

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH
The Ascension of the Lord
May 21, 2023



GLORY



Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you."

JOHN 17:1

Week at a Glance

			Intention	Requested By
Monday, May 22	Mass	8:30 am	Antonio & Terese Franzese Marian Hannigan	The Hannigan Family
Tuesday, May 23	Mass	8:30 am	Irene O'Connor	Mary Tio
Wednesday, May 24	Mass	8:30 am	Marie Ovnik	Judy Ovnik
Thursday, May 25	Rosary	8:15 am		
Friday, May 26	Mass	8:30 am	Andre Eagle	Mother
Saturday, May 27	Mass	8:30 am	People of the Parish	
	Reconciliation	9:00 am		
	Mass	5:00 pm	People of the Parish	
Sunday, May 28	Mass	7:30 am	People of the Parish	
Pentecost Sunday	Mass	9:00 am	Rosemary Fanta	Virginia York
	Mass	11:00 am	People of the Parish	
			No 5:00 pm Mass	

Sunday, May 28 No 5:00 PM Mass Due to Memorial Day

Presider's Schedule for May 20-21, 2023

5:00 pm Fr. Tkachuk 7:30 am Fr. Milek 9:00 am Fr. Tkachuk 11:00 am Fr. Milek 5:00 pm Fr. Tkachuk

Please pray for . . .

Baby Finley Adkins Dick Callahan Michael Cannon Jay Carroll Chili Challender Laurie Coughlan Nancy Cuppage Blake Donegan Barbara Doyle Matthew Doyle Jack Ferritor Lily Fielding Jim French Kathy Gleason Mary Grand Lilli Gregory Wilson Gregory Angela Hill Rose Ilo Mary J. Jane Jacobsen Theresa Kandall Laurel Karlo	Mark Kiley Rick Mahoney Lisa Massaro Patrick Morgan Gert Ogilvie Jane O'Reilly Gregory Osowski Rita Pantoni Beth Pfluger Geri Pfluger Madison Raupp Anna Rose Santa Snieg Rita Mae Spearman John Stopka John Strougal Carol Swiderski Olivia Tarsney Theresa Toher Liz Wilk Bill Witowski
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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.

Born Into Eternal Life



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

Don Kelly

Husband of the late JoAnn
 Father of Deborah, Timothy, Mary, Mark,
 Donald, Carol, the late John, and Peter

Robert Saraz

Husband of Patricia
 Father of Julie, Daniel and the late Philip

Arvid Stasaitis

Husband of Donna
 Father of Rimas & Aleksandra

Weddings



Katie Mortell & David Rosone

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



Pastor's Letter

***“Go and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing and teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”***
Matthew 28:19-20

Jesus ascends to the Father and gives the great commission to his disciples – both to those present that day and to all of us who will become his disciples. *Our mission* is to go, to *make disciples*, to baptize, and to teach. It is easy to understand the baptizing and the teaching. One is a set ritual with its own words and symbols; the other is the process of imparting the knowledge from scripture and the life of the Church over 2,000 years. “Go and make disciples” presents us with the deepest challenge as *missionary disciples*.

Baptizing and teaching are the things we do to help those already on a journey with Christ. *Missionary discipleship reaches out to those not yet on the journey with Christ*; it comes from within. It is rooted in a *personal* relationship with Jesus that is deepened and nurtured through prayer. It involves a willingness to share *our stories* of how God has entered *our lives* in both ordinary and extraordinary ways. It expresses an enthusiasm, a joy, and a peace that grows from God's dwelling within us.

The disciples were not yet ready to take on this mission on the day of the Ascension. The fire and breath of the Holy Spirit would literally drive them out to give witness to Jesus. We are challenged to desire what they came to experience: the presence of God so alive in us that we attract others to want to discover what we have found. We make a conscious decision to become a communion: united with those we know and those whom we do not yet know; those with whom we easily agree and those whose views challenge us; those who walk in relatively straight lines and those who wander and explore. This is the Spirit that breathed life into the early church and led to tremendous growth. We pray for the same Spirit to breathe into us and send us out as missionary disciples who carry the message of Jesus to others by our witness as a community of faith.

