



# St. Francis Xavier Parish

3801 Scott Road, Burbank, CA 91504

December 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

*All are welcome to our  
Christmas Tree lighting!*

*Sunday, December 7th  
at 5pm Mass*



#### 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](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,

Peter told Matt, “Today I read in the newspaper about smoking. It said, ‘Smoking is not good for our health. Therefore, I stopped.’” “Great! Did you really stop smoking?” “No,” he replied with a grin, “I stopped reading the newspaper.”

Last week, we were called to stay alert and ready. This week, on this Second Sunday of Advent, the Church invites us to repentance. John the Baptist cried out in the wilderness: “Repent! Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths.”

What is repentance? It is not just feeling sorry for our mistakes. It is metanoia—a change of mind, a turning around, a new way of seeing. It means turning toward God and allowing Him to transform our hearts from within. Metanoia happens not only through big dramatic conversions but also through small daily choices—choosing patience over irritation, kindness over indifference, honesty over pretense, prayer over distraction. Here are a few simple ways to live this out together:

1. Make time for quiet prayer each day, inviting Jesus into your heart.
2. Choose one habit to change as an act of repentance and preparation.
3. Do one simple act of kindness to bring Christ’s love to someone else.
4. Spend a moment with Scripture each day, letting God’s Word guide your Advent journey.

Moreover, remember: repentance does not have to be gloomy or intimidating. Just like Peter who “stopped reading the newspaper” instead of smoking, sometimes we try the wrong solution first—but God is patient. He always welcomes us back when we turn to Him. This Advent let us open our hearts and bear good fruit for the Lord.

As announced earlier, our Christmas Tree Lighting will take place at the 5 p.m. Mass on Sunday, December 7, and our Advent Journey Prayer Service will be held on Friday, December 12, at 6 p.m. Please plan to attend. These are wonderful opportunities to express our love for Jesus.

May God bless you.

# PARISH NEWS

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR UPCOMING CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS



### Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Monday, December 8  
Masses at 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM



### Advent Journey

Special Prayer Service  
Friday, December 12 – 6:00 PM

### Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Sunday, December 14 – 5:00 PM



### Parish Reconciliation Service

Tuesday, December 16 – 6:30 PM

### Simbang Gabi Mass

Friday, December 19 – 7:00 PM



### Christmas Eve & Day Masses

Wednesday, December 24th — 5:00 PM & 7:00PM  
Thursday, December 25th — 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM  
& 11:30 AM

### Year-End Mass

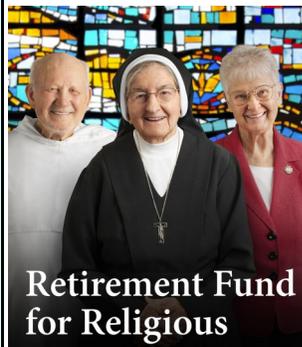
Wednesday, December 31 – 6:00 PM



### Baptism Workshop

Tuesday, December 9th at 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.



### Collection Retirement Fund for Religious — December 14th

Your gift ensures that senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests receive the vital support they need.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

## PARISH NEWS

### *Come to Me Ministry Holiday Events*

*We're excited to host a series of wonderful holiday events and to offer opportunities to connect with fellow members of our SFX Parish and School Community. Check out the attached flyers — there's something for everyone.*

*Happy Holidays!*

*Link-Up:*  
**FAITH IN FOCUS**  
 Women's & Men's Studies  
**of HEAVEN  
 WONDERS  
 and EARTH**

A taste of the ultimate Catholic Sacrament, Eucharist and the view from atop Mount Everest, the highest peak in the Father's creation.  
 With Guest Presenter  
**Deacon Tony**

Men's Studies - Mon. Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm  
 Women's Studies - Wed. Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm  
 St. Francis Xavier Cabrini Hall

Contact: Christina Sanchez, CTMM Coordinator  
 cvsanchez13@gmail.com

*Young Adult  
 White Elephant  
 Christmas  
 Party*

Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>  
 6pm-8pm  
 St. Francis Xavier Holy Cross Hall

Calling all SFX Young Adults!  
 Join us as we celebrate Christmas with a White Elephant gift exchange, dinner, drinks, and great company. Please bring one funny, cute, or delightfully quirky gift (maximum value \$30). Dinner will be served. Kindly RSVP by December 5.

