



# St. Francis Xavier Parish

3801 Scott Road, Burbank, CA 91504

December 18, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Advent



*Is there enough space in  
our hearts for  
the Holy Spirit?*

#### **INDOOR MASS SCHEDULE**

Monday-Friday: 8 a.m.

Saturday Vigil: 5 p.m.

Sunday: 8 am, 10 am, 11:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Holy Hour—Friday: 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

#### **CONFESSION & SICK VISITS**

Confession is Saturday 4:00p.m.—4:30p.m. or by appointment. Sick Visits and Confession are also available by calling the Parish Office.

#### **PARISH DIRECTORY**

##### **Parish Office**

Hours: Mon - Fri, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Phone: (818)504-4400

##### **Religious Education**

Phone: (818)504-4411

##### **St. Francis Xavier School**

Phone: (818)504-4422

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[www.sfxburbank.com](http://www.sfxburbank.com)

*Come and grow with us. We are a welcoming and inclusive community of love centered on the Holy Eucharist and helping one another to become a Eucharist to the World.*



*From the Desk of Fr. Sebastian,*

Dear Friends,

Next Sunday is Christmas. Christmas is the most joyful time of the entire year. However, the 'Christmas Joy' did not come to Mary and Joseph easily. They went through a series of trials and tests. Their success was not that they stick with their plans, but they set aside their personal dreams and were open to the plan of God. "Do not be afraid." "Nothing is impossible for God." These statements from the Angel inspired them to replace their dreams with God's.

We have dreams and plans. At times they may not materialize. Unexpected twists can interrupt everything. Sickness, loss of a job and death can shake our faith and spread shadows on our way. When we feel like we reach a dead end, like Joseph and Mary, let us hear the comforting words of the Angel of God: "Do not be afraid. God is with us. He is Emanuel. Nothing is impossible for God."

As soon as she was filled with the Holy Spirit, the fearful Mary became a courageous woman and set out in a haste to help Elizabeth. Openness to the Holy Spirit is the key to joy.

The question is: Is there enough space in our hearts for the Holy Spirit? Do we need to make a sincere and honest examination of conscience as an immediate preparation for the celebration of the nativity of Jesus. I have three points for your consideration, for your examination of conscience. They are faith, family, and fraternity. How do I practice my faith? How do I treat my family members? How do I treat others? The examination of conscience is becoming fruitful by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

This Tuesday, December 20 at 6:30 pm we celebrate our Advent Penance Service. Several priests will be available to help us. Please come. Let this Christmas be different and a life changing experience. Please attend our Christmas Mass with your family and friends. Let us start the New Year with Jesus.....You are also welcome to our Simbang Gabi Mass on Thursday December 22 at 7 pm.

Our Capital Campaign Commitment weekend went so well. My sincere gratitude to the volunteers who helped on the Commitment Sunday. **As of now, we have raised \$ 1,280,000 in pledges.** Thank you so much to everyone who made the pledge. Your generosity and love for our church knows no bounds. Your goodwill will never fail to reach the heart of Jesus. Jesus who noticed the offering of the poor widow will reward you. Thank you. And those who have not yet got a chance to make a sacrificial gift, please do so. Be kindly part of the history.

I welcome all who are visiting our parish this weekend. My prayers and congratulations to those who celebrate birthdays or anniversaries of their weddings. May those who are sick get well and those who are mourning by the loss of a loved one find comfort and hope in Jesus.

May God bless you.

## PARISH NEWS

*December Special Schedule**CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS**December 24<sup>th</sup>: Masses at 5p, 7p & 9p**December 25<sup>th</sup>: Masses at 8a, 10a & 11:30a (NO EVENING MASS)**NEW YEARS EVE**Saturday, December 31**Year End Mass & Benediction at 5p**NEW YEAR'S DAY (Mother of God)**Sunday, January 1: Mass at 8a, 10a, 11:30a & 5p**Happy Holidays**"I pray to Lord to bless you with endless moments of joy and happiness this holiday season."*

*Lets wish a Happy  
Birthday to Fr.  
Sebastian on December  
22nd.*

*Thank you for being such  
a great impact on this  
community and may God  
bless you with many more  
years to come.*



All are invited to  
attend our Simbang  
Gabi Mass on  
Thursday, December 22nd  
at 7 pm

Simbang Gabi is a devotional nine-day  
series of Masses practiced by Filipino  
Catholics and Aglipayans in the  
Philippines in anticipation of Christmas.



