

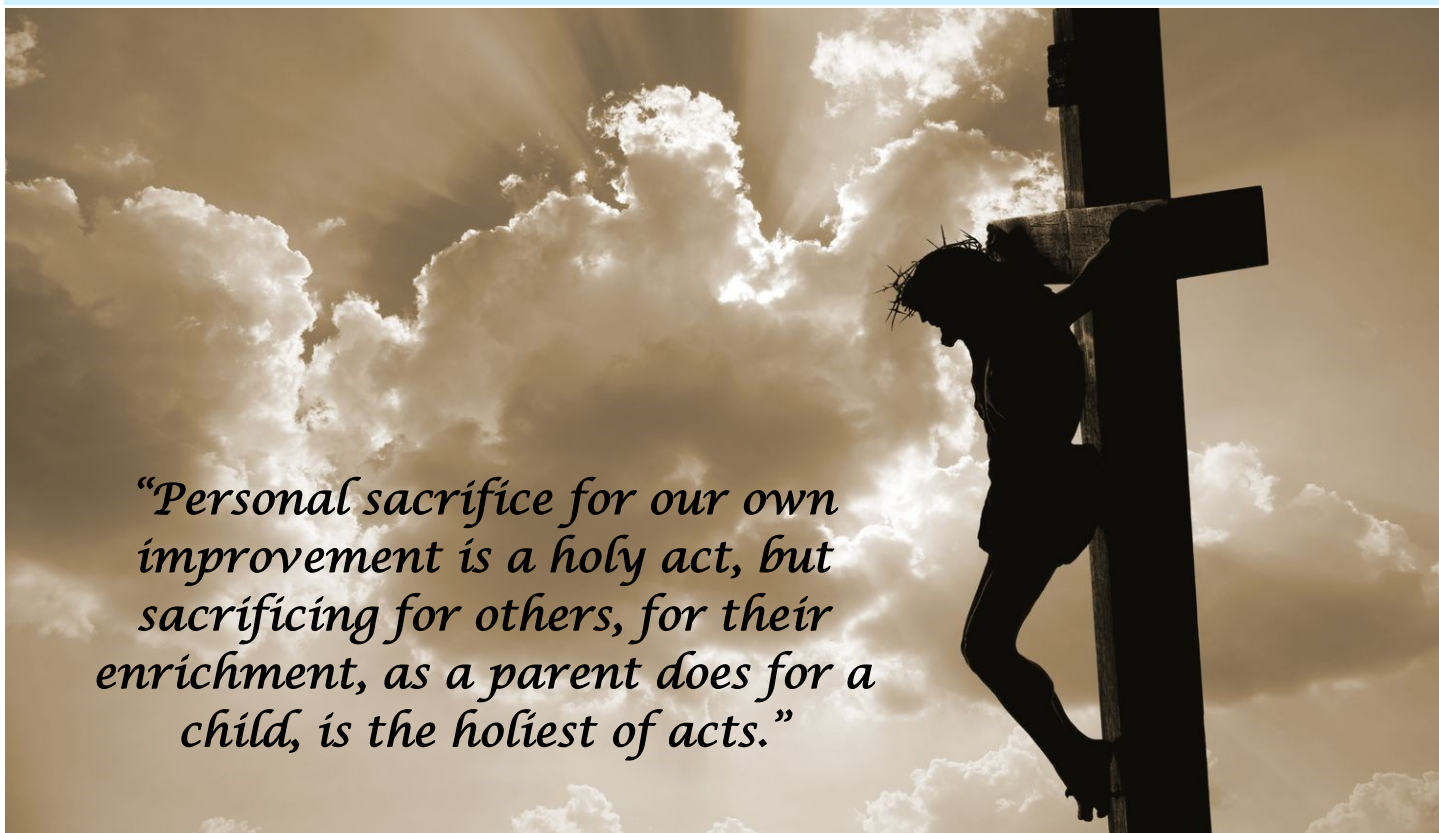


St. Francis Xavier Parish

3801 Scott Road, Burbank, CA 91504

September 3, 2023

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary



“Personal sacrifice for our own improvement is a holy act, but sacrificing for others, for their enrichment, as a parent does for a child, is the holiest of acts.”

