



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

Pentecost Sunday  
31 May 2020

## St. Francis Xavier, Acushnet – Diocese of Fall River

### Mass Schedule

(May 30<sup>th</sup> - April 6<sup>th</sup>)

<b>Sat.</b>	<b>May 30</b>	<b>Pentecost (Vigil) (Wh)</b> Arthur & Jeanne Guillotte
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>May 31</b>	<b>Pentecost Sunday (Wh)</b> <i>Pro Populo</i> Robert Vigeant
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>June 1</b>	<b>Mary, Mother of the Church (Wh)</b> Emilia & Marcelino; Maggie and Joseph Pacheco
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>June 2</b>	<b>Ss. Marcellinus &amp; Peter (Wh)</b> Nathan Raynor
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>June 3</b>	<b>St. Charles Lwanga; Martyr (Rd)</b> Jacqueline Ponte
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>June 4</b>	<b>Feria (Gr)</b> Beverly Da Silva
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>June 5</b>	<b>St. Boniface; Bishop &amp; Martyr (Rd)</b> Bob Dullea Rene Pepin
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>June 6</b>	<b>St. Norbert; Bishop (Wh)</b> Antonio Farias
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>June 6</b>	<b>Most Holy Trinity (Vigil) (Wh)</b> <i>Pro Populo</i>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>June 7</b>	<b>Most Holy Trinity (Wh)</b> Rogerio & Fernanda Cunha Abel & Ernestina Rego

### Financial Report

#### Mail In/Drop Off Income:

*Due to the early submission of this bulletin to our printers due to Memorial Day, we have no income to report.*

### Prayers Please

... for all the sick of our parish: those homebound, in the hospital, and nursing facilities; and for all the souls in purgatory. Please especially pray for all COVID-19 patients, all medical staff, and all those awaiting medical treatments and elective surgeries who are suffering.

### Sanctuary Lamp

*During this time of our absence away from Eucharistic Adoration please pray at home for the following person/s for whose intention the Sanctuary Candle at the main altar still burns this week: **Simone Fahey***

### CONFESSION

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

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

#### WILL WE EVER TAKE COMING TO MASS FOR GRANTED AGAIN?

I have always considered being able to participate in the celebration of the Holy Mass the greatest gift in my life – but have I taken the ease with which this gift is offered to me for granted? I know that our experience with regard to Mass over the past couple of months has been very different. I have been offering Mass to a camera, behind which looms a dark and empty church; you have been watching me from your homes on the internet. As we come back together beginning this weekend, I think it important for each of us to ask ourselves in what ways the past few months have called us to grow in our love for the Eucharist – despite not being able to receive it.

In 1986, then-Cardinal Ratzinger (now Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI) wrote,

*“A fasting of this kind (from reception of the Eucharist) – and of course it would have to be open to the Church’s guidance and not arbitrary – could lead to a deepening of personal relationship with the Lord in the sacrament. It could also be an act of solidarity with all those who yearn for the sacrament but cannot receive it. It seems to me that the problem of the divorced and remarried, as well as that of intercommunion (e.g., in mixed marriages), would be far less acute against the background of voluntary spiritual fasting, which would visibly express the fact that we all need that ‘healing of love’ which the Lord performed in the ultimate loneliness of the Cross. Naturally, I am not suggesting a return to a kind of Jansenism: fasting presupposes normal eating, both in spiritual and biological life. But **from time to time we do need a medicine to stop us from falling into mere routine which lacks all spiritual dimension. Sometimes we need hunger, physical and spiritual hunger, if we are to come fresh to the Lord’s gifts and understand the suffering of our hungering brothers. Both spiritual and physical hunger can be a vehicle of love.**”*

I emphasized the last part of that quote because it shows us how a time away from the reception of Holy Communion not only has the **individual** effect of making us realize that coming to Mass can never fall into mere routine born of obligation – that our coming to Mass weekly and daily must be out of love for the Lord and in response to what he did for us – but that it also reminds us of the **social** dimension of the Eucharist – of those around us who can’t receive, and those in mission areas who can only rarely go to Mass. May our temporary “fast” remind us of those who go without for far longer a time.

