



St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church  
St. John the Baptist Catholic Church  
1st Sunday of Advent~December 1, 2024



<u>Monday</u> <u>12/2</u>	<u>Tuesday 12/3</u> <b>Feast of St. Francis Xavier</b>	<u>Wednesday 12/4</u>	<u>Thursday 12/5</u>	<u>Friday 12/6</u> <b>Feast of St. Nick</b>	<u>Saturday 12/7</u>	<u>Sunday 12/8</u>
 8:15 AM Divine Mercy in Church 4:00 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM SFX Mass 6:15 PM SFX Choir	8:15 AM Divine Mercy in Church 4:00 PM Reconciliation 5:00 PM SFX Mass 6:15 PM SFX Choir	8:15 AM SFX Mass <u>SFX Faith Formation Family Holy Hour:</u> 5:30 PM Grades K-5 6:30 PM Grades 6-10	9:00 AM SJB Mass 6:00 PM SFX BINGO 	8:15 AM SFX Mass 	9:00-11:00 AM SFX Reconciliation 3:00 PM SFX Reconciliation 4:00 PM SFX Mass	7:30 AM SFX Mass  K of C Breakfast with St. Nick follows 9:00 AM SFX Mass  11:00 AM SJB Mass Christmas Bazaar & soup lunch

**Additional Confession Times for Advent**

It is becoming more and more difficult to schedule additional priests for confessions during seasons like Advent and Lent. Therefore, Fr. Maria will be increasing his confession times to better serve us. Here are the December additional times:

**Saturday, December 7, 14, 21, 2024**

**9:00 AM-11:00 AM**

**Confessions are also available at 4:00 PM Tuesdays, and 3:00 PM on Saturday, or by appointment (Kris @ 536-2803)**

**Immaculate Conception—Holy Day of Obligation**

This year, December 8 (the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception falls on the second Sunday of Advent. Because the Sundays of Advent rank higher, the date of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, December 9, 2024 and is now considered a Holy Day of Obligation. To honor the Solemnity we will have the following Mass schedule on Monday, December 9th:



8:15 AM SFX      12:00 PM SJB      6:00 PM SFX

**Friendly Reminder:** When a Sunday and another holy day of obligation occur on two successive days attendance at a single Mass during the span of the two days does NOT fulfill the double obligation. **Two distinct Masses must be attended** within the two 24 hour periods. In other words, attending Mass only on Sunday, December 8 does not fulfill the obligation for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

**SFX BINGO**

Join us on Thursday, December 5, for our next big night of BINGO. The doors open at 5:00 PM and the games begin at 6:00 PM. We will be serving hot turkey on a bun, chips, home made desserts, soda and water. No carry-ins please. We estimate our progressive jackpot to be over \$2,100.00.

**SAVE THE DATE: New Year's Eve BINGO December 31st!!!!!!**

**Mass Intentions— Week of December 2, 2024**

Monday: No Mass

Tuesday 5:00 PM: † Kathy Knaack

By: Tom Tylenda

Wednesday 8:15 AM: † Mary Kufahl

By: Gloria Myers

Thursday (SJB) 9:00 AM: † Diana Latzig

By: Tom Tylenda

Friday: 8:15 AM: † Koss Family

By: Family

Saturday: 4:00 PM: † Roy Drew

By: Family

Sunday: 7:30 AM: † Yvonne Lezotte

By: Barb & Joe Carlson

9:00 AM: † Skip Ott

By: Family

11:00 AM (SJB): People of the parishes



**Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Hours**

Monday 4:00 PM-8:00 PM

Tuesday 5:00 AM-5:00 PM

Wednesday 6:00 AM-8:00 AM & 10:00 AM-9:00 PM

Thursday 12:00 PM-8:00 PM

Friday 5:00 AM-8:00 AM



December 8th marks the 16th Anniversary of our “Little Flower” Eucharistic Adoration Chapel. What a blessing the chapel is —not only to our parish, but the entire community. During this busy time of year come and find rest and quiet in His abiding love.

**K of C 2025 Raffle Calendars**

Purchase your 2025 raffle calendar after Mass, or at the parish office. They sell for only \$20 and you have multiple chances of winning \$25, \$100, and even \$250! These make great Christmas gifts.

† Candles in the Eucharistic Adoration Chapel burn this week for healing and prayers for **Hazel Sexton & Family** and for the repose of the soul of **Sonja Doughty**.

