



SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

The Holy Family

December 28, 2025



“Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.”
- Mt 2:20

BELONG • BELIEVE • BE LOVE

Week at a Glance

			Intention	Requested By
Monday, December 29	Mass	8:30 am	Emery Mapes Cathy Ferrier	Jesse & Claire Presley The Hannigan Family
Tuesday, December 30	Mass	8:30 am	People of the Parish	
Wednesday, December 31 New Year's Eve	Mass	8:30 am 5:00 pm	People of the Parish People of the Parish	
Thursday, January 1 New Year's Day	Mass	10:00 am	People of the Parish	
Friday, January 2	Mass	8:30 am	Cookie & Dick Hofstetter	The Westerhoff Family
Saturday, January 3	Mass Reconciliation Mass	8:30 am 9:00 am 5:00 pm	Louie Marasovic Stephen Sackley	April Pesut The Meyers Family
Sunday, January 4 The Epiphany of the Lord	Mass Mass Mass Mass	7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	People of the Parish Baby Mariano Jeanette Waleska Jean Hansen Comer	The Mariano Family Gary Lewis Joan Callaghan & Bob Comfort

Presider's Schedule for December 27-28, 2025

5:00 pm Fr. Chrzan

7:30 am Fr. Milek

9:00 am Fr. Chrzan

11:00 am Fr. Milek

5:00 pm Fr. Chrzan

Please pray for . . .

John Baggio	Amy Miller
Poppy Booth	Brandon Moffett
George Braasch	Greg Molinari
Vivian Brickhouse	Patrick Morgan
Joe Canepa	Bill Mroz
John Clinch	Ann Marie Nidos
Blake Donegan	Jim O'Brien
Craig Eaton	Connie O'Dette
Nathan Emkow	Cathy O'Leary
Lupe Baker Garcia	Mark Reilly
Allen Godlewski	Richard Reveles
Vincenzo Guzzo	Amy Robinson
Junie Haase	John Shramek
Angela Hill	Rita Mae Spearman
Jessi Rita Hoffman	Gregg Stephenson
Richard Holbach	John Stopka
Michelle Jackson	Sophie Stratton
Patricia Jones	Catie Sullivan
Nora Lou Kampe	Olivia Tarsney
Terri Bergen Klein	Joe Vargas
Ella Mae Kuzel	Baby Emma Wallace
Eleanor Love	Liz Wilk
Baby Grace Mangano	Frank Zolfo, Jr.
Robert McMahon	

To add a name to the prayer list who are sick, please call the rectory at 708-352-0168. Know that our parish prays daily for the sick and the dying.

Please Note:
Rosary will not be held
at 8:15 am on
Thursday, January 1
due to New Years Day

Born Into Eternal Life



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

Brendan Carolan
Father of Nancy O'Connell

Jane Jacobsen
Aunt of Mary Maley

Raymond Krejca
Uncle of Karen Cartwright

Tony Williams
Friend of Sr. Marci Hermesdorf

Make a gift to the
Regular Sunday Offertory
with this QR Code.
Thank you for your support!



Pastor's Letter

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. The Gospel reading from Matthew gives us a strikingly honest portrait of family life - not idealized or serene, but attentive, courageous, and responsive to God. Joseph listens in the quiet of dreams, acts decisively to protect those entrusted to him, and leads his family through uncertainty, displacement, and fear. The Holy Family reminds us that holiness is often lived not in perfect circumstances, but in faithful love, trust, and care for one another amid the realities of life.

As we continue to rejoice in the joy of Christmas, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all who helped make our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day celebrations so beautiful and prayerful. My sincere thanks to Allen Sterwalt for leading such stunning musical worship; to Celine Heraty for the magnificent Christmas environment in our church and worship spaces; to Bernadette McMahon and the liturgy team for coordinating our many liturgical ministers; to our ushers and ministers of hospitality; to the Sisters of St. Joseph for graciously hosting us for Christmas Eve Mass at the Alexine Chapel; and to our entire parish and school staff for their dedication and hard work behind the scenes.

