



SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH
4th Sunday of Lent
March 15, 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF
LENT



BELONG • BELIEVE • BE LOVE

Week at a Glance

			Intention	Requested By
Monday, March 16	Mass	8:30 am	Antonio & Teresa Franzese	
Tuesday, March 17	Mass	8:30 am	John "Jack" Kiley Steven Kent	The Vlcek Family Jim & Mary Donahue
Wednesday, March 18	Mass	8:30 am	Kathy Simonetti	Bob & Jennifer Driscoll
Thursday, March 19	Rosary Word Communion Adoration	8:15 am 8:30 am 6:00 pm		
Friday, March 20	Stations Mass	7:45 am 8:30 am	Anne Reichel Helen Gorgosz	Mary Lou & George Braasch Bernadette Gorgosz
Saturday, March 21	Mass Reconciliation Mass	8:30 am 9:00 am 5:00 pm	Henry & Theresa Gazdziak Rita Bourjaily	The Gazdziak Family Terri Simeoni
Sunday, March 22 5th Sunday of Lent	Mass Mass Mass Mass	7:30 am 9:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	People of the Parish Living Intention Jordan Cronin Alice Dillon People of the Parish	Her Loving Family SFX SPRED Friends

Presider's Schedule for March 21-22, 2026

5:00 pm Fr. Chrzan 7:30 am Fr. Milek 9:00 am Fr. Chrzan 11:00 am Fr. Milek (PG-Preach) 5:00 pm Fr. Chrzan

Please pray for . . .

John Baggio Bob Barrett Poppy Booth Robert Borchardt Kent Borkovec George Braasch Irene Brewick Vivian Brickhouse Leonard Bruce Joe Canepa John Clinch Blake Donegan John Donegan Craig Eaton Nathan Emkow Dale Friedman Lupe Baker Garcia Allen Godlewski Vincenzo Guzzo Junie Haase Elizabeth Dodd Henley Angela Hill Jessi Rita Hoffman Richard Holbach Michelle Jackson Nora Lou Kampe Deb Kash	Terri Bergen Klein Ella Mae Kuzel Laura Leide Mickey Manos John McMurray Amy Miller Katie Miller Aldo Mitri Brandon Moffett Patrick Morgan Bill Mroz Ann Marie Niedos Connie O'Dette Mark Reilly Joseph Riden, Jr. Amy Robinson Juan Silva Rita Mae Spearman Gregg Stephenson Gary Sterwalt Jean Sterwalt John Stopka Sophie Stratton Olivia Tarsney Joe Vargas Liz Wilk
---	---

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:

John Hronec
Father of Suzette

Bob Lang
Husband of Maureen
Father of Kathy, Kerry, Michael & Thomas



**Stations
of the
Cross
Every Friday
at 7:45 am**

Make a gift to the
Regular Sunday Offertory
by [clicking here](#) or
using the QR Code.
Thank you for your support!



Pastor's Letter

Dear friends in Christ,

This Sunday the Church celebrates Laetare Sunday. The Latin word "laetare" means "rejoice," and this Sunday offers us a brief but beautiful pause in the more somber tone of the Lenten season. In the midst of our prayer, fasting, and reflection, the Church reminds us that Easter is quickly approaching. The joy of the Resurrection is already beginning to appear on the horizon, and we are invited to rejoice together in hope.

Easter is the peak of the entire liturgical year. The celebration of the Lord's Resurrection is the greatest and most solemn feast of the Christian calendar, and it's fitting that we spend forty days preparing our hearts to receive its grace. On Laetare Sunday, however, the Church allows us to glimpse the joy that awaits us. Even as we continue our Lenten journey, we remember that the destination is not sorrow but victory, not the cross alone but the triumph of the empty tomb.

As we continue preparing for Easter, our parish will offer a Lenten Reconciliation Service on Monday, March 16 at 7:00 PM here at St. Francis Xavier. The evening will begin with a brief prayer service, followed by the opportunity for individual confession and absolution. Several priests will be present to assist, making this a wonderful opportunity to receive God's mercy and grace as we prepare our hearts for the Easter celebration.

Later that week, on Wednesday, March 18 at 7:00 PM, we will gather in the church for a special presentation of the Stations of the Cross with the Immigrant Jesus. This prayerful reflection invites us to see the suffering of Christ through the experiences of immigrants who have fled hardship and danger in search of safety and hope, only to encounter new challenges along the way. It promises to be a powerful and moving evening of prayer as we unite our hearts with those who continue to carry the cross in our world today.

