

St. Francis

Xavier

Church

The Oratory

24th and Green Streets

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

THE PARISH MINISTRY

Father Paul C. Convery, C.O., Parish Priest

Father Brian R. Gaffney, C.O., Parochial Vicar

Deacon Vincent J. Thompson

Ms. Dolores M. Butler, School Principal

Mr. Nick Lyons, Organist and Choir Director

Parish House: 215-765-4568 School: 215-763-6564

School Website: www.sfxschool.com

Parish Website: www.sfxoratory.org

THE PHILADELPHIA CONGREGATION OF THE ORATORY OF ST. PHILIP NERI

Father Georges G. Thiers, C.O., Provost

Father Paul C. Convery, C.O., Vicar

Father Brian R. Gaffney, C.O.

ORATORY PRAYER

Join the Oratory Community each Monday through Friday from 5:10 to 6:00 P.M. in Church for this holy hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Oratory Prayer includes time for meditation on the Sacred Scripture, intercessory prayers and litanies, as well as hymns and silent prayer.

You may submit intentions to be remembered during Oratory Prayer by printing them on the intention sheet in the vestibule, or by calling the parish house.

SECULAR ORATORY

This group of young adults meets every Tuesday at 7:30 P.M., for prayers, reflection on the scriptures, and fellowship. Its origins are in the group of young people who met daily with St. Philip Neri, who founded the Congregation of the Oratory.

All Catholic young adults are welcome to attend the Secular Oratory. Enter by the front door of the Parish House (2319 Green Street). Additional information and a schedule of events are available at www.sfxoratory.org/secularoratory/

MASSSES:

Sundays: the 5:30 P.M. Vigil on Saturday, 8:00, 9:30, and 11:30 on Sunday morning.

Holy Days: 6:30, 8:00, 10:00 A.M., & 7:30 P.M.

Monday through Saturday: 8:00 A.M. only

CONFESSIONS:

Confessions will be heard on Saturday afternoon from 4:00 to 5:00. Confessions will be heard on Sunday morning immediately after the 8:00 A.M. Mass and immediately after the 9:30 A.M. Mass. Confessions may also be heard by appointment with one of the priests.

BAPTISMS:

The Sacrament of Baptism will be administered after the 11:30 A.M. Mass on every Sunday, with the occasional exception of some Sundays in the year. Parents with sponsors should be at Church by 12:45 P.M.

All registered parents of St. Francis Xavier Parish who wish to present a child for Baptism are required to attend a Pre Jordan class. Pre Jordan classes are held one Friday evening per month (usually the first Friday of the month but not always). Parents must call the parish office during weekday business hours to check upcoming dates for Pre Jordan classes and to pre-register for the Pre Jordan session they will attend. For the benefit of all attending these sessions, parents should make arrangements for a baby sitter for the time period they as parents will be present at the session. After having fulfilled the Pre Jordan class requirement, Baptism arrangements can be made. These arrangements must be made at least two weeks prior to the Baptism date.

MARRIAGES:

Archdiocesan policy requires that couples planning to marry contact the parish at least six months before the intended marriage date. All couples are now required to attend the Archdiocesan pre-marital instructions in preparation for marriage.

R.C.I.A.

Interested in becoming a Catholic. Need to receive Baptism, Confirmation and or 1st Eucharist. Contact Deacon Vince at 215-564-1758 or denvthomp@aol.com for more information.

SPONSORS FOR SACRAMENTS

A letter of eligibility to be a sponsor certifies that a person is a practicing Catholic who is fully initiated and is at least 16 years of age. If a Catholic person is married, to act as a sponsor for another person, it is also required that their Marriage be recognized as a "valid" according to Church standards for the Sacrament of Marriage. To obtain a Letter of Eligibility, call the Parish Office during normal business hours to speak with one of the Priests.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

We of St. Francis Xavier Parish - The Oratory in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia accept and proclaim that Jesus is the Word of the Father sent into the world to be our Saviour and is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Jesus has overcome the world and been given full authority on earth, so that we may have eternal life. Eternal Life is to know the only true God and the One whom He has sent, Jesus Christ. We have been chosen to have faith in God, the Father, in His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and in the love which exists between them, the Holy Spirit. We are called to glorify the Father by loving one another as God has loved us, and so bear fruit that will remain. We pray that we may be one by the presence of the Holy Trinity dwelling in us, so that the world will believe in Jesus. Trusting in the Mercy of God and relying upon the Sacraments, we pray to remain in God's love, keep His commandments, and seek to do His will. Led by the Spirit of Truth, called to be one in the Body of Christ, we praise and worship the Father.