Finally, thank you to all our parishioners, guests, and friends for your joyful participation and generous support of our parish's mission of evangelization and ministry. Your presence, prayer, and generosity make this community a true family of faith. As we move forward into the new year, may the Holy Family continue to inspire us to listen for God's voice, to care tenderly for one another, and to trust that God is always guiding us, even on unfamiliar roads.

Peace,
Fr. John

Just in Time For Christmas New Church Sound System Installed!

St. Francis Xavier Church has completed a full upgrade of our sound system! Thank you for your patience throughout the past months - we know the sound quality over the past months has been challenging!

The sound improvements will ensure that every word, hymn, and prayer can be heard clearly, enhancing the worship experience for all. Highlights of the new system include:

- **Advanced Speakers**-State-of-the-art speakers distribute sound evenly while reducing echoes, and eliminate the dead spots we had before (such as the balcony and altar).
- **Livestream Enhancement**-Better sound balance between the cantor and the organ/piano during livestream recording.
- **Assistive Listening**-A new Wi-Fi-based system allows anyone to listen through a smartphone, headphones, or compatible hearing aids. Please contact the rectory office at 708-352-0168 if you need help in using this feature.
- **New Media Player**-Plays both CDs and Bluetooth audio, all easily controlled from a tablet.
- **Digital Wireless Microphones**-Deliver crystal-clear sound with long-lasting rechargeable batteries.
- **Digital Audio Controls**-Sound can now be fine-tuned from anywhere in the church for optimal clarity.

We are deeply grateful to all who made this project possible through their prayers and financial support. Your generosity helps St. Francis Xavier continue to grow as a welcoming, vibrant community of faith-where everyone can fully participate in the beauty of the liturgy.



New Year's Mass Schedule

New Year's Eve
Wednesday, December 31st
5:00 pm

New Year's Day
Thursday, January 1st
10:00 am

We're grateful for your support.
To donate to the Christmas Offertory
visit www.sfxlg.org or use this QR Code.



St. Francis Xavier Parish
BELONG · BELIEVE · BE LOVE



In observance of the New Year's Holiday, the Rectory Office will close on **Wednesday, December 31 at 12:00 Noon** and reopen on **Friday, January 2 at 8:30am.**

Join our Young Adult Ministry (YAM)

Groupme! Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to get updates on upcoming events and connect with other young adults.



Christmas Flower Donations 2025

Burson Family
Renee Challos
Tom Challos
Michael Cipriani
Sucio Cipriani
Theresa Cipriani
Victor & Lillian Copp
Michael Czubik
Frank & Helen Donegan
James Donegan
Dowd Family
Tyler Duelm
Joe Dykhuizen
John & Bernice Giszleslo
Jeffrey Godlewski
John & Lorre Godlewski
Hayes & Roach Families
Tereze Hruby

Peg & Stan Humecke
Nancy Johnson
Mary Moore Kearney
Wanda Lanucha
Roy Leslie
Rose Maria Lilek
Albert Lilelo
Mahoney & Foskett Families
Louis Mangione
John & Agnes McAndrews
Jack & Shirley Miller
Amy Nelson
Grace Paldo
Jerome & Alice Palicki
Besse & Dick Parlon
Partacz Family
Gilbert, Isabel & Richard Riess
Marilyn Rutkowski

Paul Sannasardo
Dick Sbragia
Florence & Bob & Rich Schmuhl
Wendell & Wilma Schroeder
Don Schwendner
Claire Sharkey
Wendy Slocum Fitzgibbons
Henry Stoklosa
Marcy Wall
David West
Eileen West
Michelle West
Joe & Josephine Will
John Yelnick Family
Lillian Zydel
Ronald J. Zydel

Love gives us memories and faith gives us strength. May God's healing touch be your comfort. Our parish family prays with you. We are so grateful for your donations in memory and honor of your loved ones. These generous contributions will be used throughout the year to add florals and seasonal decor to our worship space at St. Francis. We appreciate your continued support to help us create a peaceful, prayerful and beautiful space for us to gather together as one family.