A blessed and Happy Laetare Sunday,
Fr. John

Reflection for the 4th Sunday of Lent

Liturgy Planning Team #3

George Rutkowski, David Sherman, Gertrude Nalumansi, Barb Kalnes, and Charlie Brewick

In our Christian living we are sometimes in the dark. At times we sin, and sin brings darkness. Other times we don't understand what our faith asks of us and what God expects us to do, and so we grope in the dark. In today's scripture readings we see how Jesus is looking for us to open our eyes, our minds and our hearts to himself and his Good News. He came into the world to be our light. Let us welcome him as the light of our eyes.

Prayer for Peace, Healing and Love

God of justice and mercy,
You created every person in Your image
and call us to honor the sacred dignity of all human life.
We lift before You all communities and groups who are hurting. Move
our hearts to solidarity with all those burdened by violence, injustice,
fear, and division.

In Your Church, remind us that we **belong** to one another
as brothers and sisters in Christ.
Strengthen our faith so that we may **believe**
in the power of Your grace to overcome hatred and despair.
Send us forth to **be love** in a wounded world—
rejecting violence, seeking understanding,
and working for peace rooted in justice and truth.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

"Let me be clear:
the Church stands with
migrants...Families are being
torn apart.
Children are left in fear and
communities are shaken by
immigration raids and
detentions...our parishes and
schools will not turn away
those who seek comfort,
and we will not be silent
when dignity is denied
in the enforcement of the law."

Cardinal Cupich



St. Francis Xavier Parish *Lenten Season*

3/26/26: 6:30-8:00pm

Lenten Witness: Fr. Larry Dowling, Fr. Graff and Rev. Michael Woolf
The Role of Faith in Turbulent Times

The Well Spirituality Center - 1515 W. Ogden Ave., La Grange Park 60526

Contact Mary Freeman mfreeman@sfxlg.org if you would like one of 10 free tickets available OR to purchase your own \$35 ticket [Click Here](#).



Disciple Maker Index Survey—We need your perspective!

This Lent, St. Francis Xavier will launch our second run of the "**Disciple Maker Index**" survey, which last ran in 2023. The 10-15 minute survey can be accessed via [THIS LINK](#) from February 18 through March 29, and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide your perspective on our parish's efforts to help you grow in relationship with Christ. All responses will be confidential, and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole. This survey is an essential part of our understanding and meeting the spiritual needs of the parish. We greatly appreciate your time and attention in responding.



Make Yourself at Home This March!

This March we invite you to take a simple step that helps us stay connected: officially register with the parish or update your information.

Registration isn't just paperwork — it's how we care for you, include you, and walk with you in every season of life. When you're registered, we can keep you informed, celebrate milestones with you, and make sure you never miss opportunities to grow in faith and community.

Young adults

Did you grow up here and recently age out of your parents' registration? We're so glad you're still with us! As you step into adulthood, we'd love to recognize you as your own parish household. Registering helps us personally invite you to gatherings, service opportunities, and events designed just for young adults.

Families who worship, attend school, or participate in religious education

If you've been part of parish life but haven't officially registered, this is your moment! We would love to formally welcome you into the parish family and keep you connected to everything happening here — from faith formation to fellowship events.

Volunteer

Did you know we host a volunteer appreciation celebration each year? We truly want to thank you for your generosity. Keeping your information current ensures those invitations (and thank-yous!) reach you.

Those who've moved or changed contact information

A new home? New email? New phone number? Updating your information helps us stay in touch and ensures you receive parish updates, ministry news, and special invitations.

Growing families

Have you welcomed a new baby or had a family member join your household? Let us update your family information so we can celebrate with you and support you in this beautiful new chapter.

At St. Francis, you belong. Registering helps us make sure you feel known.

To register use this link <https://www.sfxlg.org/vimages/shared/vnews/stories/598e3bbe64054/FamilyRegistrationForm.html> or the QR Code at the right.



Lenten Season

Unless otherwise indicated, the following events will occur in the church:

MONDAYS at 7pm

hosted by the Alpha Team

Mar 23 Praise, Worship, Witness Night

Continuing into Easter:

Apr 20 Embracing the Holy Spirit

Area Reconciliation Services this Lent:

Mar 16 St. Francis Xavier (7PM)

Mar 30 St. Cletus (7PM)

WEDNESDAYS at 7pm

Mar 18 Stations of the Cross with the Immigrant Jesus

Mar 25 Stations of the Cross through Mary's Eyes

COME, FOLLOW ME

THE 120 PRESENTS

Lent Bible Study for High School Teens



March 15th after 5 PM mass
March 22nd after 5 PM mass
March 29th after 5 PM mass (two hour session with adoration and confession).



