

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2018



## Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday, December 10	7:45 am	Pat O'Malley David Roeder	Bob & Jennifer Driscoll Ellie & Tom Carroll
	9:00 am	Special Intention	Joe & Maria Sciacca
Tuesday, December 11 Saint Damasus I, Pope	7:45 am	Virginia Hirsch	The Wielgos Family
	9:00 am	Tom Gallagher	George & Marianne Huber
Wednesday, December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe	7:45 am	Victoria Fahey	North Shore Univ. Health System Colleagues
	9:00 am	Living Intention-Jim & Deidre Barrett	The Barrett Family
Thursday, December 13 Saint Lucy, Virgin & Matryr	7:45 am	Word & Communion Service	
	9:00 am	Paul Lucas	Marian Lucas
Friday, December 14 Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church	7:45 am	Claire Elizabeth Griffin	The Griffin Family
	9:00 am	Joseph, Jerry & Salvatore Frustaci Word & Communion Service	The Frustaci Family
Saturday, December 15	9:00 am	Mary Kay Gibbons James Ruth	The McManaman Family
	9:30 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
	4:15 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
	5:00 pm	Thomas Kent	The Metzger Family
Sunday, December 16	7:30 am	Linda Denno	The Pristo Family
	9:00 am	Audry Walsh	The Farnan Family
	10:30 am	Ellamae King Leonardo, Rosa & Nicola Caricato	Tom King David & Julia Ehrich
	12:00 pm	Frank Romeo Rose Bukowski	Nancy Cozzi & Family The Ragowski Family
	6:00 pm	People of the Parish	

## Please Pray For...

Tony Banda  
Keeley Barr  
Jim Boardman  
Leonard Bruce  
Jay Carroll  
Tom Challos  
Sam Cibula  
Terry Conwell  
Anthony Dina  
Gregory Dold  
Blake Donegan  
Fr. Dave Dowdle  
Pat Eaton  
William Egbert  
Lauren Ellsworth  
Baby Morison Fennessy  
Lily Fielding  
Baby Collins Fitzpatrick  
Kathleen Flynn  
Lilli Gregory  
Wilson Gregory  
Patricia Hassler  
Martha Heraty  
Linda Hillsman  
Rose Ilo  
Mary J.  
Jane Jacobson  
Theresa Kandall  
Mike Kelly

Benny Kilman  
Jerry Kolman  
Virginia Kottaridis  
Edward Kudia  
Betty Kuhl  
Marion Lucas  
Elaine Michalek  
Emmett Miller  
Patrick Morgan  
Mike Morrison  
Amanda O'Brien  
Jane O'Reilly  
Ryan Patyk  
Donna Pekarek  
Carissa Pessetti  
James Pridmore  
Baby Madison Raupp  
Anna Rose  
Marilyn Rutkowski  
Anthony Scafide  
Matthew Schiek  
Greyson Stanley  
Sarah Stanley  
Kate Frugoli Sullivan  
Marty Thuerk  
Anne Titzer  
Michael Ungari  
Amanda Valerugo  
Gregory Van Gorp  
Josita Witte

Prayers are requested for our relatives and friends who are sick. To add a name to the prayer list, please call the rectory at 708-352-0168.

Names of the sick are listed for two months in the bulletin. If there is a recurrence of illness, names can be listed again. Know that our parish prays daily for the sick and the dying.

## Born Into Eternal Life



Please remember in your prayers,  
those who have died, as well as their families:

***William Ferris***  
Son of Fred Ferris

***Juanita Martinez***

***William Elliott***  
Husband of Sharon and Father of Julie Nolan,  
Deirdre Morcos, B.J. Elliott, Kelly Preussner,  
Michelle Lynes & Kristen Elliott



## Weddings

Carolyn Cooper & John Wons



## Pastor's Notes

*I pray always with joy...*  
Philippians 1:4

St. Paul sets an example and a challenge. In the days leading to Christmas, we can be drawn into doing “more and better” than we can do and remain balanced. Paul reminds us that the most important thing we could do “more and better” in these or any days is to nurture an attitude of joy. Our national Thanksgiving Day offers a starting point, since joy flows from a sense of gratitude. Of course, the following days, “Black” Friday, “Local” Saturday, “Cyber” Monday, and even “Giving” Tuesday are designed to draw us away from gratitude for what is and into desires for things we think we lack. The candles of the Advent wreath invite us to align our hopes with the joyful promise of God’s present and future presence, while holiday movies may make us aware of wishes that will not be fulfilled.

How might each day be different if we begin and end the day with a joyful prayer that names gratitude in the present and hope for what is yet to be? How might we brighten the lives of those in our household and those we meet with our joyful gratitude and hope? Do we have the courage of our ancestors in faith to stand against the darkness of the natural world and the darkness of human suffering; in fact, to be a people of joy based on hope and gratitude? How might we, this Advent, welcome Christ into our homes and bear Christ to those with whom we share our lives or simply encounter on the street or in the store?

\* \* \* \* \*

One year ago, the Parish Pastoral Council began to lead a parish conversation on how to engage more parishioners in the mission and ministries of the parish. What do we, who already are engaged, need to do to invite and welcome new volunteers into parish life? This October, the parish Stewardship Team asked us all to consider stewardship of talents in our home, parish, and community. Two parish ministries recently welcomed new volunteers. Ed Barret has served as sacristan for the Sunday Noon Mass for many years; he recently discerned that it was time to retire from this ministry. Tony Chimento has volunteered to take on this ministry. **Thank you, Ed, and welcome, Tony!** A few years ago, Celine Heraty volunteered to lead the parish Art and Environment ministry, which creates the environments in church for our seasonal and special liturgies. She has been rebuilding a team of volunteers to support this ministry. Recent months have shown the fruit of her efforts and have brought fresh ideas to inspire our weekly celebrations. **Thank you, Celine and crew,** especially in this season that asks so much of your time and talents!

Whom might you invite to join you in ministry? Whom might you connect to a ministry that you sense matches their skills and interests? Who might need only to be invited?

