



**SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH**  
**1st Sunday of Lent**  
**March 9, 2025**



**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**BELONG • BELIEVE • BE LOVE**

## Week at a Glance

			Intention	Requested By
Monday, March 10	Mass	8:30 am	Herbert & Mary Schrack Mary Grand Michael J. Daly	The Grand Family Patrick Daly
Tuesday, March 11	Mass	8:30 am	Betty Allison	The Rogowski Family
Wednesday, March 12	Mass	8:30 am	John Sutkowski	The Stasaitis Family
Thursday, March 13	Rosary Mass	8:15 am 8:30 am	Claire Sharkey	Jerry & Nancy Johnson
Friday, March 14	Stations Mass	7:45 am 8:30 am	John Mulholland Lawrence Skipper	The Westerhoff Family Nancy Panson
Saturday, March 15	Mass Reconciliation Mass	8:30 am 9:00 am 5:00 pm	Living Intention Mary Beth Harris & Michael Butler Kathleen Fallon	Susan Devitt Frank & Meg Munaretto
Sunday, March 16 2nd Sunday of Lent	Mass Mass Mass Mass	7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Dean Hill Jim Egan Tom LaBash Thomas S. Witte, Jr.	The Hannigan Family The Cooley Family Barbara & Pete Tomaino Lynnea & Amanda Paul

### President's Schedule for March 8-9, 2025

5:00 pm Fr. Tkachuk

7:30 am Fr. Tkachuk

9:00 am Fr. Milek

11:00 am Fr. Ilo

5:00 pm Fr. Tkachuk

### Please pray for . . .

Melissa Aravalo	Richard Lavers
Jack Bernauer	Eleanor Love
Vivian Brickhouse	Amy Miller
Kevin Brooks	Greg Molinari
Nick Caputo	Patrick Morgan
Mary Kate Corrigan	Bill Mroz
Mark Davis	Ann Marie Nieves
Blake Donegan	Connie O'Dette
Tom Flynn	Mark Reilly
Baby Lupe Baker Garcia	June Sheehan
Allen Godlewski	Juan Silva
Vincenzo Guzzo	Sheila Slonskis
Junie Haase	Gregg Stephenson
Mateo Herhold	John Stopka
Angela Hill	Sophie Stratton
Jessi Rita Hoffman	Olivia Tarsney
Michelle Kram	Chuck Witte

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:

**Robert Mical**  
Brother of Gary Lewis

Make a gift to the  
Regular Sunday Offertory  
with this QR Code.

Thank you for your support!



### Stations of the Cross

Join us on the Fridays of Lent for the Stations of the Cross at 7:45 am. March 14, March 21, March 28, April 4 and April 11.

### SPRING FORWARD



This weekend, don't forget to Spring ahead one hour as Daylight savings time will begin. Be sure to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors.

## Pastor's Letter

*"My father was a wandering Aramean."*  
Deuteronomy 26:5

**Who am I and from whom did I come?** Moses gave clear instructions to the people of Israel that, having entered the Promised Land and benefitted from its fruits, they should give thanks and remember their origins. The bounty of their new homeland was not due to their worthiness nor the result of their own efforts. Their freedom, the land in which they could now raise their descendants, and the abundant produce of the land were all gifts from a loving God. *God had led them* out of slavery, through the desert, and into a rich land they could call their own. And God had done so despite their complaints of hunger and thirst, their turning away from God to worship false idols, and their lack of trust that God would protect them.

On this first Sunday of Lent, we hear that Jesus was *led by the Spirit* into the desert to face the same temptations as his ancestors. In the face of hunger, Jesus refuses to complain, but rather reaffirms his trust that God will provide for his needs. In the face of his own powerlessness, Jesus refuses to grasp for security, but rather proclaims that he will rely on God's power alone. And in the face of his own vulnerability, Jesus refuses to tempt God, but rather places his life in God's hands. Jesus opens the path to a new Promised Land through fasting, giving alms, and prayer.

And so, we begin again to walk this journey with the Lord. This is not a journey that we plan with some personal goal or accomplishment in mind. **Like Jesus**, we allow ourselves to be *led by the Spirit* in response to God's invitation. *We empty our minds and our hearts and quiet the noises* that distract us from recognizing the presence of God. We fast for a time; but not in hope of losing weight and fitting into a new Easter outfit. In fact, our fasting may not involve food at all. *We might fast from television or video games. We might fast from gossiping about and judging others. We might fast from some of the activities that overflow our schedule* and leave little room for being still.