RSVP HERE  RSVP HERE

Contact: Christina Sanchez, CTMM Coordinator  
 cvsanchez13@gmail.com

# FAITH FORMATION & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## Celebrating the Season of Advent

### The Meaning of the Advent Wreath

The **wreath** represents God's eternity.

The first candle, also called the **Prophet's candle (Purple)**, signifies the hope of Jesus' arrival.

The second candle, or the **Bethlehem candle (Purple)**, is a reminder that

God appeared to them in a humble manner.

The third candle, also called the **Shepherd's candle (Rose)**, representing the joy the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that Advent is half over.

**Angel's candle (Purple)** symbolizes peace and the message of good news.

The **light of the candles** reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world that comes into the darkness of our lives.

### Short prayers family members can read together when lighting your advent wreath.

#### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—Hope

*(Light one purple candle – Hope)*

**All Pray:**

God of hope,  
as we light this candle,  
help us trust in your promises.  
Prepare our hearts to welcome Jesus.  
Our Father...  
Amen.



#### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Peace

*(Light two purple candles – Peace)*

**All Pray:**

God of peace,  
as we light this candle,  
help us turn back to you and follow your  
ways.  
Teach us to share your love with others.  
Our Father...  
Amen.



#### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Joy

*(Light two purple candles and one pink – Joy)*

**All Pray:**

God of joy, as we light this candle,  
fill our hearts with happiness and hope.  
Let us rejoice in your love for us.  
Our Father...  
Amen



#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT—Love

*(Light all four candles – Love)*

**All Pray:**

God of love, as we light this candle,  
help us grow closer to you and one  
another. Prepare our hearts for Jesus'  
coming.  
Our Father...  
Amen.



### Christmas Tree Blessing.

Our Christmas Tree points to heaven.

The star reminds us of the star that led the wise men to Jesus.

The Christmas tree is evergreen like God's everlasting love for us.

The lights remind us that Jesus is the "Light of the World".

The gifts remind us of Jesus—a very special gift from God.

All Pray:

Our Father, who gives us trees and all beautiful things,  
thank you for this tree.

Help us to decorate it in excitement and joy in  
anticipation of your Son's coming.

Help us realize how lucky we are to have one another,  
this tree, and You. Amen.



Wishing you and your family a joyful and very blessed Advent season. God Bless, from Religious Education.

## SCHOOL NEWS

### December Dinner Night Fundraiser at Panda Express

Join us for December's Dinner Night Fundraiser! We'll be at Panda Express at the Empire Center (on Victory Pl) on Wednesday, December 10 from 10am-10pm. Whether you go in person, order online, or order in the app, show them this flyer and 20% of the sales will go to our school! We hope to see you there!



Fundraiser for  
**St Francis Xavier School**

20% of event sales will be donated  
We are a Catholic School in Burbank raising funds to help operate our school programs through the year