*Tuesday, December 20th  
at 6:30p  
Please come and join us!*

PARISH ADVENT  
RECONCILIATION SERVICE

*Holiday Office Closures*

\* December 23rd & 26th  
December 30th & January 2nd



## PARISH NEWS



### A Big Thank You to Our Confirmation Teens and Their Families From the VA Facility in Sepulveda.

Many tee-shirts and socks were donated for Veteran's Day and are greatly appreciated.

We have been told that they are in need of several things for the upcoming months. If you can donate any of the below items please contact Rosie Roope at [rosie.roope@gmail.com](mailto:rosie.roope@gmail.com), or simply leave them in the back of church with a note: "Donation for Veterans from... (your name & contact) - Attn: Rosie Roope"

#### Items needed:

- Manual wheelchairs (used) - they are in need of six wheelchairs, but anything is appreciated.
- Female hygiene items
- Cold weather clothing items (for men and women) during the colder months.

Please pass this information on to any family members and friends to see if they can donate. We plan to deliver any collected items on **Friday, January 13th**.

**Note:** For wheelchair donations, they do provide a receipt of value for tax purposes.

Thank you! Rosie & Dn. Jim Roope



## PEACE & JUSTICE NEWS



### Peace & Justice Food Drive Collection

The food item featured for December is canned soup. We will accept any canned items or items in plastic containers such as peanut butter and jelly, pasta, pasta sauce, canned meat, canned veggies, canned fruit, tuna, rice, macaroni, cheese, cereal, etc.

Please leave your donation in the yellow barrel outside the Church in the breezeway.



## St. Vincent Meals on Wheels

St. Vincent's Meals on Wheels annual Operation Holiday Stocking Campaign has Begun.

This year the sponsors invite you to join in spreading the joy of this campaign by helping them provide 1000 holiday gift bags for our seniors. Many of these clients do not have any family or friends so these gift bags help to bring joy to their holidays and remind them that people do care about them. You can help by saving the calendars, socks and other items you receive in the mail soliciting donations and dropping them off in the blue bin located in the vestibule of the church. If you would like to learn more about the campaign and what other items are needed, please check at the Peace and Justice Christmas Campaign table for more information. Thank you.

## SFX SCHOOL



## SFX After School Christmas Choir

SFX's After School Choir sang at the Town Center Mall. This Christmas performance was wonderful! It was a little cold but very festive. The students sang and danced. Thank you to Mrs. Stewart for putting this together. Thank you to all the families who showed up and supported them.



## DID YOU KNOW?

### The ChildHelp Abuse Hotline is a Valuable Resource

The ChildHelp Abuse Hotline is a valuable resource available nationwide for reporting child abuse. If you have witnessed abuse, or if a child has confided that he or she has been abused, you can reach out to the ChildHelp Abuse Hotline for information on what to do next and where to report what you know. Counselors are available to talk through situations, answer questions, and research additional resources in your area. You can call or text the hotline at 1-800-422-4453, or start a live chat at [childhelphotline.org/](http://childhelphotline.org/).

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

People of St. Francis Xavier

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

Cathryn & Darius Simeon

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Ruben Nunez & Nunez Family

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Josh & Alyssa Claravall

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

Glorioso Family & Sheldon Fried

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

Ronald B. Gonzales & Amparo Santos †

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

People of St. Francis Xavier

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Readings for the week of December 18, 2022

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-6/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24  
 Monday: Jgs 13:2-7,24-25/Lk 1:5-25  
 Tuesday: Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38  
 Wednesday: Sg 2:8-14/Lk 1:39-45  
 Thursday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56  
 Friday: Mal 3:1-4,23-24/Lk 1:57-66  
 Saturday: 2 Sm 7:1-5,8-12,14,16/Lk 1:67-79

## PRAY FOR THE SICK



We pray for our sick parishioners that they may know the healing of Christ: Fely Arenas, Teresita Blazon, Dwayne Cheshire, Colette Craan, John Gonzalez, Lindsey Hargrave, Micah Homayounian, Maria Sampley, Kirk Taylor, Betty Quigg, Lorraine White, Donna Kaiser, Isabella Riera, Samantha MacMartin, Eunice De Sourdis, Maureen Creason, Tom McDonald, Scott Singer, Robert Caplan, Xenia Stresino, Diane Doyle, Sue Speers, Chuck Howell, Ray Landless and Melinda Kenney.