**Like Jesus**, we trust that we have been given all that we need. In gratitude, we *open our eyes and hearts* to see the ways in which God is inviting us to share some of our abundance with those in greater need. *We seek to become more aware* of the ways in which people are experiencing hunger, poverty, or rejection. *We offer our time and our talent* to defend the defenseless, to speak on behalf of the silenced, and to feed the hungry hearts whose resources are limited.

**Like Jesus**, we go off by ourselves and place God at the center of our lives; *we listen* for what God is asking of us. *We set aside time* in each day simply to place ourselves in the presence of God, even if

that time seems "unproductive" by our own standards. We confess our sins and experience God's healing mercy. We place in God's hands those who are struggling, isolated, or afraid. We listen for the urges that God places within us and pray for the discernment and determination to follow where God leads us.

**Who are you, and from whom did you come?** Lent offers us an opportunity to spend time with God and allow God to tell us what God sees. We can fast yet not grow hungry; give away yet not grow poor; be still and yet be filled with life. *The Spirit is eager to lead.*

Lenten Blessings,

*J. Bill*

### Reflection for the 1st Sunday of Lent

Liturgy Planning Team #2

Carol Aronson, Margie Goc, Diane Redmond,  
Bernadette McMahon, and Joan Stopka

What place does God have in my life? This is a question to consider in the next 40 days. We are reminded of the 3 tenets of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. By means of prayer our hearts and minds are changed, making us think differently about ourselves, the people around us and our world. By fasting we join Jesus in sacrifice. We become more aware of God's presence in our lives. By almsgiving we share our gifts and talents, our mercy and love with those in need.

In the first reading we rejoice with the people who have withstood 40 years of wandering, regrouping and suffering to be brought to "this land flowing with milk and honey." God remained with them on their journey, a constant presence as he is with us in our trials and troubles.

In the second reading, God urges us to not only express our faith internally in our hearts but to externally express our faith through our mouths. Through us his presence is felt and revealed in the world.

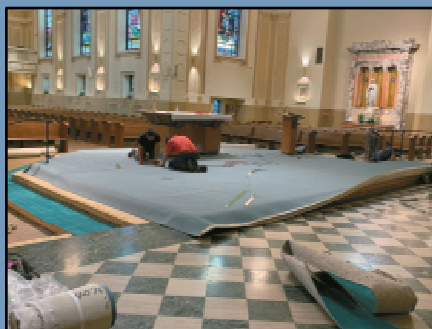
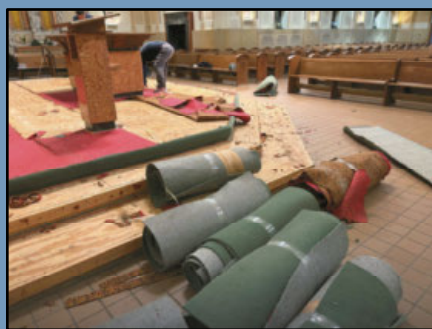
Lent is a time of testing. What an extraordinary role model Jesus is for us. What courage and obedience are displayed for his father in the face of great temptation. His father remained with him as he is in our lives when we experience moments of weakness and darkness.

We will face challenges during Lent. We may falter at times, but we will not fail because Jesus is with us. He loves us and only wants the best for us. He will never leave us.



# New Carpet For Our Altar

Take a look at our new carpeting in church! DeSitter Flooring removed the old carpet on February 26 so that our audio contractor could run the necessary wiring underneath on February 27. Then DeSitter Flooring returned on February 28 to install the new. Thank you again to Tom Cunningham and DeSitter Flooring for this amazing donation to transform our worship space.



## Music Notes...

### SFX Parish “First Communion” Children’s Choir

An invitation goes out to all SFX Parish children who like to sing in **grades 1, and 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8**, who are not currently singing in a SFX Parish Children’s Choir, to join for the up-coming First Communion Masses, which will be held on **Saturday, May 3rd at 9:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.** Children are NOT required to sing at all three Masses.