Ten days ago, the Archdiocese announced that it was lifting all COVID restrictions and leaving to each parish the decisions on how to proceed. Obviously, COVID is not “gone.” People in our community continue to test positive; and those with compromised immune systems must continue to take extra precautions. After consulting with members of parish staff and leadership, I have decided that at this point we will not make any further changes to our procedures. The communion cups will return only when there is greater assurance that this will not present unnecessary risks to our ministers of communion or others; ministers of communion will continue to sanitize their hands before distributing the Eucharist. We continue to encourage anyone who is uncomfortable shaking hands at the Sign of Peace to place a hand over your heart as you face others and wish them peace. I welcome your comments as we discern the best response for this faith community.

Finally, the **Sunday 5PM Mass** will continue throughout the summer **with only two early summer exceptions: Memorial Day weekend and Father's Day**. We will celebrate the 5PM Mass on all other Sundays until Labor Day weekend. We welcome you to join us on Sunday evenings this summer.

Easter Peace,

J. Bill

Job Opening: Parish Business Manager

The Business Manager is a professional administrator who reports directly to the Pastor. This minister assists the Pastor with stewardship of the financial and personnel resources of the parish, working closely with the Facility Manager, School Principal, Accountant, other staff members and volunteer leadership in managing our parish strategically and responsibly.

Primary Responsibilities are in the areas of:

1) Financial Management

- Prepares and analyzes the annual budget, balance sheet and income statements for the parish and elementary school.
- Supervises the Parish Accountant in maintaining bookkeeping functions.
- Meets with the Parish Finance Council at least five times per year. Advises and informs the Council regarding current giving trends, upcoming capital and annual projects, operating income, cash-flow analysis, and other pertinent information necessary for the Council to provide insight and assistance in the financial strategies of the Parish.
- Supports the facility manager, especially with respect to large capital expenditures and Archdiocesan contracts.
- Advises the pastor and principal on contracts and negotiates with the assistance of Archdiocesan attorneys and facility resources.

2) Personnel Management

- Implements Archdiocesan human resource policies related to hiring and termination, annual staff evaluations, and benefit administration.

3) Administration

- Manages the workforce timekeeping and payroll systems with the Parish Accountant.

Applicants may submit their resume to Jennifer Zeisloft (jzeisloft@sfxlg.org), or contact her for more information.



Job Opening: SFX School Marketing & Enrollment Director

The Marketing and Enrollment Director at St. Francis Xavier School is a member of the administrative team, reporting directly to the Principal. This position works closely with the Principal, and School Registrar, to achieve enrollment goals. In addition, this position collaborates with Faculty, Office Staff, School Advisory Board and Volunteer Committees to promote accomplishments and activities at St. Francis Xavier School; a two-time Blue Ribbon Winner for academic excellence with students in Preschool through 8th grade.



Key Job Responsibilities:

- Marketing/Public Relations/Communication
 - Edit, revise, and monitor the school website and school related social networking sites.
 - Coordinate, create and publish a weekly school newsletter for the school community.
 - Graphics creation, and development of school news, communications promoting school events, school missions & alumni focused stories/content, and school fundraising events for school, parish and community media channels.
 - Create and publish a School Annual Report to include a State of the School letter from the Principal/Pastor, a financial summary, fundraising/endowment growth, a list of donors and stories highlighting the school's accomplishments.
 - Serve as a member of the Strategic Plan Committee to maintain and achieve the goals in the plan dealing with marketing and enrollment.
- Enrollment
 - Coordinate recruitment and New Family registration activities; developing and maintaining all school recruitment materials.
 - Direct school tours for prospective families.
 - Coordinate the annual School Open House with the School Advisory Board.
 - Maintain and analyze enrollment and demographic trends, projections, and retention data to complete an annual enrollment funnel; creating a plan for projected enrollment.

Applicants may submit their resume to Principal Sharon Garcia (sgarcia@sfxlg.org) or contact her for more information.

ALL PARISH SERVICE DAYS!

June 6-10, 2023

Doing God's Work in the World

Kick off your summer by being part of an outreach team with family, friends and fellow parishioners!