COMMUNION CALLS:

Holy Communion is distributed to sick and shut-in parishioners once a month. Any sick and shut-in parishioner who wishes to receive communion, please call the parish house.

MEETINGS:

CCD Program: Wednesdays from 6:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. at the school. For information call Pat Schuyler, Coordinator of Religious Education, at 215-568-2594.

Holy Rosary: Daily before the 8:00 A.M. Mass except Sunday.

Knights of Columbus - La Rabida Council 1191:

Meets 3rd Thursday of the month at 8:00 P.M. in the Parish Center.

BOUNDARIES:

Thompson St., south (even) side, to 20th St.; 20th St., west (even) side, to Benjamin Franklin Parkway; Parkway to Schuylkill River at Spring Garden St. Bridge; River to Thompson St.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 20, 2019 • John 2:1-11

Jesus and Mary attended a wedding where Mary informed Jesus that there was no more wine. At first he said it did not concern him, but then he turned several jugs of water into wine. His disciples were also present, and believed in him more strongly after they witnessed the first sign of glory he revealed to them.



JANUARY 20, 2019
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2019

8:00 A.M. – Francis H. Sterling, M.D. – 4th Anniversary

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2019

8:00 A.M. – Josephine Gabaly

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2019

8:00 A.M. – Albert Fisher, Sr. – Birthday

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2019

8:00 A.M. – Thomas Paul, Sr. – 31st Anniversary

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2019

8:00 A.M. – Charles McDowell – 15th Anniversary

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2019

8:00 A.M. – Suzette Nelson Angelus – 20th Anniversary

5:30 P.M. – Living and Deceased Members of the
Saint Francis Xavier Sanctuary Fund

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Les Pierce, Alice Huelskamp, Theresa Dunn, Edda Notte, John Finnegan, Yuk-Kam Yeung, Theresa Carr, Baby Jocelyn Lee, Gladys Pavlock, Ana Rosa Martinez, Jeanne Marley, Ralph Berarducci, Joe Sweeney, Rose Marie Pasicznyk, Rita McKeown, Geri Venditto, Bettye Schoffler, Joan Powers, Daniel Mooney, Rosa Santos, Marcus Morris, Joan Battistelli, Margaret Mary Hearn, Gail Petrofsky, Michael Santiago, Tom Connelly, Helen Farrell, Josephine Aiello, and all who are hospitalized, confined to their homes and those suffering from physical, mental or psychological illness.

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONER



The following is a newly registered member of St. Francis Xavier Parish: Anna Avampato. We thank you for registering. In this way, we are able to serve you better.

THE PRIESTS OF THE ORATORY

We would like to express our thanks for the many prayers, gifts and greeting cards we received for Christmas. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

2018 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Will be sent to you for tax purposes at your request. Please call the parish office at **215-765-4568** Monday through Friday between 9:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. to request this information.

FORTHCOMING COLLECTIONS

January 20 Catholic Relief Services
January 27 Utility Fund



GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING –

January 12 & 13

Sunday Collection this year – \$7,426.16
Sunday Collection last year – \$6,931.07
Church Renovation Plaster – \$9,842.25

The cost of basic parish services, staff and utility bills, may only be maintained with a Sunday offering of **\$8,500.00**. Our ability to meet ordinary financial obligations depends on your support for St. Francis Xavier Parish.

