

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



Pentecost Sunday
9 June 2019

St. Francis Xavier, Acushnet – Diocese of Fall River

Mass Schedule

(June 8th - June 16th)

Sat.	Jun 08	Pentecost Sunday (Vigil) (Rd) Joan Hammarquist
Sun.	Jun 09	Pentecost Sunday (Rd) <i>Pro Populo</i> 10:30am <i>Month's Mind</i>
Mon.	Jun 10	Mary, Mother of the Church (Wh) 9:00am Jaime da Fonseca
Tues.	Jun 11	St. Barnabas; Apostle (Rd) 9:00am Arthur Guillotte
Wed.	Jun 12	Feria (Gr) 9:00am Franklin & Katherine Whitehead
Thurs.	Jun 13	St. Anthony of Padua; Priest (Wh) 9:00am Ron Pimental & Catherine White
Fri.	Jun 14	Feria (Gr) 9:00am Simone Beaulieu
Sat.	Jun 15	Blessed Virgin Mary (Wh) 9:00am Russell Tetreault
Sat.	Jun 15	The Most Holy Trinity (Vigil) (Wh) 4:00pm <i>Pro Populo</i>
Sun.	Jun 16	The Most Holy Trinity (Wh) 8:00am Janice Romanowicz 10:30am <i>For All Fathers</i>

Financial Report

Income:	
6 th Sunday in Easter.....	\$4,190.59
Ascension Thursday	\$1,181.00
7 th Sunday in Easter	\$4,731.10
Ecclesiastical Students	\$1,372.55
Recent Expenses:	
Facility Carpet Cleaning	\$575.00
A/C Annual & Repair	\$1,185.08
Annual Pest Control	\$250.00

Prayers Please

... for all the sick of our parish: those homebound, in the hospital, and nursing facilities; and for all the souls in purgatory.

Sanctuary Lamp

*During Eucharistic Adoration please pray for the following person/s for whose intention the Sanctuary Candle burns this week: **Robert Brienzo***

CONFESSIONS

Monday: 5:30 to 6:30 pm
Saturday: 9:30 to 10:00am
Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45pm

FROM FR. WILLIAMS

WHY ARE WE HERE?

Why does the world need the Catholic Church? Why does our local community need our parish?

Our parish council has been working on an enunciation of our mission which I am now happy to share with you on this feast when we celebrate the beginning of the mission of the Church.

MISSION ENUNCIATION

The Parish of St. Francis Xavier in Acushnet exists:

To serve Almighty God by ...

- Offering dignified, daily public worship through the Holy Mass, Divine Office, and Eucharistic Adoration
- Making known His presence in the world through our witness and actions
- Serving Him in the persons of the needy, the sick, and the marginalized

To serve members of our parish by...

- Making available the Sacraments and providing a place of prayer
- Forming them to embrace the vocations given them by God through education, opportunities for ministry, and spiritual accompaniment
- Providing social occasions to build fellowship and community
- Caring for the spiritual and material needs of the less fortunate

To serve the wider Church by...

- Contributing to the life of the Diocese of Fall River, of which we are a part
- Operating our parish school which serves families from our own parish and from surrounding communities
- Encouraging and supporting vocations to serve the Church in the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life
- Giving spiritual and financial support to foreign missions, particularly through our cooperation with the church in Rwanda

To serve the community of Acushnet and wider society by...

- Participating, as may be appropriate, in community events
- Supporting initiatives for the good of the community
- Giving public witness and support to the values on which a healthy society is built, including advocating for the right to life from conception through natural death, the central place of marriage and the family in society, and the rights and dignity of the poor and marginalized.

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri: 9:30am – 4:00pm

Please make an appointment to meet with

HELPFUL CONTACTS

Religious Education: 508-998-7445

School: 508-995-4313

School Fax: 508-995-0456

ACCESSIBILITY

- Open for Prayer Every Day
- Wheelchair Lift
- Cry-room

St. Francis Xavier Parish 125 Main Street Acushnet, MA 02743

tel: (508)-995-7600 fax: (508) -995-1794

email: info@sfxparish.com

Fr. Riley J. Williams, Administrator

[rjw@sfxparish.com]

Deacon David Pepin

[dbp@sfxparish.com]

Mr. Steven Guillotte, Director of Pastoral Services

[sng@sfxparish.com]

Mrs. Janine Hammarquist, Rel. Ed. Coordinator

[jlh@sfxparish.com]