† **St. Vincent de Paul News:** As we begin Advent we are called to “wait” in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives. Wherever you live in our parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they call St. Vincent de Paul. But, in effect, they are calling for all our help. *Your gift to St. Vincent de Paul will help the poor celebrate the grace of God’s love this Christmas.*

† After serving a funeral lunch for the family of **Stevie Tomajcik**, our heartfelt thanks go out to the following people who cooked, served, and cleaned up after the meal: Ron & Phyllis Presl, Helen Sczygelski, Nancy Drew, Jean Perkins, Nadine Grusnick, Debbie Blum, Marlin Kalafice, Kaila Monday, Marcy Barney, Kelly Wheat, Star Blum, Jane Pehlke, Judy Warren, Bonnie Dallman, Jane Savaske, Anne Donner, Joan Tabor, and Lynn Marrier.

† **Christmas Tree Sale:** Thank you to the Brian and Annie Hoffman Family for donating our Christmas trees to sell to parishioners again this year. Please leave your “Free Will” donation in the locked box by the trees, or bring to the school or parish office. The suggested donation is \$40.00. Thank you!

† Attached to the newsletter is our **Christmas Eve Luminary Form**. Please help support our youth events while honoring your loved one at Christmas.

† CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES HAVE CHANGED THIS YEAR: **Christmas Eve SFX 4:00 PM**

**Christmas Day SFX 8:30 AM SJB 10:30 AM**

† Busy weekend? Do you not feel like cooking? Are you looking to spend the day with some fun people? Check out these two great events in our parish cluster:

**K of C Breakfast with St. Nick**

**Sunday, December 8, 2024**

**Serving after both Sunday morning Masses  
Full Breakfast and a visit from St. Nick!**

**St. John’s Christmas Bazaar**

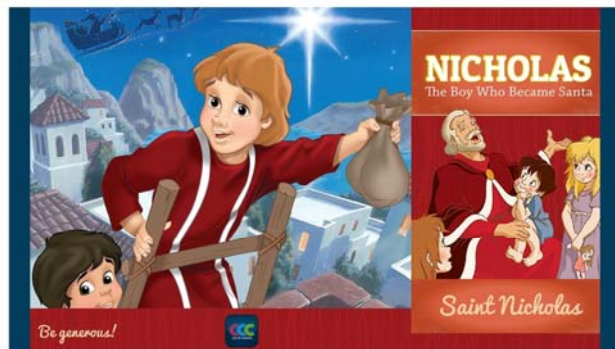
**Sunday, December 8, 2024**

**11:00 AM Mass/ Soup lunch follows  
Raffles, bake sale, silent auction and more!**

**OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD-THANK YOU!**

<u>St. Francis Xavier</u>	Nov 23-24, 2024	Nov 25-26, 2023
Adult Envelopes	\$3766.93	\$4151.00
Loose	\$422.00	\$419.00
ACH giving	\$803.00	\$767.00
Rectory Repairs	<u>\$383.00</u>	<u>\$372.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,374.93</b>	<b>\$5709.00</b>
<u>St. John the Baptist</u>		
Adult Env. & Loose	\$1418.00	\$646.00
SFX Catholic School	\$95.00	\$61.00

**FORMED** THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND. [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)  
It's free!!!!



**Nicholas: The Boy Who Became Santa**

Here is the fascinating story of the boy whose love for others make him one of the most popular figures of all times. Today, more than sixteen centuries later, the entire world celebrates the kindness and generosity of the man we call Santa Claus.

**SCRIP News**

- ⇒ Do you need a small gift for someone this Christmas? Or maybe a stocking stuffer? These places have \$5 or \$10 gift cards, and we have them in stock... Culver’s, Cosmo Theater, First Street Coffee, McDonald’s, Arby’s, Chips, Eagle’s Club, Ku’s, Friendship House, Los Mezcales, Pizza Hut, Subway, and Taco Bell.
- ⇒ Do you know we have SCRIP gift certificates? These make great gifts because the person you give it to can pick out whatever kind of SCRIP they would like. These are available at the parish office.
- ⇒ They last day to purchase SCRIP before Christmas is December 23.

**SFX & SJB Mailing address:** 1708 E. 10th St~Merrill, WI 54452 PH# 715-536-2803 / SCHOOL PH# 715-536-6083

**Website:** [www.stfrancismerrill.org](http://www.stfrancismerrill.org) **Email:** [Kleggett@stfrancismerrill.org](mailto:Kleggett@stfrancismerrill.org)

**Parish office hours:** Monday-Thursday 8:00 AM-4:00 PM & Friday 9:00 AM– 12:00 PM