Your Gift, God's Hands Offertory Report July 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026

Total Sunday Collection
This Year: \$1,349,415
Last Year: \$1,295,403

Total Annual Offertory Budget:
\$2,013,000 (includes \$177,000 Christmas budget)

I am thrilled to report that we are running on pace with our fiscal year offertory budget, which is based on a 4% increase! Through the eight months ending February 28, total offertory is up over \$54,000 (4.2%). On behalf of all the parish staff, thank you for your tremendous stewardship of St. Francis Xavier Parish.

Check out this bulletin for some of the Lenten programs which your offertory supports – we have been getting wonderful participation in the ones we have held over the past few weeks. Please consider attending an event this month!

Jennifer Zeisloft, Director of Stewardship and Development



St. Vincent de Paul Society Second Collection March 14 & 15

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.

This past year has been a busy year for the St. Vincent de Paul Society at SFX. In 2025, SVdP financially assisted individuals and families monetarily with more than \$24,000 of financial assistance. The individuals and families that have requested financial assistance from SVdP have encountered a number of financial hardships that are related to a mortgage, rent on an apartment, utility bills, school tuition, a job loss, a medical event, and transportation needs.

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.

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

An Invitation from St. John of the Cross Parish

In 1889 Mother Cabrini wished to travel to China. Pope Leo XIII responded: "Not to the East, but to the West." Months before Leo XIII penned an encyclical: "*On Italian Immigrants*." Mother and her Sisters went to America and made history. The movie **Cabrini** describes the history of a courageous woman who created orphanages, hospitals and hope for Italian immigrants. She learned English and became a U.S. citizen, and the first American Saint! See this movie!

- Msgr. Rich Hynes

Provided there is enough interest, we will gather to watch the movie together in the St. John of the Cross Parish Center on **Monday, March 23 from 1:00-3:30pm.**

Let us know if you'd like to join us by scanning the QR code or calling the SJC parish office at 708-246-4404.





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 for the 2026-2027 school year.

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 alumni 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 lie 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 (sfxlg.org) or contact School Advisory Board member Matt Thunander at matt.thunander@gmail.com or 708-837-5752. If you intend to apply, please notify Matt Thunander **no later than this Sunday, March 15, 2026.**



Music Notes...



As we continue our journey through this sacred season of Lent, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge and express our heartfelt gratitude to one of our own parishioners, **Junichi Sato**, whose gifts have so beautifully enriched our worship.

Junichi is an accomplished pianist and a gifted composer. This Lent, we have had the privilege of singing a Mass setting that he composed specifically for the liturgy... "**Vincentian Mass**". To share in music written by a member of our own parish community is something truly special.

The Mass is the Church's most sacred prayer, and the music that accompanies it must serve the liturgy with reverence, humility, and theological depth. Junichi's "Vincentian Mass" setting does precisely that. Its reflective character, thoughtful melodic lines, and prayerful spirit draw us more deeply into the penitential beauty of Lent. Rather than calling attention to itself, this music gently invites us into contemplation, helping us to lift our hearts to the Lord.

What makes this even more meaningful is that this composition was not written from a distance, but from within our community—by someone who worships beside us, prays with us, and shares in the life of this parish. Junichi and his family, including his very talented wife Regina (SFX Cantor) most often attend either the 5:00 pm Saturday OR 9:00 am Sunday Masses. That is stewardship in its truest sense: offering one's time, talent, and faith for the glory of God and the good of the Church.

On behalf of myself, the SFX Music Ministry, Fr. John Chrzan (Pastor), staff and parish community – we thank you Junichi, for sharing your extraordinary musical gifts with us. May the Lord continue to bless your creativity and dedication, and may this music accompany us not only through Lent, but in many seasons to come.

Allen J. Sterwalt
Director of Church Music



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 2nd at 9:00 am, 12:00 pm and 3:00 pm**. 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 April 6th.** Please see below for the breakdown:

- Grades 1 & 3.....Tuesdays: 3:40 pm to 4:15 pm
First Rehearsal: Tuesday, April 7th
- Grades 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8.....Thursdays: 3:40 pm to 4:15 pm
First Rehearsal: Thursday, April 9th

Please click the link below or scan the QR Code to register !

<https://forms.gle/2e3ZpsJCLZnFod1f9>



St. Francis Xavier Parish

TENEBRAE

A SERVICE OF DARKNESS



Presider/Lector: Susie Lehuta

Commentator: Thom Serafin

Music: PRAISE! Ensemble

Come, and be a part of a beautiful tradition of the church dating back to the eighth century. This service, through music and scripture, portrays the final hours of our Lord's life on earth, as he suffered death upon the cross. Candles are extinguished one by one to symbolize the fading loyalty of the disciples and friends of Jesus. The complete darkness at the end of the service portrays the diminishing light of the world as Christ was departing from it.