Mrs. Michelle Russo, Parish School Principal

[mrusso@sfxacushnet.com]

Mrs. Anabela Shaughnessy, Asst. Principal

[ashaughnessy@sfxacushnet.com]

HOLY MASS

Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm

Monday-Saturday 9:00am

First Friday 9:00am & 6:00pm

Latin/Extraordinary Form: As Announced

CONFESSIONS

Monday 5:30-6:30pm

Saturday 9:30-10:00am

Saturday 3:00-3:45pm

First Fridays 6:45-7:15pm

Any Time by Appointment

ADORATION

Mon - Friday 9:30am-9:00pm

Saturday 9:30am-2:45pm

VESPERS

Monday: Vespers with Benediction

Tuesday: Vespers

Wednesday: Vespers with Benediction

(Vespers begins at 6:30 pm)

ON THE COVER

“In the same way, the Spirit too comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groanings.” (Rom 8:26)

Prayer is not as easy a thing as one might think. Some say that it is only a “conversation with God” but it is very unlike the face-to-face (or Facebook to Facebook) conversations we are accustomed to these days. In fact the Latin root of the word *conversation* has as its meaning, “intimacy”, “familiarity” and the notion of “living among” others. To converse well with God, one must live among him (and his household).

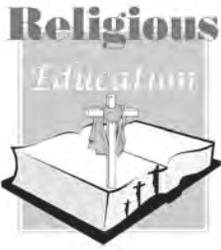
Now anyone can speak to God, and if you do not now, you are encouraged to begin at any and all times in any way you can. However, to gain intimacy with God you must let Him do the speaking; you must sit quietly and listen as he tells you about his life, especially through his word and sacraments. Even so-called “passive” prayer requires effort, just as listening to anyone requires attentiveness. In order to listen well, a person needs patience and needs to put away his pride. This also takes effort.

Hence, we are most fortunate to learn today from St. Paul that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us in the matter of our weakness in prayer; the Spirit teaches us how to pray. If however you listen to some Christian’s today, including some Catholics, they will tell you that the only way to pray in-the-Spirit is the “charismatic” way. Thus, some take the phrase in our quotation above, “inexpressible groanings” to mean speaking in tongues. Yet how can this be since tongues are expressed quite emphatically whereas the groanings Paul speaks of here are “inexpressible”. Even the word “groaning” sounds not very salutary in that it can mean “creaking” or “grunting”. What is meant here is that the person who in prayer joins his interior sighs to the sighs of the Holy Spirit will enter into this Spirit through a mutual, loving yearning. That is, just as the creature yearns for the Creator, so the Creator yearns for his created.

In order to celebrate this **Pentecost Sunday**, we place on our bulletin cover a work by the Dutch Renaissance painter, **Jan Joest**, entitled simply, *Pentecost*. In particular the Dutch Renaissance is called the *Northern Renaissance* to distinguish it from that other work particularly in Venice, Florence, and Rome. Like so many northern masters Joest gives particular detail to each of his figures so that the distinctness of their features seems to tell a story about each of them. In *Pentecost*, we see young, middle aged and elder men; elder men with full heads of hair, younger men who are balding, and men without hair; bearded and fully shaven faces; men who are elated or somber; yet all prayerful as the Holy Spirit comes to each of them offering them what they need to pray in their diverse weaknesses. In the center of the scene is Mary, focusing us (the observers) on the Word of God, her beloved Son.

Notice that the pages of the book Mary is holding appear to turn on their own - in the breath of the descending Spirit. It could be said, that once again, Our Lord Jesus has come to do the breathing (**Jn 20:22**).

Pentecost Sunday - June 9, 2019



Religious Education
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: The Blessed Sacrament is exposed Mon.-Sat. all day and the church is open so please stop in, even if only for a few minutes, to be with the Lord throughout the summer. He doesn't forget about us we should also not forget that He is there for us if we only open our hearts to let Him in.

Does your summer include taking a vacation from Mass? A reason to fit Holy Mass into your summer schedule: Wherever Mass is said anywhere in the world, millions of people you don't know are praying for you and with you. Where else can you get that kind of help?

Check out www.parishesonline.com to find a church or Mass time anywhere in the country.

Registration for the 2019/2020 year will be scheduled in the summer. Please watch the bulletin for dates & times.

To keep informed of important dates please visit our Parish Master Calendar on our website at www.sfxparish.com.