IF YOUR CHILDREN ARE CURRENTLY SINGING IN ONE OF THE PARISH CHILDREN’S CHOIRS, THERE IS NO NEED TO RE-REGISTER. **Rehearsals will begin the week of March 24th.** Please see below for the breakdown:

- Grades 1 & 3.....Tuesdays: 3:40 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.  
*First Rehearsal: Tuesday, March 25th*
- Grades 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8.....Thursdays: 3:40 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.  
*First Rehearsal: Thursday, March 27th*

**Please use the link below to register!**

<https://forms.gle/TT8Tr3vgiwpY2NBE9>

We do not live  by bread alone



## St. Vincent de Paul Society Second Collection March 15 & 16

The St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVdP) is a lay Catholic organization that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society. Our SVdP Ministry assists parishioners and families and individuals in the LaGrange area when they encounter a financial hardship. In addition, SVdP meets with our clients to help them avoid a similar situation in the future by discussing their circumstances and directing them to resources in the community.

To donate, [click here](#) or place your donation in an envelope marked "St. Vincent de Paul" and drop it in the collection basket. **Thank you for your generosity!**

To learn more about this ministry, please contact Pat Murphy at [ptmnrj2@yahoo.com](mailto:ptmnrj2@yahoo.com).

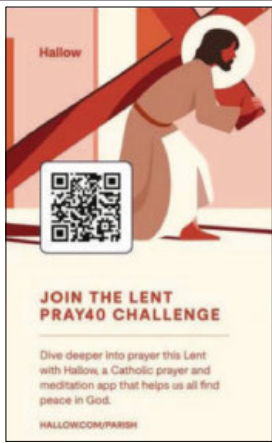
*"I ask Our Lord to be your light and strength in all events of life." St. Vincent*

## When Are They Installing The New Church Sound System?

We have just been notified by our contractor, Procom, that the equipment for the new church sound system has been delayed coming out of California. Because of timing and scheduling issues, Procom will begin the major installation after Lent and Easter Week. All scheduled events and ceremonies for the month of March and early April will continue as planned. Once the equipment arrives, we will adjust the schedule from that point forward. We appreciate your patience.



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## PRAY40 LENTEN PRAYER CHALLENGE

Join St. Francis Xavier Parish on Hallow this Lent for Pray40 as we meditate on the writings of St. Josemaria Escrivá, author of the spiritual classic *The Way*.

Together, we'll hear Escrivá's powerful advice and spiritual direction brought to life through the story of Servant of God Takashi Nagai, a Japanese Catholic convert who miraculously survived the atomic bombing of Nagasaki in 1945. In a moment he lost everything, but through it he surrendered himself and his city to the Lord.

To join the prayer challenge, visit our parish page on the **Community tab** of the **Hallow app**. If you're brand new to Hallow, visit [www.hallow.com/parish](http://www.hallow.com/parish) to get set up.

We look forward to praying with you.

## Holy Yoga

Come join us for an evening of yoga and prayer, focusing on settling and connecting mind, body and heart as we journey through lent. We will practice breathing and movement as well as open ourselves to the Spirit through scripture. No prior yoga or prayer experience required! Yoga will be led by Freya Smith, an experienced yoga instructor who is skilled at working with a wide range of abilities.

**Thursday, March 20, 7:00 to 8:00 PM**

Unity Hall (enter through doors between church and school)

Please bring a yoga mat, water bottle and large towel or blanket for extra support in some of the stretches. Comfortable clothing recommended.

Register by [clicking here](#) or scanning the QR code. There is a \$20 suggested donation per registrant.



## Little Black Books for Lent

Little Black Book devotionals are available by each church door for your Lenten prayer. Please feel free to take one with you!



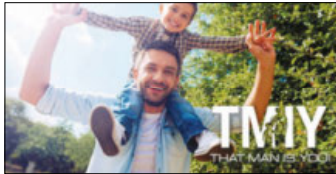
## SFX RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FUNDRAISER

PISA PIZZA—5440 LA GRANGE ROAD—COUNTRYSIDE, IL

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12 FROM 3:00-8:00 PM

25% OF ALL PIZZA SALES WILL SUPPORT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CALL AND MENTION SFX AT 708-352-0008



### *That Man Is You* Men's Group

All men are invited to join the Spring Sessions of *That Man is YOU (TMIY)* on Tuesdays, at 8:00pm in the school chapel (enter at Unity Hall)

*THAT MAN IS YOU!* is an interactive men's program focused on the development of male leadership in the modern world. Christ didn't say, "Behold, I make new things." He said, "Behold, I make all things new."

