

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

4th Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2019



Joseph
DO NOT
BE AFRAID
for it is through
the **HOLY SPIRIT**
that this child
has been conceived

You are
to name him
JESUS
because he will
save his people
from their sins

Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday, December 23	8:30 am	Bea Nelligan Fern Michopoulos	Clare & Ernie Froemel Barbara & Richard Hennessey
Tuesday, December 24 Vigil of Christmas	3:00 pm 3:00 pm 5:00 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm Midnight	Mass in Church Alexine Chapel (Tickets Needed) Mass in Church Alexine Chapel Mass in Church Mass in Church	
Wednesday, December 25 Christmas	9:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 pm	Mass in Church Mass in Church Mass in Church	
Thursday, December 26 Saint Stephen, The First Martyr	7:45 am 8:30 am	Word & Communion Service Meejan Elizabeth Wallace Raymond Reiche	The Sullivan Family Maureen Foster & Family
Friday, December 27 Saint John the Apostle and Evangelist	8:30 am	65th Wedding Anniversary Tom & Jackie Morsch	
Saturday, December 28 The Holy Innocents, Martyrs	9:00 am 9:30 am 3:00 pm 4:15 pm 5:00 pm	People of the Parish Sacrament of Reconciliation Wedding~Chloe Creber & Dan Dwyer Sacrament of Reconciliation Bea Nelligan John Kelly Mike Kelly	The Mattucci Family Vince Whelton Jim & Joan Potsch
Sunday, December 29	7:30 am 9:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 pm	People of the Parish Don Schwendner Charles Roche People of the Parish	The Zeiler Family The Rossmillers

Please Pray For...

Jay Carroll
Chili Challenger
Kevin Corrigan
Anthony Dina
Blake Donegan
Pat Eaton
Lily Fielding
Baby Collins Fitzpatrick
Peter Ganzel
Lilli Gregory
Wilson Gregory
Brian Hahn
Patricia Hassler
Linda Hillsman
Rose Ilo
Mary J.
Jane Jacobsen
Theresa Kandall
Anne Kelly
Benny Kilman
Jerry Kolman
Liz Kostek
Lou Ellen Krueger

Marian Lucas
Caroline MacGregor
Emmett Miller
Patrick Morgan
Mike Morrison
Bernice Niemiec
Arnold Oppenheim
Jane O'Reilly
Ryan Patyk
Donna Pekarek
Jim Potsch
James Pridmore
Madison Raupp
Anna Rose
Marilyn Rutkowski
Matthew Schiek
Gretchen Sterwalt
Kate Frugoli Sullivan
Pat Sullivan
John Thoms
Anne Titzer
Michael Ungari
Gregory Van Gorp
Marian Ward
Liz Wilk

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:

Margaret Toland
Sister of Tom Martin

Nancy King
Mother of Michele and
Grandmother of Kevin, Ricky & Annie

Weddings

Chloe Creber & Dan Dwyer
Laura King & James McGuire



His name shall be
EMMANUEL
GOD with US

Pastor's Notes

*“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid.
Mary has conceived a son through the Holy Spirit,
and you are to name him Jesus.”*
Matthew 1:20,21

Joseph receives this message from an angel in the first of three dreams, each of which will disrupt his life, his family, and his livelihood. Matthew tells us that this is how the Christ Child enters our world. This Child disrupts our expectations of what is to be and how it is to be. His conception and birth ask us to do things of which society, and sometimes even religious authorities, will question. The Christ Child sends us to “distant places” or “foreign lands” that open us to new ways of experiencing the diversity of God’s family. And this Child promises to remain with us as we face dangers from without, start anew in unfamiliar surroundings, and worry over those whom we love and who need our care and protection.

St. Francis of Assisi gave us a peaceful, gentle manger scene that reveals the heart of what happened in the world on that first Christmas night. Local shepherds and distant magi come together to meet this Child. Animals lie in peace around the Child, who lies swaddled in their feeding trough and brings a warm glow to a humble stable. Mary and Joseph kneel at his side in prayerful awe and wonder. *All is calm and bright.*

The reality must have been very different. Mary and Joseph were homeless; they were living in a cave that

provided just enough shelter to keep them safe and warm. Mary had just gone through labor after the exertions of a long journey from her homeland; she surely was aided by midwives but was without the comfort of her mother or other female relatives. Days, months, or possibly years separate the arrival of the shepherds and the arrival of the magi. Nonetheless, we can imagine a warm glow from the Child and prayerful awe in Joseph and Mary, trusting that *Emmanuel, God with Us, was with them in that manger* and that God would provide all they would need.

