

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday April 25, 2015

Vigil for Sunday
5:30pm Vivian Giordano

Sunday April 26, 2015

7:30am All Parishioners of SFX
9:30am Serafina Vespertino
11:15am Deceased Members of Burckardt and Noll Family
12:30pm Michael and Helen Radino

Monday April 27, 2015

7:30am College Students of Religious Studies (Living)
9:00am Miriam Gutnick

Tuesday April 28, 2015

7:30am Special Intention
9:00am Edward Cavanna

Wednesday April 29, 2015

7:30am College Students of Religious Studies (Living)
9:00am John Radvanski

Thursday April 30, 2015

7:30am Patrick J. Lynch
9:00am Antonio Cinque

Friday May 1, 2015

7:30am College Students of Religious Studies (Living)
9:00am Kathleen Ann Dean
10:00am First Friday SFX School Mass
1:00-7:00pm First Friday Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm Holy Hour with Benediction

Saturday May 2, 2015

7:30am College Students of Religious Studies (Living)
9:00am Angelo, Desolino and Angelo Laneri

Vigil for Sunday
5:30pm Paul Schwartz

Sunday May 3, 2015

7:30am All Parishioners of SFX
9:30am Salvatore Picone
11:15am Anthony F. Perri
12:30pm Carmela Maulucci

*Catholics can always come home to
St. Francis Xavier-We are family!*



**Our Gifts Back to the Lord
Weekly Collection (Parish Pay included):**

April 19: \$5,937
Thank you for your generosity.
May God bless you.



Newly Baptized: We welcome into our Parish Family
William Patrick Parchen son of William and Christine



Sunday, May 10th—Mother's Day: What greater gift for your Mother on Mother's Day than to be remembered in a special way at all the Masses which will be offered for all Mothers living and deceased. Offertory envelopes are available in the back of the church which will be placed on the Altar and remain throughout the month of May.



St. Francis Xavier School: First Friday Mass will be sponsored by Kindergarten and Grade 1 on May 1st at 10:00am. Parents are cordially invited to attend.

There is still time to buy a ticket for the Card Party on Friday, May 1st. Tickets are available in the school office. Registration for September is on-going. UPK seats are limited. Call the school office for an application and tour. Visit the school website at sfxschool.net for updated information. Come and see the musical **Seussical Jr.** performed by our own school children this weekend, Saturday evening at 8:00pm and Sunday afternoon at 2:00pm.



Religious Education—Learning to live our Catholic faith 24/7: *Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. And, love your neighbor as yourself.*

Confirmation Students' Retreat: This Tuesday, April 28th. Please meet in the Church at 7:20am for the 7:30am Mass and immediately following the Mass we will board the bus for Don Bosco. **First Holy Communion:** Saturday, May 9th at 11:00am. Students will meet in the gym at 10:30am.

League of the Sacred Heart will meet First Friday, May 1st after the 9:00am Mass for breakfast in the Rectory.

Annual Wedding Mass Celebration: Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during 2015 are invited to attend the Annual Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass with Cardinal Dolan at the Cathedral of St. Patrick, Saturday, June 20th or Sunday, June 21st at 2:00pm. To register, please contact St. Francis Xavier Rectory before May 19.

St. Francis Xavier Golden and Silver Wedding Celebration

Mass: For couples celebrating their 50th or 25th Anniversary during 2015, there will be a parish celebration with renewal of vows on Sunday, May 31st at the 12:30pm Mass here at SFX. Please contact the Rectory so that we can have a certificate commemorating your golden or silver jubilee prepared for you. Cake and coffee will be served in the Rectory for the Jubilarians and their families after Mass.

Next Week's Readings (Fifth Sunday of Easter): Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31; Psalm 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a); 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8.



Dear Parishioners,

I want to start by thanking you for your generous support once again for this year's Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal. Our parish was given the goal of \$49,500, and to date just over \$43,000 has been pledged by 137 of our parish families. We are well within "field goal range" with less than \$7,000 to go. We are doing so well, yet the 137 pledges made so far represents about 15% of our parish. Imagine if we had 100% participation, or even just 50%? If everyone could do something, we would be doing our part in contributing to the good works done by the Church in New York, as well as helping our own parish. Sixty percent of every dollar raised over our goal is rebated to our parish. The Appeal goes on through June. There is still plenty of time to make a gift or pledge. And again, thank you so much to all who have already given to this year's Appeal.

Today, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, is traditionally known as "Good Shepherd Sunday" because of the Gospel we have from St. John where Jesus refers to Himself as the Good Shepherd. For thousands of years throughout the Old Testament the Jewish people were given the image of God as their Shepherd. We hear from the Prophet Ezekiel God saying, "I myself will Shepherd my people." And in the beautiful 23rd Psalm, "The Lord is my Shepherd there is nothing I shall want." When Jesus says in today's Gospel, "I am the Good Shepherd," He is fulfilling these ancient prophecies and revealing that He, Himself, is God in the flesh. And He adds something new. Jesus says, "A Good Shepherd lays down His life for His sheep." Jesus says this to express how much He loves us. It is hard to imagine a shepherd allowing himself to be killed by a wolf to save the life of a sheep, since the life of a human being is so much greater than that of an animal. Multiply that difference by infinity and that is how much greater God is than us. And yet, He died for us. We should meditate on that image of the Good Shepherd and come to understand a little more the depths of God's Love for you and for me.

