

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

3rd Sunday of Lent

March 24, 2019



**AN ANGEL OF THE
LORD APPEARED
TO MOSES IN FIRE
FLAMING OUT
OF A BUSH**

**MOSES!
COME NO NEARER!
REMOVE THE
SANDALS
FROM YOUR FEET,
FOR THE PLACE
WHERE YOU STAND
IS HOLY GROUND.**



Mass Intentions For The Week

Monday, March 25 The Annunciation of the Lord	7:45 am 9:00 am	Mary Ellen Bogdovity People of St. Francis	The Kanzer Family
Tuesday, March 26	7:45 am 9:00 am	Dennis Hogerty Pauline Leonard	The Blyth Family Marilyn Quinn
Wednesday, March 27	7:45 am 9:00 am	Kenneth Long Donald Opper	Chris & Theresa Rodgers Tom McAtee
Thursday, March 28	7:45 am 9:00 am	Word & Communion Service Agnes McAndrews	Monica McAndrews
Friday, March 29	7:45 am 9:00 am	Stephanie McElligott Word & Communion Service	Matt & Katie Kanzer
Saturday, March 30	9:00 am 9:30 am 4:15 pm 5:00 pm	Special Intention~John & Joyce Yelnick Sacrament of Reconciliation Sacrament of Reconciliation Terry Conwell	Scott & Jill Burson The Smetana Family
Sunday, March 31 4th Sunday of Lent	7:30 am 9:00 am 10:30 am 12:00 pm 6:00 pm	People of the Parish Francis Locco Dennis Hogerty People of the Parish People of the Parish	Erik & Victoria Odegaar Francie & Michael Larkin

Please Pray For...

Diane Bell	Emmett Miller
James Boardman	Patrick Morgan
Jay Carroll	Mike Morrison
Anthony Dina	Noah Olson
Blake Donegan	Arnold Oppenheim
Fr. Dave Dowdle	Jane O'Reilly
Lynn Doyle	Ryan Patyk
Pat Eaton	Donna Pekarek
Lily Fielding	Gino Pesce
Baby Collins Fitzpatrick	Carissa Pessetti
Bruce Gonigam	James Pridmore
Lilli Gregory	Baby Madison Raupp
Wilson Gregory	Anna Rose
Patricia Hassler	Marilyn Rutkowski
Sr. Marci Hermesdorf	Matthew Schiek
Linda Hillsman	Mary Simeoni
Rose Ilo	Greyson Stanley
Mary J.	Sarah Stanley
Jane Jacobson	Kate Frugoli Sullivan
Chuck Joern	Baby Emma Tassoni
Theresa Kandall	Anne Titzer
Mike Kelly	Michael Ungari
Benny Kilman	Amanda Valerugo
Jerry Kolman	Gregory Van Gorp
Virginia Kottaridis	Rich Vlcek
Edward Kudia	Malcom Young
Gloria Lieber	Richard Zeiler

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

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

Born Into Eternal Life



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

Mary Locco

Mother of Mary, Patricia & Kathleen

Catherine Katara

Mother of Liz & Mark

Jesus Christ Son of God & Savior

IXΘΥΣ

Pastor's Notes

"I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future."

Luke 13:8-9

Our God is patient and loving, and kind. Jesus teaches this repeatedly. Yet how often do we identify as God the owner of the orchard who wants to chop down the tree that has not yet produced fruit? How often have we seen God as the one who wants to punish us and ourselves as the ones pleading to God for mercy? Do we pray to open our hearts to the grace of a loving God; or do we pray to stay the hand of a judging God?

Obviously, our actions have consequences. It seems to me that too often we define as God's punishment the pain or difficulties we endure as consequences of our choices. We see it as unfair that all do not experience the same consequences for the same action, and some even escape consequences. We blame God for the unfairness. Or we refuse to acknowledge any advantages we have that make the consequences less severe for ourselves. We might even claim that we are "more deserving" than another and that God affirms this when we suffer fewer or easier consequences.

Jesus makes it clear in today's gospel that God is not the one who assigns consequences or punishments. The society of which we are apart determines who will suffer for what offense and to what extent. And those who suffer the consequences of systemic or economic inequalities will rarely be the ones responsible for creating and benefitting from those inequalities. God does not condemn the poor and reward the rich. God does not judge the unbeliever and defend the person of religion. God does not delight in those devastated by

natural disaster and embrace those who are spared. God desires that each person come to bear the fruit of being fully who God created them to be. As Fr. Stan Ilo proclaimed in our first of three mission nights, God delights in our discovering and embracing the joy of who we are in God's eyes. When we are fully ourselves, we bear the fruit of God's graces within us. And God will continue to cultivate and fertilize the ground until we bear that fruit.

This week, our Lenten journey offers the opportunity to hear the story of a woman who experienced a powerful and transforming healing in her life. I am grateful to our local Knights of Columbus Council and our Adult Spirituality Board who make this evening possible. May we all have the patience with ourselves and one another that God has with each of us. May we anticipate with joy the fruit that is yet to be born as we grow under the care of the gardener who patiently tends us.