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

Saturday 4:00p.m.—4:30p.m

HOUSE BLESSING/SICK VISITS/BAPTISM/

MARRIAGE/FUNERAL

Please call 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

3801 Scott Road, Burbank, CA 91504

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,

A group of people from a different religion came to visit my church when I was working as a missionary priest in the Himalayan region of North India. In those days, the Christian population in North India was significantly low. The visitors were completely shocked to see the crucifix. "Is this your God? Why are you worshipping a defeated God? Come to our Temple! Our Gods are heroes," they commented while leaving the church.

No one desires a life of sacrifice. Even Peter dissuaded Jesus from taking up the cross. Life devoid of sacrifice leads us to empty victories. The way of Jesus is the way of the cross. Jesus made it clear when he said, "Truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a seed; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life will lose it, but whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life...."

No one desires sacrifice but no one reaches greatness without sacrifice. We are the fruits of the sacrifices of our ancestors. Think about the sacrifices of your parents. Similarly, think about the sacrifices of great people. Think about the disciplined life of heroes in sports and games. "Great achievement is usually born of great sacrifice and is never the result of selfishness."

The word sacrifice is made up of two words: sacri and ficio, which means to make holy. When we make sacrifices, we raise ourselves to a higher level; we are bringing ourselves closer to our Creator and we are sanctifying our actions. Sacrifice is a miraculous, holy, and heroic investment in the future and a step towards greatness.

Sacrifice is not about loss but about gain. "Personal sacrifice for our own improvement is a holy act, but sacrificing for others, for their enrichment, as a parent does for a child, is the holiest of acts." We cannot follow Jesus without embracing the virtue of sacrifice. He said, "If anyone wants to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." Sacrifice can be a suffering if we face it without love. Suffering for a noble purpose makes it a sacrifice; a sacrament of grace, something divine and salvific.

Please attend a workshop on prayer this Tuesday, September 5 at 7 pm in the Cabrini Hall. I will discuss about different methods of prayer that bring us closer to God. Also, it is time to register your children for Religious Education and Confirmation programs.

Mau God bless you.

PARISH NEWS



PRAYER POWER TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 5 AT 7 PM

Do you want to Grow Closer to God through Prayer and live joyfully in the midst of storms? Please come on Tuesday September 5 at 7 pm in Cabrini Hall.

Fr. Sebastian will guide us to a deeper prayer experience and teach different methods of prayer that help our inner transformation.

“Real prayer makes a godly man/ woman, and puts within him/her the mind of Christ.”

Baptism Workshop

BAPTISM WORKSHOP

Tuesday, September 12th 7p in the church, is our next Baptism Workshop for parents and godparents.

Those who wish to baptize their child need to attend the class. Since Baptism is a time of renewal for the entire family and since each child is unique and precious, attendance of the baptism workshop is important each time a child in a family is baptized .



Mark your calendars:

The Knights of Columbus and Family Life Ministry will be co-hosting a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, September 24th after the 8 am and 10 am Masses.

All members of the parish are encouraged to attend. There is no charge, but donations of any amount will be greatly appreciated!



SCHOOL NEWS



Last weekend, we celebrated Ms. Sanchez Installation as Principal of St. Francis Xavier School.

Teachers, students, student council members and parents all participated in the installation of our principal at the 10a Sunday Mass. The entire community welcomed Ms. Sanchez and the new school year.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St. Francis Xavier Parish Religious Education Programs REGISTER TODAY - CLASSES BEGIN LATE SEPTEMBER

Please visit our parish website for detailed information on each class including the calendar of meeting dates.

To register online, please go to: www.sfxburbank.com, click "Religious Education" then "Registration Form"

For more information, please contact Mrs. Rosie Roope 818-504-4411.



SUNDAY SCHOOL: Do you have a little one entering Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten in the Fall? (ages 4, 5, 6) St. Francis has a Sunday School program designed just for them which meets during the 10:00 A.M. Mass. Using music, storytelling and crafts this program is designed to nurture young children's natural tendency to seek a relationship with God, reinforcing a strong sense of community and love.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION GRADES 1-5: This program has been designed specifically for children of public or non-Catholic private schools, and presents religious education and sacramental preparation information in a fun and innovative way. Baptized children generally begin their Sacramental Preparation in the first grade, and make the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion in the 2nd grade. However, we enroll children 1st through 5th grade for this program. (If your child is in the 6th grade or above, please contact our religious education office for class information at 818-504-4411). Classes run Sept. through early May on Wednesdays from 3:45-5:00 P.M.



