



CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

A JESUIT APOSTOLATE

West 16th Street, NYC • Phone: 212-627-2100 • Fax: 212-675-6997

Mailing Address: 55 West 15th Street, New York, NY 10011-6801
(Wheelchair Accessible 55 West 15th Street - All Masses are Wheelchair Accessible)
E-Mail Address: StFrancisXavier@sfxavier.org • Website: www.sfxavier.org

First Sunday of Advent



SECOND COLLECTION
to benefit Xavier Mission

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2019

Eucharist Main Church

Saturday: 12:05 pm, 5:00 pm (Vigil)

Sunday Masses: 9:00 am (Family Mass), 11:30 am, 5:00 pm

Weekday Masses: 7:45 am, 12:05 pm

(All Masses are Wheelchair Accessible)

Sacraments

Please call the office for information about
Baptism, Marriages & other needs.

Sick or Hospitalized

Please notify the office of parishioners who are
ill or in the hospital so that they can be included
in our prayers or be visited.

New Parishioners

Welcome! To register, please stop by the office
and fill out a registration form or register online at
www.sfxavier.org

Staff

Rev. Kenneth Boller, S.J. (Pastor) - 204

Rev. John Mulreany, SJ (Associate Pastor) - 206

Cassandra Agredo (Executive Dir. Xavier Mission) — 208

Robert Choiniere (Dir. of Adult Faith Formation)-225

Luz Marina Díaz (Dir. of Religious Education) — 207

Stephanie Fuentes (Assistant to the Pastor) — 222

Moraima Hernandez (Plant Manager) - 201

James Martinez (Assistant for Financial Planning)

Gregory Timmes (Assistant Dir. of Business) - 201

Damely Tineo (Dir. of Business) - 221

Receptionist — 201

John Uehlein (Dir. of Music Ministries) — 202

Pastoral Council

Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe (Chair);

Patrick Egan (Vice Chair); John Karle (Secretary)

Stephen Alfieri; Kathleen Cagnina; Belinda Conway;

Karen DeMasi; Andrea Foley-Murphy Michelle Jung;

Ron Oberdick;

PastoralCouncil@sfxavier.org

Mission Statement



The Church of St. Francis Xavier, a Roman Catholic parish in the Jesuit tradition, strives to be a prophetic, welcoming community, and an inclusive witness to the presence of Christ Jesus in our midst. Mindful of our utter reliance on God, and need for God's grace, we rejoice together in our celebration of the sacraments

and proclamation of the Gospel. As a people of hope, we commit ourselves through prayerful and creative discernment to respond to God in our time by: Being a respectful community Where seekers and their questions are welcomed, Where injustice is challenged, Where the poor, the alienated and the marginalized find a home, And where people are refreshed, reconciled and renewed.

OFFICE HOURS

Weekdays: 10:00 am to 7:00 pm

Saturday: 11:30 am to 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am to 6:00 pm

NOTE: for Bulletin Notices and Space Requests send e-mails to sfuentes@sfxavier.org

Deadline for bulletin copy—all copy should be in the office by 4:00 pm on Monday afternoon.

Confessions are offered

Saturdays from 1:00pm-2:00pm

To make an appointment for
confession please call Parish Office.

Note: You must be a registered parishioner for a minimum of six months before qualifying for a sponsor letter to be verified as a parishioner.

Next Weekend Presider Schedule

Saturday, December 7th

5:00pm Vigil Mass: Rev. Thomas Feely, SJ

Sunday, December 8th

9:00am Mass: Rev. John Mulreany, SJ

11:30am Mass: Rev. John Cecero, SJ

5:00pm Mass: Rev. Kenneth Boller, SJ

PRAYER REQUESTS

Let us especially, remember those
who have asked for our prayers

Jesus Andaluz, Jessica Appel, Stephen Appel,
Crispina Diaz Aquino Robert L. Beauchemin,
Kathleen Friel, James Fox, Juan Garcia, Mary Korba,
Luz Helena Naután, Jim Pypelink, Mathew Levy,
Manny Lopez, Joe Mauer, Ron Miller, Fr Adolfo
Nicolás S.I., Sue Rosansky, Tom Rocha III, Jim Schwab,
Elizabeth Ann Seymour, Raymond and Terri Sharpe,
Ava Sellitti, Anthony Sellitti, Tom Uzzo,
Carl Wassmann