The Religious Education Office will be closed from May 29th until June 9th.

Mrs. Hammarquist jlh@sfxparish.com



St. Peter Preaching at Pentecost
 Benjamin West (19th Century)

"He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you. Everything that the Father has is mine; for this reason I told you that he will take from what is mine and declare it to you." (Jn 16:14-15)

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
 PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS

Our 2nd annual Boosterthon Fun Run took place this week, raising funds for a new piece of playground equipment to finalize our recreation space at the parish school! Students have worked hard to secure sponsors to pledge in their fundraising efforts, and they eagerly lapped the outdoor track (measured out in the soccer field) up to 35 times to raise the money for our school! The event was a great way to round out our school year, and was followed by an afternoon field day that included relays, Popsicle treats and water balloons! This coming week we are closing up shop... summer here we come! Our preschoolers and kindergarteners will be the first to depart after their celebrations and graduation. The remainder of our students will have their final day on Thursday the 13th. Please keep our school in your prayers this week, as we close the chapter on yet another successful school year. And please pray for the success and safety of our *Summer Fun* program.

God Bless, Michelle Russo/Principal

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

- June 9th** - Building Fund
- June 16th** - Diocesan Assessment
- June 23rd** - Church in Latin America

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday	June 10	
Vespers & Benediction	6:30-7:00pm	Church
Tuesday	June 11	
Vespers	6:30pm-7:00pm	Church
Wednesday	June 12	
Vespers & Benediction	6:30 - 7:00pm	Church

READINGS FOR WEEK OF JUNE 9, 2019

Sunday: *Vigil:* Gn 11:1-9 or /Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 [cf. 30]/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39.
Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17/Jn 20:19-23
 Monday: Gen 3:9-15 or Acts 1:12-14/Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6 -7/Jn 19:25-34
 Tuesday: Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 [cf. 2b]/Mt 5:13-16
 Wednesday: 2 Cor 3:4-11/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 8, 9 [cf. 9c]/Mt 5:17-19
 Thursday: 2 Cor 3:15--4:1, 3-6/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 10b]/Mt 5:20-26
 Friday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 116:10-11, 15-16, 17-18 [17a]/Mt 5:27-32
 Saturday: 2 Cor 5:14-21/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8a]/Mt 5:33-37
 Next Sunday: Prv 8:22-31/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2a]/Rom 5:1-5/Jn 16:12-15



Women of Grace

Please pray to Our Lady of Guadalupe for the protection of all life. Consider *lighting a candle* (\$3) in the Pro-Life room (near elevator) in front of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe for your intentions, the prayer room is open during the week until 4pm.

Every **first Tuesday** of the month **7:30-8:30pm** we make our Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament praying the Rosary, for special intentions and the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Bring your Bible and catch up on Holy Scripture or just sit quietly with the Lord. All parish women are invited to join in the next restful hour of prayer on **Tues. July 2nd**.

MONTH'S MIND MASS

We remember the following individuals that were deceased or memorialized in the past month at our Sunday, 9 June - 10:30 am Mass:

Lorraine Marot
Cynthia Rebello

YOUTH GROUP CAR WASH

Saturday, 15 June at the Parish School
10 am to Noon

ALTAR BOY BOOT CAMP

June 19 to June 21

SFX PRAYER LINE

Please call 508-850-6649 between 8am & 8pm
Or email your prayer request to:
sfxprayerline@gmail.com

CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL 2019: Thanks to Deacon Tony Pimentel for speaking after all the Masses last week-end about the appeal and the *corporal works of mercy*. We hope that many in the pews who have not yet made a donation will be inspired to do so. After **Week 5** of the campaign we have collected \$12,825 in pledges as compared to \$22,300 this time last year (i.e. 2018). The campaign ends at the end of week eight or Sunday, 30 June 2019. In these last few weeks, please consider giving what you can to Catholic Charities for our local poor.

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION



Join fellow parishioners at the entrance of Our Lady's Chapel, New Bedford at 2 pm on Sunday, 23 June.

PARISH ACADIA NATIONAL PARK WEEKEND Memorial Day 2019



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: As we move past the Easter season it is time to replenish our shelves that were reduced after the preparation of our Easter baskets. We are in need again of the following items: breakfast cereal, peanut butter & jellies, soup, canned ravioli & spaghetti (such as Spaghettios), canned tuna & chicken. Thank you.