*Peace,*

*J. Bill*

## Scripture Reflection

**Reflection for the Second Sunday of Advent**  
**Liturgy Planning Team #6**  
**Sue Martin, Susie Lehuta, Susan Lindsay and Susan Lastres**

The Gospel today brings us to the history of John the Baptist – the preparer of the way for Jesus. While all these powerful people listed are ruling their various kingdoms, the Word of God came to a man living in the desert. John is calling for repentance in order to be forgiven. Just so, God finds us in our own desert, and calls us a similar work. The first reading foretells of the mountains being made low. This happens when we can overcome our pride and arrogance, when we can give up the materialism that surrounds us and work on loving our neighbors. The first reading also talks of the gorges being filled to make the path easier to follow. This happens when we can work for justice and spread the love of God to all. Paul’s letter to the Philippians brings to us the prayer Paul has for them (and for us): may our love increase more and more. These days of Advent hopefully bring us the time to reflect and pray for such a gift.



This weekend, December 8 and 9, we will be taking up a collection in support of the appeal for the Retirement Fund For Religious. This annual collection benefits nearly 33,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your gift provides vital support for medications, nursing care, and more. It also helps religious communities implement long-term retirement strategies that ensure both quality eldercare and continued service to the people of God.

Thank you for your support.

### The Christmas Wafer



The Christmas Wafer (also known as “Oplatki”) is available in the Rectory during office hours Monday through Thursday 9:00 am-8:30 pm, Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Saturday 9:00 am-5:00 pm and on Sunday between 9:00 am-1:00 pm.

The word “Bethlehem” means “the house of bread.” The breaking of the bread is a sign of charity, unity and friendship. Religious family customs bring the truths of faith into the home. One of these beautiful Christmas Eve customs is the Christmas Wafer. The thin wafer bearing the Christmas characters is broken by the head of the family and distributed to each member. With a simple prayer for God’s grace and the welfare of all members of the family, those present as well as those who are absent, the head of the house breaks the wafer and distributes it, one piece to each person at the table. While doing so, each member of the family is kissed and wished a joyful feast. Members then greet one another in the same way.

The spiritual lesson in this age-old custom is that the unity of the family is grounded in God’s love for us. May you experience unity and love through this simple celebration.

### FACILITY MANAGER POSITION

With the retirement of one of our maintenance staff, SFX is now looking to restructure the maintenance department. The position of Facility Manager has been posted on the Archdiocesan website at: <http://legacy.archchicago.org/Employment/Parishes.aspx>.

Please contact Jennifer Zeisloft, Business Manager, at the rectory (or [jzeisloft@sfxlg.org](mailto:jzeisloft@sfxlg.org)) for further information or to apply. The posting will be open until December 18.

### Food Pantry Gratitude

Sincere thanks to our parish and community for supporting our Food Pantry families through food drives, financial donations and volunteer hours this Fall.

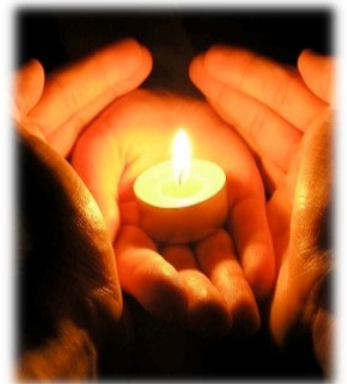
- Bethlehem Woods
- Gurrie Middle School
- Helping Hand Preschool
- Jo’s Footwork Studio
- Khasho Family Mum Sales
- Kensington School
- Knights of Columbus
- Lyons Township
- Nazareth Academy
- Plymouth Place
- SFX Day School
- SFX Religious Education
- St. John of the Cross
- Weekly & Special Project Volunteers
- Weekly Donations to the Rectory and Side Altars



### Taizé Prayer

St. Francis Xavier  
and  
Grace Lutheran

*All are invited to our  
Taizé Evening Prayer  
Friday, December 14  
7:30 pm  
at  
Grace Lutheran*



Taizé Prayer is contemplative and most importantly communal, combining simple repetitive melodies that are sung by all, prayerful silence, scripture reading and intercessory prayer. This prayer can promote a kind to inner unity of person, allowing the spirit to be more open and attentive to what is essential. It is our hope that you will join us, especially at this time when our world is much in need of prayer.



## Christmas Flower Donation

If you would like to donate to the Christmas Flowers in Memory and/or Honor of a Loved One, please take an envelope that can be found at the entrances of the church. We will publish the names in the New Year.

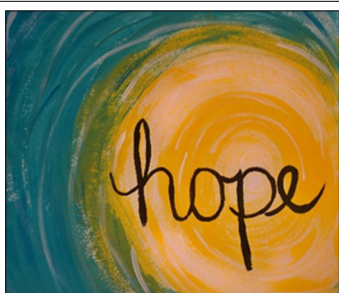
Thank you for making our worship space prayerful and lovely for this liturgical season.

## Prayer & Reflection

This Advent, we join St. John of the Cross and St. Cletus Parishes in praying with the Little Blue Book. Continuing our Stewardship of Time in prayer, all are invited to spend 6 minutes a day reflecting on Advent, as presented in Luke's Gospel. The Little Blue Books contain Scripture passages, reflections by Bishop Ken Untener, prayers, action steps, quotes from the Saints, and a variety of other thoughts about Advent, Christmas, feast days, and Catholic traditions and customs.



Books are available at all church entrances.



## A Night of Hope

Treat yourself to Advent pause - a peaceful hour of prayer, music, storytelling & reflection on Hope.

**“What gives you Hope?”**

Wednesday, December 12  
7:00-8:00 pm  
Unity Hall



Want peace and joy during the Advent Season?  
Come join us for Eucharistic Adoration!  
December 20, 2018 at 6:00-7:00pm

**WHAT:** During Adoration, sometimes referred to as a Holy Hour (but can be of any duration), the Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the altar for individual, silent Adoration. As Catholics, we proclaim the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, not only during the Mass but in the preserved Hosts. St. John Paul II offered that “our communal worship at Mass must go together with our personal worship of Jesus in Eucharistic adoration in order that our love may be complete.”

**HOW:** Adorers are invited to pray a rosary or other devotions, meditate on Scripture or meditate on devotional books. Adorers may also choose to just simply sit and ‘be’ with Jesus. If you are interested, prayer and reflection suggestions are available as starting points.

**WHO:** Jesus waits for us, each of us, in the Eucharist. He waits when we are joyful, thankful, frustrated, or tired. All are welcome, including children. **Families are most welcome.** Jesus specifically calls children to Himself, “Let the children come to me.” Especially during this Advent Season, children can focus on the true celebration of the season: the coming of the Infant Jesus and His continued presence. Children’s activities, books, and meditations on the rosary, adoration, sacraments are available for even our youngest adorers.