Many hands and hearts are offering their time and talent to prepare for the parish Christmas celebrations this Tuesday and Wednesday. They are preparing the room and the sounds in which we will join shepherds and magi in greeting the Christ Child. This Child is eager to *welcome us as we are* into the warming presence of God with Us. This Child encourages us to *invite others to join us* as we approach his manger bed. This Child *will carry us through* every moment and experience of our lives if we but invite him to accompany us.

Come, let us adore him!

Advent Peace,

J. Bill

Reflection for the 4th Sunday of Advent

Liturgy Planning Group #1

Marge Branecki, Jude Dumfeh, Maureen Lang, Ed & Michelle Mirecki, and Lisa Durham Young

The angel of the Lord told Joseph, “Do not be afraid to take Mary into your home.” Joseph found out his would-be wife, Mary, was already pregnant and so he wished to divorce her quietly. The angel offered him reassurance that the baby was conceived through the Holy Spirit. Joseph obeyed the angel despite most likely experiencing backlash from his family and the community.

We all get afraid from time to time, from kids being afraid of the dark to adults afraid of what the future holds after a loss. No matter how hard we try, we will have to come face to face with fear at some point. Joseph did, and so did Mary. Mary was likely terrified after learning the news that she, a young girl herself, was going to immaculately conceive and raise the child who was to be the Savior of the world. The very thing that sometimes has potential to bring us the greatest joy, at the same time can cause our knees to buckle to the ground with fear.

How do we stare fear in the face and still have the courage to overcome? Is it our willpower, resilience, calm disposition, or our physical strength? All this will fail us at some point. We have been given the answer to fear in the form of a person: Emmanuel, which means “God is with us”. As we journey through Advent to prepare for Christmas, it is important to reflect and remind ourselves of this beautiful reality. In this chaotic world that sometimes seems so full of heartache and fear, God did not leave us on our own to battle it out, and find our way to Him. He came down to our level, through His Son, to walk this journey with us.

Walking with Christ doesn’t mean fear will be forever absent. Mary and Joseph likely had many more fearful moments of their lives with Jesus, after initially saying “yes” to the call of the angel. In the midst of our pain, what we often long for is not that the pain will disappear. We want to know that we are not alone. Jesus comes not to take away all our fears, but to walk with us and remind us that He is in control, no matter the situation or the outcome. God is here with us! Will we invite Him in?

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Mass Times

December 24

Christmas Eve Masses in Church
3:00 pm, 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm

Midnight Mass in Church
Caroling begins at 11:30 am

St. Alexine Chapel
(formerly Motherhouse Chapel)
3:00 pm (Tickets needed) and 5:00 pm

December 25

Christmas Day Masses in Church
9:00 am, 10:30 am and 12:00 Noon

The Giving Tree

Wrapped gifts with gift tags affixed to them, are **due today December 22 before the 12:00 pm Mass**, so that we can deliver them to St. Agatha's who will distribute them to members of their community that afternoon.

We are grateful for your generous support of this annual Christmas tradition sponsored by the QUEST teens of our parish.

If you have any questions, please contact Olivia Zurowski at ozurowski@sfxlg.org or 708-352-0168 x338.



Follow the Parish on Social Media!

Did you know the Parish has Instagram and Facebook accounts? Follow us to stay up to date with SFX happenings, a weekly scripture reflection, and more!



@sfxlg_parish



St. Francis Xavier Parish LaGrange, IL



In observance of the Christmas Holiday, the Rectory will close at 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, December 24 and will reopen on Friday, December 27 at 8:30 am.

Christmas Budget

Our Christmas Budget is \$155,000. Last year, SFX received \$153,017 in Christmas offertory. Please support our parish outreach to the community and the beautiful liturgies celebrated in honor of the birth of Christ! Prayerfully consider your Christmas donation to the parish during this season of giving as we continue His mission.

