

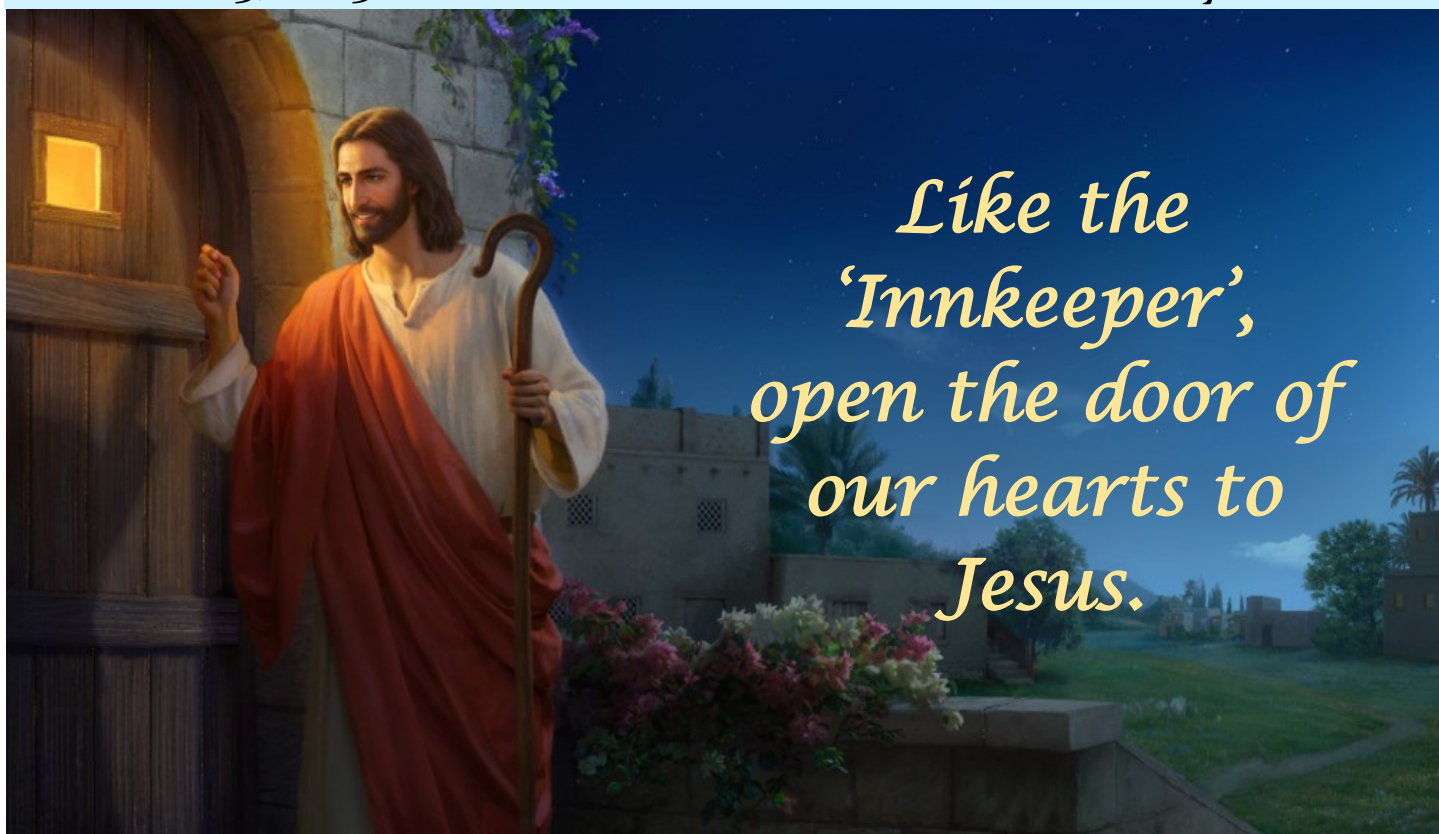


St. Francis Xavier Parish

3801 Scott Road, Burbank, CA 91504

December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent



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

Friday 6:00 p.m. —7 p.m.
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,

On Sunday, December 3rd we begin the Holy Season of Advent. Advent is a time of preparation for the celebration of the Birth of Jesus Christ. It must be more than an Annual Celebration. It is all about making the birth of Jesus a personal event. In other words, it is allowing Jesus to take birth in our hearts.

"Jesus came to the world as light to reveal God to the world" (Luke 2:32). So, if we follow him, then we will not fall in darkness, but we will have the light of life (John 8:12).

Today we need Jesus more than ever before as the cloud of darkness is spreading all over again. Darkness is polluting our minds and scattering confusion. We need the light of Christ. We need his guidance as the seed of violence and war is threatening the very human existence. Jesus is the prince of peace. At his birth, Angel sang: "Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth for people of Goodwill" (Luke 2:14).

We begin the season of Advent by lighting the Advent Wreath. The wreath symbolizes God's unconditional love. The candles symbolize Jesus who is the light. As we light the candles of the wreath one by one, let us fill our hearts with the light of Christ. It is good that every family has an advent wreath and lights it every evening together as a family. The Christmas Tree is also a reminder of our upward journey.

Like the 'Innkeeper', open the door of our hearts to Jesus. To prepare our hearts for Jesus, we have planned several spiritually uplifting programs during this month like the Parish Christmas Tree Lightening on Sunday, December 10 at the 5 pm Mass, the Advent Journey Prayer Service on Friday, December 15 at 6 pm and the Advent Reconciliation Service on Tuesday, December 19th at 6:30 pm. Besides, we have Holy Hour Every Friday, Confessions every Friday at 6 pm and every Sunday at 4 pm and the Holy Mass every day at 8 am. All these are opportunities for grace. All these help us to focus on Jesus who is the reason for the season.