**WHY:** As we prepare to celebrate Jesus’ birth, it’s important to remember, He is still present with us in the Eucharist. As St. Teresa of Calcutta reminds us: The Holy Eucharist is the continuation of Christ’s incarnation on earth. The mystery of the Eucharist gives us the joy of having Christmas every day. When we come to the Blessed Sacrament we come to Bethlehem, a name which means “house of bread.” Jesus chose to be born in Bethlehem because He would dwell with us forever as the “Living Bread” come down from heaven. When the shepherds and Magi came to adore Him, they brought Him so much joy with their humble visit to Bethlehem that their visit has been praised and retold down through the centuries. .... [Y]our humble visit to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament brings Him so much joy that it will be retold for all eternity and bring the world closer to His promise of peace on earth.

**WHEN:** The next opportunity for Eucharistic Adoration will be **December 20, 2018.** The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 6:00-7:00 pm. Please come when you are able for as long as your schedule allows. If you have any questions, please contact Katie Kanzer at [k.f.kanzer@gmail.com](mailto:k.f.kanzer@gmail.com) or Jen Jagodzinski at [jenjag12@yahoo.com](mailto:jenjag12@yahoo.com).

O, Come let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!





## Something New this Christmas Our Family Tree in Unity Hall



### Please help us fill our tree with Star Ornaments ...

Our theme this year will be "BELIEVE! All Is Possible With God!"

We are asking our Parish Families to bring a "STAR" ornament to hang on the tree this 1st year of our Family Tree tradition. (We are recommending "non-breakable" ornaments.)

The these will change from year to year allowing our tree to "grow" with our Parish.  
The Tree will be in Unity Hall on December 8th.

You can add your ornament at any time during this Christmas Season.

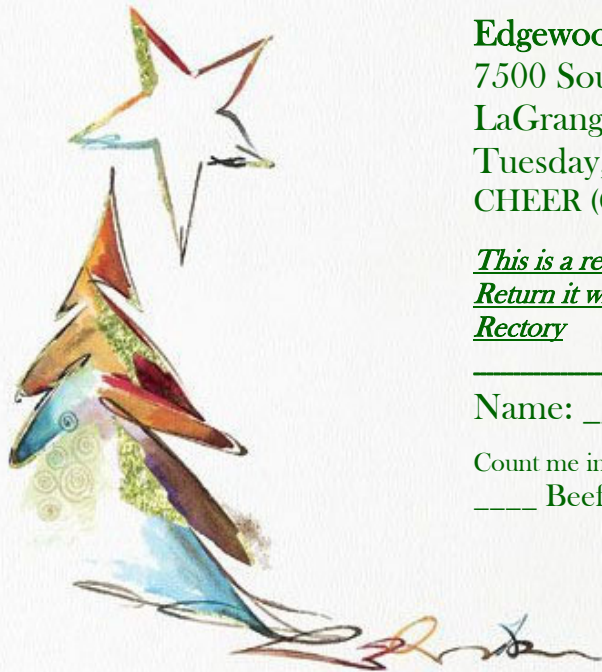


\*\*\*We will be taking down the Family Tree the week of January 6, 2019 and you are invited to take your ornament home at this time.\*\*\*

Questions Contact: Celine Heraty - A&E - celine.heraty@cbexchange.com.

## Retired Men's Group

# Christmas Luncheon



**Edgewood Valley Country Club**  
7500 South Willow Springs Road  
LaGrange  
Tuesday, December 18, 2018 @ 12:15pm  
CHEER (Cash bar @ 11:30) CHEER

*This is a reservation event; secure yours by completing the form below*  
*Return it with your \$35 remittance by Monday, December 17, 2016 to the*  
*Rectory*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Count me in; my menu choice is:

\_\_\_\_ Beef      \_\_\_\_ Chicken      \_\_\_\_ Fish

Missy Westerhoff  
St Francis Xavier Rectory  
124 N Spring Ave.  
La Grange, IL 60525  
708-352-0168

### SFX Men's Club

All men of the parish are welcome.  
For further information, please contact:

Matt Hubert at mthubert@gmail.com or  
Joseph Enright at joseph\_owen@hotmail.com.

### Catholic Women's Club

All women of the parish are members of the Catholic Women's Club. If you would like to get involved or if you would like to receive monthly newsletters about our upcoming events via email, please contact Tiziana Lambert at tizianalambert@gmail.com.



### who

Two & Fall Three year olds!  
A parent or an adult caregiver must be present.  
Open to SFX school families, parishioners,  
and community members.

### what

Lil Falcon Fun: Play, sing, meet new friends!  
A casual, play-based program that would provide an  
opportunity to meet, socialize, and play together. Each  
class will include fun with literacy, music and movement.  
Younger siblings are welcome!

### when

Monday mornings from 9:00-9:45 am  
Twice a Month  
January 14 & 28; February 11 & 25; March 11 & 25;  
April 8 & 29 and May 6 & 20

### where

SFX Early Childhood Building  
21 N. Catherine, LaGrange  
Room 25 (second floor)

### why

Provide families an opportunity  
to engage and develop a sense of community.

### how

Register online at:  
<https://goo.gl/forms/S7DIAehHMYTAcUt73>  
Session fee is \$50/due at the first class.  
(Space is limited. Checks payable to SFX)

We encourage all to follow  
SFX School on social media:



SFX School Instagram:  
[@sfxlg\\_school](https://www.instagram.com/sfxlg_school)

Facebook SFX School site:  
<https://www.facebook.com/SFX.LG/>

Facebook SFX Alumni site:  
<https://www.facebook.com/sfxlgalumni/>

SFX School Website:  
<https://www.sfxlg.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/School>

## Day School Job Opening

Half-time PreK4 teacher Monday-Friday

Must hold valid teaching license. If interested please see the Archdiocese of Chicago Employment website and contact SFX Principal at [sgarcia@sfxlg.org](mailto:sgarcia@sfxlg.org).

## Children's Liturgy of the Word

Our Saturday evening 5:00pm Mass offers the opportunity for children in Grades Kindergarten-Fourth to experience hearing and reflecting on the Word of the Lord in a way that is an empowering experience. Children in these grades are invited to follow their Reflector of the Word to a prayer space away from the gathered assembly to hear the Scriptures in words they can understand.