Religious Education For Grades 3,4,5: Catholic education continues past the child's First Communion. There are many more truths and traditions of Catholicism to be learned. Leading 3rd thru 5th graders in making moral choices and exploring an expanding faith through Gospel dramatizations, current events and original stories linked to the Gospel and kids' own lives. Saints' lives and imaginative activities demonstrate applications of the Gospel message, and "think" questions reinforce doctrinal concepts. These classes run from Sept. through mid May and meet on Wednesdays from 3:45 pm. to 5:00 pm.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (For children in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Grade): In addition to your child's regular religious education instruction, this program runs late Sept. thru April during the Sunday 10:00 A.M. Mass and is a great opportunity for children to understand the Sunday Gospel at their own age level. After the opening prayer, the children are dismissed to a classroom in the lower school building. They are provided with colorful activities and handouts that enhance what they hear from their adult leaders about the word of God. The children then return to church to celebrate the Liturgy of the Eucharist with the rest of the parish family. This is a free program and no registration is required.

CONFIRMATION (for high schoolers): Confirmation is the final Sacrament of Initiation that brings your teen into full communion with the church. Led by Dn. Jim Roope and Confirmation Team Members, St. Francis Xavier follows a two-year preparation process for reception of this Sacrament. It is designed to help our young people come to a deeper understanding of how the Holy Spirit works in our lives and in the life of the Church. Boys and girls begin the process anytime in their high school years, although most start as freshmen.



ADULT CONFIRMATION (for adults over 21 years of age): Led by Dn. Tony Hobbs, the Adult Confirmation program is held during Lent 2023. If you attend the required sessions, have been baptized, received first communion and attend Mass weekly, you will be ready to be Confirmed.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN—Led by Ms. Paula Lucero and RCIA Team Members. Are you yourself interested in becoming baptized in the Catholic Church, or completing your sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation? We have an excellent program for you - it is called the RCIA. The St. Francis Xavier parish community invites you meet with members of the RCIA team who welcome your interest and questions regarding the Catholic Church and our parish community.

Initiating Children (ages 7-17) Children's initiation is usually a two-year process by which children become Catholic. Some of the children who participate have not been baptized, and so these children will prepare for Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist. Some of the children who participate have already been baptized in a church other than Catholic and they will prepare for First Eucharist, Penance and Confirmation in the Church. If a child is baptized Catholic, entering 6th grade or above and has not made First Reconciliation and First Eucharist, they also belong in RCIA.



PEACE & JUSTICE NEWS



Peace & Justice Food Drive Collection

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

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

DID YOU KNOW?

How Can We Combat Human Trafficking?

Human trafficking is the forced exploitation of people — it is estimated that 27 million people are enslaved across the world. This can include sweatshop labor, sex work, forced marriage, and more. Every state in the US. has documented instances of human trafficking. Spreading awareness about the immensity and pervasiveness of this problem is the first step in fighting back. Learn about the resources available, such as the National Human Trafficking Hotline (1-888-373-7888) and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article “Human Trafficking Awareness” at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

People of St. Francis Xavier

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Ocampo Family

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Sheila Linch Chillingworth
& Otilia Fernandez †

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Michael Russo & Rosemary Lamberos †

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Caloza Family

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Demetria Paez †

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

People of St. Francis Xavier

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Readings for the week of September 3, 2023

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2-6,8-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27
Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1,3-5,11-13/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6,9-11/Ps 27:1,4,13-14/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10-11/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-6/Lk 5:1-11
Friday: Mi 5:1-4/Ps 13:6/Mt 1:1-16,18-23
Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4,6,8/Lk 6:1-5

PRAY FOR THE SICK



We pray for our sick parishioners that they may know the healing of Christ:

Teresita Blazon, Ray Landless, Tom MacMartin, Matthew Balano and Joanne Figliuzzi.

PARISH TEAM

Rev. Sebastian Vettickal, CMI
Pastor

sebastian.vettickal@sfxburbank.com

Fr. Mathew Kurisummoottil, CMI
Associate Pastor
frmathew@sfxburbank.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
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Mrs. Rosie Roope
Director of Religious Education
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Ms. Samantha Sanchez
School Principal
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Mr. Jack Clapper
Director of Music
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Ms. Lissette Rivera
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Mr. Alberto Linares
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Bulletin Submissions
rectory@sfxburbank.com

Ministries & Groups

Adult Faith Formation: Dn. Tony Hobbs; **Altar Server Training:** Herman Buitrago; **Altar Society:** Ernie 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:** Rosed Flores; **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; **YA (Young Adult) Coordinator:** Isabel Patel;

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.franisxavier—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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