Pray for the peaceful rest of all our beloved
departed parishioners and friends, especially:

Fr. Don Doherty, MM, Dave Edgerley,
Stefania Hurko, William Kawka, Amor Panlasigui,
Altagracia Quezada, Thomas Morris, Felicitas
Tolentino, Simone Vaccaro,
Jason Vermonty (13th Anniversary of death)

We also remember all those who have been killed
or wounded through the violence of war. May all
those who have gone before us share the joys of
eternal life.

All prayer requests are listed for at least three
consecutive weeks. Please contact the parish
office for an extension.

From the Pastor's Desk

I had someone tell me that Christmas is early this year. Of course, the reality is that Thanksgiving was late but the other reality the person was responding to is that the window of preparation between the two major feasts seems more rushed than usual. We have arrived at the First Sunday of Advent and begun our spiritual and liturgical preparation for Christmas, the celebration of Emmanuel, God Dwelling Among Us.

The new Church year, like January first, is a time to look back in an Examen of Conscientious and look ahead to the blessings and challenges of the new year.

Looking back, the lifting of the statute of limitations on crimes of sexual abuse has brought renewed focus on the pain of the victims, the scandalous breach of trust on behalf of abusers and their supervisors, especially in the Church. We will experience a reprise of the New York experience in a couple of weeks when New Jersey follows suit. How have we personally and as a community responded to the needs of the victims for healing and reconciliation?

On the national and international scene, we have seen more hostility and government action against immigrants including a Supreme Court case against DACA recipients. We have seen divisiveness in our government leading to the impeachment proceedings going on at the moment. Around the world, there is civil unrest as people assert their rights in the face of government oppression.

As we look back, how have we responded with compassion? Have we taken whatever appropriate actions are available to us in making our concerns known?

In some ways, of course, we have. This weekend the Xavier Mission fed hundreds of homeless people and distributed thousands of pounds of food to the needy. Our different ministries strive to raise our awareness and offer opportunities for action. As the new Church year begins, perhaps we can resolve to be more engaged with them. Our book study group continues to explore the roots of racism in our lives and ways in which we can become anti-racist.

As we look back as a community of faith, we can see a glass that is more than half full but the call of the Gospel is a restless call. We can never rest on our laurels. The readings throughout the Advent season remind us of the heightened expectation of the fulfillment of God's promise of redemption. The gift of Emmanuel, God Dwelling Among Us, is the wonder of the Incarnation which empowers us to continue the work of reconciliation and healing in our world.

Let us use this season to prepare our minds, hearts and souls to recognize the face of Christ in the outcast, the marginalized and the persons in need of healing.

Ken Boller, S.J.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, IS WORLD AIDS DAY. THERE WILL BE BASKETS IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH COLLECTING MONEY FOR THE VICTIMS OF AIDS. PLEASE BE GENEROUS.

Catholic Lesbians & Friends—All Are Welcome!



17TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS WRAPPING PARTY

Friday, December 13th
6:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. Hurtado Hall

200 kids, 33 days--you have the opportunity to bring Christmas cheer to children from Picture the Homeless, Community Voices Heard, Life Experience & Faith Sharing, and STEPS to End Family Violence. Contact SFXWrap@gmail.com or (929) 333-5011 for one, two or three names, and bring your brand-new unwrapped gifts to the wrapping party.

Mark your calendar for the
PEACE AND JUSTICE FAIR TRADE HOLIDAY SALE
Saturday, December 7th & Sunday, December 8th

*After all Masses
In the back of the church*

*Coffees, Teas and Chocolates from Equal Exchange and
gifts from fair trade women's groups.*

Please support us as we work to build long-term trade partnerships that are economically just and environmentally sound while empowering workers with every purchase!