Wednesday, April 1st – 7:00 p.m.



Help us stock our Wine Cellar for the Wine Pull!!

This year's Ignite Celebration will feature a Wine Pull! We have already secured some amazing high-end bottles, but as any wine connoisseur knows, it takes all kinds to have a well-rounded collection.

Our goal is to secure 50 bottles of wine for our wine pull, and we need your help! We are looking to collect bottles in value from \$25 and up. Please drop off at the rectory any time before April 10th.

Thank you for your support!!!



Other Ways to Give!!

Can't make it to Ignite, but would still like to give??

Donations of appreciated stock, IRA distributions, and donor-advised funds are tax-efficient methods, which many donors prefer.



Contact Jennifer Zeisloft, jzeisloft@sfxlg.org, to learn more

[Click here](#) or scan for more information!



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.



Join our Toddler Moms'

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



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, April 7

Contact: Peter Brown pbrown@sfxlq.org
for more information.



That Man Is You

All men are invited to join the
Spring Sessions of *That Man is YOU (TMIY)*,
on Tuesdays at 8:00pm
in St. Francis 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?
Contact Patrick McMahon at
patrick.mcmahon65@gmail.com
or scan the QR code or [click here](#)
to register.



SFX PINK RIBBON COMMUNITY

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



VBS Registration Is Opened



Registration for VBS 2026 is opened! You can register by using the QR code or the link found below. The code and link will take you to the registration site. Here you will find some important information about VBS registration.

What is VBS: VBS is a faith based, week long adventure for children. Songs, crafts, stories, snacks and other activities are included. This years theme is "Rainforest Falls" and promises to be lots of fun for participants and volunteers!

When: VBS will run June 22-26 from 9:00am-12:00pm each day.

Who can register: Traditional VBS is open to children 4 years old to 4th grade. 5th and 6th graders can register for the "Service Crew." The Service Crew spends the week doing various service projects, some Bible study, other activities and of course snacks!

Where: All participants will meet at Grace Lutheran Church each day. The Service Crew will move to the Saint Francis Xavier Day School as base camp for their activities.

Cost: Cost of VBS is \$75 for one child. If you register 2 or more children cost is \$60 per child. If one parent volunteers for the entire week cost is 50% off.

Volunteering: A successful VBS requires a small army of volunteers. We expect each family to provide one or more volunteers in some capacity. The registration site lists the various volunteer opportunities available and a sign up option. We will be touch with you after registration to follow up. Opportunities range from a couple of hours to one week of time commitment. There are also before and after set up and break down opportunities as well. 7th, 8th graders, teens and college can also volunteer and earn service hours!

Questions: Contact Phil Zadeik pjzadeik@gmail.com for general questions. Contact Karl Olson regarding volunteer opportunities Olson.Karl@gmail.com.

To register go to vbspro.events/p/fa96ee or use the QR Code.

Space is limited and last year VBS sold out, so please register early!



Religious Education News



*Registration for our 2026- 2027
K – 8 Religious Education Program is
now open (as of 3/14/26)!*

We are happy to continue to offer two in-person sessions and a virtual option for families for the 2026-2027 school year.

Our options are:

In person bi-monthly grade level program held on Sunday Mornings and Wednesday afternoons.

Our virtual asynchronous grade level program has lessons being released bi-monthly on Sundays and is best for families with busy schedules.

Families are strongly encouraged to also attend Mass at least twice a month and will receive a separate weekly Google form to complete for “car ride” home liturgy discussions in our Weekly Parent Newsletter.

Please don't delay in registering your children today as classes fill up fast!

Families who register by April 22nd will be entered into a raffle for free tuition. The drawing will take place at our last class in person event on April 26th. You must be present at the event to win!

Visit our website for complete information on registration, tuition and calendar:

<https://www.sfxlg.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/Religious%20Education>



LENTEN EVENING OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION THE HOLINESS OF WORK