Children's Liturgy of the Word takes place in church whenever the children's choirs lead us in song/prayer. The Scriptures we hear will then be taken from the Children's Lectionary and the homily will be given in a way that children are able to relate a little more readily. The children in Grades K thru 4 will go to their prayer space on the Saturdays that the choirs are not singing.

Here is the tentative schedule with the children's choirs:

December 8;  
January 5 & 26;  
February 9 & 23;  
March 2; April 6

Children in Grades K-4 will be invited to join their Reflector in a prayer space away from the adults and to hear the Word of the Lord in words they can better understand on the following Saturdays (subject to change):

December 15 & 22;  
January 12 & 19; February 2 & 16;  
March 9, 16, 23, & 30; and April 27

You can call 708-352-0168 and direct your calls to:  
Terri Simeoni, RE Coordinator  
or  
Allen Sterwalt, Director of Music



## Box Tops For Education Collection

Please help in earning cash for our school. We would like your help in collecting Box Tops For Education. There will be a drop box located at the back of church in the vestibule. Please place Box Tops that you have collected inside.

Thank you for your help!

## Religious Education Class Dates

### Sundays

December 9	Class
December 16	Class
	Pajama Day
December 23	No Class
December 30	No Class

\* \* \* \* \*

### Wednesdays

December 12	Class
December 19	Class
	Pajama Day
December 26	No Class
January 2	No Class

## The Giving Tree

Please help make Christmas a special time of year for families supported by our sharing parish, St. Agatha's on the west side of Chicago as well as some outreach organizations in our community. Giving Tree tags will be available after all masses this weekend **December 8 and 9**.



**Wrapped gifts with gift tags affixed to them, need to be returned by noon on Sunday, December 16** so that we can deliver them to St. Agatha's who will distribute them to members of their community that afternoon. We are grateful for your generous support of this annual Christmas tradition sponsored by the QUEST teens of our parish.

If you have any questions, please contact Olivia Zurowski at [ozurowski@sfxlg.org](mailto:ozurowski@sfxlg.org) or 708-352-0168 x338.




## What's going on in Youth Ministry???

### Youth Ministry Christmas Party

All teens are invited to the Annual Youth Ministry Christmas Party on Sunday, December 9 at 4:30pm in Joyce Hall. We will have food, fun, and a White Elephant gift exchange! If you are able, please bring a \$5 gift with you.

### Church League Basketball

 Men's Church League Basketball is underway! Visit the Youth Ministry website to find the schedule of games. Go SFX!

### Freshman/Sophomore Retreat

- Looking for a weekend of snow tubing, outdoor laser tag, small groups, short witness talks, and connection with fellow Freshmen and Sophomores? The 2019 Freshman/Sophomore Retreat (previously known as Fretus or Fretus Identity) will be Friday, January 4<sup>th</sup>-Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>. Registration forms can be found on the Youth Ministry Retreat page. Contact Olivia Zurowski at 708-352-0168 or [ozurowski@sfxlg.org](mailto:ozurowski@sfxlg.org) for more information.

### 2019 Summer Mission Trip

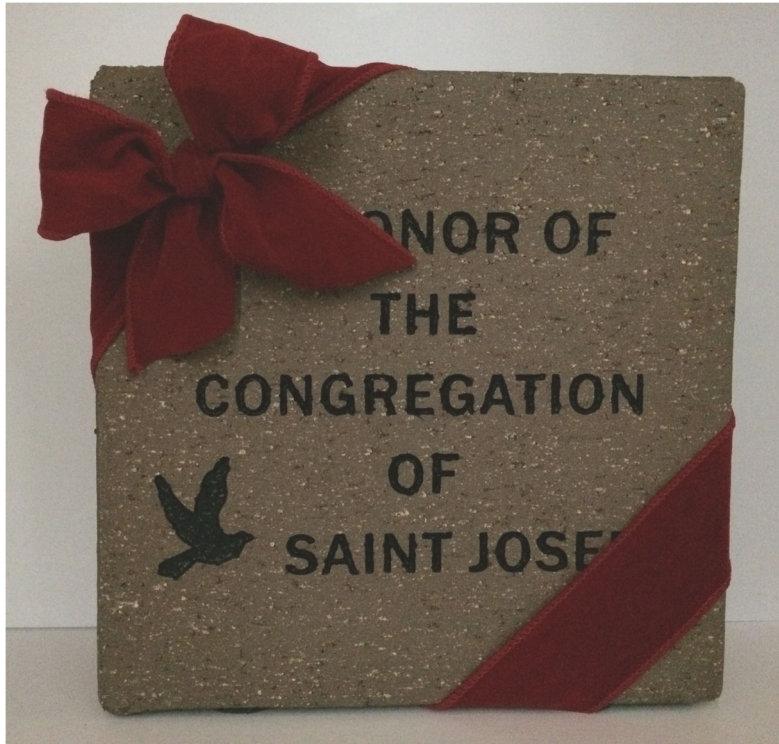


The 2019 Summer Mission Trip location has been determined: Springfield, KY!

St. Francis has 30 (25 teens, 5 adults) spots reserved with Young Neighbors in Action for the June 23-28, 2019 trip to Springfield, KY. The registration form can be found on the Youth Ministry website. Contact Olivia Zurowski for more information.



**NEED A CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA?  
HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR  
ENGRAVED BRICK PAVER?**



Visit our parish website ([www.sfxlg.org](http://www.sfxlg.org)) to order online or print out an order form. Our next installation will be in Summer 2019!

Price of Small Bricks (4" x 8") = \$175

Price of Large Bricks (8" x 8") = \$300



# Welcome to Advent!

## Stewardship...

*is our willingness to acknowledge the blessings of our lives, and reflect upon ways to continue sharing time, talent, and treasure, as we joyfully prepare for the coming of Christ anew in our hearts.*



### Prayer & Reflection

This Advent we join St. Cletus and St. John of the Cross Church in praying with the *Little Blue Book*. This book contains 6 minute reflections on Advent and Christmas, including Scripture, prayers, action steps, and a variety of thoughts about Catholic traditions & customs.

The Little  
Blue Book  
2018-2019

### Discuss the Little Blue Book

...with friends, relatives, neighbors, anyone with whom you enjoy spending time.

### Support the Giving Tree

Quest teens collect gifts for inner city families through St. Agatha. Take a tag Dec. 8/9, and return wrapped gift before the noon Mass Dec 16.