A new day is dawning for Catholic men. Now is our hour! The future of the world and the Church is happening on our watch. His mercy is new every morning. A new hope is rising!



Interested? Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to register.

### Attn: All High School Teens!



Are you looking to grow stronger in your Faith? Are you looking for ways to navigate the challenges and complexities of your high school years? Do you wonder how our Faith fits into a world which often seems to dismiss or be disrespectful to our Faith? Please join a group of like-minded teens to explore these issues at Crossroads.

We meet twice per month on Sunday nights to explore faith, build community, and share perspectives. We will also have some outreach/volunteer opportunities.

**All meetings take place in Unity Hall after the 5:00PM Mass, from 6:00-7:00PM and includes dinner.**

This program is in its second year at SFX and we are excited about being able to support the faith journey of our teens. We welcome all high school students regardless of faith/parish, so bring your friends.

**Our Meetings with dinner included are scheduled for: Sunday, March 16 and Sunday, April 13**

Please use link or QR code to sign up and also for more information including upcoming dates and details!

<https://bit.ly/SFXCrossroads>

Questions and to RSVP?

Please reach out to Laura and Greg Ozark at [greg.ozark@gmail.com](mailto:greg.ozark@gmail.com) or [lauraozark@yahoo.com](mailto:lauraozark@yahoo.com)



### Legacy Gifts for Our Parish

Please consider one of the greatest acts of stewardship an individual can make by establishing an estate plan. These gifts help us to build a solid foundation for the Catholic formation of future generations. A well-coordinated estate plan typically includes: (1) financial power of attorney, (2) will, (3) beneficiary designations, (4) charitable beneficiary designations and (5) health care documents, such as a living will and a health care power of attorney.

Create or update your estate plans today by contacting your estate attorney and financial advisor. For more information, please contact **Jennifer Zeisloft**, [izeisloft@sfxlg.org](mailto:izeisloft@sfxlg.org), **708-352-0168** or visit [myimpact.archchicago.org/resources](http://myimpact.archchicago.org/resources) please contact Deacon Greg Vogt, Philanthropy Officer, Archdiocese of Chicago at 312-995-0686 or [gvogt@archchicago.org](mailto:gvogt@archchicago.org).



## Your Gift, God's Hands Offertory Report

### Total Sunday and Christmas Collection through February:

This Year:	\$1,293,638
Last Year:	\$1,245,853

**Total Annual Offertory Budget:** \$1,930,000

\*\*\*\*\*

This month, we highlight the Catholic prayer app which parishioners have joined as a parish community since we introduced it in October 2024. The Hallow app is one new way in which SFX is responding to parishioner feedback gained during the "Disciple Maker Index" survey in 2023. Our Pastoral Associate, Maggie McMahon, shares: "We received 271 responses from people who attend Mass *at least* weekly. Approximately 64% said the parish does not teach them to read or pray with scripture, and 35% said the parish did not provide events or opportunities to which they could invite others. And these were responses primarily from people who came to church at least once a week, if not more! We immediately prioritized addressing these gaps in spiritual formation. When we heard about the opportunity to become one of the first 'Parish Partners' with the Hallow prayer app, we saw a resource that had the ability to transform prayer lives at St. Francis Xavier and beyond."

St. Francis is now able to equip parishioners in ALL of the above areas!

- **Hallow teaches us to pray in new ways** – from traditional Catholic prayers like the rosary to meditation and contemplative prayer to prayer with music.
- On our parish Hallow page, parishioners are able to share reflections and prayer intentions, as well as pray for the prayer intentions of others in a virtual **communal faith-sharing environment**.
- Hallow reflections almost *all* include some element of **Scriptural reflection**, but the app also includes **Scripture-specific content** like: Bible in a Year, daily readings and Gospel reflections, scriptural meditation and contemplative prayer, and more.
- **Hallow is easy to share with others as a "first step"** towards joining or returning to a faith community.

The Partnership enables us to offer six all-parish challenges (free to all those who join our Hallow page) and a \$1 first year subscription to all premium content on the app.

Your offertory investment gave us a chance to answer a real, expressed need in our parishioners – and in the community around us! Thank you for putting your gift into God's hands!

# Hallow



If you are not already a Hallow user or a member of our parish page on Hallow, please join us for our parish Lenten Challenge! You can scan the QR code below or visit [www.hallow.com/parish](http://www.hallow.com/parish) to get started.