Celine Heraty
Arts & Environment Ministry



HEARTS ON FIRE

THE 120: YOUTH GROUP

LIVES ON MISSION



HIGH SCHOOL TEENS & PARENTS

The 120 exists to lead young hearts into a transformative encounter with Jesus Christ, rooted in prayer, community, and mission. This high school youth group (9th-12th) is inspired by the early Church. We gather to grow in faith, be filled with the Holy Spirit, and be sent out as bold witnesses to the Gospel by:

- Coming together as a community in social events
- Dedicating time to serve the community
- Taking on leadership roles
- Leading each other through prayer
- Supporting each other in faith and friendship

WANT TO JOIN THE 120?

CHECK OUT THE PARISH WEBSITE AND CLICK THE YOUTH MINISTRY TAB FOR MORE INFORMATION.

YOU CAN ALSO EMAIL CHRISSY (OUR YOUTH MINISTER):
CALAGNA@SFXLG.ORG



The St. Francis Xavier Music Ministry presents...
Christmas Epiphany Concert & Candlelight

Star of Love

Saturday, January 3, 2026  7:00 p.m.

with the St. Francis Xavier...

- Gallery Choir
- PRAISE! Ensemble
- Seraphim Children's Choir
- Chamber Collective



Donate to the **SFX Music Ministry** by scanning the QR code below...



...or clicking on this link!

<https://www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/218/category/1057/event/20641>

The **SFX Music Ministry** thanks you
for your generous support!



Come and Paint

These reunion sessions bring participants to a greater self-awareness through painting.

Participation open to previous "Come and Paint" or "Paint Your Soul" retreat participants. Facilitators: Mary Helen Crispo and Gillian Romano. Meets Monthly: First Saturdays: 9:30am–12:00pm. \$10 per session. Virtual Only.

Prayerful Pause

No matter where we are in the world, we are ONE Community and we need each other. Drop in and connect meaningfully with others via Zoom. Every week at 9:00am on Mondays and Wednesdays, and every Thursday at 4:30pm.

Meets weekly:

Mondays, 9:00-9:15am

Wednesdays, 9:00-9:15am

Thursdays, 4:30-5:00pm

Free-Donations encouraged
Virtual Only

Zoom Link: [Click Here](#)

Meeting ID: 448 814 3358 Passcode: gift

Learn more & register:

<https://csjthewell.org/programs/>



**Toddler Moms'
Monthly Prayer Party
First Wednesday
of the Month at 8:00pm!**

Location rotates between homes. Email Claire Jakubisin claire.jakubisin@gmail.com or join the Toddling Together Group on the parish Hallow page to stay up-to-date on the location.



We're Looking For A Few Good Men

Alpha men! TMIY men! Men's Club men!
OCIA men! Former college-fraternity men!

Do you have any interest in assisting the elderly, the disabled, the poor, and supporting the cause of life?

Then, man oh man, this is your invitation to join the Knights of Columbus (www.KofCLaGrange.org). The energies of our parish's younger men (18 years old and up) are especially needed. It only takes all of us.

We're a fraternal Order that is the granddaddy of all Catholic men's ministries. Our Order is first in support of those, above, with the most in need. "Vivat Jesus!" has been our Latin motto since our 1882 founding because Jesus is central to our mission. Your home council has been leading good works in the greater LaGrange community since 1973. We could do much, much more with you involved, and we're inviting you to join us. It's easy. Simply send a text message to (our rush-chairman of sorts) Brian Lisek at 630-939-2626 to get started. Today. Tomorrow. To Knight!

SFX Men's Club

Get involved in the parish – we need your help!
Monthly meetings on the 1st Tuesday of the month!

Next meeting is Tuesday, January 6

Contact Matt Hubert mthubert@gmail.com
or Jack Horrigan jfhorrigan@gmail.com
for more information.



SAVE THE DATE 2026 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 22-26

We are pleased to report that our partnership with Grace Lutheran for Vacation Bible School was again a great success in 2025.

We are excited that our partnership with Grace will continue in 2026. This year's theme is "Rainforest Falls". The dates for the summer 2026 VBS are June 22-26. The program runs each day from 9am-Noon. VBS is open to children aged 4 to 4th graders. 5th and 6th graders can participate as members of a service crew that spends the week organizing a variety of service projects including a morning at the SFX food pantry.