# 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, Pastor**

[rjw@sfxparish.com]

**Deacon David Pepin**

[dbp@sfxparish.com]

**Mrs. Janine Hammarquist, Rel. Ed. Coordinator**

[jlh@sfxparish.com]

[ministry@sfxacushnet.com]

**Mr. Steven Guillotte, Director of Pastoral Services**

[sng@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 6:30am-9:00pm

Saturday 6:30am-2:45pm

## VESPERS

Monday: Vespers with Benediction

Tuesday: Vespers

Wednesday: Vespers with Benediction

(Vespers begins at 6:30 pm)

## ON THE COVER

*When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together... Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-4)*

This year Pentecost Sunday falls on the last day of May, the day we conclude our traditional month-long devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is therefore a fortuitous invitation to reflect on the Blessed Mother during this solemn feast especially since our salvation began when the Holy Spirit came upon the Virgin Mary at the Annunciation (Lk 1:35). So where do we find Mary at Pentecost?

The first reading for the Sunday Mass of Pentecost opens at the beginning of chapter two of the Acts of the Apostles where St. Luke says that “they were all in one place together”. To learn who “they” refers to we must go back to Acts chapter one before the story of the appointment of Matthias as the new apostle. In Acts 1:14 Luke tells us that “they” includes the Apostles, some pious women, and “Mary, the mother of Jesus...” all dedicated to communal prayer.

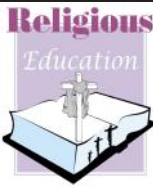
Because of this understanding it became ordinary practice for Catholic artists to portray the Blessed Mother at ground zero for the descent of the Holy Spirit. The Acts of the Apostles further implies Mary’s presence at the feast of Pentecost since Peter, having just received the Holy Spirit, goes out and proclaims to the crowd in Jerusalem how King David prophesied that the Messiah would be one of his descendants (Acts 2:30). This assertion of Peter on the day of Pentecost to the Jewish people makes sense only in reference to and in the presence of Mary who is the one who could attest to this descendancy with certainty. (Church tradition has it that Mary herself was a descendant of David through David’s son Nathan).

On this **Pentecost Sunday** we place on our bulletin cover a work by the Spanish Mannerist painter **El Greco** entitled *Pentecost* (1600). El Greco’s distinctive use of brightening color which renders solid forms as illuminated figures anticipated the work of Paul Cezanne. However, Cezanne did not grasp the spiritual mastery of El Greco.

In this image we have the disciples of Christ “all in one place together”; apostles and women of faith, and the Blessed Mother of God at the epicenter. Many of the figures look up in praise and amazement. Mary, however, peers upward with the expression of one having an interior conversation with the divine as she had at the Annunciation. One man in the painting looks out beyond the frame as if to remind us that the Holy Spirit is present in the here and now. Below the white dove high above is a falling windstorm which imparts tongues of flame sending a prism of color through the garments of all who are gathered. El Greco emphasizes the role of Mary at Pentecost by using the extended hands of many of the apostles to define the space allotted to Mary, a place familiar to Holy Spirit: to his descent *and* to his dwelling.

On this last day of May dedicated to Mary we transition to a celebration of the Holy Spirit, a transition as natural (and as supernatural) as the providential spiritual union of the Paraclete and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

## Pentecost Sunday - May 31, 2020



**Religious Education** Please **PRAY** for our **Confirmation Candidates** who would have been receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this evening on the Feast of Pentecost. As the Holy Spirit descends down upon the apostles and women gathered together, let us remember the gifts of the Holy Spirit that were fulfilled in us at our Confirmations and use those gifts to help with patience, humility and how we approach people during this most trying time.