Joyful Lent,

J. Bill

Note: Those who made Annual Catholic Appeal pledges via the February in-pew envelopes will receive an acknowledgment of your gift/pledge from the Archdiocese within the next few weeks. Contributions to the Annual Catholic Appeal still can be made via the Appeal website <https://giving.archchicago.org/annual-catholic-appeal>.

Scripture Reflections

Reflection for the 3rd Sunday of Lent 2019

Team #3

George Rutkowski, Gertrude Nalumansi, Charles Brewick, Barbara Kalnes and David Sherman

In today's Gospel Jesus only implies that we must not equate tragedy with divine punishment. Sin does not make atrocities come. They just come. Nor should we mistake our good fortune as evidence of God's special blessing. Jesus does not promise freedom from calamity, but urges us against false self-assurances. If life's fragility demands urgency, that urgency shows that life itself has carved out opportunity for us to seize God's graciousness.

The fig tree parable's power comes through the suspense it generates. Will fruit emerge in time to thwart the ax? How will this season of second chances play itself out? How do the gardener's efforts make the tree's existence a state of grace and opportunity?

For people of faith, catastrophes raise all sorts of questions that deserve discussion and drive us to mourn and lament. We should focus primarily on the fact that tragedies arrest our attention. They shake us out of the complacencies that we use to get through ordinary life. They impress upon us the perils of our existence. But tragedies also lead many of us who observe such events at a distance to protect ourselves with rationalizations and false assurances.

We have a lot of questions: Do we build our lives upon those rationalizations that allow us to get through the day feeling blessed, safe, and able to presume upon a better fortune than the victims and survivors? Or, do we build our lives on the knowledge that God's judgment is certain? Do we build them on the efforts that God, like the parable's gardener, undertakes to prepare us for that judgment? God transforms us through grace, a grace that calls us to be generous toward those still trapped under the weight of poverty, want, and devastation of all kinds.

Lent 2019 Catholic Lenten Practices

Fasting and Abstinence

All Catholics 14 years of age and older follow the discipline of abstinence from all meat on Ash Wednesday and every Friday of Lent, including Good Friday.

All Catholics 18 years of age, but not yet 59 years of age, follow the discipline of fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. We eat only one full meal on a Fast Day and other smaller meals necessary to maintain strength and health.

Almsgiving

This traditional Lenten practice is associated with Fast and Abstinence. Money saved as a result of eating less or from “giving up” is given as alms to others who are hungry. CRS Rice Bowl or the St. Vincent de Paul Society are suggested charities for Lenten alms.

Prayer

During Lent all are called to renewal of our relationship with God through personal prayer. The community has opportunities for Lenten prayer as well:

Stations of the Cross

will be prayed at 8:20 am on Fridays

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Lenten Season of Repentance and Renewal is the most appropriate time for Catholics to confess sin and celebrate absolution.

Parish Reconciliation Service

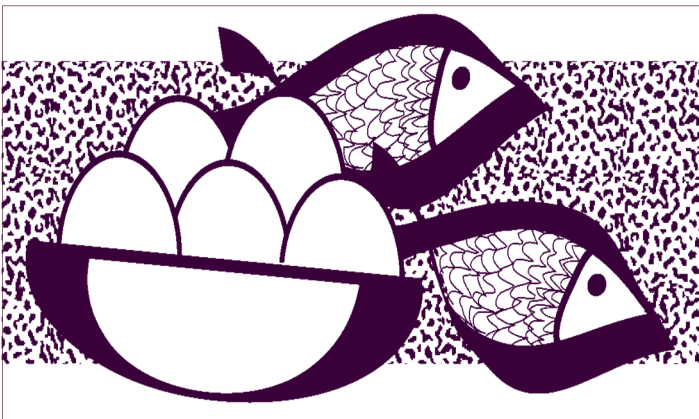
Monday, April 8 at 7:00 pm

Individual Private Confession

Saturday morning—9:30 am

Saturday evening—4:15 pm

Private Prayer in church each day.



The Pontifical Good Friday Collection Friday, April 19

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land.

Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines.

The wars, unrest and instability have been especially hard on Christians. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection provides humanitarian aid to refugees.

When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land.

Please be generous!

For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-Friday.

St. Francis Xavier Church Holy Week Services 2019

Palm Sunday – April 14

Masses at 5:00 pm Saturday and Sunday at 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 am, 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm

Wednesday – April 17

Tenebrae - 7:00 pm

Church open until 9:00 pm

Holy Thursday – April 18

Morning Prayer - 9:00 am

Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:00 pm

Church open until midnight

Good Friday – April 19

Morning Prayer - 9:00 am

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion - 3:00 and 7:00 pm

Holy Saturday – April 20

Morning Prayer - 9:00 am

Blessing of Easter Food Baskets - 1:00 pm

Easter Vigil Mass - 8:00 pm

(No 5:00 pm Mass)

Easter Sunday – April 21

Masses at 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 am and 12:00 pm--Church

