

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday December 12, 2015

Vigil for Sunday

5:30pm Benito Chiatto

Sunday December 13, 2015—Third Sunday of Advent

7:30am All Parishioners of SFX

9:30am Salvatore Picone

11:15am Lucy DeMeo

12:30pm Lillian and Victor DiGiambattista

Monday December 14, 2015

7:30am Frank LoPuzzo

9:00am Ryan Loud and All Organ Donors

Tuesday December 15, 2015

7:30AM Louis Perez and Nyanna Aquil

9:00am Daniel J. McInerney

Wednesday December 16, 2015

7:30am Caterina and Salvatore Pagnotta, Franco Pozzuto

9:00am Giovanni Assalone

Thursday December 17, 2015

7:30am Patricia Jones

9:00am Mary Ann Cataldo (First Anniversary)

Friday December 18, 2015

7:30am Health of Rosemarie Leo (Living)

9:00am Theresa and Emilio DeBellis

Saturday December 19, 2015

7:30am Settimio Policicchio

9:00am Katherine McNamara (First Anniversary)

Vigil for Sunday

5:30pm Josephine Cinque

Sunday December 20, 2015—Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30am All Parishioners of SFX

9:30am Nora Carney

11:15am Anthony Saraco

12:30pm Tony Procino

6:00pm Simbang Gabi-Filipino Christmas Novena Mass

Reception in Rectory Lower Level

**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:** Posted in the back of the Church and inserted in today's bulletin.

**The League of the Sacred Heart:** There will be no meeting in January. This week's second collection is for Retired Religious.



**Weekly Collection (Parish Pay Included) 2015:**  
 Second Sunday of Advent—December 6: \$5,780  
 Second Collection (Capital Expenditure) \$2,026

**Weekly Collection (Parish Pay Included) 2014:**  
 Second Sunday of Advent—December 7: \$5,971  
 Second Collection (Capital Expenditure): \$2,137  
 Thank you for your generosity. May God Bless you.



Bread and Wine donated this week in loving memory of Lucy DeMeo by Mary Tetro

**RECONCILIATION MONDAY, Tomorrow, December 14th.**  
 Confessions will be heard from 4pm to 8 pm here at **St. Francis Xavier** and in all Churches of the Archdiocese of NY.

**Congratulations to the winners of our Feast Day Raffle:**  
 \$10,000: San Pascual Family; \$1,000: Peter Casey;  
 \$500: Pablo Gloriani



**St. Francis Xavier School:** The Christmas Show was a great success. The children were spectacular! On Monday, December 14th, UPK—Grade 3 will visit Santa. Christmas shopping is scheduled for Thursday, December 17th for all grades. Visit [sfxschool.net](http://sfxschool.net).



**Religious Education—Learning to live our Catholic faith 24/7:** The Christmas Pageant will be held today at 9:30am in the gym. It is free and our Parish Family is invited to attend as the true spirit of Christmas—the Birth of Jesus—comes alive with our children.

**UPK "Wednesdays With Jesus":** How beautiful it is to see our four-year old children in UPK learning about the birth of Jesus—the Son of God and how we invite Him into our hearts.



**Christmas at St. Francis Xavier:** As we prepare our Church for the Christmas Season, Christmas Flowers and Decorations can be memorialized in honor of a loved one. The envelopes are available in the vestibule of the Church and included with your Church envelopes. You can leave these envelopes at the Rectory or drop them in the collection basket. Each \$25 donation can be memorialized with up to three names.

**Parish Evaluation:** This year Father Matthew J. Furey will be completing his first six-year term as Pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish. In keeping with Archdiocesan policy, an evaluation of the parish has begun. Parishioners and staff who wish to do so may write letters with their own comments about our parish and the pastoral leadership of the Parish. Please address your letters to: Reverend Monsignor Edward Weber, The Office of Priest Personnel/Archdiocese of New York, 1011 First Avenue, NY, NY 10022



**Third Sunday of Advent-** Light two purple candles and the Rose colored candle. The purple candles remind us of our need for penance. The Rose candle reminds us Christmas joy is truly near. Prayer for the Third Sunday of Advent: *Hear our prayers, O Lord, and enlighten the darkness of our minds and hearts by your coming on earth; you who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.*

**Next Week's Readings (Fourth Sunday of Advent):** Micah 5:1-4a; Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16– 18-19 (4); Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45.