Teens, get a jumpstart on your Confirmation and high school service requirements!

Registration is ongoing! Go to: sfxlg.org under quicklinks

SERVICE DAY OPPORTUNITIES

All events will take place on June 10th unless otherwise noted.

SERVICE PARTNER	PROJECT	TEAM LEADER(S)
SFX Food Pantry (6/6)	Serve pantry guests	Mary Freeman
Rosary (6/8)	Pray in Mary Garden	Katie Kanzer
Go Green LaGrange Farmers Market (6/8)	Collect recyclable items	TBD
Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants (6/9)	Pray at Broadview Detention Center	Maureen Lang
BEDS	Set Up & Serve Breakfast & Lunch & Visit with clients	Jim O'Hara
BEDS	Pack Meals at SFX	Mary Freeman
Blood Drive	Donate Blood in SFX Gym	Mark Azzi
Challenger Baseball	Play ball with a buddy at Sedgwick Park	Joe Discipio
Companions Journeying Together (Prison Ministry)	Write Notes and Hear testimony at SFX	Marge Branecki
Congregation of St. Joseph	Clean up CSJ plots at Queen of Heaven Cemetery	Emily Bersnak
First Congregational Saturday Meal Program	Prepare and Serve Lunch	Ana Dimailig Rachel Peterson
Fuller Center for Housing	Bless Team before they depart for Clarksdale, MS to build and repair homes	Chris O'Hea
Helping Hand	Clean up yard at a La Grange group home	Greg Schuler
Interfaith Community Partners (Random Acts of Kindness)	Repurpose flowers at SFX and deliver to seniors	Margie Hull
Mission OLA (Our Lady of Angels)	Garden, Clean, Pack Food bags in Chicago	Matt Kanzer
SFX Food Pantry	Sort & Stock Food	Lynn Regan Alice Vida

If you have questions, ideas, or would like to lead an outreach team, please contact: Mary Freeman, Director of Community Outreach at mfreeman@sfxlg.org or 708-352-0168.



Sr. Women's Group Spring Luncheon

Thursday, June 15, 2023
Gathering @ 11:30am
Lunch @ Noon

Matrone's
9 E. 31st Street
La Grange Park, Illinois

*This is a reservation event.
RSVP with a payment of \$25 to the
Rectory by Wednesday, May 31.*

If transportation is a problem, call
Clare @ 708-420-2950 or Mary Sue @ 708-616-5474

Retired & Semi-Retired Men's Group
SUMMER BBQ

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023
REFRESHMENTS @ 11:30 AM
LUNCH @ NOON

RECTORY COURTYARD PATIO
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LA GRANGE, ILLINOIS

RSVP TO THE RECTORY
@ 708-352-0168
BY NOON MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023

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Engage Community Spring and Summer Events

All are welcome. Engage focuses on adults over 50 single, married, divorced, widowed, parishioners and visitors to foster Christian community through social and service events.

RSVPs are required for this event by June 26 to janeLGPark@gmail.com. Please email Jane with any questions. Save the date for our July 12 and July 29 events; information to follow.



June 8 Lizzadro Museum Excursion

Where: 1220 Kensington Road
Oak Brook, IL 60523

When: 1:00 pm Thursday, June 8

What: The museum is dedicated to the lapidary arts with displays of gemstones, jewelry and bejeweled objects, and exhibits on earth science.

The local libraries offer discount passes. With the pass the fee for seniors is \$4

RSVPs are required for this event by June 5 to janeLGPark@gmail.com



June 28 Dinner at Buck's Pit Stop

Where: 6501 Kane Avenue
Hodgkins, IL 60525

When: 5:30 pm Wednesday, June 28

What: Homey and hospitable bar & grill with NASCAR memorabilia serving a variety of American food, plus beer, wine & cocktails. Participants will be responsible for their tab.

RSVPs are required for this event by June 23 to janeLGPark@gmail.com

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, June 13

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



Fuller Center Collection

The second collection at this weekend's masses supports the parish's annual mission trip to Clarksdale, Mississippi with The Fuller Center for Housing (formerly Habitat for Humanity.) This summer, St. Francis Xavier will send two groups of volunteers to the Mississippi Delta. Your donation will help cover the cost of building materials and other costs necessary for SFX volunteers to provide affordable housing for a Clarksdale family currently living in substandard conditions.