### Advent Wreath

Set up a wreath in your home, and light it for prayer and meals.

### Daily Mass

Mon-Wed, 7:45 & 9 am;  
Thurs & Sat, 9 am. Fri., 7:45 am.

### Communion Service:

Thurs, 7:45 am & Fri., 9 am

### SPRED Christmas Mass

All are welcome to attend the 6 PM Mass on Sun, Dec. 9, where friends play a special role. Reception will follow in Joyce Hall.

### A Night of HOPE

Wed., Dec. 12, 7-8 pm; A peaceful hour of prayer, music, story telling & reflection on the question: *What gives you hope?*

### Reconciliation Services

This Advent we celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation with our neighboring parishes: **St. Cletus:** Mon, Dec. 17, 7 pm; **St. John of the Cross:** Tues, Dec. 18, 7 pm. Individual reconciliation available at SFX on Saturdays, after the 9 am mass and at 4:15 pm.

### WELCOME Women's Retreat...

Register now for the Feb 2-3, retreat, to deepen your relationship with God and other women, and be fed spiritually. Details in bulletin & on website: [sfxlg.org](http://sfxlg.org).



### Taizé Prayer

Experience contemplative prayer through simple melodies, scripture, a procession of candles, prayers for peace, and silent reflection. Friday, Dec. 14, 7:30 pm, at Grace Lutheran Church.

### Eucharistic Adoration

Dec. 20, 6-7 pm in church

### Individual Prayer

The church is open daily for prayer, 7:30 am to 2 pm.

### Online Resources:

Visit the SFX Website: [sfxlg.org](http://sfxlg.org)

### Congregation of St. Joseph Events at the Well:

- Transformational Breath, Dec. 3, 7-9 pm, register in advance
- Pat Bergen, CSJ: *Something Wonderful and New is Happening*, Tues, Dec. 18, 9:30-11 am; repeated Dec. 18, 7-8:30 pm.

### Choose a Ministry & Get Involved!

Visit [sfxlg.org](http://sfxlg.org) for the *Ministry Resource Guide* and to complete the *Ministry Interest Form*.



# Advent Events Calendar 2018

## Throughout Advent

Continue daily prayer with *The Little Blue Book*

### Dec. 8/9

Take a tag to donate to **The Giving Tree**



### Dec. 9

#### **SPRED Christmas Mass**

6 PM Mass, and Reception in Joyce Hall. All are welcome

### Dec. 12

#### **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

Mass at 7:45 am & 9 am

### Dec. 12

#### **A Night of HOPE**

7-8 PM, in Unity Hall; A peaceful hour of prayer, music, story telling & reflection on the question: *What gives you hope?*

### Dec. 13

Day School— 2nd, 4th & 6th Graders present **Carol & Light**, 7-8 pm, Church

### Dec. 14

Commit to **baking for incarcerated men through North Lawndale Adult Transition Center**. Drop-off Dec. 21.

### Dec. 14

**Taizé prayer**, 7:30 pm, at Grace Lutheran Church



### Dec. 16

Return your wrapped gift for **The Giving Tree** before the noon Mass today.

### Dec. 17 & 18

#### **Reconciliation Services**, 7 pm

- St. Cletus: Mon, Dec. 17

- St. John of the Cross: Tues, Dec. 18.

Individual Reconciliation is offered at SFX on Saturdays after 9 am Mass & at 4:15 pm.

### Dec. 20

Eucharistic Adoration, 6-7 pm, Church

### Dec. 21

Day School— 7th Graders present **Advent Prayer Service**, 10 am, Gym

### Dec. 21

**Drop off day for baked goods** for incarcerated men, 9 am—5 pm. Details in bulletin.

### Dec. 24

#### **Christmas Eve Masses— In SFX Church**

3 pm, 5 pm, 7 pm

#### **In Congregation of St. Joseph Motherhouse Chapel**

3 pm & 5 pm

#### **Midnight Mass** in Church —

Caroling begins at 11:30 pm

### Dec. 25

#### **Christmas Day Masses— in SFX Church:**

9:00 am, 10:30 am and Noon

### Jan. 1, 2019

#### **Solemnity of Mary**

Mass at 5 pm Dec. 31, and 10 am on Jan. 1



## Congregation of St. Joseph — Events hosted at the Well Spirituality Center

### Dec. 18: **Something Wonderful and New is Happening**, **Pat Bergen, CSJ**

Join us during this final week of Advent to attend, reflect and respond to the newness emerging in ourselves and our culture. Offered twice on Tues., Dec. 18: 9:30-11 am & 7-8:30 pm. *Free to parishioners.*

**The Well Spirituality Center**, Register at: 708-482-5048,  
[www.csjthewell.org](http://www.csjthewell.org), 1515 Ogden Ave, La Grange Park



The  
  
**HATS**  
 We Wear

THE ST. FRANCIS XAVIER  
 CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB

2019 Ladies Pre-Lent Event

PROVERBS 31:31

"Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let  
 her work bring her praise at the city gate."

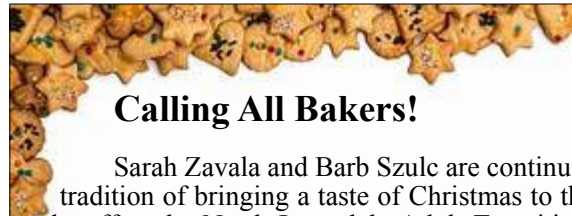
Saturday, March 2, 2019

La Grange Country Club  
 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Open House style, come and go as your schedule permits.

PASSED HORS D'OEUVRES AND FOOD STATIONS  
 CASH BAR / LIVE MUSIC / BINGO / VENDORS

Register online at [www.prelevent.com](http://www.prelevent.com)



**Calling All Bakers!**

Sarah Zavala and Barb Szulc are continuing a tradition of bringing a taste of Christmas to the residents and staff at the North Lawndale Adult Transition Center, a work-release program that is part of the Illinois Department of Corrections. The holidays can be very difficult for those who are incarcerated, and following the Gospel, we want to reach out in kindness at this time of the year.

This is the eighth year of our outreach, and it is a great service opportunity for parents and children, grandparents and grandchildren, Quest groups or anyone who just loves to bake! As you plan your Christmas baking, we ask you to consider setting aside some of you favorite cookies (or muffins, or brownies, or chocolate-covered pretzels) to share with the residents and staff at North Lawndale.