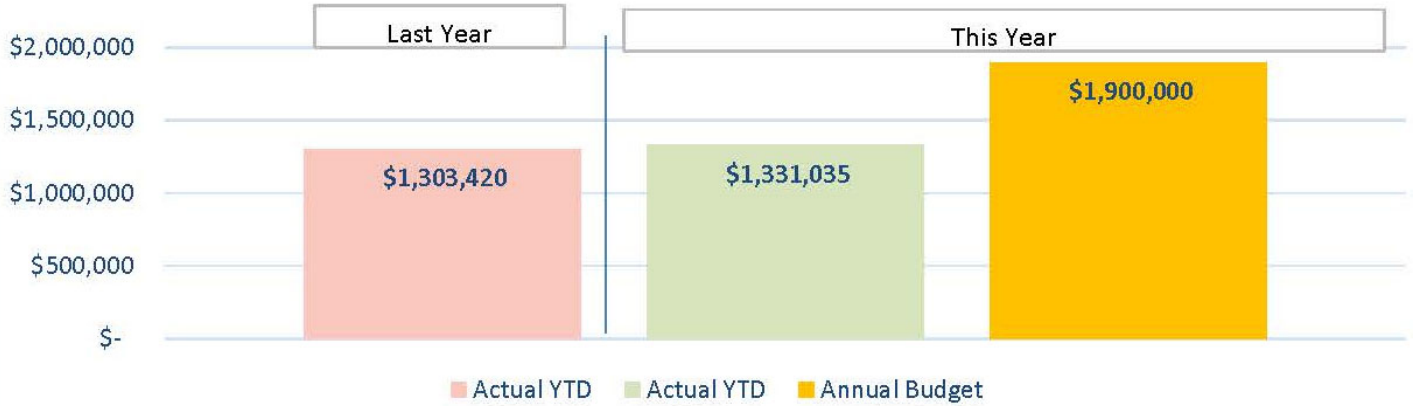
Masses at 9:15 and 10:45 am--School Gym

(No 6:00 pm Mass)



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE
YOUR PARISH FINANCE REPORT

AS OF 17, 2019



Prior Month's Offerings:	<i>EFT/Credit Card</i>	+	<i>Basket</i>	=	<i>February Total</i>
February 2019	\$ 63,730		\$ 51,306		\$ 115,036
February 2018	\$ 58,081		\$ 58,452		\$ 116,533

God bless you for your generosity to St. Francis Xavier Parish!

SAVE THE DATE

**5th Annual All Parish Service Day
 June 8, 2019 Pentecost!**

Please contact Mary Freeman
 mfreeman@sfxlg.org or 708-352-0168
 if you have an outreach idea and/or are
 interested in being a team leader.

SFX Men's Club

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

Matt Hubert at mthubert@gmail.com or
 Joseph Enright at joseph_owen@hotmail.com.

Catholic Women's Club

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

I AM



This is my name for all generations



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

The purpose of the School Advisory Board is to:

- Develop, formulate, and adopt policies which govern the operation of the School
- Review and advise on the annual budget and determine sources of funding for the School
- Provide counsel and advise on the operation of the School
- Participate in the school's development, student recruitment efforts, and long-range plans
- Assist in obtaining the goals and objectives of the St. Francis Xavier School Mission Statement
- Promote the School and support the School's public relations and marketing efforts

The Board currently consists of eleven members who each serve a three-year term. Each Board member serves on one of the of the following committees:

- Catholic Identity
- Development
- Finance
- Marketing/Communications
- Strategic Planning
- Ad Hoc

Interested in Becoming an Advisory School Board Member?

******* FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE 3/31/2019*******

The St. Francis Xavier School Advisory Board is accepting applications for a three-year term on the Board. Wonder what it takes or how the process works? Below are some common questions people have about becoming a board member.

Common Questions:

Do you have to have experience on a board or had a job in education? NO, you do not have to have prior experience on a school board or experience in education to apply.

How much time is this commitment? We meet once per month plus 1-2 supplementary meetings each month. Expect approximately about 6-8 hours per month.

Do you have to have a child at the school to apply? NO, we encourage parent (guardian) of a Religious Education student, young adult parishioners and alumna/us of SFX. Candidates need not be parents.

How does the application/selection process work? There is a one page application, a face-to-face meeting with the members of the Board and then the Board votes on the slate of applicants.

To receive an application or for more information regarding the application process and timing, **any interested parishioner or school parent (guardian)** can contact School Board member Matt Duffy m.duffy@nonnis.com or 708-280-1995.

The application and more detailed information about the Board can be found on the St. Francis Xavier School Web site <http://school.sfxlg.org/parents/school-board/>. ***Please remember that all submissions for candidacy are valued and will be reviewed.*** We look forward to receiving your application!



Who

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

What

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

Younger siblings are welcome!

When

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

Where

SFX Early Childhood Building
 21 North Catherine Avenue,
 LaGrange Room 25
 (second floor)

Why

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

How

Register online at:
<https://goo.gl/forms/XM85UFPbg0So4OEO2>
 Session fee is \$50/due at the first class.
 (Space is limited. Checks payable to SFX.)

**Box Tops
 For Education
 Collection**



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

Thank you for your help!