To make a donation, use this QR code.



Or copy & paste this link into your browser:

<https://www.givecentral.org/location/218/category/1057/event/13243>

Or go to the parish website <http://www.sfxlq.org>. Click on "Donate". "Church - Other Giving". Then click The Fuller Center logo.

Thank you very much for your support!

EDYTHE GARDENERS

The late Edythe Skokna once upon a time chaired the SFX gardening committee. Her daughter, Cathy, is reviving the committee, to beautify the grounds around the church and rectory.

If you are interested in serving on the committee, or just inquiring about the committee, please contact Cathy at cmskokna@att.net.

Also, if you would like to donate any annuals or perennials, please drop them off in the Rectory Courtyard between the church and rectory (enter from the stairs next to God's Garage). Email Cathy to tell her what you dropped off and she will make sure they are planted.

Thank you!

Catholic Women's Club

The St. Francis Xavier CWC (Catholic Women's Club) is seeking volunteers to support 2022/2023 efforts including service projects, event planning (including Ladies Day Out) and more. Join the fun and reach out to Lauren Desmond lauren.e.desmond@gmail.com or Erin Thunander erin.thunander@gmail.com if you'd like to get involved.



The Well Spirituality Center
1515 Ogden Avenue, LaGrange Park
To register or find out more go to
www.csjthewell.org or call 708-482-5048.

Bloom in June Annual Fundraiser on Sunday, June 3 at 4:00 pm Mass followed by Courtyard Cocktails, Dinner, and Good company, delicious Italian food, fabulous silent auction items, games and other delights await at The Well's annual fundraiser. This year we honor Carol and Bob Dobis and Janet and Bill Stauffer for their years of service to The Well. Ticket price: \$80 find out more information at: one.bidpal.net/bloominjune2023/welcome.



Summer Guided Retreat, with Option for Direction on Sunday, June 4 at 7:00 pm through Friday, June 9 at 4:00 pm Each morning retreatants will gather for a communal session of prayer and a presentation regarding the themes of Laudato Si', followed by the option for spiritual direction. In the evenings, gather for a sharing of the graces of the day. Retreatants will also gather communally for an opening session and a closing session. This retreat is a hybrid. Cost: \$600 overnight/\$500 Commuter/\$300 Zoom.



2023 Divorce and Beyond Support Spring Series

Thursday Evenings (7:00-8:15 pm) in Unity Hall
May 18 through June 29

Divorce and Beyond is a faith-based process for divorced adults designed to offer support, fellowship, and healing to those recently divorced or going through a divorce. Topics include: stress, anger, forgiveness, and healing. There is no cost to attend. There is a participant guide that may be ordered online when you register.

Register on line [Click Here](#) or call Melissa Westerhoff at 708-352-0168.



Grief Support Group

For 6 Weeks Beginning June 12
Mondays at 9:00 am
following the 8:30 mass in Unity Hall

Seasons of Hope at St. Francis Xavier Parish will meet over a 6-week period to help participants navigate the grief process. Anyone mourning the loss of a loved one is welcome to attend. It is suggested that participants allow 3-6 months from the time of loss before attending. Attending Mass is *not* a requirement for the group!

Participants say:

"The focus on prayer and scripture reminds me that God is within me."

"This group was just what I needed at this time."

"Meeting wonderful people because of difficult times is a blessing."

"Helpful and comforting for my healing."

[Click here](#) or call the rectory at 708-352-0168 for more information or to register.