How to give:

- * Envelopes are included in the Christmas letter you will receive this week.
- * Visit our website www.sfxlg.org to enter your credit card or bank account.
- * Text JOYFUL to (708) 340-6630.

Have a Blessed Christmas!



Religious Education Important Dates & Class Dates

Grade 2 Eucharistic Prep Liturgies
Sunday, January 12 1:30 pm in Church

Reconciliation

Grade 5 January 19 and January 22 during Class

Class Dates

Sunday, December 22	No Class
Wednesday, December 25	No Class
Sunday, December 29	No Class
Wednesday, January 1	No Class
Sunday, January 5	At Home Lesson
Wednesday, January 8	At Home Lesson
Sunday, January 12	Class/8th Grade Retreat
Wednesday, January 15	Class/8th Grade Retreat (4:00 Only)

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Our Saturday evening 5:00 pm Mass offers the opportunity for children in Grades Kindergarten-Fourth to experience hearing and reflecting on the Word of the Lord in a way that is an empowering experience. Children in these grades are invited to follow their Reflector of the Word to a prayer space away from the gathered assembly to hear the Scriptures in words they can understand.

Children's Liturgy of the Word takes place in church whenever the children's choirs lead us in song/prayer AND when a Grade Level Mass is celebrated. The Scriptures we hear will then be taken from the Children's Lectionary and the homily will be given in a way that children are able to relate a little more readily. The children in Grades K thru 4 will go to their prayer space on the Saturdays that the choirs are not singing and when a specific grade is not scheduled to celebrate liturgy at the 5:00 Mass.

Here is the tentative schedule with the children's choirs: January 25; February 29; March 14.

Here is the schedule when a Grade Level Mass is celebrated: February 1 & 8; April 18.

Children in Grades K-4 will be invited to join their Reflector in a prayer space away from the adults and to hear the Word of the Lord in words they can better understand on the following Saturdays (subject to change): January 11 & 18; February 15 & 22; March 7, 21 & 28; and April 28.

You can call 708-352-0168 and direct your calls to: Allen Sterwalt, Director of Music or Terri Simeoni, Coordinator of Religious Education.



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ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL OPEN ENROLLMENT

for 2020-2021

Registration Began **NOV 18th**

Call 708-352-2175 for INFORMATION or a SCHOOL TOUR

PreSchool 3 through 8th Grade - **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

Centered in Catholic values of **PRAYER, LEARNING & SERVICE**

Onsite Before & After School Care for full day students

We Pray, We Learn, We Serve

www.SFXLGO.ORG/SCHOOL

Mark your calendars!

St. Francis Xavier Parish School



OPEN HOUSE

PreSchool-3, Pre-K, Kindergarten, Gr 1 - 8
Under One Roof

10am-12:30pm

JAN
26TH

145 N. Waiola Ave.
LaGrange, IL 60525

LEARN ABOUT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

- Student Guided Tours
- National Blue Ribbon School
- 2019 Winner of Chicago Archdiocese St. Thomas Aquinas Award for Academic Excellence
- Student Community Service Program
- Activities Fair: 22+ Activities & Clubs
- Robot Playground: Student Computer Coding Demos
- Alumni Presentations "Portrait of a SFX Graduate"
- No Cut Athletics

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
(708) 352-2175
SFXLG.ORG/SCHOOL

"Go forth and set the world on fire"

We are honored to share with you, how the SFX parish school students put LOVE into ACTION ...

St. Francis Xavier School's Service Day 2019:



PARENT, FACULTY & STAFF VOLUNTEERS

- Over 200 Parent Volunteers
- Over 50 Faculty and Staff Members

PRESCHOOL 4 – ST. FRANCIS XAVIER FOOD PANTRY

- Made 120 ornaments
- Decorated two trees
- Sorted over 300 food items for the SFX Food Pantry

KINDERGARTEN – BROOKFIELD ZOO

- Spent the morning at Brookfield Zoo, they adopted "Arnetta" a reticulated giraffe. They had a chat about giraffes with the zoo keeper,
- Made giraffe ornaments and decorated their own tree in front of the lions.
- They visited and sang many carols to the animals