Proceeds from the sale will benefit the Sisters of Charity, the Peace and Justice Venezuela relief efforts and LifeWay Network, one of only two organizations in the NY Metro area providing safe housing for women survivors of human trafficking.

**NOTE: ALL SALES
WILL BE CASH OR CHECK ONLY**

A XAVIER ADVENT RETREAT

LIGHT AN ADVENT CANDLE



Join an Advent retreat at Xavier with daily reflections for Advent and Christmas created by Ron Rolheiser, OMI. Read, reflect and share your prayer experience at 3 Sunday gatherings.

**December 1, 8, 15 2019 at 1:30pm
in the Mary Chapel.**

For more information and to register, please contact Gerry Moss at gerrymoss@gmail.com or Marie Bannister at mariebannister1@gmail.com or call 917 301 2426.

*Sponsored by ISEL
(Ignatian Spirituality in Everyday Life)*

Could you give a gift of a sturdy nightie to those women left behind during the holidays? Your present will be wrapped for one of the 80 homeless, mentally ill women, sheltered on the 4th floor of the Park Avenue Armory. This year, on **December 14th**, we hope to bring them song, joy and a few gifts, especially what the ladies need most, sturdy nighties. All sizes are welcome from XXL – M.

You can drop off your gift for the homeless women at the 55 W 15 St entrance. **LEAVE YOUR DONATION WITH THE FRONT DESK.** We'll wrap them for you. Thank you again for your great generosity. If you have a question, contact jeprendergast@gmail.com

PLEASE JOIN XAVIER SOCIETY FOR OUR ANNUAL ST. LUCY MASS

*Along with our clients, friends, and supporters,
please join us as we celebrate the feast day of
St. Lucy, patron saint of the blind.*

For more information please contact Aisling Redican at aisling@xaviersocietyfortheblind.org or 212-502-7607



GIVING TUESDAY RAFFLE – A WEEK IN THE HAMPTONS!!

Giving Tuesday – the Tuesday following Thanksgiving (12/03) – is the largest single charitable giving day of the year. On this global day of giving, join members of the Xavier Mission community by supporting our programs that welcome, serve, and empower people in need.

This year, for each donation of \$100 made **ON GIVING TUESDAY**, you will be entered to win a 7-day stay* at a beautiful 4 bedroom, 3.5 bathroom home near the beach in Southampton, NY! If you donate \$50, your name will be entered once, if you donate \$100, your name will be entered twice, and so on...

****Only donations made between 12:00am and 11:59pm on Tuesday, December 3 at xaviermission.org/donate are eligible for entry into the raffle.****

Donations must be in increments of \$100 to be entered (for example, a \$100 donation will receive 1 entry, a \$150 donation will receive 1 entry, and a \$200 donation will receive 2 entries).

Make an impact with your gift today!

*Certain blackout dates will apply, winner will be put in touch with owner to arrange the stay.

**Staff and Board members of Xavier Mission and their spouses/partners are not eligible to take part in this raffle.

GIVING TREES ARE UP!

The Giving Trees are up! Each tag on the trees lists an item that is often requested and much needed by our clothing room guests in the winter, most of whom live on the streets.

Please take a tag (or two or three) and bring back the warm items to be distributed. Our guests depend on us to stay warm throughout the cold months. We are grateful for your support!

THANKSGIVING THANK YOUS!!!

A HUGE thank you to the following people for their contributions to our Thanksgiving Festivities! We served more than 4,000 total meals to families and individuals in need!

Christina Bowman, Beverly Torres, Ray Perez, Dawn Besthoff, Danny Tore, Jennie Tichenor, Michael Costello, Mark Kiley, Hannah Brown, Kian Jones, Jackie Ong, Diana Bernal, and The Kitchen Crew and Volunteer Teams!

Thank you also to all of our donors! Without their generosity, this meal would not have been possible!

