

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.

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 24, 2019 • Luke 6:27-38

Jesus explains that loving only people who love us is no great achievement. He also reminds us that doing a favor for someone while expecting something in return is not what he asks of us. Instead, we should emulate God by being compassionate and non-judgmental, even towards individuals who hate and mistreat us.



FEBRUARY 24, 2019
SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2019

8:00 A.M. – Marion Ward – Anniversary

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2019

8:00 A.M. – Anna Kelm – 44th Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2019

8:00 A.M. – Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus
La Rabida Council 1191

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2019

8:00 A.M. – Richard J. Theirs – 20th Anniversary

FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2019

8:00 A.M. – Theresa Mc Ginty Kelly – 85th Birthday

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2019

8:00 A.M. – Deceased Members of the
Bailey and Boyle Families
5:30 P.M. – Living and Deceased Members of the
Saint Francis Xavier Sanctuary Fund

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Theresa Dunn, Doreen Hughes, Les Pierce, Alice Huelskamp, 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 PARISHIONERS

We welcome Jeff, Tara, Ava and Violet Iannotti, Jonathan and Colleen Hosler as newly registered members of St. Francis Xavier Parish. We thank you for registering. In this way, we are able to serve you better.

ST. FRANNY X 50/50

February 50/50 to date is \$62.50. Remember to drop your ST. FRANNY X envelope in the collection basket at any weekend mass during the month. The drawing will be held on Monday, February 25.

GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING –

February 16th & 17th

Sunday Collection this year –	\$5,703.16
Sunday Collection last year –	\$6,866.17
Church Renovation Plaster –	\$13,947.75
Aged and Ill Priests –	\$1,565.00

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 –

February 16th and 17th

5:30 p.m. – 78

8:00 a.m. – 83

9:30 a.m. – 124

11:30 a.m. – 59

Total – 344

FAST AND ABSTINENCE

AND OTHER ACTS OF PENANCE FOR LENT – 2019

The Bishops of the United States prescribe, as minimal obligation, that all persons who are fourteen years of age and older are bound to abstain from eating meat on **Ash Wednesday, March 6, 2019**, all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday. Further, all persons eighteen years of age and older, up to and including their fifty-ninth birthday, are bound to fast by limiting themselves to a single full meal Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, while the other two meals on those days are to be light.

All the faithful are encouraged, when possible, to participate at Mass and to receive the Holy Eucharist daily, to celebrate frequently the Sacrament of Penance, to undertake spiritual reading, especially the study of the Sacred Scriptures, and to participate in parish Lenten devotions as well as Lenten education programs. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is especially recommended.

All are encouraged to participate in Operation Rice Bowl, which has aided countless hungry persons here in the Archdiocese as well as throughout our nation and our world. Rice Bowls are located in baskets at the back of church.

SAFE HAVEN SUNDAY

Equipping the Family and Safeguarding Children

The family home is to be a haven. But the inappropriate use of technology in the home deprives it of this role and is the greatest threat to the sanctity of marriages and families today. Pornography and other online threats are often one click away, and parents can feel overwhelmed with not knowing how to best protect their children in our fast-paced digital world.

Next weekend, March 2 and 3, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia is taking a bold step to help families by celebrating Safe Haven Sunday. This awareness day will provide access to practical resources and any caring adult can use to protect themselves and our young people from online risks.

Please join us with your prayers and presence as we prepare for this unique event. To learn more, please contact the Office for Life and Family at 215-587-0500 or visit www.phillycatholiclife.org.

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.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL 2019

2019 Parish Goal	\$27,351.00
Total amount to Date	\$5,980.00
Percentage of Goal	22%
Number of Gifts	28

The 2019 Catholic Charities Appeal, "Giving Hope to All" has launched. All registered parishioners of parishes in the Archdiocese should have received their Catholic Charities Appeal mailing.

As you know, gifts made to the Catholic Charities Appeal will provide support needed to tens of thousands of people through countless organizations, programs, and ministries throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The goal for the 2019 Catholic Charities Appeal is \$12.5 million. The Appeal will be a channel of hope for so many in need and serve as a positive source for good. This year our parish goal is \$27,351, and I am confident that, through your charity and generosity, we will reach this goal. It is important that every parishioner and every parish do their part to raise this \$12.5 million, because we are one family in Christ. Taking care of those who need help the most is one of the most important things we can do as Catholics. The Catholic Charities Appeal Board ensures that all monies raised are directed only toward services and programs for those who the Appeal is intended to benefit.

For anyone who is not registered in a parish and therefore has not received the appeal mailing, blank Pledge/Donation envelopes are in the back of church on the table in the vestibule. Thank you for your sacrifice.



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, deliverance from evil, and healing reparation from the wounds caused by sin. 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.

MERION MERCY ACADEMY

We extend congratulations to Mary K. Sweeney who received First Honors for the Fall Semester at Merion Mercy Academy.