Remember also, the incarnation of Jesus made every human person another meeting place of God. The uniqueness of Christianity is that we can relate to God only through our neighbors. Jesus was born in a manger, not in a palace or any other place of luxury. Jesus is there where people are struggling to celebrate their life with human dignity. Jesus is there where there is a person in need. During this season, let us try to be generous to people who are in need. You can do this through the mission of Peace and Justice too.

Finally, today we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis Xavier, the Patron Saint of our Parish Community. May the words of Jesus "And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?" that inspired St. Francis Xavier motivate us daily.

May God bless you.

PARISH NEWS

Native American Day Celebration Mass

St. Kateri Tekakwitha will be celebrated December 3rd at the 10 a.m. Mass. We will gather in the Cabrini Hall for fellowship. We hope you can come and bring your friends and family. Fr. Henry Sands will be the presider at the Eucharistic Liturgy.



Immaculate Conception Mass

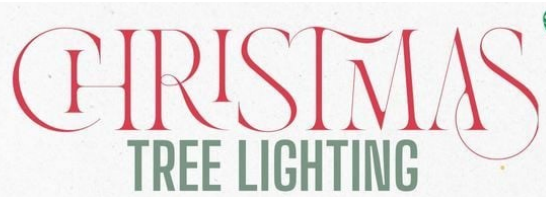
Please join us on December 8th, for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary at 8 a.m. or 7 p.m..

"O Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, You intercede for us with Your Son. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee."

Retirement Fund for Religious

Across the United States, hundreds of religious communities lack financial resources sufficient to meet the retirement and health-care needs of aging members.

Your gift provides vital support for senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests. Thank you for your donations.



COME ONE, COME ALL, to the Parish Family Christmas Tree Lighting!!!

Bring your family's own decoration to contribute to the tree and come join us on Sunday, December 10th after the 5 pm Mass for Christmas Carols, lighting of our Parish Family Christmas Tree, and cookies and hot cocoa together!

Our Christmas Tree will be put up in the breezeway on December 1st and we invite each family to bring a special ornament to adorn our tree sometime between then and December 10th!

(All ornaments can be reclaimed after our celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany on January 7th or, if left it will be used on our trees for years to come.)

Make sure your family is part of our community celebration of the anticipation of the Birth of our Lord, and help us create the prettiest Christmas Tree ever seen in Burbank!

Sponsored by the SFX Family Life Ministry.



PARISH NEWS



Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass

Join us on December 17, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.



JOY (Just Older Youth)

JOY enjoyed a November meeting with a potluck, games and working together on a Christmas service project for Seniors in local Assisted Living Facilities.



Our next breakfast meeting is at Hill St. Café on December 14th at 9:00 am. All seniors are welcome.

Please RSVP to Peg Setti (818) 428-8135 if you plan to attend on Dec. 14th.



Journey to the Manager

Please Join! On Friday, December 15 at 6 pm for a one-hour prayer service in preparation for the celebration of Christmas. It includes scripture readings, reflections, prayers and music.



Advent Penance Service

Friends and family, please join us on December 19th at 6:30p for our Advent Penance Service.

SCHOOL NEWS



Congratulations to Our Jog-A-Thon Winners



DID YOU KNOW?

Garden of Healing for Victim-Survivors of Sexual Abuse

With the continuing support of Archbishop José H. Gomez, the third garden of healing in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles dedicated to victim-survivors of sexual abuse was recently dedicated at Saint Francis de Sales Parish in Sherman Oaks. These gardens are a manifestation of our ongoing care for and support of those impacted by sexual abuse in all its forms. The other two gardens are located at St. Camillus Center for Spiritual Care in Los Angeles. (San Gabriel Pastoral Region) and Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Ventura (Santa Barbara Pastoral Region). The Archdiocese encourages anyone with information regarding sexual abuse to please make a report to law enforcement and/or the Office of Victims Assistance Ministry at (800) 355-2545 or protect@la-archdiocese.org. For more information on the abuse prevention and protection efforts of the Archdiocese, please visit <https://lacatholics.org/protect/>. For more information about the Gardens of Healing, please visit lacatholics.org/healing-gardens.

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

People of St. Francis Xavier

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

Mario & Ruben Morales †

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

Jose & Adela Morales †

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Conception Obal & Inge Brigitte †

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

Emerita Sevilla, Manuel & Alicia Forero †

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

People of St. Francis Xavier

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

People of St. Francis Xavier

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Readings for the week of December 3, 2023

Sunday: Is 63:16-17,19;64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3,15-16,18-19/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37
 Monday: Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11
 Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24
 Wednesday: Is 25:6-10/Mt 15:29-37
 Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21,24-27
 Friday: Gn 3:9-15,20/Ps 98:1-4/Eph 1:3-6,11-12/Lk 1:26-38
 Saturday: Is 30:19-21,23-26/Mt 9:35—10:1,5-8

PRAY FOR THE SICK



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

Teresita Blazon, Ray Landless, Matthew Balano, Joanne Figliuzzi, Teri Kaczmarek, Marissa Socco, Bertha Padilla, Maria Sampley, Richard Fox and Vicky Claussen.

PARISH TEAM

Rev. Sebastian Vettickal, CMI
Pastor

sebastian.vettickal@sfxburbank.com

Fr. Mathew Kurisummoottil, CMI
Associate Pastor
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Deacon Jaime Abrera
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Deacon Jim Roope
Coordinator of Confirmation
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Deacon Tony Hobbs
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Mrs. Rosie Roope
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Ms. Samantha Sanchez
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Mr. Jack Clapper
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Ms. Lissette Rivera
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Mr. Alberto Linares
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Bulletin Submissions
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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:** Dennis Ehling; **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.francixavier—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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