

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



13th Sunday
In Ordinary Time
28 June 2020

St. Francis Xavier, Acushnet – Diocese of Fall River

Mass Schedule

(June 27th - July 5th)

Sat.	June 27	13th Sunday (Vigil) (Gr)
	4:00 pm	Gail Perzentz
Sun.	June 28	13th Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr)
	8:00am	John Gwozdz Jr.
	10:30am	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Mon.	June 29	Ss. Peter & Paul; Apostles (Rd)
	9:00am	Domingos & Maria Gomes
Tues.	June 30	First Martyrs of the Church (Rd)
	9:00am	Rose Mullin
Wed.	July 01	St. Junipero Serra; Priest (Wh)
	9:00am	Lowell & Gladys Reed
Thurs.	July 02	Feria (Gr)
	9:00am	Arthur & Jeanne Guillotte
Fri.	July 03	FIRST FRIDAY
		St. Thomas; Apostle (Rd)
	9:00am	Marc & Paul Boucher
	6:00pm	Robert Vigeant
Sat.	July 04	Blessed Virgin Mary (Wh)
	9:00am	Jose Alves & Maria Belo
Sat.	July 04	14th Sunday (Vigil) (Gr)
	4:00 pm	Rita Leger
Sun.	July 05	14th Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr)
	8:00am	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	10:30am	Harry B. Booth

Financial Report

Mail In/Drop Off Income:

12 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	\$4,070.00
Diocesan Assessment	\$2,038.00

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 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: **Jeannette Pepin***

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

SOMEONE WHO DESERVES A STATUE

Living where we do, we are privileged to be able to easily visit some of the key places where our country was founded – not only in fact, it should be said, but also in spirit. Where would our country be were it not for the events that took place in Plymouth and Boston?

Of course, we must remember that our country's history finds its foundations in other places as well – and, it must be said, other cultures. Long before English settlers had established the first colonies in what is now our country, the Spanish had begun to settle both the South-east and West Coast. One of the most important figures in this history is Fr. Junipero Serra, who founded several missions in what is now California that would later develop into some of the biggest cities in the state.

Saint Junipero Serra is currently in the news for other reasons than his historical legacy. In California, where he is rightly honored by many statues, protesters have torn some of them down. They see Fr. Serra's legacy as one of colonization and enslavement: if they knew their history, they would know that it was quite the opposite.

Any intelligent person knows that the past can't be judged by the standards of the present. Fr. Serra was a Spaniard whose work led to the expansion of Spanish civilization. It is also true that the way he treated the natives was rather strict according to our current standards. Yet, when we look at what he did and compare it with how other natives were treated in the New World, we'll see that he was actually enlightened for his time.

Fr. Serra's main reason for serving as a missionary was to save souls. For this purpose, he and others established many missions. These consisted not only of a church and friary, but also living quarters for the natives who were brought to live there, surrounded by fields in which the friars taught them how to farm. Did these actions change the way in which the natives lived? Yes. From Fr. Serra's perspective, this was to their benefit: it not only gave them a more secure source of food, but also offered them safety by bringing them to a place where the authority of the Church could protect them. Otherwise, they would be mistreated or even enslaved by Spanish settlers who came to the New World for riches rather than for souls.

To call someone a saint is not to say that they were perfect. St. Junipero Serra had his shortcomings, but when you consider all that he did, and how he protected and improved the lives of the natives, those tearing down his statues would instead be putting up more to his memory.

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

Monday 9:30am - 9:30pm

Wednesday 6:00pm-7:00pm

VESPERS & BENEDICTION

Monday & Wednesday: 6:30 pm

ON THE COVER

So she said to her husband, "I know that Elisha is a holy man of God. Since he visits us often, let us arrange a little room on the roof and furnish it for him... Sometime later Elisha arrived and stayed in the room overnight. (2 Kg 4:9-11)

For those of us who remember when Steven Booth first arrived at the parish as a young man seeking counsel about the call to the priesthood... this is a glorious time! Steven Booth was ordained "Father Steven Booth" on June 13th 2020, the memorial of St. Anthony of Padua.

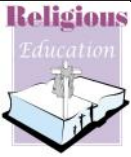
In the rite of ordination the bishop asked the director of vocations if Steven was deemed "worthy" to enter the priesthood. It was affirmed that this was the case. To be deemed worthy to be a priest is no small matter. God is the first one to do the deeming. This is because God is the only one who can do the *redeeming*. However, we the parish church also play a part in assuring the worthiness of the priest candidate. We accomplish this through our close association with the candidate over many years determining if he understands and believes the teachings of the Church, has a heart of charity, and draws ever closer to the image of Christ through prayer and study. Those deemed worthy should be graciously received into the priesthood. Those deemed unworthy; those who are a danger to the flock in any way should be escorted out of the seminary.