Make a gift to Sunday offertory with this QR Code or [click here](#). Thank you for your stewardship!







The St. Francis Xavier School is one of the many wonderful ministries within the St. Francis Xavier Parish. We are fortunate to have an active School Advisory Board (SAB) that works throughout the year on behalf of our school and parish community. The purpose of the SAB is to:

- Review and recommend policies that govern the operation of the school;
- Advise the Pastor in hiring the principal;
- Review and comment on the annual budget and assist with the development of sources for school funding, including tuition rates;
- Participate in the school's development, student recruitment efforts, and long-range plans;
- Help accomplish the goals and objectives of the St. Francis Xavier Parish School Mission Statement;
- Participate in the implementation of the school Strategic Plan;
- Listen to and communicate with parishioners and school parents; and
- Promote and publicize the school.

The SAB currently consists of eleven (11) members who each serve a three-year term. Each member is assigned to one of the five standing committees of the SAB. The standing committees are listed below:

1. Catholic Identity Committee
2. Strategic Planning Committee
3. Finance Committee
4. Development Committee
5. Marketing/Communications Committee

The SAB is looking for talented and energetic individuals to fill **four (4)** SAB openings.

## Interested in Becoming a School Advisory Board Member?

The School Advisory Board is currently accepting applications. Are you a:

- parent (guardian) of a school student? It's never too early or too late.
- parent (guardian) of a religious education student? We welcome your unique insights.
- parishioner? Possibly even an alumna/us of SFX? Candidates need not be parents.
- marketing, legal or educational (teaching and/or administrative) talent? We have a particular need in these fields.

The School Advisory Board requires a diversity of backgrounds and skill sets, *so any absence of the above characteristics **should not** discourage those whose talents live elsewhere from applying.* All submissions for candidacy are valued!

For more information regarding the School Advisory Board and the application process, **any interested parishioner or school parent (guardian)** can refer to the St. Francis Xavier School website ([www.sfxlg.org](http://www.sfxlg.org)) or contact School Advisory Board Member Molly Olson at [molly.strzelecki@gmail.com](mailto:molly.strzelecki@gmail.com) or 708-359-5422. If you intend to apply, please notify Molly Olson of the same no later than **March 15, 2025.**



**SFX Theatre  
Proudly Presents Annie, Jr.**



Follow the unforgettable journey of Annie, the spunky orphan who never gives up hope! Packed with iconic songs like, "Tomorrow" & "Hard Knocked Life", this production will warm your heart and have you singing along! Come out and experience a heartwarming musical for the whole family!

**Watch for Dates  
May 2025!**

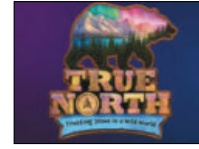


**Calling All  
Carpenters/Handy  
People!**

We need your skills to help bring *Annie Jr.* to life! Our production requires some basic set pieces, including walls, stairs, and bunk beds, and we're looking for volunteers to help build them as soon as possible.

If you or someone you know has carpentry experience and can lend a hand, please reach out to us at [slovera@sfxlq.org](mailto:slovera@sfxlq.org). Your support will make a huge impact on our show—thank you in advance!

**SAVE THE DATE 2025  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
JUNE 23-27**



We are pleased to report that our partnership with Grace Lutheran for Vacation Bible School was a great success last summer. Attendance was up significantly due to support and participation from the SFX community.

We are continuing our partnership with Grace for 2025. The dates for the summer VBS program are June 23 through 27, each day from 9:00am-Noon. VBS is open to children aged 4 through 4th grade. 5th and 6th graders can participate as members of a service crew that will spend the week organizing and conducting a variety of service projects.

There are a number of volunteer opportunities for high school students that count toward required service hours. Parents are encouraged to volunteer as well.

Registration information can be found using this QR Code along with more details about volunteering.



We are looking forward to another week of fun and faith based activities-this year's theme is "True North Trusting Jesus in a wild world."

Any questions please contact Phil Zadeik at [pjzadeik@gmail.com](mailto:pjzadeik@gmail.com).