Sarah, Barb and their crew of helpers will collect, package, and deliver the cookies. We are planning to deliver 250 dozen cookies! In order to plan our own baking, please let us know by December 14th, if you would like to participate. Send an email to [OutreachCookie@gmail.com](mailto:OutreachCookie@gmail.com) with your name and an estimate of the number of cookies you'll donate. Cookies may be dropped off at Barb's home, 205 46th Street in Western Springs on **Friday**, December 21st from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. Please call Sarah at 708-261-3473 with any questions.

**Also an option:** If you are unable to bake, and would like to contribute to the success of this project, we ask that you consider donating brownie, muffin or cookie mixes. You may drop them off in the back of the Church through December 9th. We'll be happy to do the baking for you!

Thanks for your participation,  
 Sarah Zavala and Barb Szulc

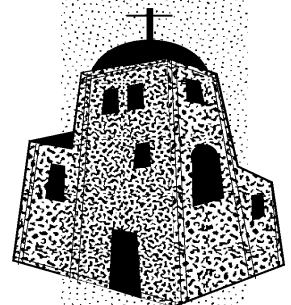


***Please help us keep our records current!***

*We are asking for your information to keep our records current.  
 If you could please fill out the below form and return  
 to the rectory we would really appreciate it.  
 Thank you!*

Household Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Household Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Household E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (Home or Cell)  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (Home or Cell)  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Rise up  
**JERUSALEM**  
 stand upon  
 the  
 heights





## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Human Dignity and Solidarity  
Immigration Ministry  
XIII Annual POSADA  
Seeking Immigration Reform



Join us to walk and pray in solidarity with our immigrant sisters and brothers who—as the Holy Family sought a place to stay—are seeking legislative shelter, “Posada.”

Friday, December 14, 2018  
7:00–9:00 am

101 West Congress Parkway

Route: From Correctional Center  
(71 West Van Buren Street),  
DePaul (1 East Jackson  
Boulevard), Federal Plaza, and St. Peter’s  
(110 West Madison Street)

For more information, please contact: Raymundo Valdez at [rvaldez@archchicago.org](mailto:rvaldez@archchicago.org) or by phone at 312-534-8503 or Brother Luis Rosado at [lrosado@archchicago.org](mailto:lrosado@archchicago.org) or 407-361-1096, or visit: [catholicsandimmigrants.org](http://catholicsandimmigrants.org).

### Christmas Concert & Yuletide Cheer

Featuring the Village Vocal Chords on Sunday, December 9 from 3:00–4:00 pm. Concert, Refreshments (with Santa) to follow. Join us for festive Christmas music with a 34-member award-winning women’s barbershop chorus. Great for all ages. Cost: \$10 (adults) \$5 (kids). Advance registration will help us prepare for your presence.



**Practicing Peace** on Mondays from 11:00 am–Noon on November 26 and December 10 with Facilitator: Jackie Schmitz, CSJ. In our world where anger, hatred and fear lead to so much suffering, more than ever, we need to find ways to cultivate peace, kindness, and reverence for life. Join us for an hour of Centering Prayer that includes music, silence and peaceful relaxation. Cost: \$10 per session.

**Restorative Yoga** on Mondays from 11:30 am–12:30 pm on November 26 and December 10. *Please note these dates are different from the original schedule* with Facilitator Nina Ginocchio. Restorative yoga gives you the blessing of knowing what your body feels like in a relaxed state. Ever so gently, you will stretch according to your comfort level. Yoga for all ages, it is perfect for the brand new beginner as well as for someone with years of experience. Cost: \$10 per session.

**Something Wonderful and New is Happening** on Tuesday, December 18 from 9:30–11:00 am and repeated at 7:00–8:30 pm. *Please note: the program date has been modified from the original schedule.* With Facilitator Pat Bergen, CSJ we know it is difficult to perceive, but something wonderful is happening in our time; a newness is emerging in ourselves and our culture. Are you seeing, hearing and experiencing it? During this final week of Advent, prepare to proclaim to the world that the unseen God of Love is making a new breakthrough in our time. Free for members of co-sponsoring parishes SFX and SJC.

The Well Spirituality Center  
1515 Ogden Avenue~LaGrange Park  
To register online and see complete list of programs:  
[www.csjthewell.org](http://www.csjthewell.org) or call 708-482-5048



## Seasons of Hope

The loss of a loved one is a time of deep sorrow in our lives and grief is expressed in many ways. SEASONS OF HOPE is a faith-based, healing program for those who have suffered such a loss.

To begin healing does not mean forgetting — our loved ones will be remembered forever. We can however, deepen our spirituality and faith by reflecting and sharing while being guided toward a path of healing. Our hope is strengthened in the sure knowledge that one day we will be reunited with our loved ones.

Participants meet in a small group setting guided by leaders who care and can relate to the depth of your sorrow as they too have experienced the loss of a loved one.

SEASONS OF HOPE is co-sponsored by St. Francis Xavier and St. John of the Cross. The upcoming winter season will be at SFX.

Six Saturday mornings at 9:45 a.m.  
January 12, 19, 26 - February 2, 9, 16

To register, call our office 708-352-0168 or do so at [www.sfxlg.org](http://www.sfxlg.org)



## REGISTRATION FORM

Have you been feeling like something is missing? Do you need a jump start in your faith journey? Do you need some time away with God? Join women just like you from our parish at the 2019 **WELCOME Women's Retreat!** Through stories, prayer, fellowship, and more you will find rest, be refreshed, and witness a new perspective on how God sees you and just how much you are loved. All women, no matter where you are on your spiritual journey, are **WELCOME!**

### Women's WELCOME Retreat Weekend

**Saturday, February 2 - Sunday, February 3, 2019**

Carmelite Spiritual Center

8419 Bailey Road

Darien, IL

Please **arrive between 8:00 - 8:30 am on Saturday**; we will **conclude around 3:00 pm on Sunday**. For questions, please contact Therese Bryne at (708) 588.0845

Scholarships are available — please contact Father Bill Tkachuk

You may complete the registration and pay online (please see our Facebook link below), place the registration form/payment in the collection basket or drop off at the Rectory to the attention of Jane Bandyk along with payment (payable to St. Francis Xavier Parish).