Dear Parishioners,

What a wonderful Parish celebration we had last week with the Family Pot Luck Dinner. Thank you to all who participated and brought such an abundance of wonderful food. A special thank you to Ughette Jilleba for her constant, tireless effort in working for the good of our Parish, to our parishioners and school moms who helped to make the day go so smoothly, and to Mario Gamilo and Francis Borgia for supplying the music and sound system. Thank you, too, to **Good to Go** for their generous donation of food. And a very special thank you to the great men of our Holy Name Society who were in the back of the Church selling Raffle Tickets at every Mass since early September. The Raffle could not have been a success without them. Congratulations to the winners, and thank you to all who supported this effort and helped to raise almost \$8,000 for our Church.

*"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near."* These words of St. Paul strike the tone for this Third Sunday of Advent, traditionally called "Gaudete Sunday," which means Rejoice. *"Rejoice in the Lord always!"* This is easier said than done. With all the problems and anxieties that come with living, there are many times we feel like anything but rejoicing. However, St. Paul is talking about rejoicing not in the world, but *in the Lord*. The deepest desires of our hearts can never be ultimately satisfied by anything in this world, because nothing in this world lasts forever. In the words of Cardinal Dolan: "True and lasting joy cannot be bought with money; it comes from giving and not getting; it depends on who we are as children of God and not on what we have; and it does not depend on anything outside of ourselves, but comes from within." "Joy," as one spiritual writer put it, "is the infallible sign of the presence of the Holy Spirit dwelling within you."

This is the Joy that Pope Francis hopes all will experience in this *Jubilee Year of Mercy* which began this week on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and will conclude on the Feast of Christ the King in November. Pope Francis opened the "Holy Door" at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome last Tuesday, and asked that *Holy Doors* be designated and opened in Cathedrals and Churches in all Dioceses throughout the world. The Holy Father wants these *Holy Doors* to become a "Door of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God, who consoles, pardons, and instills hope." The faithful are encouraged to make a pilgrimage to one of these Churches during this Holy Year to pass through the Holy Door as an act of penance and devotion, and a sincere expression of one's desire for conversion and reconciliation. (See Cardinal Dolan's Decree inserted in this bulletin designating the sites of the Holy Doors throughout the Archdiocese of New York and outlining the conditions for receiving the *Jubilee Indulgence*.)

What joy, serenity, and peace is brought to the human heart when we have a genuine experience of God's Mercy. And there is no better time than now by making a good Confession. Tomorrow (Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>) is "Reconciliation Monday." Here and at every parish throughout the Archdiocese of New York there will be a priest waiting to hear your Confession. Please come and do not be afraid no matter how long it may have been since your last Confession. You will be welcomed with great joy, and will leave with a Peace that the world cannot give. May all of us experience this Christmas in a way we never have before, the Peace and the Joy that our Lord Jesus was born to bring us. May God bless us all.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Fr. Matthew J. Furey

### Holy Year of Mercy

December 8, 2015—November 20, 2016

"It is a favorable time to heal wounds, a time to offer everyone the way of Forgiveness and Reconciliation."

- Pope Francis -

#### **Corporal Works of Mercy**

To Feed the Hungry  
To Give Drink to the Thirsty  
To Clothe the Naked  
To Shelter the Homeless  
To Care for the Sick  
To Visit the Imprisoned  
To Bury the Dead


#### **Spiritual Works of Mercy**

To Convert Sinners  
To Instruct the Ignorant  
To Advise the Doubtful  
To Comfort the Sorrowful  
To Bear Wrongs Patiently  
To Forgive Injuries  
To Pray for the Living and Dead


