocol and 2023-2024 school year applications for children from families new to our school will be accepted beginning on December 5th.

Peace,

Principal

At SFX - Everyone has the Chance to Make a Difference!



Religious Education News

Our 2022-2023 RE school year is well underway. Our in person classes are now closed, but there is still time to register for our virtual asynchronous grade level program with lessons being released bi-monthly on Sundays. *This program will close on December 1st 2022.*

Students will receive their own book to take home to work on.

To visit our website for complete information on registration and tuition: [Click Here](#)



We are still looking for catechists, Assistants and Online catechists!

Are you a High School Teen who needs service hours and love to work with children? WE NEED YOU! You don't need training as a teacher, you just need a love for Jesus! Please contact me if you are interested in becoming a Catechist or Catechist assistants for the 2022-2023 school year at eguidice@sfxlg.org.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD LEADERS NEEDED!

Do you want to share the Good News with some of our youngest parishioners?

We are looking for a minimum of 4 adults over the age of 18 to serve as catechists during our 5PM Saturday Masses to share the Sunday Readings and a small activity (which will all be provided) with our parishioners of the ages of 3 - 6.

If we are able to get 4 interested adults, you would only be responsible to lead once a month, and the time commitment is 15-20 minutes during Mass.

Please call Elis Guidice at 708-352-4555 or email at sfxreligious@sfxlg.org if you are interested in joining this beautiful ministry or want to find out more information.

Blood Drive

Turn a new leaf
Fall into giving 

**Tuesday
November**

22

3:00PM – 7:00PM

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, LA GRANGE
LOCAL COUNCIL 6483 BLOOD DRIVE**

St. Francis Catholic Church-Gym, 145 N. Waiola
(Ogden & Waiola) La Grange, IL 60525

Give blood & help us reach our 27-donation target to help supply 87 local hospitals. To make an appt., visit www.versiti.org, call 1-800-7TO-GIVE or scan the QR Code with your smart phone's camera below!



Faith Formation

Educational, formational, and spiritual growth opportunities for all parishioners

Nov 27 is the First Sunday of Advent

Seasonal Advent resources available beginning next weekend!

- Advent table at the back of the church
- Little Blue Books at all church entrances

Upcoming Advent Groups

Wednesdays, 12:30pm: *Blessed is She Women's Group*

Wednesdays, 7pm: *Blessed is She Women's Group*

Wednesdays, 8pm: *Blessed is She 'Moms of Littles' Group* (mothers w kids under 5)

Thursdays, 730pm: *Season of Little Sacraments Women's Group*

Seeking leader for **men's group!** Time and content TBD. Email Maggie for more info.



Registration for Advent groups opens on 11/7 at sfxlg.org
Email mmcmahon@sfxlg.org with questions or to host a group!



Worth the Wait! Prepare your Family & Home for Advent

Thursday, Nov 17
7pm in Unity Hall

Advent is jam-packed with cultural preparations for Christmas. But how are we preparing our homes, our families, in light of faith? **Practicing Advent as a family is FUN and has the potential to be transformative in our homes!** Join us for a practical workshop on how to prepare our hearts and homes for the newborn Jesus Christ.

Email k.f.kanzer@gmail.com to register. Registration preferred, not required!

HELLO

Nametag Sunday!

On the weekend of Nov 19-20, we invite all weekend Mass attendees to grab a nametag upon arrival. Take a few moments to look around at our family in Christ, learn their names, and welcome anyone new!

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine." *Isaiah 43:1*

Parishioners registered in the past year are also invited to pick up their complimentary SFX Christmas ornaments!

Not yet registered? Register after Mass in Unity Hall and grab your ornament right away!

Weekend of Nov 19-20!



Gather for coffee + treats
after 11am Mass in Unity Hall!





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

- **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
- **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
- **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
- **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
- **Sgt. Rob Parisi, U.S. Army 7ATC**—son of Chuck and Kathi Parisi, Brother of Caitlin & Jack and Grandson of Robert J. Lynch
- **Lt. Brendan Short, U.S. Army Airborne**—nephew of Don & Rita Baumgart
- **1st Lieutenant Mitchell Ciszewski, USMC**—son of Bob & Pat Ciszewski
- **Colonel Jessica Nichol, USAF**—daughter-in-law of Tom & Lucile Nichol
- **Capt. Jack Albertini, USMC**—son of Bob & Susan Albertini

**Please inform us of those serving Overseas in the Military...
and please let us know when friends and loved ones
return from their deployment Overseas.
Email the bulletineditor@sfxlg.org.**

St. Francis Xavier Personnel

Pastoral Ministry

Pastor
Associate Pastor
Deacon
Deacon
Pastoral Associate
Director of Community Outreach
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
Mrs. Mary Freeman
Rev. William Killeen
Rev. Ed Barrett
Rev. Stan Ilo

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

Education Ministry

Parish School Principal
Assistant Principal
School Office Coordinator
Parish School Secretary
Advancement Director
Tuition Accounts
Director of Religious Education
Religious Education Administrative Assistant

Sharon Garcia
Janice Carr
Ashley Augustyniak
Peggy Evans
Mary Tassi
Jennifer Zeisloft
Elis Guidice
Cindy Johnson

sgarcia@sfxlg.org
jcarr@sfxlg.org
aagustyniak@sfxlg.org
pevans@sfxlg.org
mtassi@sfxlg.org
jzeisloft@sfxlg.org
eguidice@sfxlg.org
cjohnson@sfxlg.org

Youth Ministry

Coordinator

Jenette Teran

jteran@sfxlg.org

Music Ministry

Director

Allen Sterwalt

asterwalt@sfxlg.org

Parish Office Staff

Director of Stewardship and Operations
Parish Accountant
Pastor's Secretary
Parish Secretary
Staff Secretary
Facilities Manager

Jennifer Zeisloft
Jane Bandyk
Maureen Pipal
Melissa Westerhoff
Debra Soulje
Antonio Franceschi

jzeisloft@sfxlg.org
jbandyk@sfxlg.org
mpipal@sfxlg.org
mwesterhoff@sfxlg.org
dsoulje@sfxlg.org
afranceschi@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.....sfxreligioused@sfxlg.org
Parish Web Sitewww.sfxlg.org

Rectory Hours

Monday-Friday.....8:30am-5:00 pm
Saturday.....9:00 am-12:00 pm

Weekday Masses at St. Francis Xavier Church

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 8:30 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.

Private Prayer at Neighboring Churches

St. Cletus (Monday - Friday).....9:00 am-12:00 pm

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. Donation drop off Mondays 9:00 am-Noon at South door of rectory.

Home or Hospital Visitation & Communion Calls

If you would like a priest or Minister of Care to visit, please contact the Parish Office directly. In the case of hospitalization, specifically request that the hospital contact the parish. Hospitals do not routinely inform churches of admissions due to Privacy Laws.

Infant Baptisms

Please call the Parish Office to schedule your child's baptism or email Missy Westerhoff at sfxinlg@sfxlg.org to schedule a date.

Marriage

Please call the rectory office at the time of your engagement to schedule your wedding. We ask that you are a registered parishioner for 6 months before requesting your wedding date. Saturday wedding times are 1:00 and 3:00 pm. Rehearsals are usually scheduled on Friday evening. We do not schedule weddings during Lent.

Parish Counselor

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

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, BC Shelly, from the Claret Center. He can be reached by phone 704-750-0686 or email bc.shelly.claret@gmail.com.