GRADE ONE – BETHLEHEM WOODS

- 90 Christmas cards were made for Bethlehem Woods & Interfaith Community Partners
- Sang 12 songs to 50 residents of Bethlehem Woods
- 25 parent volunteers
- 100 Bingo prizes handed out

GRADE TWO – ST. BLASÉ CHURCH

- Made 100 ornaments
- Crafted 40 bookmarks
- Completed 1 lesson (taught entirely in POLISH)
- Learned 10 new words
- An incredible 1750 BOOKS collected, sorted and donated

GRADE THREE – MARILLAC HOUSE

- Students wrapped 54 books to donate to the Marillac House toddler and pre-school classrooms
- Plus, 65 Homebound Elderly Care Kits with homemade Christmas cards)
- 38 Adult Coats, 119 Child Baby Coats, 143 Hats, 27 Scarves, 53 Pairs of Gloves & 1 Pair of Boots

GRADE FOUR with GRADE SEVEN FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

- Raised \$300 in Quarters for FMSC
- Made 150 hygiene gift bags for SFX Food Pantry clients
- Crafted 150 cards for SFX Food Pantry clients
- Packed 165 boxes (enough to make 35,640 meals)
- 97 children will be fed for a year at a cost of \$8553

GRADE FIVE – AMERICAN LEGION HALL

- Assembled 90 care packages containing 1,587 items such as shaving cream, nail clippers, puzzles, books and hats
- Wrote 50 letters to active service men and women
- Honored 50 Veterans and Active Duty Men and Women at a beautiful mass on Veteran's Day on Nov 11th
- Learned facts about military & proper flag etiquette and proper way of folding from a veteran

GRADE SIX – SUBURBANITE BOWL

- SFX students and 71 Seaspar friends bowled together at Suburbanite Bowl
- Gave tons of high fives & Shared many smiles

GRADE 8 – HELPING HANDS

- 16 students, 5 adults, and 25 clients
- 30 ornaments made with countless games of UNO, Minute to Win It and multitude of smiles

GRADE 8 – GREATER CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY

- Unpacked, bagged and distributed
- 1014 lbs of pears
- 1617 lbs of apples
- 1116 lbs of cabbage
- 1200 lbs of peppers
- 1800 lbs of onions
- 1200 lbs of tomatoes
- 33 total volunteers
- 376 people fed

GRADE 8 – BIG SHOULDERS/ST. CONSTANCE SCHOOL

- 30% of students below the poverty line
- Secret Santa shopped with 130 children (pre-k-8th)
- Wrapped 800 Christmas gifts and exchanged countless Christmas wishes

SAFE AND SOBER HOLIDAYS

Did you know that 10-13% of all the people in any community live with the disease of alcoholism or other chemical dependence? This includes 10-13% of our parish community. Each person who lives with a chemically dependent person also has a disease that negatively affects the lives of at least four other persons. 40% of the members of any community, including ours, know someone, or are concerned about someone, or are angry at someone who lives with this progressive and potentially fatal disease.

If you care about someone who has a drinking or other drug problem, I encourage you to get help for yourself. Go to ALANON if you are affected by someone's chemical dependency. Go to FAMILIES ANONYMOUS if you are the relative or friend of a young person with drug or behavioral problems. Go to ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS if you are the adult son or daughter of someone with an alcohol or other drug problem. Get help for yourself before you attempt to intervene in the life of someone who is addicted. This is the best gift you can give to someone who is dependent on alcohol or another drug.

Here are some healthy guidelines for holiday drinking and entertaining.

J. Bill

HOLIDAY DRINKING GUIDELINES

1. Drink only if you can. If you have been told not to drink, or if you take medication that does not mix with alcohol, don't drink.

Just one drink can hurt you.

2. Don't drink more than one drink per hour. If you can drink more than this without feeling any effect, you have a symptom of the disease of alcoholism.

A high tolerance for alcohol is a sign of disease – not a good thing.

3. Don't drink if you "don't drink." Don't take a beverage to avoid hurting your host or hostess.

Not drinking is okay.

4. Alcohol mixes better with the gasoline in a car than with the driver. If you plan on having a "really good time," then plan on not driving.

Drunk drivers can kill people.