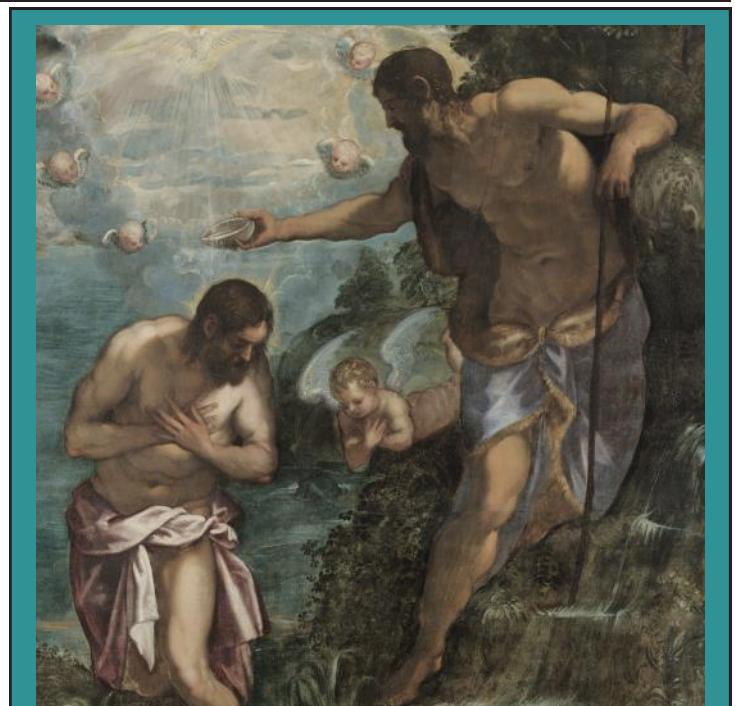
We are waiting to schedule a date for Confirmation with the new guidelines in place and considering the safety of those attending. All Candidates please make sure that you are up to date with all requirements sent out via parents emails last week.

**All students** will be receiving information specific to their grade level in mid June. Please continue to check emails for the Sunday Mass Questionnaires which need to be completed by all students in all Levels. They started on Sunday March 22 including Holy Week through Pentecost.

We are continuing to work on the best approach for First Holy Communion and will be in contact with families soon.

As the month of May comes to a close remember to conclude your day with the Holy Rosary. The month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

God Bless, Mrs. Hammarquist  
jlh@sfxparish.com



*Baptism of Christ*  
Tintoretto (1580)

*Jesus stood up and exclaimed, "Let anyone who thirsts come to me and drink. As Scripture says: Rivers of living water will flow from within him who believes in me." He said this in reference to the Spirit that those who came to believe in him were to receive. (Jn 7:37b-39a)*

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER  
PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8



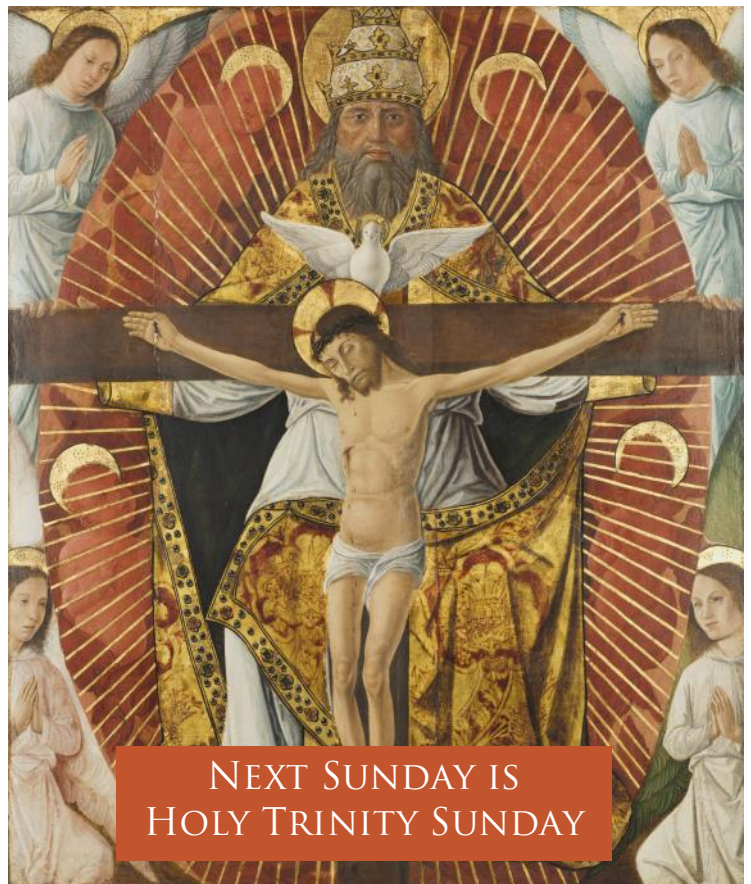
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS

Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade Class of 2020 has officially finished their academic year and will now experience final assessments, coupled with some virtual fun and friendship! For the first time, our 8<sup>th</sup> grade retreat will be a virtual experience under the direction of Amanda Tarentelli (Head of Campus Ministry at BSHS) and facilitated by some of our SFX alumni! We are grateful to Mrs. Shaughnessy for working closely with Amanda, and for orchestrating the key element and traditional portion of the retreat, which is the distribution of Palanca Letters. Our virtual climate has definitely confined us, yet it has also forced us to think creatively, stepping outside-the-box and relying on new approaches! Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade end of year plans and celebrations are still "in the works", so that this wonderful class can experience the joy of a graduation and an acknowledgement of their achievements. Please keep the graduating Class of 2020 in your prayers as their final days at St. Francis come to a close!