A special thank you to Greg Stelzer & Xavier High School for collecting 9,000+ items of food; Jennie Tichenor, Carrie Meconis, and the NYU Administrative Management Council for collecting 2400+ items of food; and Brittany Aubin and 2U Days of Service for collecting \$750, all for our Thanksgiving Food Pantry baskets!

HOLIDAY CARD SALE TO BENEFIT HONDURAS PROJECT

The Honduras Companion Communities Project will again offer a selection of holiday cards for sale after all the masses during the weekends of December 8, 15 and 22. The cards provide a way for you to remember friends and loved ones while contributing to the local community projects in Honduras which Xavier parishioners have supported for the last 20 years. This is our major fund raising event for maintaining our scholarship programs managed by local community groups in Honduras. This has been another turbulent year in Honduras, with months of protests and popular demonstrations against the corrupt government which have often disrupted the school year and have resulted in many injuries and some deaths.

Again this year, our cards consist of artwork created by children who have lived in Casa Corazon, a home in Honduras operated by the Sisters of Mercy for orphaned children who are HIV+. Aside from printing expenses, all proceeds from the sale go to continuing the scholarships we have been providing for secondary school students in the hope that education will lead to satisfactory employment opportunities which will allow these students to remain in their country and work to bring about positive change.

As always, thank you for your support !

#GIVING
TUESDAY

Giving Tuesday has become a national day of awareness on the need to give back and support your favorite charities.

For a list of participating organizations and to see how you can make an impact visit:

givingtuesday.org

We hope you will consider Xavier among your gifts. To donate to Xavier visit faith.direct/NY406.

Thank you for generosity!

LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday, December 15th at 7pm

Come celebrate the Christmas season with the Parish community for an evening of contemporary readings and traditional carols.

The Choir, the Bell Choir, the Family Faith Choir, the Xavier Players and Schola, the Xavier Dancers and the Lectors all participate featuring music by Franz Joseph Haydn, Joseph Haydn, Joseph Powell, Ola Gjelo, Tchaikovsky and more. The Xavier Dancers and music ministry will present an eclectic blend from World Music to Gospel to Classical, including many of our favorite Christmas Carols. Our amazing lectors will be gracing us with readings encompassing verse, prose, scripture and narrative. And don't forget the Christmas Cookie reception afterwards!

Christmas Cookie Reception to follow!

Can You Bake Cookies ?



Bakers sought for our annual *Lessons and Carols* program on **Dec. 15th at 7PM**. Wonderful contemporary readings with many of your favorite Christmas carols will be represented. Wouldn't you like your cookies to be eaten along side of these great readings and carols? We are looking for 30 individuals to commit to baking 2 dozen cookies (or other baked goods). If you think you can help out, please email John Uehlein in the parish office at juehlein@sfxavier.org or if you don't have email, call John at 646-573-0099. Start softening up the butter!!!!

*(PS: leftovers will go to the
Ned Coughlin Homeless Shelter.)*

Scriptures & Announced Masses

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Is 2:1-5;
Rom 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44.

FIRST MONDAY OF ADVENT: Is 4:2-6;
Matthew 8: 5-11.

7:45AM SR. MARY EMMANUEL (L)
12:05PM JESSIE MAJOR (D)

TUESDAY~FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER:
Is 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24.

7:45AM LEO & ANTOINETTE BUONGIORNO (D)
12:05PM CRAIG DECOTE (D)

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF ADVENT: Is 25:6-10A;
Matthew 15:29-37.

7:45AM SR. MARY EMMANUEL (L)
12:05PM MARGUERITE BRASSEL HEITHAUS (D)

FIRST THURSDAY OF ADVENT: Is 26:1-6;
Matthew 7:21, 24-27.

7:45AM SR. MARY EMMANUEL (L)
12:05PM FRANCISCO ORTIZ ROMAN (D)

FIRST FRIDAY OF ADVENT: Is 29:17-24;
Matthew 9:27--31.