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING GUIDELINES

1. Never tell a guest, "Aw, c'mon. One drink won't hurt you. It's Christmas!"

The calendar has no effect on the effects of alcohol.

2. Don't serve more than one drink per hour to any guest. Minimize the time before serving food.

Don't poison your guests.

3. Don't give a guest who "doesn't drink" a hard time. Don't argue when someone says, "No thanks."

Provide non-alcoholic refreshments and let your guests choose.

4. Hot coffee or cold towels only make a person more awake. If a guest is drunk, do not let them drive. Get them a ride or cab or let them sleep it off.

Drunk drivers can kill people.

Surviving the Holidays

Some family situations can make the holidays difficult: there's no money; the kids are at the other parent's house; a loved one has died this past year. These top ten tips for "Surviving the Holidays" can help you exchange the dread, anxiety, or loneliness for a time of inner peace and hope.

- 1. Have realistic expectations.** This year WILL be different; don't try to make it the same as other years.
- 2. Know you can stay home this year.** This year you may feel like staying at home, which is a normal part of grief and healing. But many people will insist—maybe even push—to get you out. Be honest with yourself. If you are overwhelmed and need the security of solace, give yourself permission to stay in. If you go to the party and are ambushed by extreme emotions, give yourself permission to thank the host and leave early.
- 3. Do something special for yourself.** Plan a time close to Christmas day to go to a good movie, do a little window shopping, drop into church for a prayer, or enjoy a special treat. It doesn't have to be lavish. If you'd rather stay home, then rent a favorite movie, cook a favorite meal, and cozy up in a way that comforts you.
- 4. Do something for someone else.** One of the best ways to come out of our misery is to help someone else. Volunteering brings many back to the reality that God is good and there are many things for which to be thankful. Others focus their attention on Christmas presents for the children.
- 5. Keep it simple.** Having a Christmas tree may cheer up some; but for others it will be too depressing. Sending Christmas cards can be very therapeutic; but for some it is a time-consuming and unnecessary expense. Re-examine everything you used to do during the holidays; keep what works and get rid of the rest.
- 6. Keep in touch with the children.** Children crave routine and rituals which give them a sense of security—especially holiday customs. Keep as many of the holiday routines that they best love. Ask what their favorites are and help them focus on the fun.
- 7. Don't celebrate with your ex.** Not unless it's been years, the kids are older, and you really do get along fairly well. It sounds good that you should all be able to get along at the holidays—but it's most often a myth. In most cases it confuses everyone, especially the children.
- 8. Help the children buy a present for their other parent.** Imagine how difficult it would be to get a present for mom or dad without any help. Some things should never change . . . like encouraging kids to love, honor, and respect both parents.
- 9. Draw close to God.** This holiday is about the answer to every person's prayer: God come to us in the flesh. Let Mary's kind eyes fall upon you and Joseph's strong gaze give you hope.
- 10. Go to Christmas Mass and rejoice in your heart.** On Christmas day your emotions may be extremely tender; the tears may flow and the cries of your heart may mix with the strains of "Silent Night." But come. Come as you are. Know that you are loved. Know that there is hope. Know that if you remain open to God through the crosses of life there *will* be resurrection and salvation. *This* is the hope we have in these holidays.

O come, let us adore our God made flesh in Jesus.



*Calling all SFX Parishioners
Looking for a great gift
for someone in our community?*

We have two ideas that might suit you!

The roaring 1920's return to the Theatre of Western Springs, and guests can enjoy drama and intrigue while they are helping to support the parish ministries of St. Francis Xavier Church in LaGrange.

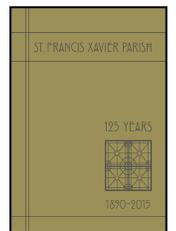
Pre-sales from the theatre's Wednesday, March 4, 2020 performance of "The Great Gatsby" are now on sale for \$25 each! You may recall last year's event, when parishioners had a fabulous evening of theater during the presentation of "Deathtrap". Don't miss the opportunity to join the parish again!

* * * * *

The rectory still has about 30 copies of the 125th Anniversary book available for sale (\$40 each). This commemorative edition contains a history of life at St. Francis Xavier from 1890 to 2015. In its vibrant pages, hundreds of parishioners and parish leaders share their memories and stories of our parish.