MARCH 25, 2026

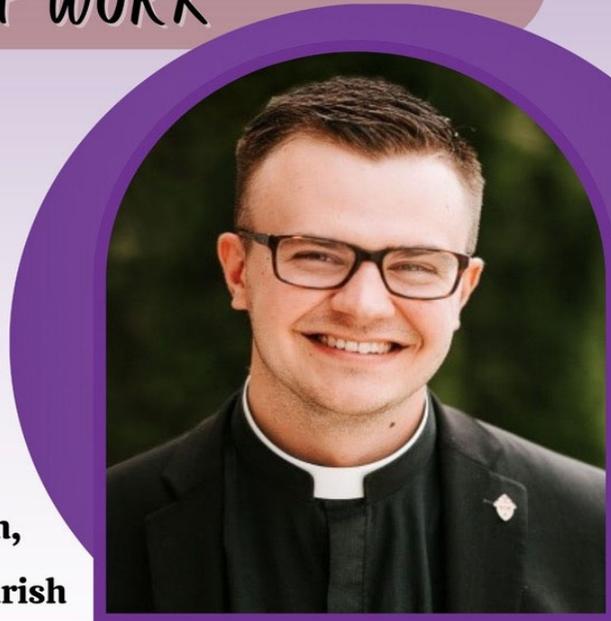
7:00 PM

FOLLOWED BY HOSPITALITY

St. Cletus Parish

600 W. 55TH STREET LA GRANGE

with **Fr. Dan Korenchan,**
Associate Pastor
at St. Elizabeth Seaton Parish



The SFX Religious Education Program is once again partnering up with Aracely's Bakery and selling their *delicious tamales* for our end of year fundraiser. We hope for this to be our biggest fundraiser of the year. All proceeds will support our program and students. We are asking all our families and community for support. We will be taking pre-orders for the tamales and will only have a limited quantity available for sale the day of pick up.

4 Tamale Options: Pork in Red (Rojo) sauce
Chicken in Green (Verde) sauce
Pepper and Cheese
Bean and Cheese



You can order in quantities of a dozen or a half dozen

Order deadline is April 19, 2026

[Click Here](#) for the link or scan the QR code below and it will take you directly to the order form page to order and pay for your tamales.



Pick up for the tamales will be at our End of Year Religious Education Event which will be held in the Education Building. Pick up for Tamales will be in the Gym on Sunday, April 26th, 2026 from 12:30PM – 2:30PM. Thank you so much for your continued support!

Let's Gather for a Ladies Night Out!

March 19, 2026 - 6:30pm—8:00pm

Uni Uni Bubble Tea

330 South State Street, Unit B7

Chicago, IL 60604

(872)368-2038



We will meet at the Uni Uni in the South Loop—owned and operated by parishioner and Kind Exchange founder, Evelyn Dumfeh.

The Kind Exchange has hosted The Talk (Parts I, II and III) at SFX to gather women together to share stories, listen deeply and build trust and connection across racial lines.



Scan QR code
to register

Questions? Contact Mary Freeman
mfreeman@sfxlg.org
Director of Community Outreach.

Volunteers Needed

My name is Jim Tvrdik, and I would like to introduce you to a benevolent organization by the name of Project C.U.R.E. PC (as I like to call it) was founded in 1987 to address the staggering shortage of medical resources around the world. Each week, PC delivers approximately four-to-five semi-truck sized cargo containers packed with medical equipment and supplies that are desperately needed to save lives in hospitals and clinics in resource-limited countries outside the United States. In this way, PC continues to address critical issues such as maternal and infant mortality, natural disasters, victims of violence and strengthening of healthcare systems. In addition, many healthcare professionals travel with PC to provide medical treatment and training to communities in need. Currently, PC is supported by over 30,000 volunteers annually and operates a local distribution warehouse in Woodridge, IL.



Personally, I have been volunteering for PC for over 7 years and find the time spent very fulfilling. Our warehouse team in Woodridge is continually looking for volunteers with flexible schedules to keep the mission moving forward; volunteer groups are also most welcome.

Please feel free to checkout www.projectcure.org for additional information, or feel free to send an inquiry email to chicagovolunteer@projectcure.org.



Easter Mailing

THANK YOU TO THE VOLUNTEERS WHO CONTINUE TO HELP WITH OUR HOLIDAY MAILINGS. WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR YOU!

St. Francis Xavier Church Holy Week Services 2026

Palm Sunday—March 28 & 29
Saturday at 5:00pm
Sunday at 7:30, 9:00*, 11:00am and 5:00pm

Wednesday, April 1
Tenebrae - 7:00pm
Church open until 9:00pm

Holy Thursday, April 2
Morning Prayer 8:30am/Living Stations 9:00am
Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00pm
Church open until 11:00pm

Good Friday, April 3
Morning Prayer 8:30am
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 3:00 and 7:00pm

Holy Saturday, March 4
Morning Prayer 8:30am
Blessing of Easter Food Baskets 1:00pm
Easter Vigil Mass 8:00pm
(No 5:00pm Mass)

Easter Sunday, April 5
Masses at 7:30, 9:00* and 11:00am—Church
Masses at 9:15 and 11:15am—SFX School Gym
(No 5:00pm Mass)

*This Mass will be live-streamed.