IDEAS FOR PRAYER

BY DOM HUBERT VAN ZELLER

Bereft of both human and divine companionship, persons at this point of the spiritual life naturally feel a sense of great emptiness. Life seems suspended in a vacuum which matches the vacuum inside the heart. What is not appreciated is that this is detachment indeed, and all the more valuable to the process of sanctification because not brought about by resolutions but by God himself.

Finding themselves at a loss where to turn for satisfaction, and knowing from experience that escape into material things gives no satisfaction whatever, persons in this condition often place their only hope in the thought of death. Nor is there anything wrong about this. The just man,' we read in Proverbs, 'has hope in his death.'

The idea that we may not long for—and, if we feel inclined to, pray for—death is a relatively modern one. The older tradition was far more sensible/O death,' says Ecclesiasticus, 'your sentence is welcome to the man that is in need and to him whose strength fails him, who is in an anxiety about all things.' And again the same sacred writer: 'With him that fears the Lord it shall go well in the finish, and in the day of his death he shall be blessed.' We have a right to keep up our courage with the thought of this day and of this blessing.

CHURCH ETIQUETTE- PART I: Every so often it is good to review our "church manners" not only so we will respect our fellow parishioners but so we will also show due reverence for God.

Once we enter the church our focus should be on God. That is not to say that we should ever ignore a person in the pews who is in distress; our Christian charity requires our intervention. It does however mean that we should leave our casual conversation outside the front entrance. This means silencing our cellular phones before entering the church, not speaking on the phone while in church, and not conversing with those sitting besides, in front, or behind us. It may be necessary at times to say something to another person in the pews but this should be of very short duration. Otherwise, we should use all our time in church for prayer and meditation. There are many beautiful sacred images in our parish church that allow for this. **Next Weekend: How to Leave After Mass.**

BISHOP STANG: is a Catholic, college preparatory, high school located in Dartmouth, MA. The school invites families to learn about their Summer Program offerings. You are invited to visit www.bishopstang.org and select either or both of the options "Summer Clinics" and "Athletics". The programs come in many forms: academic, athletic, and performing arts. Join them for a great learning experience and for a whole lot of fun throughout the summer months.

QUO VADIS DAYS & VOCATIONS: Once again the Diocese of Fall River Office of Vocations is presenting Quo Vadis Days at the Betania II Retreat Center in Medway, MA. This year it will run from **July 8-12**. This retreat is for boys ages 14-19 (those entering high school to those entering college) so they might seek to grow in their faith and in Christian fraternity, and learn how to discern one of the most important things in their lives: their vocation or particular calling by God. Throughout the week there is plenty of time for comradery and athletics, but also much time set aside to talk about living the Catholic faith, understanding the different vocations, prayer, Holy Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. This is an opportunity for your sons to build friendships with others their own age also looking to live out their faith in this challenging time, as well as to get to know the seminarians in the diocese. The cost per boy is \$100. If your son is interested, please see Father Williams after the Masses or email him at rjw@sfxparish.com.

MISSION APPEAL: Each calendar year we host a missionary order so they can make a direct appeal to the parish for their missionary work. This year the 2nd collection for Sunday, 21, July will be for the work of the **Columban Fathers** who will send a priest representative of their order to preach the homily at the weekend Masses. This Columban Fathers operate a local house in Bristol, RI. Please visit <https://columban.org/> if you would like to learn more about this religious order and their missionary work. Thank you for your support of Catholic missions.

GROCERY GIFT CARDS: As of late we have had a downshift in the parishioner purchasing of grocery gift cards. Each weekend we make available electronic purchasing (gift) cards for Stop & Shop, Shaw's & Trucchi's. We purchase these in advance at a 5 % discount, so that your purchase of these at the same price (say a \$100 card for exactly \$100) gives the parish a 5 % amount (in this case \$5). You can see then that a \$3,000 per weekend overall purchase of cards by parishioners would give the parish (over 52 weeks) an amount of \$7,800. We have fallen well below the \$3,000 amount per week. We respectfully ask that if you purchase groceries at any of these stores that you consider using these cards for your weekly shopping.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ALTAR BOY BOOT CAMP: is being held on June 19-21. If you son is interested in being an altar server, please speak with Father Williams to have him signed up for this instructive and fun camp, or call the parish office.

SACRISTAN'S DAY: is being held on **Thursday, June 27**. If you would like your daughter to become a sacristan and perform the noble duties of preparing the altar for Mass etc. please see Father Williams or call the parish office.