



ST. FRANCIS
XAVIER
ELEMENTARY

Our Mission:

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Elementary School cultivates the full potential of each individual through the pursuit of academic, spiritual, and personal excellence. In union with our families, the Church, and the greater community, we strive to lead and serve as disciples of Jesus Christ in this world and to live as saints for eternity.



Thankful & Blessed

the HEAVENLY TIMES

NOVEMBER
2023
Edition

Saint of the Month: St. Andrew the Apostle

Born: Early 1st Century

Died: Mid-to late 1st Century

Feast Day: November 30th

Patron of: of Fishermen, singers, Scotland, Romania, Russia, Ukraine and Patras

“*St. Andrew, also known as Andrew the Apostle, was a Christian Apostle and the older brother to St. Peter

*Andrew was born in the village of Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee during the early first century. Much like his younger brother, Simon Peter, Andrew was also a fisherman. Andrew's very name means strong and he was known for having good social skills.

*Gospel of John tells a story, stating Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist... Little else is said about Andrew in the Gospels, but it is believed Andrew was one of the closer disciples to Jesus

* Per Christian tradition, Andrew went on to preach the Good News around the shores of the Black Sea and throughout what is now Greece and Turkey.

*Andrew was martyred by crucifixion in Patras. He was bound, rather than nailed, to a cross, as is described in the Acts of Andrew. He was crucified on a cross form known as "crux decussata," which is an X-shaped cross or a "saltire." Today this is commonly referred to as "St. Andrew's Cross." It is believed Andrew requested to be crucified this way, because he deemed himself "unworthy to be crucified on the same type of cross as Jesus."

(Info from <https://www.catholic.org/>)



From the Principal's Desk...

“ALL YOU HOLY MEN AND WOMEN PRAY FOR US!”

“We believe in the Communion of Saints. We proclaim this when we pray the Creed each Sunday at Mass. The Communion of Saints refers to the family of God.

We are all called to be saints. We are all called to live the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ daily in our lives. We are also called to recognize the holiness in others. In this sense the Communion of Saints refers to members of the Church because we have been baptized into Christ. The term also refers to those who have died. Our belief in the Communion of Saints proclaims our belief that death does not separate us from those who have died.

All Saints' Day (Nov. 1) is a holy day of obligation and an opportunity to remember all saints and martyrs, known and unknown, throughout Christian history. Remembering and celebrating our saints has been a Christian tradition since the fourth century.

All Souls' Day (Nov. 2) commemorates all of the faithful departed — our friends, relatives, parishioners and community members. We remember and pray for the souls of the people in purgatory, and we also pray that we may one day join Christ and all of the saints in heaven.”

(from www.teachingcatholickids.com)

Mass times for All Saints' Day for the Spires of Faith Cluster parishes can be found by clicking on the following link...

<https://spiresoffaith.com/news/calendar>

In this month of remembrance, I would like to share the following prayer & invite you to pray with your family for those who have passed. May you all have a blessed November!

“Our merciful Father,

We are connected to each other in your wonderful cloud of witnesses. We have seen glimmers of your glory and know that you love us and desire for us to be united with you. We pray for the loved ones who have died. May their penitence be short, that they may come into the fullness of your grace. Let your light shine upon them. May you grant them eternal rest. Amen.”

(catholicnews.com)

November 23 Events >>>

1st - 10:30 am Mass lead by Mrs. Cassidy's class, EARLY OUT - 2:10 pm, 3:40 - 7:40 pm Parent Teacher Conferences & Book Fair, Siebe Studio School Picture Retake Day- students must bring their original packet of pictures with them to hand in at retake time
2nd - 3:40 - 6:10 pm Parent Teacher Conferences & Book Fair, 3rd Grade Arts Trek field trip in Dubuque, 3:30 pm Choristers Rehearsal at Basilica

3rd - No School for Xavier & Beckman Catholic

3rd - 5th - National Farm Toy Show at Beckman & Rec. Center Click link for more details...