Religious Education Class Dates

Sundays

March 24 No Class
 March 31 No Class
 April 7 Class
 April 14 Class ~ Palm Sunday
 April 21 No Class ~ Happy Easter
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Wednesdays

March 27 No Class
 April 3 No Class
 April 10 Class
 April 17 Class
 April 24 No Class

**Sunday, April 28 RE Fair ALL Sessions
 8:45-10:15 am in Joyce Hall**

Religious Education Important Dates

Grade 3 ~ Reconciliation

Sunday, April 7 during Class Time in Chapel
 Wednesday, April 10 during Class Time in Chapel
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Grade 8 ~ Graduation

Sunday, April 7 12:00 pm in Church
 * * * * *

Grade 7 ~ Teaching Liturgy

Sunday, April 7 and Wednesday, April 10
 * * * * *

Grade 2 ~ Eucharistic Event

April 7 Banner Making
 * * * * *

First Communion Celebrations

Saturday, May 4

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Our Saturday evening 5:00 pm Mass offers the opportunity for
 children in Grades K-4 to experience hearing and reflecting on
 the Word of the Lord in a way that is an empowering
 experience. Children in these grades are invited to follow their
 Reflector of the Word to a prayer space away from the
 gathered assembly to hear the Scriptures in words they can
 understand.

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

The children's choir will sing on April 6.

Children in Grades K-4 will be invited to join their Reflector
 in a prayer space away from the adults and to hear the Word of
 the Lord in words they can better understand on the following
 Saturdays: March 23, 30 and April 27.

Please call Terri Simeoni, RE Coordinator or Allen Sterwalt,
 Director of Music at 708-352-0168 with any questions.

What's going on in Youth Ministry???

Girls Church League Basketball

Registration for the 2019 Girls Church League season is now open! Practice will be weekly on Wednesdays and begins March 27. Games will run April-May. The registration form can be found online on the Youth Ministry website. Contact Olivia Zurowski at ozurowski@sfxlg.org or 708-352-0168 with questions.

2019 Summer Mission Trip

The 2019 Summer Mission Trip location has been determined: Springfield, KY! St. Francis has 30 (25 teens, 5 adults) spots reserved with Young Neighbors in Action for the June 23-28, 2019 trip to Springfield, KY. Visit the Youth Ministry website or stop by the rectory to register. Contact Olivia Zurowski for more information.



Questions?

Do you have questions about your faith or just want to talk to someone about your faith journey? Olivia is available! Teens (or parents!), if you've been looking for someone to answer questions you may have or chat about life and your faith journey, your youth minister is a great resource... and she can help point you toward other resources if needed. Olivia Zurowski has a very flexible schedule, so just contact her to set something up!

Nazareth Academy Stations of the Cross Prayer Service

The date for Nazareth Academy's community Stations of the Cross Prayer Service has been changed to Tuesday, April 16 at 7:00 pm in the Congregation of St. Joseph Chapel. All are welcome to join us for an inspirational evening of prayer, reflection and music in preparation for the holiest days of the year, the Triduum. This loving reenactment of Christ's final steps allows our Nazareth Family to share personal reflections of our connection to the Paschal Mystery. As we recall Christ's passion, we encourage the young men and women of Nazareth to share their voices and their stories.

If you have any questions, please contact Nazareth Academy's Campus Minister, Janet Rausch at jrausch@nazarethacademy.com.



Dear Saint Francis Xavier Parish and Youth Council,

On behalf of Feed Our Future, I would like to thank you for your donation of \$3,638.74 to our program.

By supporting Feed Our Future, you are helping hungry grade school students in our community stay nourished over the weekend. We are excited to continue the program for the third year, and your contribution is essential to keep us running at full capacity. We currently are helping 30 students in District 105 on a weekly basis.

Your donation amount allows us to provide weekend meals for the kids in our program for about seven months which is over 3,000 meals plus snacks and drinks! Thank you for thinking of us and for helping make a difference in our community. Your generosity is overwhelming and we are extremely grateful for your support.

Sincerely,
Joe Sedlacek
President
Feed Our Future NFP
www.feedourfuturenfp.com

BACK DOOR THEATER

SUMMER IS COMING
GAME OF OLD TESTAMENT THRONES
BACK DOOR THEATER 2019

If you are entering the 6th through 10th grade in the Fall of 2019 and looking for a creative summer experience in theater and stage production, Back Door Theater is looking for you! The Back Door Theater is a co-operative drama ministry of Grace Lutheran and St. Francis Xavier Churches (members of all churches and denominations are welcome) that offers teens and pre-teens a casual opportunity to explore the theater arts. Entering its 19th season this summer, this drama ministry uses the theater arts of acting, voice, dance, instrumental performance, set design and back stage production to explore traditional Biblical stories and characters through a fun, contemporary, original play. The plays are faith based but always include modern references and are written in the language of teens.

Workshops are held 2 nights a week for 6 weeks. This year's performance will take place on July 13, 2019. We are also looking for adults who would like to join our staff or contribute in any way. BDT alumni this is a great opportunity to give back to the program you loved in your teen years.

Registration packets can be found at the back of church and in the rectory office. For questions or further information, please call Becky Hayes at 708-878-2790 or email at bechayes@sbcglobal.net.



Office of the Archbishop
835 North Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2030
312.534.8230
archchicago.org

March 23, 2019

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

With this letter I write to you about a development that should disturb us greatly, both as citizens and as disciples of Jesus, the Lord of life.