**"A Time to Heal, to Help, to Forgive."**

#### Please remember the following

##### members of our parish community in your prayers:

 William Ahearn, Dennis Aiello, Edoardo Aicea, Mary Annunzio, Judith Arriaga, Betty Barbagallo, Nettie Bianchini, Joe Blandino, Nellie Calderon, Louis Campisi, Flavia Chiappa, Marie Ciacco, Theodore Civetta, Jenny Cioffi, Lorenz Clavin, Lorraine Capozzi, Angelo Caruso, Brenda Colon, Mary Cozzocrea, Joanne Cunnane, Richard Dauri, Carlann Defede, Antoinette DeLillo, Baby Colin Depriest, Al & Dot DeSantis, Patrick Dolan, Baby Max D'Onofrio, Carmella Emily DonVito, Mario Esguerra, Cheryl Espinoza, John Esposito, Esther Finn, Carmen Flores, Billy Fischer, Rosemarie Flatley, Luis Paz Florencio, Sr., Peter Frenna, Donald Gallagher, Maritza Garcia, Brian Gillick, Alexis Marie Gonzalez, Cora Gonzalez, John Hastings, Charlotte Hayes, Kerry White Hemmer, Laura Liffrieri Hernandez, Gloria Irizarry, Frances Jenkins, Felix Jaiman, Emily Koch (8-yr. old), Janet Kreage, Rosemarie Leo, Margaret Leonard, Ann Kittle, Angela Liffrieri, Gloria Lisanti, Lucy Lorusso, Barbara Lyne, Andy Massa, Vincent (Jimmy) Mastrogiovanni, Paul McAllister, Theresa McDermott, Jennie Miraglia, Maria Mayo, Mario Mazzella, Marjorie Morales, John Mullane, Brianan Murtogh, John Muzzillo, Michael Nichols, Paige O'Donnell, Kerry O'Keefe, Rosa Maria Ortiz, Louie Paone, Ralph Palumbo, Sylvia Pankovcin, Virginia Panchan, Richard Quararone, Barbara R. and Mollie R, Giselle Ramos, Thomas J. Reardon, Blake Rosenn, Angela Rizzo, Alejandra Rosario, Rosa Russo, Gloria Santaniello, Maureen Dean Schmidt, Theresa Smith, Niko Stravlianosopoulos (3-yr. old), Marie Swain, Paul Teehan, Frank Toapha, Justina Torres, Patricia Trainor, Lori Mayer Tricoli, Dominick Villara, Christopher Vitale, Kathy Vitale, George Walsh, Gary Wheeler, Jonathan Wilson (12-year old), Ottilla Zangrandi, Madelyn Ziesel

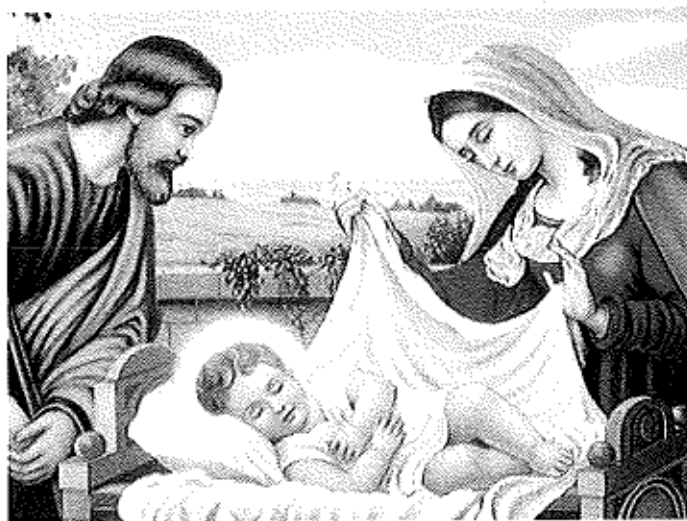
##### In your prayers please remember all the men and women serving in our

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



Pray for those who have died: Francesco Errico and Dolores Dilluto

## St. Francis Xavier Christmas Schedule 2015



### CONFESSIONS

*Monday, December 14, 2015 - Reconciliation Monday*

*4:00pm to 8:00pm*

*Saturday, December 19, 2015*

*4:00pm to 5:00pm*

### CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE - Thursday, December 24, 2015

*4:00pm - Vigil Mass*

*5:30pm - Vigil Mass*

*12:00 Midnight Mass*

### CHRISTMAS DAY - Friday, December 25, 2015

*7:30am, 9:30am, 11:15am*

*And 12:30pm*

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY (Mother of God) - Thursday, December 31, 2015

*5:30pm - Vigil Mass*

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY (Mother of God) - Friday, January 1, 2016

*7:30am, 9:30am, 11:15am*

*And 12:30pm*



OFFICE OF THE CARDINAL  
1001 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK, NY 10022

TIMOTHY MICHAEL CARDINAL DOLAN  
BY THE GRACE OF GOD AND THE APOSTOLIC SEE  
ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK

**DECREE**  
**On The Designation Of Holy Doors**  
**For The Extraordinary Jubilee Of Mercy**

On April 11, 2015, in *Misericordiae vultus*, the Decree of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, our Holy Father, Pope Francis proclaimed a *Jubilee Year of Mercy* throughout the Catholic Church which opens on December 8, 2015 and concludes on November 20, 2016.