<https://chamber.dyersville.org/events/details/national-farm-toy-show-173?calendarMonth=2023-11-01>

5th - 7:30 am to Noon KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS & CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS breakfast at the KC Hall, Dyersville,

10:30 am - 1 pm SS. Peter & Paul Spaghetti Social in Hennessy Catholic School building, Petersburg

7th - 9:15 am 5th & 6th to Beckman Play

8th - 2:10 pm EARLY OUT

9th - 3:30 pm Choristers Rehearsal-Basilica

10th - 8:30 am Mass lead by Ms. Reed's class, 10 am Veterans Day Assembly ~ Honoring Dyersville Legion Post #137, in the Xavier Gym. All Veterans, parishioners and community members are invited to attend

11th - 5 pm Mass Choristers sing at Basilica

12th - 8 am - Noon St. Francis Xavier Parish breakfast in school auditorium/lunchroom

14th - 1:30 pm Zak Morgan's Artist in residence in the gym

15th - 2:10 pm EARLY OUT, Out of Dress Code (more in Out of Dress Code section), Dinner Club at the Palace

16th - 3:30 pm Choristers Rehearsal at Basilica

17th - 8:30 am Mass lead by 1st gr. class, 10 am 1st gr. trip to Dyersville Food Pantry, Merry & Bright Battery Fundraising Sale starts (ends Dec. 4th... more details in near future)

19th - 10:30 am Mass Choristers sing in Basilica

20th - 24th - NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING BREAK!

27th - 7 pm 2nd gr. First Reconciliation at Basilica

28th - 6:30 pm 6th gr. D.A.R.E graduation in Auditorium

29th - 2:10 pm EARLY OUT

30th - 3:30 pm Choristers Rehearsal at Basilica

A THANKSGIVING MEAL PRAYER

Good and gracious God,
We give you thanks today for the
gift of creation and the gift of life.

We ask you to bless our family
and the meal that brings us
together today.

May this food nourish us,
strengthen us, and sustain us.
We pray in thanksgiving for all
the hands involved in bringing
food to our table.

May this meal and the
conversations we share with our
loved ones

be reminders of your love for us.

We pray for those who do not
have food to eat today.

May we share your love by
serving those in need.

Bless those we love and those
we have yet to meet.

We ask this through Christ, our
Lord. Amen.

(November Family Matters
Newsletter)

Church is not just a building, but also those that fill it. We are all called to love and support one another in this life. We were made for community, and what better way to show our support and love, than by gathering at Mass to share a meal, worship & give thanks for one another and all that has been given to us by God. Our presence at Mass not only strengthens us personally, but as a school family. Below you will find the weekend Mass times for the Spires of Faith cluster parishes. Come join us!

Spires of Faith Weekend Cluster Mass Times

SATURDAY

4:00 pm St. Paul,
Worthington
5:00 pm St. Francis Xavier,
Dyersville
7:00 pm SS. Peter & Paul,
Petersburg

SUNDAY

7:00 am St. Francis Xavier, Dyersville
8:00 am St. Joseph, Earlville
8:30 am St. Francis Xavier, Dyersville
9:00 am St. Paul, Worthington
10:00 am St. Boniface, New Vienna
10:30 am St. Francis Xavier, Dyersville
12:00 pm St. Francis Xavier, Dyersville



<https://spiresoffaith.com/news-events/mass-times>



Knights of Columbus &
Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Breakfast

Sunday November 5th.

Serving From 7:30 AM to Noon

*Pancakes, Sausage, Ham, Scrambled Eggs, Toast,
Sweet Rolls, Milk, Juice and Coffee*

Adults: \$ 10.00

Children 5-10: \$ 5.00 Preschool: Free

**Columbus Club Hall
111 3rd St. NE
Dyersville, IA**

Handicap accessible entrance in the alley on the South side of the building.
Carry Outs available. Groups: Call ahead (563)599-0816

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Xavier School Auditorium, Dyersville

Serving from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

NEW MENU: BUILD YOUR OWN BREAKFAST BOWL

Choose from any or all of the following ingredients to make your

Personalized breakfast: cubed potatoes, scramble eggs,

Ham, sausage, bacon, onion, peppers, cheddar or nacho cheese.