Recently, two bills have been introduced in the Illinois House and Senate. The first, House Bill 2495 and Senate Bill 1942, both identical pieces of legislation, seeks to strip unborn persons of any protection – or even consideration – under the law and declare abortion to be a “fundamental right” and matter of health care. The end result is that an abortion could be obtained at any stage of pregnancy, including late term, for any reason and without any regulation. The law would no longer guarantee any modicum of humanity or compassion for any unborn person in Illinois, even if they are partially born. This legislation also repeals the Abortion Performance Refusal Act, which protects doctors, nurses and hospitals who refuse to permit, recommend, perform or assist in abortion. In so doing, rights of conscience, especially religious objections, will be lost.

The second piece of legislation House Bill 2467 and its identical Senate Bill 1594, repeals the Illinois Parental Notice of Abortion Act. This law, upheld unanimously by the Illinois Supreme Court just six years ago, has the common-sense purpose of ensuring that parents would be part of the life-altering decision of their minor child in the case she seeks an abortion. This effective law has reduced abortions performed on minors by fifty-seven percent.

As citizens of a state and people of faith who care about the common good, I urge you to join me and my brother bishops in an effort to defeat this radical departure from current law and practice in our state. Please reach out your State Representative and Senator to urge defeat of these bills. You can find the name of your appropriate politicians and their contact information at <https://www.ilcatholic.org/take-action/action-center/>. To find out more about these bills, please consult the Catholic Conference of Illinois website, www.ilcatholic.org, or call the Office of Human Dignity and Solidarity at 312-534-5355 for further information.

Entrusting our efforts for all life, from the moment of conception until natural death, to the care of our Blessed Mother, I am,

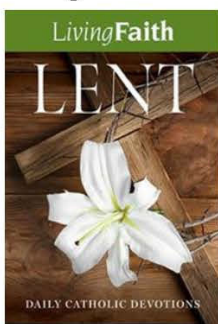
Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Blase Cupic".

Archbishop of Chicago

LENT 2019

Living Faith-Lent



As a parish we will be praying daily Catholic Lenten devotions presented in *Living Faith-Lent*. The book contains brief meditations based upon the readings of the day. Books are

available in church and at the parish rectory.

Join a Small Faith Group

Groups meet weekly March 6 – April 16, for 6 sessions.

Conversations are based on the *Living Faith Lent Book*. General groups are forming, and groups for women, men, parents of tots, past RCIA participants, young adults (20s & 30s), and married couples. To register visit www.sfxlg.org or please contact Mary Sue McDonald at 708-409-9595 or marysuecdonald@yahoo.com.

CRS Rice Bowl

Our Religious Ed. Program is collecting for the CRS Rice Bowl program to alleviate hunger and poverty in other countries (65%), and in our own community (35%).

www.crsricebowl.org

Almsgiving

Make sacrifices, and give to the poor. St. Vincent de Paul boxes are at the church entrances.

3/27 Miraculous Healing

Colleen & John Willard will give a powerful and inspirational witness talk on Colleen's miraculous healing. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus in Joyce Hall; all are welcome, 7 pm.

Area Reconciliation Services

- 4/2 St. Cletus, 7 pm
- 4/7 SFX Quest Reconciliation after 6 pm Mass; all welcome
- 4/8 St. Francis Xavier, 7 pm
- 4/9 St. John of the Cross, 7 pm

4/11 Eucharistic Adoration

Third Thursday of the month, 6-7 pm in church.

Immigrant Justice

Through the U.S. Bishops' website, send a postcard to Congress, expressing support for meaningful, compassionate, Comprehensive Immigration Reform. Click the Quicklink at sfxlg.org.

The Well Spirituality Center Congregation of St. Joseph

1515 West Ogden LaGrange Park
www.csjthewell.org

4/6 *Conversations that Matter: Creating a New Republic of the Heart*

Facilitator: Terry Patten
9:00 am-3:00 pm

To register, call 708-482-5048.

4/13-4/27 LaGrange Knights of Columbus/Food Pantry Spring Food Drive

Have your donation picked up or donate online at www.MyFoodDrive.org/#LGKofCSpring2019. Call or text Mike Hattie at 708-207-2780 or council6483@gmail.com. Every \$1 and food donation helps families & seniors struggling to make ends meet.

SOLIDARITYBRIDGE

For weekly Lenten resources to deepen your relationship to Christ and those in need, visit:
www.solidaritybridge.org/lent.

**St. Francis
Xavier Church**

124 N. Spring Avenue, LaGrange, IL 60525

708-352-0168
sfxinlg@sfxlg.org
www.sfxlg.org



Attend Daily Mass

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

Stations of the Cross

The Fridays of Lent, 8:20 am.

4/12 Living Stations by the

Parish School 8th Graders, 8:30 am.

The Joy of Lent -

A Lenten Mission led by **Fr. Stan Chu Ilo**

We will keep the Catholic tradition of gathering on three Friday evenings in Lent (the day of the Way of the Cross), 7:00 - 8:15 pm.

4/5 Something Beautiful for God: Discovering God's Purpose in Our Lives

4/12 Loving When it Hurts: Discovering Healing and Hope in a Wounded World

Each evening will include Fr. Stan's talk, reflection, music and prayer.

Light refreshments will be served.