MASS ATTENDANCE –

January 12 & 13

5:30 p.m. – 97

8:00 a.m. – 70

9:30 a.m. – 103

11:30 a.m. – 80

Total 350

Dear Friends,

As you can see, the repair and restoration of the area around the thirteenth station of the cross at the transept on the 24 Street side of the church is finished. The work will move to the two arches closest to the choir loft on the diagonally opposite side of the church. This second site is important because of the danger of falling plaster capitals at the bases of the arches.

All unexpected and necessary repairs to our beautiful historic church come at a cost which our ordinary budget cannot absorb. The minimum cost for this work will be \$20,000. Please use the envelope provided in your monthly mailing from the parish to assist in this emergency need. Your generosity will be the difference between maintaining our beautiful church building or its sad gradual decline because necessary repair was unaffordable. I know that God's Providence will be evident in your generous support.

Father Georges C.O.



PRAYER OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF SUNDAY MASSES

We will continue to pray together following the conclusion of Sunday Masses, the "Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel" Archbishop Charles Chaput in the Fall urged parishes to restore the practice of praying this intercessory Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel after Mass for God's protection, mercy and healing in view of the sexual abuse of minors by clergy in the Catholic Church and the significant incidence of this violation of minors in reality touching every major institution, religious, civil and secular in our society and country. Numerous catholic parishes in our Archdiocese and around the country, as well as some non-catholic churches, have already begun the practice of again praying this Prayer to St. Michael. The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord is a most fitting time for us to initiate praying together the St. Michael Prayer. In the Baptism of Our Lord, we recognize the fundamental human condition and thus the need for all human persons: Our Lord identifies Himself with our humanity and fallen nature – our frailty and constant need for purification, protection and deliverance from evil. Firstly, we intercede for the Church in its constant need for God's protecting and renewing mercy and grace, but no less do we intercede for our world and society in its' same need for renewal in genuine love by the washing bestowed from God's grace, mercy, truth and love.



**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE**

LEARN. SERVE. LEAD. SUCCEED.

On Sunday, January 27, we will celebrate the opening of Catholic Schools week at our 9:30 AM Mass. Following Mass, you are invited our Open House in St. Francis Xavier School, 641 N. 24 Street, until 1:00 p.m. Our Principal, Dolores M. Butler, faculty, staff and parents will be there to welcome you and answer questions. Please come and see all that we offer, including:

- Strong Catholic Faith Formation
- Challenging Academic Program
- Middle States Accreditation
- Spanish Language Program
- After School Care and more

Registration for September 2019 enrollment begins in February for Pre-K through Grade 8. Please call the school office, **215-763-6564** for more information. Website: www.sfxschool.com.



January 20, 2019 – 11:30 A. M. Mass

Processional Hymn:

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise #146, Black Hymnal

Mass Setting:

Missa "Stella Matutina" Vito Carnevali, 1926

Proper Mass Parts:

Harmonic Psalm Tones Cyr de Brant

Offertory Anthem:

Holy is the Lord Franz Schubert

Communion Motet:

Ave Maria Salutatio Angelica
Solesmes/Gregorian Chant

Recessional Hymn:

Sing a New Song #480, Black Hymnal

FAMILIES ANONYMOUS

Families Anonymous, a fellowship of people whose lives have been affected by a relative or friend's use of mind-altering substances or related behavior problems, continues to host meetings at the parish center on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. It is recommended for parents, spouses, brothers, sisters or any other emotionally involved relative. If you have any questions or additional information, please call Karen at **1-856-906-0700**.




COME ALL YE LADS AND LASSIES FAIR

St. Francis Xavier is having its annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance on Saturday, February 23, 2019 beginning at 6:30 P.M. This event is one of the biggest fundraisers for our parish. Sean Fleming will provide music. Food to be served will include hors d'oeuvres, ham and cabbage, carved beef, Irish potatoes, green beans, rolls with butter, coffee, tea and homemade desserts. Pitchers of beer will be available. BYOB (setups will be provided.) Tickets are \$35 pre-sale and \$40 at the door and tables of 10 may be reserved. Must be over 21 to attend.