Cinnamon rolls, toast, milk, juice, and coffee



\$12 large bowl, \$10 medium bowl

Children 0 - 4 free \$15 Carryouts



In The Know...

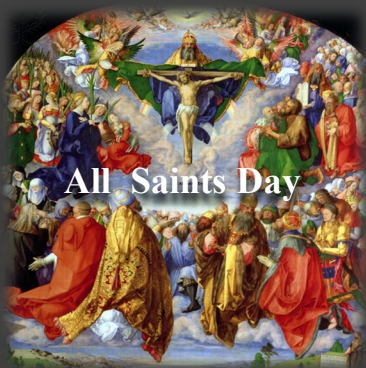


**EVERY WEDNESDAY
EARLY DISMISSAL
2:10 pm**

NOVEMBER Family Matters Newsletter Available

Family Matters Newsletter from the Archdiocese of Dubuque Marriage & Family Life Office is available to read/print. This monthly e-newsletter provides many resources about the Catholic faith, including activities, and ways to live out your faith more fully in your daily lives. Click on the following for access to this amazing resource:

[NOVEMBER Family Matters Newsletter](#)



Nurse's Notes

***St. Francis Xavier Covid regulations-** A child is excluded for 5 days from a positive test or symptom onset. First day of symptoms or positive test date (if asymptotic) as day 0. Child may return to school on day 6 if fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and if symptoms have improved. It is recommended that the child wear a mask from 6-10 days.

*** HOLIDAY TIME-** This time of year, many students and their families will be celebrating various holidays. The celebrations often involve many different foods, and choosing the "right" foods to eat can be a challenge. Parents/guardians can be great role models for their child, choosing healthier food items and limiting ultra-processed and high-sugar foods. The food we eat affects our immune system, which the front-line defense system to help us stay healthy. This is especially important this season, with the expected increase in respiratory viruses such as influenza, RSV, and COVID.

Things to include in your diet:

- Low fat dairy products daily
- Whole grains such as breads and cereals
- Fruits and vegetables daily
- What to reduce:
- Sugary snacks and drinks
- Fruit juices
- Salt
- Transfats-found in shortening and prepackaged baked goods

*** Student Illness-** If your child is complaining of a cough, cold symptoms, sore throat or has a fever, please keep them home until they are symptom free. If they have a fever, they need to be symptom free for 24 hours without the aid of medication.

* Cooler Weather Coming-

As the leaves begin to change, so does the weather. Cooler temps are on the way. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately when they come to school. Students will go outside to play at recess unless it rains, so keeping warm in the cooler temps is important in keeping them healthy.

---Submitted by Jolene Bagge BSN, RN

XSA News

Parent sign up:

Make sure if you haven't had a chance to look over the sign up, please do...there are plenty of things to sign up for...events, fundraisers, room parent (super easy and the XSA already did all the work for you) this is a little reminder that teamwork makes the dream work...we need your help to continue to support the students, school and staff the way we do! So please sign up for all you can!

*Event Sign-up:

If you're kids are in the following grades, please sign up for the events below (or again as much as you can)

--Pre K/K/1st Grade: Markets
--2nd /3rd Grade: Book Fairs
--4th /5th /6th Grade: Can Drives
(kids can help also)

Sign up Link Below

https://signup.com/mobileweb/2.0/vspot.html?groupkey=833481198069#group_page

If you have any questions please reach out to me Emily Snedden or any other committee members at xsa@xavier.pvt.k12.ia.us

**FALL
BACK!**



**November 5th
Daylight SavingsTime
Ends!!
Set Clocks Back 1 hour!!**

Fundraising

Car decal



\$5



Car Decals Available!
available for purchase at the Xavier school office.