Looking For A New Job?

Interfaith Career Network Presents "Career Ready – Using AI to Advance in the Job Search" by Pierre H. Michiels on Thursday, March 19th from 7:00-9:00 pm at St. John of the Cross Parish Center, 5005 Wolf Road in Western Springs.

In today's rapidly evolving job market, artificial intelligence (AI) is playing a transformative role in how employers recruit and how candidates prepare. This presentation equips job seekers with knowledge and tools to confidently navigate an AI-enhanced job search. From optimizing resumes, to preparing for interviews, and even exploring new job paths, this session offers ways to integrate AI into every stage of the job search. Pierre H. Michiels, is a Career Specialist for the Career Services Center at College of DuPage. He is enthusiastic in supporting all job seekers to be successful in their job search. Everyone is welcome and there is no cost to attend.

Engage Community – Events Building Community with Neighbors and Friends



March 26:

Monthly Meeting – **Civil Discourse Practice**

Where: 7:00-8:30pm, Unity Hall.

Details: Looking to build your abilities to listen and talk about different viewpoints? Here's a low risk, high fun opportunity. We're holding a 'debate' about what makes either Christmas or Easter the most meaningful holiday to you. Participants will work as teams according to initial opinions (Christmas or Easter) so there's no pressure on any individual. Groups will present the merits and drawbacks of their group's choice. Afterward, each individual will anonymously "vote" as to whether their initial opinion changed. We will then review what we are taking away from the evening.

For questions or to RSVP, please email Jane at janeLGPark@gmail.com. Engage focuses on building Christian community through a variety of social and service activities. All are welcome, parishioners and non-parishioners, adults of all ages and life stages.



St. Joseph's Table Saturday, March 21 from 5:00-8:00pm

Divine Providence School Gym
2500 Mayfair Avenue, Westchester

\$25 per adult~\$15 per child (under 14)

Featuring a traditional feast
in honor of St. Joseph.
Tickets can be purchased at the event.

In celebration of
St. Joseph's Day
and benefitting
Mary, Mother of Divine Grace Parish.



St. Cletus Pancake Breakfast

The St. Cletus Holy Name Society is having its Annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, March 29, in the St. Cletus Parish Center, from 7:45am to 1:00pm, \$10 adults - \$5 kids 12 and under.

Beware of Email Scam Using Pastor's Name

An email scam continues to use Fr. John's name as part of an email scam that is sent to random parishioners. This has been happening to pastors and ministers of other communities for several years. The pastor is listed as the sender with a fake (though sometimes credible) email address. An emergency request is made for money through the purchase of gift cards. If you respond, the sender asks you to reveal the PIN number on the gift card and return a picture of the card that includes the PIN. The scammer can use this information to redeem the gift cards.

Fr. John and the parish staff will NEVER make a personal request for money in this way. Requests for financial contributions to the parish or parish school will come via direct communication from the parish or school.

Church Audio Update—Adaptive Audio System

SFX has installed a Bluetooth accessible Listening System. To access this new system you must have a smartphone along with earphones or Bluetooth capable hearing aids. Follow the steps to connect your device:

Step 1) (At home or at SFX) Download the Listen Wi-Fi App from your app store or scan the provided QR Code below.

Apple Users



Android Users



Step 2) (In SFX Church) Download the Assistive Listening Wi-Fi Connection by scanning the provided QR Code below Please make sure to turn on Wi-Fi for auto detection in your settings.

Assistive Listening Wi-Fi Connection



We plan to have non-Bluetooth options available in the upcoming months. For assistance please call the rectory at 708-352-0168 or email sfxinlg@sfxlg.org to set-up an appointment.



Please Pray for All Those Serving Overseas in the Military:

- **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 & Marilyn Lux
- **Capt. Michael Sullivan, U.S. Army**—son of Gene and Mary Pat Sullivan
- **Capt. Sean Kampe, U.S. Army**—grandson of Nora Lou Kampe, nephew of Anne & Rob Knez, cousin of Sarah Dybalski and Rachel Patterson

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
Rev. Bill Tkachuk

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
Communications Manager

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

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

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide



SafeStreets

833-287-3502



THREE SOUTH WAIOLA AVE., LA GRANGE
ROBERT T. CORTE, D.D.S.
 PARISH MEMBER

www.cortedental.com 708-354-1003



@properties | CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

Heraty Christensen Group
 Celine Heraty & Jean Christensen
 Real Estate Brokers & Home Stagers
 Proud Sponsors of the 2025
LaGrange Area Home & History Tour
 YourSuccessOurGoal.com

Call Us For a Complimentary Consultation
 Celine: 708.261.5742 | Jean: 708.218.1390

HITZEMAN FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES

HONORING THE LIVES OF LOVED ONES SINCE 1904
One Family - One Name

Hitzeman Funeral Home Family & Staff wishes you a very blessed season!