**Women's Retreat Weekend**



**February 2 - 3, 2019**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Single Occupancy: \$140**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Double Occupancy: \$120; Room with:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Music preference: (please check): CD  **OR** Digital Playlist

Emergency Contact

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list two people we may contact to ask to pray for you while on the **WELCOME** retreat (optional)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please visit our Facebook page for more details  
<https://www.facebook.com/WelcomeWomenSFX/>





## Please Pray For...all those Serving Overseas in the Military including:

- **Sgt. David Phillips**—brother of Rebecca Casiple
- **Commander Robert O'Donnell**—son of Agnes O'Donnell
- **Staff Sgt. Bryan Pickens, U.S. Army Airborne Ranger 1-75th Ranger Battalion RGR REGT**—  
son of Rob & Bernadette Pickens and brother of Robert & Gabriel
- **Lt. Christopher Ocasio, U.S. Army**—friend of the Berger Family
- **Technical Sgt. Rhonda Russell, USAF**—daughter of Deidre & John Russell and granddaughter of Mary F. Russell
- **Lt. Jonathan Devitt Brown, U.S. Navy**—nephew of the Devitt Family
- **LCPL Gregory Allen, USMC**—nephew of Barbara Triggs & Anthony Anscombe
- **Kevin Peterson, U.S. Army Infantry, Major Marcos Melendez, USMC and Major Michelle Melendez, USMC**—  
son, nephew and niece of Jon Peterson
- **Sgt. Nolan Kemna, USMC**—nephew of John & Linda Hill
- **Capt. Maura Hoffman & Capt. Christopher Hoffman**—niece and nephew of Margie & Steve Hull and  
cousins of Kate, Janie & Caroline Hull
- **Phil Lukanich, U.S. Navy & Lt. M. Ryan Lukanich, U.S. Army**—husband and brother-in-law of Joanna and  
sons of Mark & Martie Lukanich
- **Master Sgt. Andrew Lang**—son of Marge & Ray Lang
- **Staff Sgt. Scott Blunk**—husband of Brianne and son-in-law of Maureen Becker
- **Lt. Daniel McGue**—grandson of Jack & Sue Ryan
- **Lt. Col. Jeremy Hutchins, USAF**—brother-in-law of Valerie & Michael Schierl
- **Commander Brian Riegler, U.S. Navy**—husband of Elizabeth and father of Kaylee, Mackenzie, Grace & Liam
- **Capt. Colt Marcyan, USMC**—nephew of Noel Cusack
- **Capt. Trent McMullen, USAF**—son-in-law of Tom & Maureen Hunt
- **Private William Baker, U.S. Army**—son of Meg & Barry Baker
- **Private Jerry Delgado, U.S. Army**—friend of Liz Wilk
- **Spec Timothy Lucas U.S. Army**—grandson of Marian, nephew of Rosemary and Sr. Kathleen Lucas,  
and Kate & Beau Medlock
- **Deanna Ciaccia, U.S. Navy**—daughter of Julia & Anthony Ciaccia and granddaughter of Harold Held
- **Chris Johnson, USCG**—nephew of Judi Kudlacz and grandson of Jerry & Nancy Johnson
- **Michael Rodden, USAF & Christopher Osterhaus, USMC**—son and nephew of John & Vicki Rodden
- **Dominic James Greco, U.S. Navy**—nephew of Rita Pantoni
- **Robert Weiler, U.S. Navy**—brother of Rebecca Dionisio
- **Joseph Somers, U.S. Navy**—nephew of Maureen & Nick Burriesci
- **Major Meghan Cumpston, U.S. Army**—cousin of Lauren Schultz
- **Sgt. David T. Benson**—son of Linda & Charles Benson

**Please inform us of those serving in the Military Overseas...  
and please let us know when friends and loved ones  
return from their deployment Overseas.  
Email the [bulletineditor@sfxlg.org](mailto:bulletineditor@sfxlg.org).**

## St. Francis Xavier Personnel

### Pastoral Ministry

*Pastor*  
*Associate Pastor*  
*Deacon*  
*Pastoral Associate*  
*Weekend Sacramental Ministers*  
*Weekend Sacramental Ministers*

*Rev. William Tkachuk*  
*Rev. William Killeen*  
*Mr. Andrew Allison*  
*Dr. Kate DeVries*  
*Rev. Stan Ilo*  
*Rev. Keith Muccino, S.J.*

wtkachuk@sfxlg.org  
 bkilleen@sfxlg.org  
 aallison@sfxlg.org  
 kdevries@sfxlg.org

### Education Ministry

*Day School Principal*  
*Assistant Principal*  
*Assistant to Day School Principal*  
*Day School Secretary (Main Campus)*  
*Day School Secretary (East Campus)*  
*Coordinator (East Campus)*  
*Advancement Director*  
*Tuition Accounts*  
*Religious Education Coordinator/Sacrament Prep*  
*Religious Education Office Staff*  
*Religious Education Office Staff*

*Mrs. Sharon Garcia*  
*Mrs. Janice Carr*  
*Mrs. Mary Hoffman*  
*Mrs. Peggy Evans*  
*Mrs. Kathie Kinahan*  
*Mrs. Margaret Houston*  
*Mrs. Mary Tassi*  
*Mrs. Jennifer Zeisloft*  
*Ms. Terri Simeoni*  
*Mrs. Cindy Johnson*  
*Ms. Debra Soulje*

sgarcia@sfxlg.org  
 jcarr@sfxlg.org  
 mhoffman@sfxlg.org  
 pevans@sfxlg.org  
 kkinahan@sfxlg.org  
 mhouston@sfxlg.org  
 mtassi@sfxlg.org  
 jzeisloft@sfxlg.org  
 tsimeoni@sfxlg.org  
 cjohnson@sfxlg.org  
 dsoulje@sfxlg.org

### Youth Ministry

*Coordinator*

*Mrs. Olivia Zurowski*

ozurowski@sfxlg.org

### Music Ministry

*Director*

*Mr. Allen Sterwalt*

asterwalt@sfxlg.org

### Parish Office Staff

*Business Manager*  
*Parish Accountant*  
*Pastor's Secretary*  
*Parish Secretary*  
*Staff Secretary*

*Mrs. Jennifer Zeisloft*  
*Ms. Jane Bandyk*  
*Mrs. Maureen Pipal*  
*Mrs. Melissa Westerhoff*  
*Ms. Debra Soulje*

jzeisloft@sfxlg.org  
 jbandyk@sfxlg.org  
 mpipal@sfxlg.org  
 mwesterhoff@sfxlg.org  
 dsoulje@sfxlg.org