As part of this special time for the Church, when "...the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective," Pope Francis asks for a *Holy Door* to be opened "in every local church, at the Cathedral - the mother church of the faithful - in any particular area" and at other churches of "special significance" designated by the Diocesan Bishop, for the duration of the Jubilee Year.

Pope Francis wants these *Holy Doors* to become a "*Door of Mercy* through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God, Who consoles, pardons, and instills hope."

On September 1, 2015 our Holy Father wrote of his desire that "...all the faithful...will experience the grace of the *Jubilee*" and that "... the *Jubilee* Indulgence may reach each one as a genuine experience of God's mercy, which comes to meet each person in the Face of the Father, Who welcomes and forgives, forgetting completely the sin committed."

To experience and obtain the Jubilee Indulgence, Pope Francis asks the faithful "...to make a brief pilgrimage to the *Holy Door*, open in every Cathedral or in shrines and churches designated by the Diocesan Bishop...as a sign of the deep desire for true conversion."

**THEREFORE**, in communion with our Holy Father and in a spirit of pastoral solicitude for all in the Archdiocese of New York entrusted to my care,

**I HEREBY DECREE that, beginning December 13, 2015 and throughout the Jubilee Year of Mercy**, the following shrines and churches in the Archdiocese of New York are holy sites and places of pilgrimage where a *Holy Door*, a *Door of Mercy*, will be opened and where the clergy, religious, and faithful can obtain the *Jubilee* Indulgence:

- Saint Patrick's Cathedral (New York City)
- Basilica of Saint Patrick's Old Cathedral (New York City)
- Saint Frances Cabrini Shrine (New York City)
- National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Middletown)
- National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians (Stony Point)

All those who, on pilgrimage, enter a *Door of Mercy* with the proper intention and disposition, and fulfill the conditions ordinarily attached to a plenary indulgence (C. 992), can obtain a *Jubilee* Indulgence once daily for either for themselves or for the souls of the faithful departed.

The usual and prescribed conditions for gaining a plenary indulgence of temporal punishment due to sins already forgiven are:

- Baptized Catholics in the state of grace (free from mortal or grave sin) who have the intention of gaining the indulgence must:
- Have an interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, even venial or less grave sin;
- Go to Confession (Sacrament of Reconciliation) within twenty days after performing the indulgenced work (pilgrimage to the *Door of Mercy*);
- Receive the Holy Eucharist within twenty days after performing the indulgenced work (pilgrimage to the *Door of Mercy*);
- Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father within twenty days after performing the indulgenced work (pilgrimage to the *Door of Mercy*). This prayer is up to the individual, but customary and suggested prayers are: the Profession of Faith (Creed from the Mass) or one "Our Father" and one "Hail Mary."
- It is appropriate but not necessary that Sacramental Confession, reception of the Holy Eucharist, and prayer for the Pope's intentions take place at the time of the indulgenced work (pilgrimage to the *Door of Mercy*).

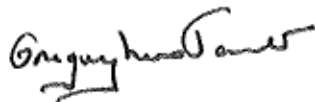
In establishing these holy sites and *Doors of Mercy*, it is my hope that they will be the means by which the clergy, religious, and faithful discover a path to conversion, and have a profound experience of God's grace, reconciliation, and mercy. In this *Jubilee Year*, as we come to know the Face of God's Mercy, may we show God's Face of Mercy to the world, through the thoughts, words, and actions of our daily lives.

**Given in the Archdiocese of New York** this thirtieth day of November two thousand and fifteen, Feast Saint Andrew, Apostle.



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Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan  
Archbishop of New York



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Rev. Monsignor Gregory Mustaciuolo  
Chancellor