

# 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/)

### MASS:

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.

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

**March 24, 2019 • Luke 13:1-9**

Jesus says that an individual's misfortune does not mean that their sins were greater than someone else's. He warns that without repenting, all sinners will meet the same end. He tells of a barren fig tree whose owner planned to cut it down. But a servant offered to give it special care for one year, and destroy it should it remain barren. This symbolizes God's patience toward us.



**MARCH 24, 2019**  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

**MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2019**

8:00 A.M. – Luke Cochran  
 6:30 A.M. – Christine Kaczmar Russo – 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2019**

6:30 A.M. – Deceased Members of the Carugno & Malerverny Families  
 8:00 A.M. – Michael & Margaret Coyle

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2019**

6:30 A.M. – William Gabaly  
 8:00 A.M. – William J. Kelm – 43<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

**THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2019**

6:30 A.M. – Margaret & Karen A. Coley  
 8:00 A.M. – Betsy Schmeltzer – 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary

**FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 2019**

6:30 A.M. – Margaret S. Gatti & Members of The Scanlon Family  
 8:00 A.M. – Mario Gizzi

**SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2019**

8:00 A.M. – Eleanor & Linda Imperatore  
 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.

**OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY**

The priests and parishioners of St. Francis Xavier Church extend their sincere sympathy to the family of Matthew Morrow. May he rest in peace.

**NEWLY BAPTISED**

It is a joy to announce the Baptism of Margaret Grace Wilbur on Sunday, March 17, 2019. We extend congratulations to the parents and families, as they see the hope of eternal life shine on their daughter.

**GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING –**  
**MARCH 16 & 17**

<b>Sunday Collection this year –</b>	<b>\$7,584.16</b>
<b>Sunday Collection last year –</b>	<b>\$7,144.16</b>
<b>Fuel Collection –</b>	<b>\$1,962.00</b>
<b>Church Renovation Plaster Collection –</b>	<b>\$17,247.00</b>

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 16 & 17**

<b>5:30 p.m. –</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>8:00 a.m. –</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>9:30 a.m. –</b>	<b>124</b>
<b>11:30 a.m. –</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>Total –</b>	<b>392</b>

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL 2019**

<b>2019 Parish Goal</b>	<b>\$27,351.00</b>
<b>Total amount to Date</b>	<b>10,455.00</b>
<b>Percentage of Goal</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>Number of Gifts</b>	<b>44</b>

**CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICE – RICE BOWL**  
**ENCOUNTER THE DHATHCROOS FAMILY**

The Dhathcroos family returned home, after fleeing violence in their country to build a prosperous farm and become a vital contributor to their community. How can you assist refugees in your community to rebuild their lives? Visit [csrricebowl.org](http://csrricebowl.org).



**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER FIRST PENANCE**

We extend warmest congratulates to the following children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Monday, March 18, 2019 at 7:30 P.M.

Sofia Comuso	Marguerite Farrell
Phoebe Henner	Evelyn Jablonka
Londyn Jones	Nolan Kaplan
Maya Marwaha	Strongbo Mc Clafferty
Joseph Mesko	Luke Sandquist
Colette Szymkowski	Scarlett Vecsi

**HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE**

Knights of Columbus Council will host a Holy Hour for Life at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul on Saturday, April 6th. The event starts at 7:30 PM with Father Dennis Gill as the main celebrant. There will be the recitation of the rosary, confession, and music. For more information, please contact Mickey Kelly at 267-872-4111 or email [mickeykelly96@gmail.com](mailto:mickeykelly96@gmail.com).



**March 24, 2019 – 11:30 A. M. Mass**

**Processional Hymn:**

Take Up Your Cross #286, Black Hymnal

**Mass Setting:**

Mass in Honor of St. Junipero Serra, O.F.M.  
Richard Keys Biggs,  
1934

**Proper Mass Parts:**

Harmonic Psalm Tones Cyr de Brant

**Offertory Anthem:**

Lord, For Thy Tender Mercies' Sake Richard Farrant  
(c. 1525 – 1580)

**Communion Motet:**

The Seven Last Words from the Cross Charles Guonod  
Theodore Dubois

**Recessional Hymn:**

O God, Beyond All Praising #494, Black Hymnal

**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.



**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.

**ST FRANNY 50/50**

The March 50/50 to date is \$55.00. 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.

**LOST AND FOUND BASKET**

If you are missing any personal (hats, gloves, etc.) items that were possibly left in the pews at the end of our church services, please come to the Parish House/Rectory to check our lost and found basket. Thank you.

**ROMAUCION 2018**

Roman Catholic High School proudly announces its 2019 premier gala and major fundraising event, The Romauction. This event will be held on Saturday, April 13, at Roman Catholic High School. Plan to join us for an entertaining evening featuring a lavish buffet, raffle items, games of chance as well as silent and live auction items.. For additional information visit webside at [Romauction@romancatholicshs.com](mailto:Romauction@romancatholicshs.com) or call 215-627-1270 x 221.

**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.

**LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR SPRING CONCERT**

Featuring the Irish Band Scythian and McLean Avenue Band will be held on Saturday, March 30, at Villanova, University's Jake Nevin Fieldhouse. This concert is a fundraiser of the Little Sisters of The Poor benefiting the elderly poor of Holy Family Home. Tickets are \$50 (\$20 for students and \$10 for children 12 and under), which includes admission, food and refreshments. For reservations, please send your name, address, phone number and payment to Sr. Veronica, Holy Family Home, Dept. PB, 5300 Chester Ave. Phila., PA 19143. For additional information or credit card payment, visit their website [www.littlesistersofthepoorphiladelphia.org](http://www.littlesistersofthepoorphiladelphia.org).

**TV MASS FOR THE HOMEBOUND**

If you have loved ones who are unable to attend Sunday Mass during the Lenten Season or any other Sunday, because of health reasons or location, the Heart of the Nation has a special TV Sunday Mass dedicated to your loved ones to bring spiritual comfort, blessings and comfort to them. The schedule for the TV Mass for the Homebound is CH. WDPN CH.2 at 7:00 a.m. and WMCN CH. 44 at 8:30 a.m. For additional information or scheduling, please call 855-855-6277 or email [Fr.Mark@heartoftheNation.org](mailto:Fr.Mark@heartoftheNation.org).



**THE  
SAVE DATE!**

**SATURDAY  
MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>**

**SFX School's**

**QUIZZO**

**641 N 24<sup>th</sup> street**

**Tickets on sale April 4<sup>th</sup>**



**Tickets  
\$25**

**per person**

**BYOB + Snacks**

**Doors open at 6:30 pm**

**Games at 7:00 pm**

**Reserve a table for 10 or join a group that night -**

**All are welcome!**



*proceeds will benefit*

**SFX Spanish Curriculum**

**contact: Amy Kramer | 267.970.2133**

**amykramer871@comcast.net**

# St. Francis Xavier Designer Bag Bingo

Don't miss out on the fun! Enjoy this night out with your  
Husband, Family, or Friends!

**This event will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2019. Doors open at 6:00 pm. Bingo will start at 7:00 pm. We will also have Cash Bingos. Tickets are \$25.00 pre-sale and \$30.00 at the door. Extra bingo sheets will be sold along with bingo dabbers. You must be 18 years old to attend.**

*\*To purchase tickets, call the School Office at 215-763-6564 or Email Vera at [veraempire15@gmail.com](mailto:veraempire15@gmail.com) (Tables of 10 will be reserved).*

*Make sure to bring your own Food, Snacks and Beverages!*

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