**SFX  
OPEN  
GYM**

**\$ 5 PER KID |  
\$10 PER FAMILY  
CASH AT DOOR**

**FUN ACTIVITIES, SPORTS, AND MUCH MORE FOR  
AGES 4 - 8 YEARS OLD**

**SATURDAY  
MARCH 15 and 22  
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM**



**RSVP with this  
QR Code or  
[click here!](#)**

**PLEASE NOTE PARENTS MUST STAY DURING THE OPEN GYM  
YOUNGER SIBLINGS WELCOME BUT WILL HAVE TO STAY ON BLEACHERS  
WAIVER MUST BE FILLED OUT PRIOR PARTICIPATION**

## Prayer Shawl Ministry



Our next meeting is scheduled for  
**Wednesday, March 12 from 4:00-5:00pm**  
in the Rectory Courtyard Room.  
Anyone with crochet or knitting skills is welcome!

Our next meeting dates in the Courtyard Room are:  
**April 10 from 7:00-8:00pm**  
**May 7 from 7:00-8:00pm**

## Family Outreach Ministry Volunteer Event



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 date of service is **Saturday, March 15** 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.

To volunteer, please [click here](#).

Questions? Contact Ana  
Dimailig [apd3@core.com](mailto:apd3@core.com) or  
Rachel Peterson [petersonrtw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:petersonrtw@sbcglobal.net).

## Engage Community Spring Events



We are going to attend a **Tour of the Mayslake Peabody Estate, Wednesday, March 12 from 12:30-1:30 pm** at 1717 31st Street in Oakbrook.  
Cost: \$8 per person. Note:

This is part of a regularly scheduled tour, not a private tour for our group.

Afterward if there is interest, we will go to a local restaurant for a late lunch. **RSVP's are not needed, but if you wish RSVP to the email below by March 9.**

In 1919 Francis Stuyvesant Peabody commissioned renowned Chicago architect Benjamin Marshall to design the Tudor Revival-style mansion known today as Mayslake Hall. The style reaches back to England's Tudor period as a revival of the timber-frame buildings popular at the time. Mayslake Hall is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a thriving space, where people connect to nature and one another through art, history, and cultural programs offered throughout the year.



## Cheese Tasting!

Our next formal meeting will be **Thursday, March 27, 7:00-8:30 pm in Unity Hall**. Join us for a Cheese Tasting! We'll sample and learn about cheeses (and maybe try a new variety or two).

If you want to present a cheese you are passionate about, **RSVP to the email below by March 10 for the next steps**. If you want to expand your taste horizons, just join us on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

For questions or to RSVP for either event, please email Jane at [janeLGPark@gmail.com](mailto:janeLGPark@gmail.com)

All are welcome. Engage is for adults; single, married, divorced, widowed, parishioners and visitors to foster Christian community through social and service events.

## Interfaith Community Network

### Job Search Networking Techniques for Success

Join us Thursday, March 20 at 7:00pm for an informative meeting. One of the biggest job-seeker challenges is how to get your resume in front of the right decision makers to get an interview. There are ways to increase your chances by leveraging your network to overcome some of these natural concerns. Panelists Eileen Paliakas and John Fix are two professionals who have landed great jobs in mid-career. They will share their experiences including obvious suggestions, the least obvious and what may potentially waste your time. We hope you can join us at 7:00pm on Thursday, March 20, at St. John of the Cross Parish Center, 5005 South Wolf Road in Western Springs for a great night of learning and sharing new ideas to make your job search more successful! We look forward to seeing you on March 20. There is no cost to attend. Everyone is welcome.

Visit [interfaithcarrernetwork.com](http://interfaithcarrernetwork.com) for additional resources.

# THE TALK

PART ONE

TUE  
MARCH 18TH  
7PM-8:30PM



## The Kind Exchange

*A space where white women and women of color talk about true allyship—where we move beyond surface-level friendships into depth, trust, and real change.*

Hosted by: ***Evelyn Dumfeh and Katie Mulcahy***

Location: *Unity Hall at St. Francis Xavier Parish*

*124 N Spring Avenue*

*La Grange, IL 60525*

*Refreshments will be served*

Please [Click Here](#)  
to Register for The Talk  
on Tuesday, March 18th!



## Undone Women's Retreat

Do you desire to live in greater freedom? Are you looking for an authentic encounter with your true feminine identity? Join us for the JPii Healing Center's "Undone" women's conference. where you will experience a weekend of truth, beauty and transformation! The event will be held at St. Isaac Jogues Parish in Hinsdale on March 27-29, 2025. It will be offered both in person and virtually via livestream.

Please check out the link below for more information about how to register for either the in person or virtual experience. Registration is now open. This is a weekend you won't want to miss!