So that this fund raiser is a success both socially and financially, we are need of your help as volunteers

- ❖ To help in the kitchen to replenish containers of food at the food stations
- ❖ Assist committee in setting up Friday February 22
- ❖ Assist in various capacities throughout the evening
- ❖ After party cleanup starting at 11:30 p.m.

If you are able to volunteer at our St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance, please complete the following form and place in the Sunday collection basket or drop off at the Parish Office. Even if you have volunteered in the past, please fill out the form below. Thank you in advance. Without your help, we would be unable to make this parish event a success!! For additional information, please contact the Parish Secretary, Christine Powell at **215-765-4568**.



NAME _____

PHONE # _____

JOB PREFERRED _____

LOURDES AND FATIMA PILGRIMAGE

Father George Schommer, O.P. Pastor of St. Patrick's Church is conducting a pilgrimage to Lourdes and Fatima , June 30 – July 12, 2019. The pilgrimage is limited to 26 participants and early reservations are recommended. For additional information, please contact Father George at schommer@op.org or contact the Catholic Travel Office at **1-877-276-7279**.

ST FRANNY X 50/50

January 50/50 to date is \$47.50. Don't forget to try your luck each month by placing your donation in the SFX envelope which can be found in your monthly packet. The next drawing will be held Monday, January 28, 2019.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ORGANIZATION

Catholic men age 18 and over who are in good standing with the Church and who are interested in making a difference while growing in their faith through acts of service, are encouraged to consider joining the Knights of Columbus. For additional information, please call Mickey Kelly at **267-872-4111** or at email **Mickeykelly96@gmail**.



9 DAYS FOR LIFE

www.9daysforlife.com

NINE DAYS OF PRAYER, PENANCE AND PILGRIMAGE

JANUARY 14—22, 2019

Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., encourages the clergy and faithful of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to pray with the Bishops of the United States to end abortion. On January 22, 2019, our nation marks the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court decision that made abortion legal throughout the United States. Since that date 60 plus million children's lives have been lost to abortion. *Our prayers and sacrifices make a difference and do make a tremendous difference in the face of the culture of death with our real hope for a culture of life.*

Information on the "9 Days for Life" is posted on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) website at www.9daysforlife.com. On this site you will find the prayers, programmatic and promotional resources to encourage this nationwide prayer effort.

The centerpiece of this prayer effort is a simple, novena with different intercessions, brief reflections and suggested acts of reparation that can be received directly each day through a variety of electronic forms. The "9 Days for Life" allows for a wide number of ways for people of all ages and circumstances to participate. The novena of prayer also spans the *March for Life* and can be a way to participate spiritually with the thousands of pilgrims from the Archdiocese who will travel to Washington, DC, on January 18, 2019.



PLENARY INDULGENCE FOR THOSE PARTICIPATING IN THE 2019 MARCH FOR LIFE

The Holy Father, Pope Francis, has made available a *Plenary Indulgence* to those who participate in the events surrounding the *March for Life* on the 17th and 18th of January 2019, in the Diocese of Arlington and the Archdiocese of Washington.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* describes an Indulgence in this way (article 1471):

An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints. An indulgence is partial or plenary according as it removes either part or all of the temporal punishment due to sin. Indulgences may be applied to the living or the dead.

This *Plenary Indulgence* may be obtained by participating in the events of the 2019 *March for Life* and by fulfilling the usual three conditions: sacramental Confession, the reception of Holy Communion and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father. Those who would like to obtain the gift of the Indulgence should be truly penitential and, motivated by charity, can apply it to the souls in Purgatory.

The aged, the sick and those who truly cannot leave home to participate in the 2019 *March for Life* can also obtain the *Plenary Indulgence*. In this case, it is also necessary to be detached from any kind of sin with the intention of fulfilling the three conditions as soon as possible. Also, it is necessary to be spiritually united to the events of the 2019 *March for Life* and make an offering of any infirmity to Almighty God.

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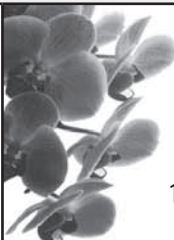
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