**Fairmount Sports Association
Baseball, Softball, & Tee-Ball Registrations**

Online Registration for the upcoming 2019 Spring Season is available at www.fairmountsports.org. Early bird Registration Fee, through the month of February, is \$75 per child plus the refundable \$50 volunteer Fee, which will be refunded upon completion of the 4 volunteer hours. The Registration Fee will increase to \$90 March 1, 2019. Families with more than 2 children, 3rd or more sibling plays free. Only one \$50 Refundable Fee per family regardless of the number of children. Veterans pay a reduced Registration Fee of \$25 plus the Refundable \$50 Fee. Walk in registrations are available every Saturday from 10 AM to 2:00 PM at the FSA Field House.

THANK YOU

We want to thank The Black Taxi for advertising on back of our bulletin. Please patronize all of our sponsors who place these ads. Their help makes it possible to have this bulletin printed.



February 24, 2019 – 11:30 A. M. Mass

Processional Hymn:
O God, Our Help in Ages Past #627, Black Hymnal

Mass Setting:
Mass in Honor of
Saint Junipero Serra, O.F.M. Richard Keys Biggs,
1934

Proper Mass Parts:
Harmonic Psalm Tones Cyr de Brant

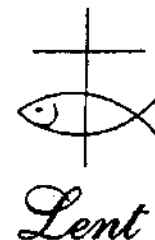
Offertory Anthem:
Jubilate Deo, Omnis Terra Albert J. Dooner,
1934

Communion Motet:
Tantum Ergo Michael Haydn
(1737 – 1806)

Recessional Hymn:
O God, Beyond All Praising #494, Black Hymnal



**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH – THE ORATORY
2019 LENTEN SCHEDULE**



ASH WEDNESDAY – MARCH 6, 2019

Mass will be celebrated at: 6:30 A.M., 8:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. and 7:30 P.M.
Imposition of Ashes will take place following the homily at each Mass.

NOVENA OF GRACE

The Novena will be celebrated from the 4th to the 12th of March. Novena prayers will be said at all scheduled parish Masses throughout the Novena. Benediction with Novena Prayers will be celebrated at 7:30 P.M. on Friday, March 8th. The closing of the Novena will take place with the Novena Prayers recited at the Masses on Tuesday, March 12th.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mass will be celebrated at 6:30 A.M. and 8:00 A.M., Monday to Friday; on Saturday, 8:00 A.M. Mass only.

SUNDAY MASS

Our regular Sunday Mass schedule will remain the same – 5:30 P.M. Saturday Vigil Mass; Sunday morning Masses at 8:00 A.M., 9:30 A.M., and 11:30 A.M.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

This devotion will be observed at 7:30 P.M. in the evening on the following Fridays: March 15, 22 and 29 and April 5 and 12. Please note: Stations will not be celebrated on Friday, March 8, rather than Stations, Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will be celebrated for the Novena of Grace of St. Francis Xavier.

FRIDAY HOLY HOUR

On Fridays of Lent there will be a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the end of the 6:30 A.M. Mass to the beginning of the 8:00 A.M. Mass, except for Good Friday.

ORATORY PRAYER

You are invited to join the Oratory Community for Prayer Monday thru Friday from 5:10 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. in the church.

CONFESSIONS

Confessions will be heard 4:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. on Saturday afternoons and after the 8:00 and 9:30 A.M. Masses on Sunday mornings. **On Saturday, April 13th, Confessions will be heard for an extended period from 3:00 until 5:00 P.M.**

Confessions will also be heard after the 8:00 A.M. and 9:30 A.M. Masses on Sunday morning, April 14th, Palm Sunday. **Please note that Confessions will not be heard except by appointment or in an emergency on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday or Easter Sunday.**



**THE TRIDUUM
MAUNDY THURSDAY –**

The celebration of the Lord's Supper will take place at 7:30 in the evening

GOOD FRIDAY – April 19, 2019

The celebration of the Passion of Our Lord will take place at 2:00 in the afternoon

HOLY SATURDAY – April 20, 2019

The Easter Vigil will be celebrated at 7:30 in the evening

EASTER SUNDAY – April 21, 2019

The usual Sunday Mass schedule will be celebrated: 8:00, 9:30 and 11:30 in the morning

**CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST
OF SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL
SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2019**

Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul
18th and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA 19103



Principal Celebration on Sunday, March 3
11:00 AM Solemn Mass

Additional Masses

5:15 PM Anticipated Mass, 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 12:30 PM (in Spanish) and 6:30 PM

Pre-Mass Concert in Honor of Saint Katharine Drexel

5:00 PM, Prior to the 5:15 PM Anticipated Mass on Saturday Evening, March 2
10:45 AM, Prior to the 11:00 AM Solemn Mass on Sunday, March 3

Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation

4:15 PM on Saturday, March 2, as well as 9:30 AM and 5:30 PM on Sunday, March 3

Solemn Novena to Saint Katharine Drexel

February 22 through March 2

with prayers following all the Masses celebrated in the Cathedral and Chapel

For more information about the Tomb of Saint Katharine Drexel at the Cathedral Basilica,
please see the website, <http://www.saintkatharinedrexelshrine.com/>

Saint Katharine Drexel, pray for us!

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