God Bless, Michelle Russo/Principal

### UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**June 7<sup>th</sup>** - Ecclesiastical Students  
**June 14<sup>th</sup>** - Parish Building Fund



NEXT SUNDAY IS  
HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

SFX  
WOMEN  
OF GRACE

## Pentecost Prayer

*"Holy Spirit, come into my heart. Bring new life to the ancient prayers I learned as a child, and inspire me to voice my innermost thoughts to the God who knows them all. Amen."* - **Johnnette Benkovic Williams**

### Today's Reflection:

Ponder how God responds to your desire for deeper intimacy with Him.  
Receive every spiritual blessing in the heavens this day

### CHURCH MASS CHECKLIST

- I set up a pew reservation for attending Holy Mass
- I washed/sanitized my hands before entering the church
- I have brought and am wearing my mask in church
- I am safely distancing from my fellow parishioners (whom I love)
- I am following the instructions of my usher
- I am grateful to God for being able to receive Him sacramentally

**JUNE'S INTENTION:** In May we just celebrated 31 days in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Now the month of June is traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This is particularly potent here at our parish because we have an on-going devotion to the Sacred Heart.

First of all our parish was founded by the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. Next our Adoration Chapel is named for the Sacred Heart. We celebrate the First Friday devotion which centers on the Sacred Heart of Jesus and we have many men in our parish who are members of the Men of the Sacred Heart. Lastly, many of our parishioners have had their homes enshrined to the Sacred Heart. *Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Have Mercy on us!*

### READINGS FOR WEEK OF MAY 31, 2020

Sunday: *Vigil:* Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 [cf. 30]/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39. *Extended Vigil:* Gn 11:1-9/Ps 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15/Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b/Dn 3:52, 53, 55, 56 [52b] or Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [1]/Jl 3:1-5/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/Jn 20:19-23  
Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14/Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34  
Tuesday: 2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18/Ps 90:2, 3-4, 10, 14 and 16 [1]/Mk 12:13-17  
Wednesday: 2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12/Ps 123:1b-2ab, 2cdef [1b]/Mk 12:18-27  
Thursday: 2 Tm 2:8-15/Ps 4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [4]/Mk 12:28-34  
Friday: 2 Tm 3:10-17/Ps 119:157, 160, 161, 165, 166, 168 [165a]/Mk 12:35-37  
Saturday: 2 Tm 4:1-8/Ps 71:8-9, 14-15ab, 16-17, 22 [cf. 15ab]/Mk 12:38-44

## Come Holy Spirit Renew the Face of the Earth!

### FIRST FRIDAY MASS

5 June

9:00 am & 6:00 pm



## Pentecost Sunday - May 31, 2020

### READINGS, RESPONSES, HYMNS & PRAYERS FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY, 31 MAY

#### **Processional Hymn: Come Holy Ghost**

*Come Holy Ghost, Creator blest, And with our hearts take up thy rest; Come with thy grace and heavenly aid To fill our hearts which thou hast made...*

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 2:1-11**

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd, but they were confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were astounded, and in amazement they asked, "Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his native language? We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God."

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.*

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Cor 12: 3b-7; 12-13**

Brothers and sisters: No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit. As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

#### **Gospel Reading: Jn 20:19-23**

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

#### **Offertory Hymn: Holy Spirit, Lord of Light**

*Holy Spirit, Lord of Light,  
From the clear celestial height,  
Thy pure beaming radiance give,  
Come thou Father of the poor;  
Come with treasures which endure;  
Come thou Light of all that live!*

#### **Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)**

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.  
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.  
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.  
Hosanna in excelsis

#### **Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.  
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.  
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

#### **Communion Hymn: Come Down O Love Divine**

#### **Recessional Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy**

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!*