**When**  
Wednesday, December 10, 2025  
Time: 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM

**Where**  
Panda Express located at:  
1541 N. Victory Pl. Burbank CA 91506  
(818) 841 - 4337

**How to Order**



Online

PandaExpress.com or the App.  
Enter 3844995 in the fundraiser code box



In-Person

Bring paper flyer or show it on your smartphone

Order ahead or on the event day Wednesday, December 10, 2025

Participating fundraiser guests are required to present a valid fundraiser flyer (paper copy or digital image) with each order to receive credit towards the fundraiser. Flyers may not be distributed inside or within the vicinity of the restaurant including, without limitation to, the restaurant parking lot before or during the fundraiser. Panda Restaurant Group, Inc. ("PRG") reserves the right to cancel any and all fundraiser events, if the Neighborhood Fundraiser Terms and Conditions are not followed. If the organization is not in good standing with the IRS, Franchise Tax Board, or the State of California (for California organizations only), then donations may not be made to the organization. You must present your unique code or a copy of this flyer (digital copies are accepted) at the designated date, time, and your Panda Express location at check-out. PRG will donate 20% of all pre-tax purchases made, provided that the organization raises a minimum of \$100 in total event sales pre-tax. PRG does not charge the organization fees related to the event. Purchases of gift cards do not count towards the fundraiser, but purchases made with gift cards will count. No portion of purchase is tax deductible. The donation from PRG to the organization is tax deductible. The organization receiving the donation must be a tax exempt organization. PRG will issue the donation check and provide an accounting statement to the organization within 45 days of the completion of the event. Participants in the fundraiser may request the total dollar amount donated to the organization by emailing [communityprograms@pandaexpress.com](mailto:communityprograms@pandaexpress.com) or by submitting the question at <https://community.pandaexpress.com/faq>

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## DID YOU KNOW?

### Red flags in gift giving

'Tis the season for giving and receiving gifts, but some gifts are inappropriate for children to receive from adults. Talk to your children about appropriate gift giving – who they should give presents to and who they do not need to give to. Discuss when they should accept a present or not. This would be a good time to establish family rules about gift receiving. For example: friends and family may not accept gifts outside of established holidays, like a birthday or Christmas. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article “An embarrassment of riches: establishing a framework for gift giving to kids” at [lacatholics.org/did-you-know](http://lacatholics.org/did-you-know).

## PRAY FOR THE SICK



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

Teresita Blazon, Lulu Landless, Matthew Balano, Maria Sampley, Charin Barone, Israel Garcia, Stacy and George Schumacher, Xenia Renteria, Ric Blazon Nestor Arenas, Herman Buitrago, Susie Warner, Mayra Alas, Linda Munoz, Brian Betton, Mary Estrada, Chris Khoury, Teresita Blazon, Juan Garcia, Benvienido Garcia Manalang, Benny Lolo and Fr. Sebastian Vettickal.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

People of St. Francis Xavier

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

People of St. Francis Xavier

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

Emerita Sevilla & Consolacion D. Garcia †

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Teofilo Marcelo & Rosalie Castillo †

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

Alejo Caloza & Lorraine Couzzi †

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

Robert Roth & Carlos Vargas Sr. †

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

People of St. Francis Xavier

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Readings for the week of December 7, 2025

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17/  
Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

Monday: Gn 3:9-15,20/Ps 98:1-4/Eph 1:3-6,11  
-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19;12:1-6,10/  
Lk 1:26-38 or 1:39-47

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4,9-11/Mt 17:9-13

**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. Rita Recker**  
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 Parish Administration  
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**Mrs. Rosie Roope**  
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**Mrs. Christina Sanchez**  
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**Dr. Fatima Nicdao**  
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**Mr. Jack Clapper**  
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**Ms. Lissette Rivera**  
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**Mr. Alberto Linares**  
 Maintenance Technician  
*a.lina.helder@sbcglobal.net*

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

**Ministries & Groups**

**Altar Server Training:** Herman Buitrago; **Altar Society:** Emie Decena; **Annulments and Convalidation:** Dn. Jaime Abrera; **Baptism Workshop:** Dn. Tony Hobbs; **Bereavement Ministry:** Barbara Bocek & Joanne Armendariz ; **Come to Me Ministry:** Christina Sanchez; **Confirmation Program:** Dn. Jim Roope; **Coordinator of Liturgy:** Dn. Jaime Abrera & Fr. Mathew; **Cornerstone Music:** Paula Lucero; **Eucharistic Minister Training:** Dn. Jaime Abrera; **Family Life Ministry:** Denis Ehling; **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:** Fr. Mathew & 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; **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. Mathew; **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.franisxavier & @sfx.lancers.burbank —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: \_\_\_\_\_



*At St. Francis Xavier*

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