**PARISH TEAM**

**Rev. Sebastian Vettickal, CMI**  
Pastor  
*sebastian.vettickal@sfxburbank.com*

**Rev. Bejoy Vallyil**  
Assisting Priest  
*bejoyvally@gmail.com*

**Deacon Jaime Abrera**  
*deaconjaime@gmail.com*

**Deacon Jim Roope**  
Coordinator of Confirmation  
*deaconjim007@gmail.com*

**Deacon Tony Hobbs**  
*tony.hobbs@rocketmail.com*

**Mrs. Rita Recker**  
Pastoral Associate/Director of  
Parish Administration  
*rita.recker@sfxburbank.com*

**Mrs. Rosie Roope**  
Director of Religious Education  
*rosie.roope@sfxburbank.com*

**Dr. Paul Sullivan**  
School Principal  
*sfxlancers@yahoo.com*

**Mr. Jack Clapper**  
Director of Music  
*jack.clapper@sfxburbank.com*

**Ms. Lissette Rivera**  
Administrative Assistant  
*lissette.rivera@sfxburbank.com*

**Mr. Alberto Linares**  
Maintenance Technician  
*a.lina.helder@sbcglobal.net*

**Bulletin Submissions**  
*rectory@sfxburbank.com*

**Ministries & Groups**

**Adult Faith Formation:** Dn. Tony Hobbs; **Altar Server Training:** Dn. Jim Roope & Herman Buitrago; **Altar Society:** Emie Decena; **Annulments and Convalidation:** Dn. Jaime Abrera; **Baptism Workshop:** Dn. Tony Hobbs; **Bereavement Ministry:** Mary Abrajano & Barbara Bocek; **Confirmation Program:** Dn. Jim Roope; **Coordinator of Liturgy:** Dn. Jaime Abrera; **Cornerstone Music:** Paula Lucero; **Eucharistic Minister Training:** Dn. Jaime Abrera; **Family Life Ministry:** Dn. Jaime Abrera; **Filipino-American Group:** Rene Decena; **Grief Support:** Jose and Nora Hizon; **Knights of Columbus:** Rod Chapman **Lector Training:** Mike Imfeld; **Marriage Preparation:** Mike and Debbie Maddigan; **Minister Scheduling:** Parish Office; **Ministry to the Sick:** Audrey Abrera; **Music Director:** Jack Clapper **Old Tyme Country Faire:** Parish Office; **Parish Finance Council:** Richard Dixon; **Parish Council:** Brad Recker **Parish Hospitality Committee:** Karry Ann Luttge; **Peace & Justice:** Gloria Salas; **Power House:** Jonatan Zamora; **RCIA:** Paula Lucero; **Religious Education Programs:** Rosie Roope; **Sacristan Training:** Jess Obal; **Sandwich Sundays:** Peg Setti; **Usher and Greeters:** Karry Ann Luttge; **VIRTUS Training and Fingerprinting:** Rosie Roope; **Vocation:** Fr. Sebastian; **Wedding Coordinator:** Yvette Rubio;

For more information regarding one of our Ministries, please contact the Parish Office at 818/504-4400.

To make an appointment for Confession or for a Sick Visit, please call the Parish Office at any time.

**St. Francis Xavier is on Social Media! Follow us so you don't miss out on our great events and activities.**

**St.francisxavier—Instagram**

**St. Francis Xavier Burbank—Facebook**

**@LoveSFX—Twitter**

**St. Francis Xavier Elementary Alumni (Burbank) — Facebook**

**Welcome to St. Francis Xavier Parish!**

*We invite you to become a member of our community! Thank you for printing neatly and dropping in the collection basket or bringing to the Parish Office.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Ministry Interest: \_\_\_\_\_





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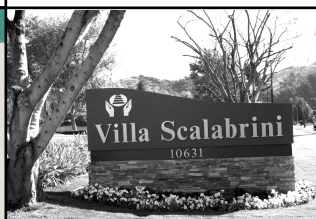
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