The success of VBS relies on teen and parent volunteers. Hours spent volunteering can be used for required service hours. We will provide more details about these opportunities when registration opens.

VBS is an amazing, faith based program that provides many benefits for children and volunteers. We hope you can participate! Registration details will be provided early next year.

Any questions please contact: Phil Zadeik at pjzadeik@gmail.com or Karl Olson at Olson.karl@gmail.com.

SFX PINK RIBBON COMMUNITY

Connect with Breast Cancer Survivors
at SFX for fellowship & support.



Attention high school junior & seniors

Kairos 46 Retreat
February 19th-22nd
St. Mary retreat house

Scan the QR code to register or
you can sign up on our parish
website under Youth Ministry →
Retreats.

Registration closes 1/31

Have questions? Please email
Chrissy (Calagna@sfxlg.org)



Divorce and Beyond 2026 Winter Series

St. Francis Xavier will offer those who are divorced and those experiencing divorce six weekly no-cost evening support sessions starting February 2026. For more information or to pre-register, contact Maggie McMahon, mmcmahon@sfxlg.org, or use the following QR code.



Your Parish Counselor

If you've been feeling the pull toward deeper understanding or noticing places within yourself that feel uncertain or tender, you're not alone. Counseling can offer a gentle space to explore these parts with curiosity and care.

I'm Benjamin Horen, currently completing my Doctorate in Clinical Psychology at the Chicago School. With a background in teaching and health and fitness coaching, I integrate both psychological and physical perspectives to support holistic growth. I work with individuals facing anxiety, depression, trauma, insecurities, and self-doubt—always meeting you where you are.

If you're ready to explore, grow, or simply understand yourself more fully, I'd be honored to walk alongside you. Whenever you feel ready, the door is open. For appointments, call 630-923-8380.

Family Outreach Ministry

Ring in the new year with SERVICE! Join St. Francis Xavier Family Outreach Ministry as we prepare and serve a hot meal to our neighbors in need at the First Congressional Church's Saturday Meals Program. Our next service date is Jan 3, 2026 and there are two time slots from which to choose:

9:00-11:00 AM: Food prep and cooking
11:00 AM-1:00 PM: Food serving & clean up.

Volunteers must be at least 16 years old or 13 years old if accompanied by an adult.

Questions? More information can be found on our Sign-Up Genius Link: [Click Here.](#)



It's the most wonderful time to volunteer!



This holiday season, give the gift of learning!

Volunteer with **Project CARE** and help adults improve their English language skills.

Your time and kindness can make a meaningful difference this season.



Tutor Requirements:

Must be 18 or older | GED/High School diploma required

Minimum 1 hour per week | Training provided by us |

Minimum 6-month commitment



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SFX CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB

LADIES DAY OUT

SAVE THE DATE!

Enjoy an afternoon of food,
friends, music, raffles, and bingo—
perfect for reconnecting, relaxing,
and celebrating our community and
the feminine spirit of
St. Francis Xavier Parish.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

3-6pm

La Grange Country Club

Watch for details soon!

SAVE THE DATE



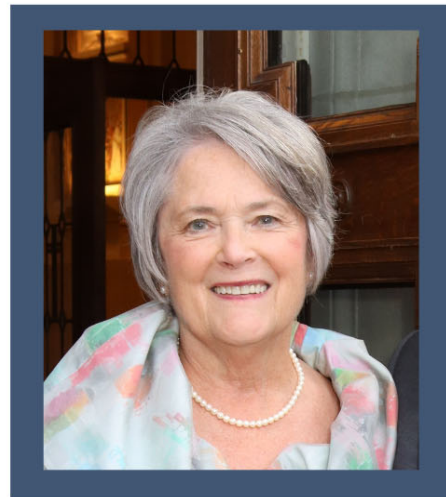
APRIL 18, 2026
MARRIOTT BURR RIDGE
6:30-11:30PM

Ignite 2026 serves to celebrate the legacy of the St. Francis Xavier School and our enduring family of faith, while helping to raise the vital funds needed to help bridge the \$2,000 gap between the cost of tuition and the actual cost to educate a student at SFX. In addition, Ignite raises the vital funds needed to provide well-earned teacher bonuses to our incredible teachers and staff.