The book is organized into three segments:

- * Past, showing our early history
- * Present, with highlights from 1990 to 2015
- * Future, with articles and photos that cover our Capital Campaign and Capital Projects.



The 125th Anniversary Book flourished into existence with parishioners like you in mind. The gift of stewardship from hundreds of SFX parishioners is what makes these pages full of warmth and love. Once these books are gone, we will not be ordering anymore. So stop by (or call) the rectory for your copy!

PS~If you supported the
125th Anniversary Capital Campaign,
YOUR NAME IS PROBABLY IN THE BOOK!

Christmas
Epiphany Concert &
Candlelight Service

St. Francis Xavier Church
124 North Spring Avenue, LaGrange
Saturday, January 4, 2020

HAS BEEN CANCELLED!



Join us at the WELCOME Women's Retreat and see what gifts you will receive.

THE GIFT OF...

"Time to reflect, rest and laugh."
Heather F.

"Silence, solitude and deep lasting friendships."
Pam D.

"The opportunity to re-charge my spirit and to still my mind."
Katie M.



Women's WELCOME Retreat Weekend

Saturday, February 8 - Sunday, February 9, 2020

(begins at 8:30 am on Saturday - ends at 3 pm on Sunday)

Carmelite Spiritual Center

8433 Bailey Road, Darien, IL

Registration is now open and spots are filling up fast. Please visit the SFX Parish website or our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/WelcomeWomenSFX/>) for more details and if you have questions, please contact Pam Devitt at (708) 250-3711.

Please join us for the

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB

Pre-Lent Event



Carnivale

Saturday, February 1, 2020

11:00 am - 3:00 pm

LaGrange Country Club

To purchase event tickets or donate, please visit: PreLentEvent.com

Please register by January 25th



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. 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 Jack & 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**—grandson of Marian, nephew of Rosemary and Sr. Kathleen Lucas,
and Kate & Beau Medlock
- **Deanna Ciaccia, U.S. Navy**—daughter of Julie & Anthony Ciaccia and granddaughter of Harold Held
- **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
- **Joseph Somers, U.S. Navy**—nephew of Maureen & Nick Burriesci
- **Major Meghan Cumpston, U.S. Army**—cousin of Lauren Schultz
- **Sgt. David T. Benson**—son of Linda & Charles Benson
- **Airman Jeffrey Niemiec, USAF**—nephew of Nancy & Harry Devereux
- **1st Lt. Alexander Dale Fisher, USMC**—nephew of Michelle & Bill McKeown and cousin to Elizabeth & Liam
- **Rob Parisi, PV2, U.S. Army 19K**—son of Kathi & Chuck Parisi, Brother of Caitlin & Jack
and Grandson of Robert J. Lynch

**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

Rev. William Tkachuk

wtkachuk@sfxlg.org

Deacon

Mr. Andrew Allison

aallison@sfxlg.org

Retired Weekend Sacramental Minister

Rev. William Killeen

Retired Weekday Sacramental Minister

Rev. Ed Barrett

Weekend Sacramental Minister

Rev. Stan Ilo

Education Ministry

Day School Principal

Mrs. Sharon Garcia

sgarcia@sfxlg.org

Assistant Principal

Mrs. Janice Carr

jcarr@sfxlg.org

Assistant to Day School Principal

Mrs. Mary Hoffman

mhoffman@sfxlg.org

Day School Secretary (Main Campus)

Mrs. Peggy Evans

pevans@sfxlg.org

Advancement Director

Mrs. Mary Tassi

mtassi@sfxlg.org

Tuition Accounts

Mrs. Jennifer Zeisloft

jzeisloft@sfxlg.org

Religious Education Coordinator/Sacrament Prep

Ms. Terri Simeoni

tsimeoni@sfxlg.org

Religious Education Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Cindy Johnson

cjohnson@sfxlg.org

Youth Ministry

Coordinator

Mrs. Olivia Zurowski

ozurowski@sfxlg.org

Music Ministry

Director

Mr. Allen Sterwalt

asterwalt@sfxlg.org

Parish Office Staff

Business Manager

Mrs. Jennifer Zeisloft

jzeisloft@sfxlg.org

Parish Accountant

Ms. Jane Bandyk

jbandyk@sfxlg.org

Pastor's Secretary

Mrs. Maureen Pipal

mpipal@sfxlg.org

Parish Secretary

Mrs. Melissa Westerhoff

mwesterhoff@sfxlg.org

Staff Secretary

Ms. Debra Soulje

dsoulje@sfxlg.org

Facilities Manager

Mr. Frank Roccasalva

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
 Saturday.....9:00 am-5:00 pm
 Sunday.....9:00 am-1:00 pm