7:45AM JAMES E. GORRA (D)
12:05PM HELEN DREXLER (D)

**SATURDAY~ MEMORIAL OF SAINT
AMBROSE, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE
CHURCH:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35-10:1,
5A, 6-8.

12:05PM LUIS MALONZO (D)

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Is 11:1-10;
Rom 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12.

YOU MAY RESERVE AN AVAILABLE MASS FOR YOUR
INTENTIONS BY CONTACTING THE PARISH OFFICE AT
212-627-2100.

Ongoing Parish Happenings

ABILITY XAVIER: Celebrating persons with
disabilities. Contact abilityxaviernewyork@gmail.com

CATHOLIC LESBIANS: Ministry since 1993, meets 2nd
Friday of each month, 6 p.m., West Room (offsite July &
August), SFXWomen@aol.com (929) 333-5011.

EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT GROUP:
Contact Katherine Cleary, krcoff5th@netzero.com

THE ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY: promotes care
for all of God's creation, and follows the message of
Laudato Si. For more information refer to the link on
the parish website under Outreach Programs or contact:
SFXEnvironmentMinistry@gmail.com

FAMILY FAITH: Catechetical ministry for parents/
guardians and children pre-K through 12th grade. Meets
Sundays 10:00am, Mary Chapel. Contact Luz, LMDiaz@sfxavier.org

GAY CATHOLICS: Men meet in a caring and affirming
environment on the first and third Fridays, 7pm Mary
Chapel. Contact sfxgcgroup@gmail.com

INTERFAITH COMMITTEE: works toward ending
religious discrimination and persecution, through prayer,
education and other activities. Contact
Xavierinterfaith@gmail.com

LITURGICAL COMMITTEES: See website or
Contact Luz, LMDiaz@sfxavier.org

HOLY COMMUNION MINISTRY FOR THE SICK
AND HOMEBOUND: To arrange visits or to become a
Eucharistic Minister to the Sick and Homebound, please
contact Nick Grimaldi at nlgny@gmail.com. To arrange for
the Sacraments of Reconciliation and/or Anointing of the
Sick, please call the parish office.

PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE:
Examines root causes of injustice and works towards a
more just and sustainable world. Contact Tracey Tynan at
xavierpeaceandjustice@gmail.com.

SPIRITUAL MINISTRIES: Offers spiritual programs,
including spiritual direction. Contact Marie Bannister,
mariebannister1@gmail.com or Gerry Moss,
gerrymoss@gmail.com

THE WOMEN WHO STAYED: nurtures, empowers, calls
forth and celebrates the emotional, intellectual and spiritual
growth of women and men at SFX. For more information:
TheWomenWhoStayed@gmail.com

XAVIER ADULT GROUP: Once a month we have
informative meetings or attend interesting events around
the city. Contact xaviersharingandlearninggroup@gmail.com

THE XAVIER IMMIGRATION INITIATIVE: Advocacy,
support, and education to empower immigrants. For more
information contact sanxnyc@gmail.com

XAVIER YOGA: Tuesdays at 6:15pm. Open to all levels.
Contact Ko@nyyogalife.com

XAVIER YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: Spiritual, service,
and social activities for parishioners 20s-30s, and the
young in spirit. We meet every 3rd Sunday of the month
in the West Room after the 5pm mass. Contact sfxavier.youngadults@gmail.com

ZEN MEDITATION GROUP: Mondays at 7pm.
Newcomers welcome. Contact Peggy & Paul
schubertnyc@gmail.com

XAVIER MISSION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

CLOTHING ROOM: 2nd & 4th Sundays, contact
Ann Mary: xmClothingRoom@gmail.com

FOOD PROGRAMS: Every Sunday soup kitchen and
2nd Saturday food pantry, contact
Christine: xmFoodPrograms@gmail.com

L-STEP: Spring and Fall semesters,
contact J: xmLSTEP@gmail.com

SHELTER: Every night, contact Jim: xmShelter@gmail.com