The Joy of Lent

Last Friday, Fr. Stan Ilo began our Lenten Mission by addressing the topic: Something Beautiful to God - Discovering God's Love this Lent. Below are some highlights of his talk.

God made us for happiness, God desires our happiness, and God goes about working for our happiness. Joy is always within us - a seed that God has put in us; but we have to make the effort to discover it, nurture it, work hard at it, and in moments like Lent, remove those obstacles which sin imposes on us which makes it impossible for us to be as happy as we can be.

Find the joy in your life and ask God really to show you - deep within your soul - that you are marvelous in God's eyes.

We are beautiful unto God. In order to find happiness and mediate happiness to others we must find beauty in ourselves, in all circumstances, and in all people.

God's love is God's free act to us - a love that saves, a love that creates, and a love that gives; a love that embraces us into this depth of divine love; a love that forgives and restores; it is a love that makes us whole.

God loves you. The proof of that love is what Jesus did for you on the Cross. If you were the only person on earth Jesus would have died for you. As Isaiah 61: 3 says, "God will visit those who mourn with God's graciousness and give them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair."

Lord, Show each of us something beautiful about our lives. Show each of us something beautiful about our fellow men and women. Give us the grace to do something beautiful for you; something beautiful to show your love which we experience in our lives; something beautiful to make you smile for loving us. Amen.



Fr. Stan Chu Ilo, an internationally acclaimed preacher, author, and teacher, is a priest of Awgu Diocese in Eastern Nigeria. He is a research professor at the Center for World Catholicism and Inter-Cultural Theology, DePaul University, Chicago. He shares his gifts with us regularly, as weekend president.

Small Faith Groups – Lent 2019

You are cordially invited to join a Small Faith Group. Groups meet weekly from March 6–April 16 for approximately 1 hour for a total of 6 sessions. Please register here, at www.sfxlg.org or by contacting Mary Sue McDonald (marysuecdonal@yahoo.com or 708-409-9595). As groups fill, participants will receive confirmation and details. Thank you!

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Preferred Group Number: _____ Second Choice Group Number: _____

Preferred Group Type: _____ (any, women, men, marrieds, young adults, tots)

Grp #	Day/Time	Leader	Location	Dates
1	Sunday, 7:15 pm All Welcome	Rick & Donna Olund	Olund home in LaGrange	March 24, 31, April 7, 14
2	Sunday, 5 pm All Welcome	Maureen & Bill Windmoeller	School Chapel	March 24, 31, April 7, 14
3	Tuesday, 1:00 pm All Welcome	Mary Sue & Scott McDonald	McDonald home in Westchester	March 26, April 2, 9, 16
4	Tuesday, 7:30 pm All Welcome	Joan Stopka	Unity Hall	March 26, April 2, 9, 16
5	Tuesday, 6:00 pm All Welcome	Mary Beth Niziol	Church sacristy	March 26, April 2, 9, 16
6	Wed, 9:30 am (except March 6 - after 9 am Mass), All Welcome	Marge Branecki	Unity Hall	March 27, April 3, 10
7	Wednesday, 9:30 am Moms/Dads & TOTS	Catherine Hernandez	Rectory (ERM/R)	March 27, April 3, 10
8	Wed, 1:00 pm (except March 6 – after 12:15 ashes) Women's Grp	Martie Lukanich	Courtyard Room	March 27, April 3, 10
9	Wednesday, 7 pm (except March 6, after 7 pm Mass) All Welcome + RCIA	Tim Hejna	God's Garage	March 27, April 3, 10
10	Thursday, 6:15 pm All Welcome	Barb Kalnes & Kate DeVries	Unity Hall	March 28, April 4, 11
11	Saturday, 9:30 am All Welcome	Katie Stetz	Unity Hall	March 30, April 6, 13

SFX MEN'S CLUB PROUDLY PRESENTS



Couples' Twilight
BOWLING

FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 2019

TIVOLI BOWL

DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 PM

938 WARREN AVENUE, DOWNERS GROVE
(Across from DG - Main Street Metra Stop)

Limited
Spots
Available

Book
Your Spot
Now!

\$50 per couple (\$25 per person)

Includes Unlimited Bowling from 8:30 - 10:30 pm & Shoe Rental

Beer/Wine Tickets will be available for purchase.

Food may be purchased at Tivoli or ordered in.

WE WILL BE COLLECTING ITEMS FOR THE SFX FOOD PANTRY – PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING!

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK YOUR SPOT VISIT: WWW.GIVECENTRAL.ORG/LOCATION/218/EVENT/10651
QUESTIONS? EMAIL: MICHAEL FITZPATRICK / FITZMIKE@GMAIL.COM OR BRIAN MULVENNA / MULVENNAB@YAHOO.COM



Lenten Labyrinth Prayer

on Friday, April 5 from 9:30 am-4:00 pm with Facilitator, Janet Bolger, CSJ. Walking a labyrinth is a moving meditation. Drop in and spend an hour or so stretching your limbs and your spirit, walking an indoor labyrinth canvas laid out in Cavanaugh Chapel. Janet Bolger, CSJ who has loved and prayed the labyrinth for decades, will be available to introduce you to labyrinth prayer. Cost: free will offering.