Ignite brings together nearly 400 parents, alumni, parishioners and friends for an evening that includes entertainment, a live and silent auction, a premium bar with heavy hors d'oeuvres and more!



**IGNITE MEDAL
AWARD HONOREE:**
PATSY BROWN



We are excited to announce the honoree for Ignite 2026! This award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to his or her community, profession and to St. Francis Xavier School and Parish.

This year, the recipient of our annual Ignite Medal Award will be Patsy Brown. Patsy, the founder of the SFX Enrichment Program in the 1990's and former School Advisory Board member, continues to be a bright light in the parish. Her commitment and dedication have promoted the mission of St. Francis Xavier School through word, action, and deed; like Saint Francis Xavier himself, she continues to set the world on fire!

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



The Vicar for Deacons

Have you ever considered the call to be a Deacon of the Catholic Church?

Join us at **7 p.m.** on
January 19, 2026 at:
Office of the Diaconate
816 Marengo
Forest Park, IL 60130



We will provide an overview of the **Deacon Formation Program, the application process** and **information on the ministry of a deacon**. Men, single or married, are invited to attend. Wives are strongly encouraged to accompany their husbands. For more information and to register for this session, contact the Office of the Diaconate at **708.366.8900**.

“Whom shall I send? Who will go for us? ‘Here I am, send me!’” –Isaiah 6:8



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

- **LCPL Gregory Allen, USMC**—nephew of Barbara Triggs & Anthony Anscombe
- **Kevin Peterson, U.S. Army Infantry**—son of Jon Peterson
- **Major Marcos Melendez, USMC**—nephew of Jon Peterson
- **Major Michelle Melendez, USMC**—niece of Jon Peterson
- **Capt. Nolan Kemna, USMC**—nephew of John & Linda Hill
- **Lt. Col. Jeremy Hutchins, USAF**—brother-in-law of Valerie & Michael Schierl
- **Capt. Colt Marcyan, USMC**—nephew of Noel Cusack
- **Private Jerry Delgado, U.S. Army**—friend of Liz Wilk
- **Chris Johnson, USCG**—nephew of Judi Kudlacz and grandson of Jerry Johnson
- **Dominic James Greco, U.S. Navy**—nephew of Rita Pantoni
- **Airman Jeffrey Niemiec, USAF**—nephew of Nancy & Harry Devereux
- **Sgt. Rob Parisi, U.S. Army 7ATC**—son of Chuck Parisi, Brother of Caitlin & Jack and Grandson of Robert J. Lynch
- **Capt. Jack Albertini, USMC**—son of Bob & Susan Albertini
- **Micah Peralta, DC3 U.S. Navy**—daughter of Mila Esleta
- **Private Julian Vela, U.S. Army**—friend of Joe, Cari, Maddie & Mike Ramaglia
- **Specialist Esteban Vela, U.S. Army**—friend of Joe, Cari, Maddie & Mike Ramaglia
- **Lt. Matthew Edinger, DO, U.S. Navy**—son of John Edinger & Maria Niedos
- **ETNC Andrew Cihak, U.S. Navy**—grandson of John & Marilynn Lux

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

St. Francis Xavier Personnel

Pastoral Ministry

Pastor
Associate Pastor
Deacon
Deacon
Pastoral Associate
Weekend Sacramental Clergy

Rev. John Chrzan
Rev. Richard Milek
Andrew Allison
Phil Gianatasio
Margaret McMahon
Rev. Stan Ilo
Rev. Phil Cyscon
Rev. Tom McCarthy, OSA

jchrzan@sfxlg.org
rmilek@sfxlg.org
aallison@sfxlg.org
pgianatasio@sfxlg.org
mmcmahon@sfxlg.org

Liturgical Music Ministry

Director
Associate Musician
Associate Musician

Allen Sterwalt
Ann Maney
Bob Voves

asterwalt@sfxlg.org

Community Outreach Ministry

Director

Mary Freeman

mfreeman@sfxlg.org

Parish Office Administration

Director of Operations
Director of Stewardship and Development
Finance Manager
Parish Secretary/Receptionist
Staff Secretary/Bulletin Editor
Facilities Manager