Trappist Child Casket Fund

The Xavier 6th graders had a special out of dress code day to raise money for the Child Casket Fund a the Trappist Caskets in Peosta. The Trappists will donate a casket to any family after the loss of a child or infant.

The 6th graders were very generous with their donations and were able to present a check for \$1036 to Father Brendan at the New Melleray Abbey when they visited the Monastery on their Oct. 23rd field trip. This service project is part of the 6th graders learning about the Corporal Work of Mercy -Bury the Dead.

SCRIP News –

RaiseRight (Formerly ShopwithSCRIP)

A HUGE Thank You to all our local businesses that participate in our SCRIP program. We also want to thank those who purchasing SCRIP and shop locally. A reminder that at no additional cost to you, you can purchase SCRIP, which benefits your child's tuition, local businesses, and our Catholic schools. A reminder that SCRIP for GAS and GROCERIES is a great and easy way to do this.

Visit the RaiseRight website by clicking the following link to view all the Retailer Lists that participate in the SCRIP program. Visit Midwest 1 Bank on Hwy 136 or Fidelity Bank in Dyersville for in-stock local SCRIP as well <https://www.raiseright.com/brands>

SPECIAL SCRIP ORDERS: Know that if you want to order Special SCRIP, you must pay for it before it will be ordered. A check needs to be dropped off to Xavier School office. Note that orders will still be placed at 10am on Monday.

RaiseRight Mobile App. - Did you know you can order from your phone? Click the link to learn more <https://www.raiseright.com/>

New to SCRIP or have questions? Call Xavier School at 875-7376 or email us at scrip@xavier.pvt.k12.ia.us and one of our SCRIP Experts can assist you and show you how easy it is to shop with SCRIP. SCRIP works for everyone!

We are always looking for more SCRIP volunteers to assist with this program. We are so blessed and thankful for our volunteers who give of their time to help...we could not do this without them! Please contact Xavier at 875-7376 if you or someone you know is interested in helping.

Out of Dress Code

Last month we collected money for the Clothe the Naked-Angel Tree project (Food Pantry of Dyersville). Our total donation was \$ 425.58.

On November 15th our Out of Dress Code Day will be supporting first grade's Corporal Work of Mercy: Feed the Hungry for the Dyersville Food Pantry. We ask that students please bring non-perishable food/paper donations, drink donations (water, Gatorade, etc.), or a minimum donation of 50¢ to help with this collection. To make the donation/donations more meaningful, you may want to encourage your child to earn money for purchasing items. Thank you in advance for your generosity in helping those in our community who are not as fortunate as us.

Students are reminded to follow the rules for Out of Dress Code days found in the Dress Code rules, which can be found on our school website, under the Parents heading.

Thank you in advance for your generosity in helping this very important cause!

Xavier Cash Raffle

Xavier School is once again selling raffle tickets to raise money for the school's general maintenance fund. Each raffle ticket is \$20, and you can win more than once!! If your name is drawn, it goes right back in! There are weekly drawings of \$50, a monthly drawing of \$100, additional drawings in October (\$250) & April (\$250), and a Catholic Schools week drawing of \$500. Tickets still available in the school office, so get those tickets in for more chances to win. GOOD LUCK!!

OCTOBER RAFFLE WINNERS:

6th - \$50 Mike English
13th - \$50 Jill Murphy
20th - \$50 Lynn Schilling
27th - \$50 Peggy Keegan, \$100 Emily Trumm, \$250 Janet Stelken



Fundraisers

We are no longer collecting Our Family Labels, Prairie Farms Milk Caps, or Box Tops for Education at Xavier School.

We have GREAT fundraising opportunities that **DO** take place throughout the school year such as...

Weekly Cash Raffle - \$20 per ticket

DQ/Happy Joe's Punch Cards - \$15 each

SCRIP

Fast Stop Gas Cards

Dinner Club... just to name a few

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT !!!



november 15