Conversations that Matter: Creating a New Republic of the Heart on Saturday, April 6 from 9:00 am-3:00 pm with Facilitator, Terry Patten. In this daylong experiential workshop, we will explore the big questions confronting all of us. Weaving strands from neuroscience, ecology, integral theory, and spiritual wisdom, we will develop an integrated understanding of our collective challenges—then engage in experiential practices that help us understand tangibly how to unite spiritual practice, deeper human relating, and effective social activism. Cost (includes lunch): free to members of co-sponsoring parishes SFX and SJC.

The Art of Slowing Down—An Introduction to the Deep River Within on Saturday, April 13 from 10:00 am-12:30 pm with Facilitator, Carol Hohle. Within each of us flows a deep river of creativity, clarity, and contentment. Sometimes we need to slow down, when we lose our connection to it. In this workshop for women, participants will be introduced to six core practices to stay connected to our Deep River of purpose and joy. Cost: \$30.

To register online and see a complete list of our new 2019 Winter-Spring Programs, go to www.csjthewell.org or call 708-482-5048. The Well Spirituality Center, 1515 West Ogden Avenue in LaGrange Park.

Spring Food Drive Service Project

Do your youth need community service hours? Are you looking for a project that makes a difference right here in our community? LaGrange Knights of Columbus need a total of 40 service hours for the Spring Food Drive. Groups and volunteers can take as little or as much as they like in increments of one hour. Volunteers can choose their own day and time during Saturday, April 13 to Sunday, April 21. The work is attaching flyers to the doorknobs of homes in the LaGrange area. Flyers and rubber bands are provided by the Knights of Columbus. Knights of Columbus members will handle pick up of donations. Food Pantry staff and volunteers will handle sorting, storage and distribution of the donations. Since 2012 the Knights of Columbus Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food for Families Drives in April and October help our most vulnerable neighbors make ends meet.

Call, text or email for more information or to join our effort~Mike Hattie, Committee Chair at 708-207-2780 and council6483@gmail.com. Thank you for your support!

Interfaith Career Network

Career Search and Development Boot Camp - Last Week

Please join us on Tuesday, March 26 from 7:00-9:00 pm at the First Presbyterian Church of LaGrange, 150 South Ashland Avenue. For our final session, co-facilitator Jim Peterson will discuss the fundamentals of networking and provide tips on job hunting after "50". In addition, co-facilitator Susan Sedler will recommend a plan for developing your personal career strategy. There is no cost to attend the Boot Camp. Please enter the church on Catherine Avenue. For further information, contact Susan Sedler at sqsedler@aol.com.

Area Respect Life Ministry

**Monday, March 25
7:00 pm**

**Meeting at St. John of the Cross Parish Center
Rooms 4 and 5**

Parishioners from St. Cletus, St. Francis Xavier, and St. John of the Cross will gather to continue discussing Respect Life issues, including pending legislation and ways we can partner together. All are welcome!

**Wednesday, April 3
6:00 am-6:00 pm**

**IL Catholic Conference
Life Advocacy Day in Springfield, IL**

Coach buses will depart from St. John of the Cross at 6:00 am and return by 6:00 pm. Cost is \$10, which includes lunch and training/education. The group will also pray the rosary in front of the Capitol Building.

Registration and sign up at: <http://bit.ly/2ThLrvw>.

This Lent, Journey with



Deepen your Lenten Prayer,
Fasting and Almsgiving!

Sign up to receive weekly email reflections. Subscribe at:
www.solidaritybridge.org/Lent

Solidarity Bridge, headquarters in the Archdiocese of Chicago, brings urgently needed surgery and medical care to Bolivian families with scant resources.

Nearly one-third of the global disease burden stems from surgically treatable conditions. And while many global health initiatives focus on primary and preventative care, 5 billion people around the world still lack access to basic surgical services. Rooted in the tradition of Catholic social justice and a spirituality of solidarity, Solidarity Bridge seeks to respond to this concrete reality.



**An Evening of Reflection
Sponsored by
St. Francis Xavier
&
The Knights of Columbus
is open to everyone**

Speakers: Colleen and John Willard

Wednesday, March 27 from 7:00 pm in Joyce Hall
Refreshments will be served.

*Have you ever heard of a miracle happening?
Do you believe in miracles?
Do you believe God still answers prayers in today's world?*

Come hear the miraculous testimony of Colleen & John Willard. They will share their anointed testimony that has been received in many parishes and media throughout the world, witnessing to the "Great Mercy of God and His Healing Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist."

Colleen was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor and in pain 24 hours a day. You will be captivated to hear the movements of the Holy Spirit and Our Blessed Mother's intercession as they were led to take a pilgrimage where Colleen was then physically healed by Jesus upon receiving the Holy Eucharist. It is a talk that will bring a profound awareness to the fruits of suffering and joy in carrying the Cross. It is a testimony you will never forget.

We hope you and your family can join us.

Special Circumstances For Receiving The Eucharist

The Catholic Church has historically recognized the intimate relationship of wheat hosts and wine as matter for the Eucharist. However, if you have Celiac Sprue Disease or a family member suffers from a gluten intolerance or if you are alcohol intolerant, receiving the Eucharist is life-involving in seriously challenging ways. The logistics or manner of accommodating lay persons with gluten or wine intolerance in a parish setting during the Liturgy of the Eucharist is left to the afflicted party and the pastor to decide the best way during Mass for the afflicted party to safely receive the Precious Body or the Precious Blood.