Peter Brown
Jennifer Zeisloft
Jane Bandyk
Melissa Westerhoff
Debra Soulje
Antonio Franceschi

pbrown@sfxlg.org
jzeisloft@sfxlg.org
jbandyk@sfxlg.org
mwesterhoff@sfxlg.org
dsoulje@sfxlg.org
afranceschi@sfxlg.org

School Education Administration

Parish School Principal
Assistant Principal
Administrative Assistant
Front Office Coordinator (Morning)
Front Office Coordinator (Afternoon)
Director of Marketing & Enrollment
Special Events and Development Manager
Business Operations/Virtus Coordinator
Tuition Accounts
Director of Religious Education
Religious Education Administrative Assistant
Youth Ministry Coordinator

Jimmy Bajner
Janice Carr
Jeanne Grimes
Joni O'Halloran
Betsy Sullivan
Erin Smith
Katie Adams
Brooke Cermak
Jane Bandyk
Elis Guidice
Cindy Johnson
Christina Alagna

jbajner@sfxlg.org
jcarr@sfxlg.org
jgrimes@sfxlg.org
johalloran@sfxlg.org
bsullivan@sfxlg.org
esmith@sfxlg.org
kadams@sfxlg.org
bcermak@sfxlg.org
jbandyk@sfxlg.org
eguidice@sfxlg.org
cjohnson@sfxlg.org
calagna@sfxlg.org

Contact Information

Parish Office 124 N. Spring.....708-352-0168
St. Francis Xavier Day School708-352-2175
School of Religious Education708-352-4555
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-7:00 pm
Friday.....8:30 am-4:30 pm
Saturday.....9:00 am-12:00 pm

Weekday Masses at St. Francis Xavier Church

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 8:30 am

Weekday Masses at Neighboring Churches

St. Cletus (Monday-Friday) 8:00 am
St. John of the Cross (Monday-Saturday) 9:00 am

Rosary at St. Francis Xavier Church

Thursday 8:15 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every 3rd Thursday 6:00-7:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday morning.....9:00-10:00 am
The Reconciliation room is located off the walkway behind the tabernacle prayer area.

Bulletin Deadline

The deadline for submitting all bulletin articles is 9:00 am on the Monday 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.

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 10:00 to 11:30 am. The pantry serves clients who live in the 60525 and 60526 zip codes. Donation drop off Mondays 9:00 am-Noon at South door of rectory (Door #5).

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 to schedule your child's baptism or email Missy Westerhoff at sfxinlg@sfxlg.org to schedule a date.

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 and respectful. If you are curious about self-exploration, need help managing your mood and anxiety, long for a quiet and safe space, or feel the need to recalibrate, consider making an appointment, with our counselor, Benjamin Horen, from the Claret Center. Please call for an appointment at 630-923-8380.



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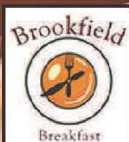


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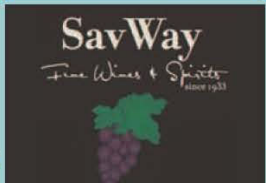


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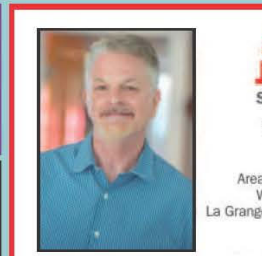
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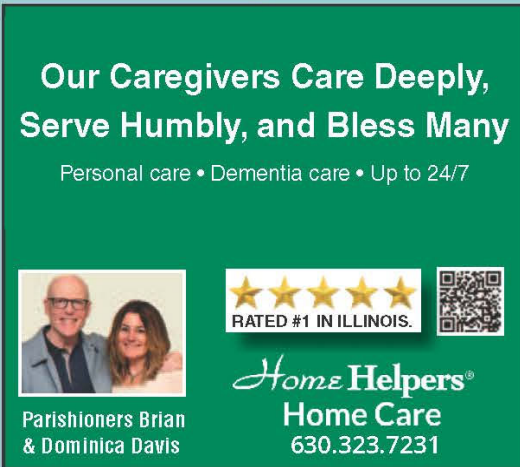
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