Jesus is our Good Shepherd. As St. Peter says in our first reading from the Acts of the Apostles: "There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved." Jesus is the One to whom we need to listen and to follow. The difficulty for us is that there are so many other loud voices in our world that seek to drown out the voice of Jesus and His Church, false shepherds who lead so many astray, especially our young people. The image of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, reminds us that He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and if we are not listening to Him and following Him, we are going to lose our way in this difficult and morally confused world.

We need to listen to Jesus. And if we are listening, how clearly we hear His Voice in the teachings of His Church and in so many ways right here in our own beautiful Parish: in the Word proclaimed at Mass; in the Eucharist so reverently celebrated; in the Sacrament of Reconciliation; in First Communion and Confirmations; in Weddings and Baptisms; at Funerals; in the visits to the sick in the hospitals and at home and in Nursing Homes; in our assistance to the poor and those in need; in the teaching of our faith to our children in our School and in our Religious Education Program, and to adults in our R.C.I.A program; and in so many ways we come together as a parish family to support one another in good times and in bad with our faith, our love, and our prayers.

May St. Francis Xavier always be a place where the voice of the Good Shepherd is heard, and where the Love of God is felt by all everyday. May God bless us all.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Matthew J. Furey



the CARDINAL'S
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL
Sharing God's Gifts

2015 CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL:

To date our parish has received \$43,345 in pledges/gifts toward the 2015 Cardinal's Appeal from 137 families. We need the support of all our families to reach our goal of \$49,500. The Appeal is a vital source of funding for the ministries, programs and services that help so many people in need throughout this vast Archdiocese. It is not too late to make your gift. Pledge envelopes are always in the back of the church. Please do whatever you can. And thank you to all who have already made your gift.



Please remember the following

members of our parish community in your prayers:

William Ahearn, Dennis Aiello, Edwardo Alicea, Mary Annunzio, Judith Arriaga, Betty Barbagallo, Nettie Bianchini, Joe Blandino, Nellie Calderon, Louis Campisi, Flavia Chiappa, Marie Ciacco, Theodore Civetta, Jenny Cioffi, Loreen Clavin, Lorraine Capozzi, Angelo Caruso, Brenda Colon, Joanne Cunneen, Richard Daum, Carlann Defedele, Antoinette DeLillo, Baby Colin Depriest, Alfred DeSantis, John Dinelli, Patrick Dolan, Baby Max D'Onofrio, Carmella Emily DonVito, Mario Esguerra, Cheryl Espinoza, John Esposito, Esther Finn, Carmen Flores, Billy Fischer, Luis Paz Florencio, Sr., Peter Frenna, Donald Gallagher, Maritza Garcia, Alexis Marie Gonzalez, Cora Gonzales, John Hastings, Charlotte Hayes, Kerry White Hemmer, Laura Liffrieri Hernandez, Gloria Irizarry, Frances Jenkins, Felix Jaiman, Emily Koch (6-yr. old), Rosemarie Leo, Margaret Leonard, Ann Kittle, Angela Liffrieri, Gloria Lisanti, Lucy Lorusso, Barbara Lyne, Andy Massa, Vincent (Jimmy) Mastrogiovanni, Paul McAllister, Joseph Milone, Jennie Miraglia, Maria Mazzella, John Mullane, Brianan Murtagh, John Muzzillo, Michael Nichols, Paige O'Donnell, Teresa O'Hara, Kerry O'Keefe, Rosa Maria Ortiz, Louie Paone, Ralph Palumbo, Sylvia Pankovcin, Virginia Parchen, Richard Quartarone, Giselle Ramos, Thomas J. Reardon, Blake Rosenn, Angela Rizzo, Alejandra Rosario, Rosa Russo, Gloria Santaniello, Theresa Smith, Niko Stravrianopoulos (3-yr. old), Marie Swain, Paul Teehan, Frank Toapha, Justina Torres, Patricia Trainor, Lori Mayer Tricoli, Diana Vicinanza, Dominick Villara, Christopher Vitale, Kathy Vitale, George Walsh, Rev. Arthur Welton, Gary Wieler, Jonathan Wilson (12-year old), Ottilia Zangrandi, Madelyn Ziesel



In your prayers please remember all the men and women serving in our

Armed Forces, especially: Zachary Piragnoli, Nick Visconti, Christopher C. Cannata, Carlos E. Blanco, Emmanuel Martinez, Lt. Michael Tafone, Cpl. Christopher Antony, Cpt. Brian Pascuzzi, Master Sgt. Janelle Amador, Anthony Thomas Candito, Sgt. Troy Mastin, 1st Lt. Nicholas Cardiello



Pray for those who have died: Carolyn Cuffari, Marie Curcio, Christeta Cortez and Jean Silvi