### Food Pantry/Community Outreach

*Coordinator*

*Mrs. Mary Freeman*

mfreeman@sfxlg.org

### **Contact Information**

Parish Office 124 N. Spring .....708-352-0168  
 St. Francis Xavier Day School .....708-352-2175  
 School of Religious Education .....708-352-4555  
 S.P.R.E.D. (Special Religious Education) .....708-352-0168  
 Fax Number .....708-352-4904  
 e-Mail .....sfxinlg@sfxlg.org  
 Main Day School e-Mail.....sfxmain@sfxlg.org  
 Main Religious Education e-Mail.....sfxreligiused@sfxlg.org  
 Parish Web Site .....www.sfxlg.org

### **Rectory Hours**

Monday-Thursday..... 8:30 am-8:30 pm  
 Friday ..... 8:30 am-4:30 pm  
 Saturday.....9:00 am-5:00 pm  
 Sunday.....9:00 am-1:00 pm

### **Sabbath Liturgy**

Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
 Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 am, 12:00 Noon and  
 (6:00 pm September until first weekend of May)  
 Holy Days of Obligation as scheduled in bulletin.

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday morning.....After 9:00 am Mass  
 Saturday afternoon.....4:15 pm  
 The Reconciliation room is located off the walkway behind the  
 tabernacle prayer area.

### **Liturgy Schedule**

Monday through Wednesday .....7:45 and 9:00 am  
 Thursday.....9:00 am  
 Friday.....7:45 am  
 Saturday.....9:00 am

### **Word Communion Services**

Thursday.....7:45 am  
 Friday.....9:00 am

### **Bulletin Deadline**

The deadline for submitting all bulletin articles is 12:00 pm on the Friday preceding the Sunday of publication. If a holiday falls on a Monday, articles are due by 12:00 Noon on the previous Thursday. Please email all articles to the [bulletineditor@sfxlg.org](mailto:bulletineditor@sfxlg.org).

### **Domestic Violence Resources**

Family Shelter Services—24 hr. counseling 630-469-5650  
 LaGrange Police Emergency Assistance 911 or 708-579-2354

### **Food Pantry**

The St. Francis Food Pantry is open every Tuesday from 9:30 to 11:00 am. The pantry serves clients who live in the 60525 and 60526 zip codes.

### **Home or Hospital Visitation & Communion Calls**

If you would like a priest or Minister of Care to visit, please contact the Parish Office directly. In the case of hospitalization, specifically request that the hospital contact the parish. Hospitals do not routinely inform churches of admissions due to Privacy Laws.

### **Infant Baptisms**

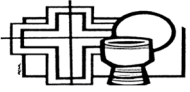
Please call the Parish Office for scheduled 1:30 pm Sunday Baptismal dates. Baptism Preparation Classes: 4th Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm. We encourage participation in this program before the baby's birth or adoption.

### **Marriage**

Please call the rectory office at the time of your engagement to schedule your wedding. We ask that you are a registered parishioner for 6 months before requesting your wedding date. Saturday wedding times are 1:00 and 3:00 pm. Rehearsals are usually scheduled on Friday evening. We do not schedule weddings during Lent.

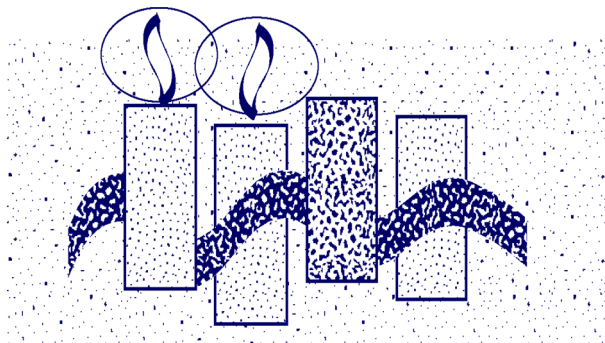
### **Parish Counselor**

All counseling services are confidential, respectful, understanding, and take place in a safe environment. Counseling and psychotherapy services are available for individuals, couples, and families experiencing difficulty with anxiety, depression, grief, relationship conflicts, work stress or job loss problems, or feelings of being overwhelmed. For further information or to make an appointment, call our parish counselor, Nancy Kennedy, 708-325-8582 at the Claret Center or email [nkennedy4@luc.edu](mailto:nkennedy4@luc.edu).



## Liturgical Ministers' Schedule—December 15-16, 2018

Mass Time	Presider	Lectors/ Commentators	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Cantors	Greeters
5:00 PM	Fr. Tkachuk	L. Whelton D. Veverka B. Bock	L. Bannach C. Cooke K. Corrigan S. Devitt D. Dunlap K. Kanzer M. Milligan D. Mulvenna Open	A. Holmes M. Kachmarik E. Fekrat	G. Adams	P. Devitt
7:30 AM	Fr. Tkachuk	P. Olson G. Rutkowski M. Carroll	S. Augustyn M. Hermesdorf N. Kalkowski T. Nichol D. Walsh	C. Stetz T. Newcomb J. Crandall	C. Jakubisin	C. Urbain
9:00 AM	Fr. Killeen	M. Rotert J. O'Connor M. Lukanich	M. Branecki V. Bracht D. Carlson J. Cogelja C. Froemel E. Froemel A. Gargano M. Hull B. McMahon	L. Nowak A. Brown A. Grech	C. Kline Gallery Choir	J. Virella
10:30 AM	Fr. Muccino	D. Titzer B. Jouras T. Serafin	B. Boyd N. Cummings L. Egan M.P. Flaherty J. Garreau P. McGinnis J. Nowak B. Sorice K. Witowski	M. Duff Q. Filbin A. Edwards	T. Pangan Celebration Ensemble	K. Titzer
12:00 PM	Fr. Killeen	C. Borawski J. Jagodzinski B. Hemminger	K. Borawski A. Chimento L. Donegan B. Edelmann C. Gatsos	F. LaMantia D. Collins E. Cushing	L. Hoigard	J. Svehla
6:00 PM	Fr. Tkachuk	Quest Teen	Quest Teens		Spirit Choir	



### Readings For The Week of December 9, 2018

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

Monday: Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26

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

Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Lk 1:39-47

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

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18