708-485-2000

www.HitzemanFuneral.com

9445 31st Street,
 Brookfield, IL 60513

CONBOY'S-WESTCHESTER

FUNERAL HOME

Family owned and operated since 1885

Peter Conboy, Matthew Conboy
 Jean Conboy Hanson

10501 W. Cermak Rd, Westchester

708-562-5900

www.ConboyWestchesterfh.com

NAZARETH ACADEMY



7th Grade Shadow Days
 February - May (select dates)

nazarethacademy.com

ANNE MONCKTON GROUP
WE love LOCAL.
 Live Local. Sell Local.



CONTACT US TODAY at 312.533.0882

@properties | CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

DUPLIX ELECTRIC
 708-387-9400

Expert Troubleshooting
 Electrical Rehab/Repair
 Greg Fiflis - Parishioner
 www.duplexelectricservice.com

Innovative COUNSELING PARTNERS
 Depression • Anxiety
 Child & Family Therapy
 Grief/Trauma Counseling
 Marriage Counseling
 773-312-3612
 www.InnovativeCounselingPartners.com

Linnea Jewelers
 • Expert Jewelry & Watch Repair
 • Exquisite Diamonds & Colored Gems
 • Affordable Restylings & Restorations
 • Religious & Children's Jewelry
 Tues-Fri 10-6 • Sat 10-3 • Closed Sun & Mon
 23 S. Ashland Ave.
 Downtown La Grange, IL
708.482.0007
 Since 1981 • Unique Designs
 Friendly Professional Service

Brookfield

 Breakfast
 3755 Grand Blvd.
 Brookfield, IL
708-905-5960
 Open 7 Days

Serving Breakfast & Lunch

La Grange

 Breakfast Cafe
 24 W. Burlington Ave.
 La Grange, IL
708-469-7319
 Closed Mondays

www.brookfieldbreakfast.com • www.lagrangebreakfastcafe.com

IF YOU LIVE ALONE

MDMedAlert!™ STARTING AT \$19⁹⁵/mo.

- ✓ Ambulance ✓ Police/Fire
- ✓ Family/Friends ✓ GPS & Fall Alert

CALL NOW! 800.809.3570 *md-medalert.com

Sun - Thurs 11am-11pm
 Fri - Sat 11am -12pm

YORK TAVERN
 OAK BROOK, IL
630 323-5090
 3702 York Rd Oak Brook
 www.yorktavernoakbrook.com
 -Carry Out & Delivery Available-

PLUMB SQUAD
 For All Your Plumbing Needs!
312-278-7900
 www.plumb-squad.com

Thinking About Buying or Selling A Home?

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES | CHICAGO
Michael Lampariello - REALTOR
 20 years of Construction Expertise
 Let's have a cup of coffee & talk Real Estate
 Call or Text: 708-299-2000

THE ELM
 est. 2020
 Restaurant | Bar | Private Events
 (708) 639-4068
 events@theelmlagrange.com
 www.theelmlagrange.com

FROM 5-500,
 WE HOST IT ALL!

- Weddings
- Christenings
- Baby Showers
- Celebrations of Life
- Bridal Showers

RITE WAY BRICK RESTORATION

- Tuck Pointing • Masonry Work
- Expert Chimney Repairs • Chimney Liners
- Foundation Repairs • Building Cleaning
- Lintel Repairs • Mailbox Repairs
- Waterproofing and Caulking
- Stone Veneer • Glass Block Windows & More

45 Years of Experience • Free Estimates • Fully Insured and Bonded
 Senior Discounts • Voted Best in the Suburbs ★★★★★

Residential & Commercial Service **708-354-2501** | ritewaybrick@sbcglobal.net

Say Good-bye to Clogged Gutters!

Receive a \$100 Visa gift card with your FREE in-home estimate

\$99 Installation*

Call today for your FREE estimate and in-home demonstration
CALL NOW 708-462-6373

LeafGuard®
 is guaranteed never to clog or we'll clean it for FREE!

- Seamless, one-piece system keeps out leaves, pine needles, and debris
- Eliminates the risk of falling off a ladder to clean clogged gutters
- Durable, all-weather tested system not a flimsy attachment

ENGLERT **LeafGuard**
 Get it. And forget it.™



ASPIRED LIVING OF LA GRANGE

a Senior Lifestyle community

Experience Comfort and Connection Every Day

Offering Assisted Living and Memory Care Services

35 Shawmut Ave, La Grange IL 60525
(708) 206-9899



Donahue Insurance Agency Inc.

