

# 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](http://www.sfxschool.com)**

**Parish Website: [www.sfxoratory.org](http://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/](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist. Contact Deacon Vince at 215-564-1758 or [denvthomp@aol.com](mailto: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 OF LENT

**March 17, 2019 • Luke 9:28b-36**

Jesus took Peter, John and James to a mountain to pray. When his clothes grew incredibly white, Moses and Elijah appeared. They spoke of the scripture he was to fulfill. Then a cloud came down and a voice said, "This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him." The disciples who had seen Jesus' glory did not disclose this experience to anyone until much later.



**MARCH 17, 2019**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

**MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2019**

6:30 A.M. – Pete & Peggy Carr  
8:00 A.M. – Mary Gizzi

**TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2019**

6:30 A.M. – Marion McAndrews  
8:00 A.M. – Beverly McMullin

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 20, 2019**

6:30 A.M. – Mary Sewall  
8:00 A.M. – Tom, Emma, Joseph & Tim Hart

**THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2019**

6:30 A.M. – Margaret S.Gatti &  
Members of the Scanlon Family  
8:00 A.M. – Maxine & Charles Stewart – Anniversary

**FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2019**

6:30 A.M. – Joseph Napoleon – Birthday  
8:00 A.M. – Thomas Dolan

**SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2019**

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



**PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH**

Paul Mullin, 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 Kael, Erin & Zuri Coleman, Bradley & Dianna Geist and Rene Kehm as newly registered members of St. Francis Xavier Parish. We thank you for registering. In this way we are able to serve you better.

**GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING –**

**March 9 & 10**

Sunday Collection this year –	\$6,672.00
Sunday Collection last year –	\$8,753.00
Church Renovation Plaster –	\$16,927.75
Churches in Latin America –	\$1,229.00

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 –**

**MARCH 9 & 10**

5:30 p.m. –	95
8:00 a.m. –	70
9:30 a.m. –	85
11:30 a.m. –	101
Total –	351

**FORTHCOMING COLLECTIONS**

March 16 & 17 Utility Fund

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL 2019**

2019 Parish Goal	\$27,351.00
Total amount to Date	\$8,730.00
Percentage of Goal	32%
Number of Gifts	38



**CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICE – RICE BOWL ENCOUNTER ANNET**

In Uganda, we encounter Annet and her family, children forced to flee violence, searching for stability. How are we called to welcome the stranger in our midst. How can you support those worldwide who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit [csrricebowl.org](http://csrricebowl.org)

**NEWS REGARDING ARCHDIOCESE SCAM**

As you may have seen in recent news reports, a scam has been affecting several parishes within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. This scam involves parishioners receiving a text message, email, or robotic call from a source claiming to be the pastor of the local parish. These messages contain a request for the parishioners to purchase gift cards for a parish fundraiser and then send the gift card numbers back to the scammer who is claiming to be the pastor.

St. Francis Xavier would not directly contact any parishioner thru phone or email. We would send a mailing on church letterhead and the fundraising would be something we would make certain you are aware of through announcements at Mass and posting in the parish weekly bulletin. If anyone who receives such a call, text or email please contact the police immediately to report the crime.



**March 17, 2019 – 11:30 A. M. Mass**

***Processional Hymn:***

Tis Good, Lord to Be Here #262 Black Hymnal

***Mass Setting:***

Missa Tertia Sir Richard Runcimen Terry  
Westminster Cathedral, July 1904

***Proper Mass Parts:***

Harmonic Psalm Tones Cyr de Brant

***Offertory Anthem:***

O Lord, Increase My Faith Orlando Gibbons  
(1583 – 1625)

***Communion Motet:***

The Seven Last Words from the Cross Charles Gounod

***Recessional Hymn:***

Raise to the Holiest In the Height #498, Black Hymnal



**TODAY ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL ANNUAL  
ST. PATRICK'S DAY BREAKFAST**

St. Francis Xavier's Home and School Association  
proudly presents the Annual St. Patrick's Day Breakfast  
Sunday, March 17, 2019  
9:00 a.m. through 1:00 p.m.  
\$10.00 for adults, \$7.00 for children 3-11  
children 3 and under – no charge.

Menu features pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, fruits,  
pastries, juice, coffee, tea and milk. We look forward to seeing  
everyone there. All are welcome!

**SAVE THE DATE APRIL 13, 2019**

St. Francis Xavier School Designer Bag Bingo  
Additional information to follow at a later date

**ST FRANNY 50/50**

The March 50/50 to date is \$30.00. Don't forget to try your luck  
each month by putting your donation in the St. Franny X  
envelope which can be found in your monthly package and  
place it in the Sunday collection basket. The next drawing will  
take place Monday, March 25, 2019.

**7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE VISTATION DAY**

Roman Catholic High School invites prospective students for  
the Class of 2024 to visit the school on Wednesday, March 20,  
for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Visitation Day. For additional information or  
questions regarding the day call (215) 627-1270 ext 146/159 or  
e-mail [admissions@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:admissions@romancatholicshs.com).

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**UNITED SOCIAL SERVICES  
FUEL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

To assist people with the rising costs of home heating, The  
Pennsylvania Home Heating Fuel Assistance Rebate Program  
(LIHEAP) is now in progress. This Fuel Assistance Program is  
available to people of all ages within the income guidelines.  
Individuals with a monthly income less than \$1,517, or a two-  
person household with a monthly income less than \$2,057  
qualify for the grant. This grant is provided to all who qualify  
and does not have to be repaid. For further information, please  
call United Social Services at 215-923-1900. A staff worker  
will be available to answer questions and assist you in  
completing an application. The filing deadline is Friday, April  
12, 2019. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



**PRAYER OF ST. MICHAEL THE  
ARCHANGEL AT THE CONCLUSION  
OF SUNDAY MASSES**

We will continue to pray together following the  
conclusion of Sunday Masses, the "Prayer to St.  
Michael the Archangel" as encouraged by  
Archbishop Chaput for parishes to do  
petitioning God's protection, mercy and healing for the church,  
our country and the world. Numerous Catholic parishes around  
the country, as well as some non-Catholic churches, have  
already begun the practice of again praying this Prayer to St.  
Michael. We began praying this prayer on the Feast of the  
Baptism of Our Lord for the simple yet always pertinent link  
between the Lord's Baptism and our own status as baptized  
persons – by this link we acknowledge the fundamental human  
condition and thus the need for all human persons. In His  
baptism the 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. 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  
washing bestowed from God's grace, mercy, truth and love.

**St. Michael, Defend Us.**

Saint Michael the Archangel defend us in  
battle; be our defense against the wickedness  
and snares of the devil. May God rebuke  
him, we humbly pray. And do thou, O prince  
of the heavenly host, by the power of God,  
cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who  
prowl about the world seeking the ruin of  
souls. Amen.



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