Sabbath Liturgy

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 am, 12:00 Noon and
 (6:00 pm September until first weekend of May)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday morning.....After 9:00 am Mass
 Saturday afternoon.....4:15 pm
 The Reconciliation room is located off the walkway behind the
 tabernacle prayer area.

Liturgy Schedule

Monday through Friday8:30 am
 Saturday9:00 am
St. Cletus (Monday - Saturday).....8:00 am
St. John of the Cross (Monday - Saturday).....9:00 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 9:30 to 11:00 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

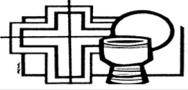
Please call the Parish Office for scheduled 1:30 pm Sunday Baptismal dates. Baptism Preparation Classes: 4th Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm. We encourage participation in this program before the baby's birth or adoption.

Marriage

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

Parish Counselor

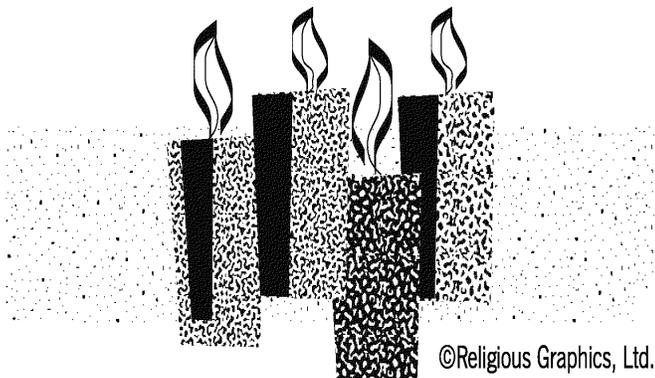
All counseling services are confidential, respectful, understanding, and take place in a safe environment. Counseling and psychotherapy services are available for individuals, couples, and families experiencing difficulty with anxiety, depression, grief, relationship conflicts, work stress or job loss problems, or feelings of being overwhelmed. For further information or to make an appointment, our parish counselor, Patrice Nerone, from the Claret Center can be reached by phone 312-884-9879 or email patricenerone@protonmail.com.



Liturgical Ministers' Schedule—December 28 & 29, 2019

Mass Time	Presider	Lectors/ Commentators	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Cantors	Greeters
5:00 PM	Fr. Tkachuk	H. Fitzpatrick K. Murphy B. Bock	M. Becker T. Conwell C. Cook K. Corrigan J. Denson S. Devitt K. Kanzer C. Witt L. Young	E. Cushing C. Cushing M. Kanzer		S. Devitt
7:30 AM	Fr. Tkachuk	T. Nichol M. Hermesdorf G. Rutkowski	S. Augustyn D. Challender S. Hayes N. Kalkowski D. Walsh	Open Open Open		J. Augustyn
9:00 AM	Fr. Stenzel	P. Zadeik J. O'Connor J. Schaeffer	L. Hill M. Hull G. Prendergast L. Krepps M. Lukanich B. McMahon L. Nichol D. Nighswander B. Olson	D. Janiszewski Open Open		J. Virella
10:30 AM	Fr. Tkachuk	L. Nowak M. Atseff H. Labrador	B. Boyd L. Egan N. Cummings S. Martin P. McGinnis P. O'Malley L. Ovník J. Nowak B. Sorice	S. Parkes Open Open		M. Joscelyn
12:00 PM	Fr. Stenzel	C. Patrzak L. Dillon C. McLaughlin	N. Dekoker A. Chimento L. Donegan B. Edelmann Open	A. Culin Open Open		D. Foss

NO 6:00 PM MASS



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Readings For The Week of December 22, 2019

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66

Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79

Wednesday: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Thursday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22

Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5--2:2/Mt 2:13-18

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/
Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

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