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

- **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. Commander 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**—son of Jon Peterson
- **Major Marcos Melendez, USMC**—nephew of Jon Peterson
- **Major Michelle Melendez, USMC** niece of Jon Peterson
- **Staff Sgt. Nolan Kemna, USMC**—nephew of John & Linda Hill
- **Phil Lukanich, U.S. Navy**—husband and brother-in-law of Joanna and son of Mark & Martie Lukanich
- **Lt. M. Ryan Lukanich, U.S. Army**—son of Mark & Martie Lukanich
- **Staff Sgt. Scott Blunk**—husband of Brianne and son-in-law of Maureen Becker
- **Lt. Daniel McGue**—grandson of Sue Ryan
- **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
- **Spec Timothy Lucas, U.S. Army**—nephew of Rosemary and Sr. Kathleen Lucas, and Kate & Beau Medlock
- **Chris Johnson, USCG**—nephew of Judi Kudlacz and grandson of Jerry & Nancy Johnson
- **Dominic James Greco, U.S. Navy**—nephew of Rita Pantoni
- **Major Meghan Cumpston, U.S. Army**—cousin of Lauren Schultz
- **Airman Jeffrey Niemiec, USAF**—nephew of Nancy & Harry Devereux
- **Sgt. Rob Parisi, U.S. Army 7ATC**—son of Chuck and Kathi Parisi, Brother of Caitlin & Jack and Grandson of Robert J. Lynch
- **Lt. Brendan Short, U.S. Army Airborne**—nephew of Don & Rita Baumgart
- **Colonel Jessica Nichol, USAF**—daughter-in-law of Tom & Lucile Nichol
- **Capt. Jack Albertini, USMC**—son of Bob & Susan Albertini
- **Felix Estrada, U.S. Army**—friend of John & Dawn McCormick

**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
Director of Community Outreach
Retired Weekend Sacramental Minister
Weekend Sacramental Minister

Rev. William Tkachuk
Rev. Richard Milek
Andrew Allison
Phil Gianatasio
Margaret McMahon
Mary Freeman
Rev. William Killeen
Rev. Stan Ilo

wtkachuk@sfxlg.org
 rmilek@sfxlg.org
 aallison@sfxlg.org
 pgianatasio@sfxlg.org
 mmcmahon@sfxlg.org
 mfreeman@sfxlg.org

Education Ministry

Parish School Principal
Assistant Principal
School Office Coordinator
Parish School Secretary
Advancement Director
Tuition Accounts
Director of Religious Education
Religious Education Administrative Assistant

Sharon Garcia
Janice Carr
Ashley Augustyniak
Peggy Evans
Mary Tassi
Jennifer Zeisloft
Elis Guidice
Cindy Johnson

sgarcia@sfxlg.org
 jcarr@sfxlg.org
 aagustyniak@sfxlg.org
 pevans@sfxlg.org
 mtassi@sfxlg.org
 jzeisloft@sfxlg.org
 eguidice@sfxlg.org
 cjohnson@sfxlg.org

Youth Ministry

Coordinator

Jenette Teran

jteran@sfxlg.org

Music Ministry

Director

Allen Sterwalt

asterwalt@sfxlg.org

Parish Office Staff

Director of Stewardship and Operations
Parish Accountant
Pastor's Secretary
Parish Secretary
Staff Secretary
Facilities Manager

Jennifer Zeisloft
Jane Bandyk
Maureen Pipal
Melissa Westerhoff
Debra Soulje
Antonio Franceschi

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

Contact Information

Parish Office 124 N. Spring708-352-0168
 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 Number708-352-4904
 e-Mailsfxinlg@sfxlg.org
 Main Day School e-Mail.....sfxmain@sfxlg.org
 Main Religious Education e-Mail.....sfxreligiused@sfxlg.org
 Parish Web Sitewww.sfxlg.org

Rectory Hours

Monday-Friday.....8:30 am-7:30 pm
 Saturday.....9:00 am-12:00 pm

Weekday Masses at St. Francis Xavier Church

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 8:30 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.

Private Prayer at Neighboring Churches

St. Cletus (Monday - Friday).....9:00 am-12:00 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesdays at St. Cletus

St. John of the Cross (Monday - Saturday).....8:00 -10:00 am

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.

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

At this time, our counseling sessions will be virtual/online.

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 parish counselor, BC Shelly, from the Claret Center. He can be reached by phone 704-750-0686 or email bc.shelly.claret@gmail.com.

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For a tour contact **Ron Molitor** at 708.482.1217 or rmolitor@csjinitiatives.org.

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