Parishioner 1005 E. 31st St.
La Grange Park, IL 60526

708-354-1616
jimdonahue.com



Theresa Sullivan Travel Consultant
773-592-7155 | www.petersontravelgroup.com
tsullivan@petersontravelgroup.com
Personalized journeys, seamless planning.
Relax before your adventure begins.



Specialist in Creating Tax Advantaged Retirement Income Solutions

Mike Corrigan 708-482-3800
Parishioner

913 Hillgrove LaGrange, IL.
mike@corriganfs.com

Working with Families & Business Owners Since 1980

catholicmatch® Illinois



CatholicMatch.com/IL



The Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph are inviting lay individuals to live with them at Joseph House, 1515 W Ogden Avenue in La Grange Park. Assisted living apartments now available.

For a tour contact us at
708.482.1279 • www.csjinitiatives.org/la-grange-park/



Life is for living. Let's partner to help you make every single moment matter. We care as much about why you're investing as what you invest in. Our personalized approach to investing is what sets us apart. We'll partner with you every step of the way. As your needs evolve throughout your life, we'll strive to help you build the future you desire. So you can enjoy all the special moments life has to offer. Our process? We listen. Really listen. Stop by. Bob Burns - Financial Advisor 4705 Willow Springs Rd Ste 107 • La Grange, IL 60525 708-354-1250

NORTH WOODS GETAWAY



2 Bedroom Cottages w/ Boat Dock
John Hill 312 / 576-4689
Linda Hill 708 / 296-6371
email: john@jdhillassociates.com
Hamlin Lake, Ludington, MI



St. Isaac Jogues Parishioner Owned & Operated
Over 5,000 Wines Available
Extensive Craft Beer & Whiskey Selection
Present this Ad for 10% OFF Any Non-sale Item
On York Road • 1/2 Block North of Ogden Ave.
630.325.6550
www.savwaywines.com

Honesty, Heart, Home



Elizabeth McManus
SFX Parishioner and Catechist
708-805-1524



SENIOR CAREGIVER/COMPANION
Parishioner for 30 years
WORK WITH SENIORS NEEDING HELP OR COMPANIONSHIP
Bathing, Dressing, Laundry, Cooking Transportation, Grocery Shopping Doctor's Visits or Socializing & Outings
Available 7 Days | 773.744.9841 | www.caregiverg.com

WOODFORD CONSTRUCTION
FRAME, TRIM CARPENTER, & CONCRETE
New Construction & Remodeling
10% PARISHIONER DISCOUNT
FREE ESTIMATES • 708-670-2179



Experience matters
Joe Thorne
St. Francis Parishioner
708-205-9028

Areas: La Grange, La Grange Park, Western Springs, Brookfield, La Grange Highlands, and surrounding areas



@properties



Quality Work - Reasonable Prices

DEMMIS PLUMBING & SEWER



Ask for a PARISHIONER DISCOUNT
708.420.0806 EMERGENCY SERVICE
www.demmisplumbing.com



Robinson Accounting & Tax, LLC
Victoria A. Robinson
Accountant | Parishioner
Office: (708) 937-9366 Fax: 866-375-5652
Accounting, Payroll & Tax Services
915 55th St. Ste #101 | Western Springs, IL 60558
victoria@mcgrealrobinson.com | robinsontaxllc.com



DeSitter FLOORING
CARPET • RUGS • HARDWOOD LUXURY VINYL WOOD REFINISHING
La Grange - 708.813.2933
DeSitterFlooring.com

Our Caregivers Care Deeply, Serve Humbly, and Bless Many

Personal care • Dementia care • Up to 24/7



Parishioners Brian & Dominica Davis



Home Helpers® Home Care
630.323.7231

CertaPro Painters®
708 / 588 / 9705
Residential • Commercial
Interior • Exterior
certapro.com/lagrang

RUZICKA'S HOME MAINTENANCE
"Quality Work at Reasonable Prices"

Carpentry • Electrical • Painting
Plumbing • Flooring
Basement, Kitchen & Bath Remodeling
Soffit • Fascia • Misc. Jobs

PROFESSIONAL HOME MAINTENANCE SPECIALISTS
PAUL RUZICKA • 708-602-9366
STICKNEY, IL 60402

Little space. Big impact.

Advertise here
Call 800-950-9952

Larry's Plumbing • Sewer • Electrical
Residential & Commercial
847-455-4150
24 Hour - Emergency Service

Let Go. Let God.



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. Francis Xavier Church, La Grange, IL

01-4054