If you or a member of your family is affected by this circumstance, please contact our pastor, Fr. Bill Tkachuk, to discuss the particulars of your situation. Fr. Bill can be reached by calling the Rectory Office at 708-352-0168.

Please Take Note...

In December of 2000, parishioner Dan Bagley lost his battle to cancer. While undergoing chemotherapy, Dan would often sit in the sacristy where he could hear the mass on the PA system and be away from the crowd to avoid being around excessive exposure to infections. After Dan's death, his family and friends purchased a new chair for our sacristy for use by those whose chemo might otherwise keep them away. As a reminder to all, especially new parishioners, anyone undergoing chemotherapy is welcome to make use of the "The Dan Bagley Chair" while attending mass. Or, if you have some other medical need for which the chair may help, you are welcome to use it.

Also, be aware that the parish is equipped with special hearing devices for those who need hearing assistance. Those devices can be found in the priests' sacristy.

For those who may be experiencing low blood sugar due to diabetes or other health issues, orange juice is located in the small refrigerator in the priests' sacristy.

Anyone with a physical challenge is encouraged to sit in the east transept (Spring Avenue side) near the exit door. A Eucharistic minister will bring communion to you, rather than have you approach the altar.



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

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

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

St. Francis Xavier Personnel

Pastoral Ministry

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

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

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

Education Ministry

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

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

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

Youth Ministry

Coordinator

Mrs. Olivia Zurowski

ozurowski@sfxlg.org

Music Ministry

Director

Mr. Allen Sterwalt

asterwalt@sfxlg.org

Parish Office Staff

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

Mrs. Jennifer Zeisloft
Ms. Jane Bandyk
Mrs. Maureen Pipal
Mrs. Melissa Westerhoff
Ms. Debra Soulje
Mr. Frank Roccasalva

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

Food Pantry/Community Outreach

Coordinator

Mrs. Mary Freeman

mfreeman@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.....sfxreligious@sfxlg.org
 Parish Web Sitewww.sfxlg.org

Rectory Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am-8:30 pm
 Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm
 Saturday9:00 am-5:00 pm
 Sunday9:00 am-1:00 pm

Sabbath Liturgy

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday morningAfter 9:00 am Mass
 Saturday afternoon4:15 pm
 The Reconciliation room is located off the walkway behind the
 tabernacle prayer area.

Liturgy Schedule

Monday through Wednesday7:45 and 9:00 am
 Thursday9:00 am
 Friday7:45 am
 Saturday9:00 am

Word Communion Services

Thursday7:45 am
 Friday9:00 am

Bulletin Deadline

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

Domestic Violence Resources

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

Food Pantry

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

Home or Hospital Visitation & Communion Calls

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

Infant Baptisms

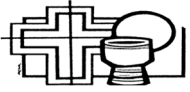
Please call the Parish Office for scheduled 1:30 pm Sunday Baptismal dates. Baptism Preparation Classes: 4th Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm. We encourage participation in this program before the baby's birth or adoption.

Marriage

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

Parish Counselor

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



Liturgical Ministers' Schedule—March 30-31, 2019

Mass Time	Presider	Lectors/ Commentators	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Cantors	Greeters
5:00 PM	Fr. Killeen	L. Lach P. Shanley Q. Shanley	L. Bannach C. Cooke T. Conwell K. Corrigan D. Mulvena D. Dunlap M. Milligan L. Young S. Devitt	A. Holmes A. Brown Open	T. Pangan	P. Devitt
7:30 AM	Fr. Killeen	G. Rutkowski J. Kelly R. Hillsman	S. Augustyn S. Hayes N. Kalkowski J. Van Gorp D. Walsh	C. Carroll Q. Filbin Open	S. VanOrdstrand	C. Urbain
9:00 AM	Fr. Muccino	P. Zadeik J. Stopka B. Olson	R. Barker M. Hull L. Krepps M. Lukanich C. Froemel E. Froemel A. Gargano B. McMahon D. Nighswander	C. Kachmarik M. Kachmarik T. Newcomb	C. Kline Gallery Choir	G. Nalumansi
10:30 AM	Fr. Killeen	B. Boyd M. Justak C. Maroney	J. Garreau L. Egan M. Joscelyn O. Lastres S. Martin J. Nowak P. McGinnis L. Ovník Open	A. Justak D. Collins E. Siffermann	B. Kalnes Celebration Ensemble	P. Sbertoli
12:00 PM	Fr. Tkachuk	D. Lewis E. McGovern C. Borawski	L. Donegan B. Edelmann C. Gatsos K. Borawski A. Chimento	C. McLaughlin A. Edwards A. Grech	L. Hoigard	O. Lozano
6:00 PM	Fr. Tkachuk	Quest Teen	Quest Teens		Spirit Choir	

FORGIVE
 as the Lord forgives

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Readings For The Week of March 24, 2019

Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9
 Monday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
 Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35
 Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19
 Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23
 Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34
 Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14
 Next Sunday: Jos 5:9a, 10-12/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32