Questions?

Email [JPiiHCRetreatHinsdaleLL@gmail.com](mailto:JPiiHCRetreatHinsdaleLL@gmail.com)

**WE HAVE BEEN  
MARKED WITH THE  
SIGN OF  
REPENTANCE**



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LIVING IN UNITY WITH SPIRIT, EARTH, AND ONE ANOTHER

## At-Home Lenten Retreat

Ash Wednesday, started on March 5 at 7:00pm and continues through Wednesday, March 26 at 7:00pm. Begin your Lenten journey with a communal Ash Wednesday Prayer Service, including the distribution of ashes and a reflection by Sr. Pat Bergen. Throughout this 3-week retreat, make space each day for half an hour of prayer and meet with a retreat director for five half-hour sessions. The retreat will conclude with a group gathering on Wednesday, March 26 at 7:00pm.

**Format:** In-Person or Zoom

**Location:** The Well Spirituality Center or via Zoom  
Spiritual Directors: Sr. Pat Bergen, CSJ, Sr. Celeste Cotter, CSJ, Barbara Boyd, Sr. Evelyn Lobo, SSpS, and Sr. Mary Lou Pleitner, CSJ.

**Learn more & register:** <https://csithewell.org/programs/at-home-lenten-retreat/>

Annual Augustinian Women's Retreat

JOIN US FOR A LENT RETREAT

AWAKENED BY THE  
**LIGHT**

Exploring the spiritual journey from blindness to sight, reflecting on personal conversion, healing, and encountering Christ's transformative light. To register, visit [www.midwestaugustinians.org](http://www.midwestaugustinians.org) and follow the links to Lay Engagement opportunities.

**MARCH 14-15TH**

CARMELITE RETREAT CENTER, 8419 BAILEY ROAD, DARIEN



**MIDWEST AUGUSTINIAN  
OFFICE OF LAY ENGAGEMENT**

All Are Welcome

[www.MidwestAugustinians.org](http://www.MidwestAugustinians.org)  
[Maryellen@MidwestAugustinians.org](mailto:Maryellen@MidwestAugustinians.org)



# SAVE THE DATE!

ALL PARISH SERVICE DAY  
SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2025\*

Shelter Homeless Feed Hungry Bury Dead  
Clothe Naked Care for Sick Visit Imprisoned

\*Events will be available June 2-7, 2025

If you have questions, ideas, or would like to lead an outreach team, please contact: Mary Freeman, Director Of Community Outreach  
[mfreeman@sfxlg.org](mailto:mfreeman@sfxlg.org) or 708-352-0168.



**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
- **Lt. Brendan Short, U.S. Army Airborne**—nephew of Don & Rita Baumgart
- **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
- **Sean Kramer, U.S. Army**—friend of the Cooley Family
- **Lt. Matthew Edinger, DO, U.S. Navy**—son of John Edinger & Maria Nidos
- **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](mailto:bulletineditor@sfxlg.org).**

# St. Francis Xavier Personnel

## Pastoral Ministry

Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Deacon  
Deacon  
Pastoral Associate  
Weekend Sacramental Clergy

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

wtkachuk@sfxlg.org  
rmilek@sfxlg.org  
aallison@sfxlg.org  
pgianatasio@sfxlg.org  
mcmahon@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  
Administrative Assistant  
Parish Secretary/Receptionist  
Staff Secretary/Bulletin Editor  
Facilities Manager

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

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

## School Education Administration

Parish School Principal  
Assistant Principal  
Administrative Assistant  
Front Office Coordinator  
Director of Marketing & Enrollment  
Office Operations/Events Manager  
Tuition Accounts  
Director of Religious Education  
Religious Education Administrative Assistant

Jimmy Bajner  
Janice Carr  
Jeanne Grimes  
Joni O'Halloran  
Erin Smith  
Brooke Cermak  
Jane Bandyk  
Elis Guidice  
Cindy Johnson

jbajner@sfxlg.org  
jcarr@sfxlg.org  
jgrimes@sfxlg.org  
johalloran@sfxlg.org  
esmith@sfxlg.org  
bcermak@sfxlg.org  
jbandyk@sfxlg.org  
eguidice@sfxlg.org  
cjohnson@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.....sfxreligioused@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.

## 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 parish counselor, Bennett Ferguson, from the Claret Center. He can be reached by phone at 312-880-7606.



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