In our gospel quotation above, Elisha the holy man was cared for by "a woman of influence" (2 Kg 4:8). Elisha would dine with her when he was passing by her home. The woman even asked her husband to make a simple shelter for Elisha. This Shunammite woman deemed a spiritual worthiness in Elisha and desired to be in his company. She offered him material support for he had given up house and home and property and goods to follow the Lord. Yet she did not give him too much too often lest she tempt him with worldliness. In the gospel today, Jesus also does not speak of treating those that follow the Lord with an overabundance. A "cup of cold water" is all that is necessary (Mt 10:42). This meager gift may not seem much however Jesus uses this image not only to speak about the one who gives but also about the one who receives, for "the little one" of God should seek only to be refreshed and never to be exalted (Mt 23:12).

For this 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time we place on our bulletin cover a drawing of brown ink on paper by the Dutch artist **Samuel van Hoogstraten** entitled *Elisha and the Shunammite Woman* (1650 –courtesy Harvard Art Museum). Hoogstraten received his early training in the school of Rembrandt and he became a skilled painter of the Dutch Golden Age. The work we use today may not be a magnificent work, yet it is a lovely drawing of the meeting of Elisha with the woman guided by Elisha's aide, Gehazi.

What event does this image depict. Is it the first meeting of the lady and the prophet? Is it when Elisha offers her a gift? Is it when Elisha tells her she will bear a son? Or is it just after Elisha raises her child from the dead? We cannot say for sure. What we can say exactly is that the image portrays the devoted association of lady and prophet. She honors him for his service and office, while he places his staff of office at her service. Their pious and proper affection is deemed worthy of each other, and of God.

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time - June 28, 2020



All students this week your parents will receive an updated email on class work. Please complete this work as soon as possible so you can enjoy the summer months. If you have not returned to Mass in the church at this time, please remember to keep Sunday holy by viewing the Mass on EWTN or your local station and making a spiritual communion.

There will be updates next week for those receiving the sacraments this year.

Please Continue to PRAY for our **Confirmation Candidates** as we await a new date for Confirmation from the Bishop 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 parent emails a few weeks ago.

Also, if you have completed your "Choosing a Confirmation Name" form and have yet to return it, you can drop this off in our parish drop box at this time. Please be sure to complete both sides of the form so we can ensure that the choice of your confirmation name has been well thought out.

Stay Safe and Healthy
God Bless, Mrs. Hammarquist



Christ and the Rich Young Ruler
Heinrich Hoffman (1889)

"Whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me." (Mt 10:38)

AN UPDATE FROM FATHER STEVEN BOOTH ON HIS UPCOMING ASSIGNMENTS

Thanks to everyone for their kindness over this beautiful and busy week! I would like to give an update about my future assignments and plans. Starting Thursday I will be assigned to Good Shepherd collaborative in Martha's Vineyard with Fr. Michael Nagle for the summer. Good Shepherd encompasses three Churches: Our Lady Star of the Sea, Oak Bluffs, St. Augustine, Vineyard Haven, and St. Elizabeth, Edgartown. It should prove to be a fun and exciting assignment. In August I expect to complete five weeks of training with the Navy in Newport. In October I will be assigned to St. Julie's Parish, Dartmouth with Fr. David Pignato as an assistant priest. In Dartmouth I hope to complete my first three years of priesthood. After this I will begin to serve actively with the Navy for four years. From what I understand, my continuing with the military is a discussion between the Navy, the archbishop of the military diocese, and my home bishop. Regardless of what happens I will end up back in our diocese. It's all very new and exciting. God is so good. Thank you for all your support over the years. Please keep me in your prayers and be assured of my continued prayers for you and the parish. God Bless!

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS

GONE



FISHING

Catch you later! While we have not actually gone fishing, the school office staff are taking some much needed time off and will be back in the school office the week of July 6th. Please feel free to leave any messages regarding enrollment or any other inquiries and we

will get back to you upon our return!

**Summer office hours will then be:
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
from 9:30am-1:30pm.**

Enjoy the final days of June and...

God Bless, Michelle Russo/Principal

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

June 28th - Church in Latin America
July 12th - Parish Building Fund

UPDATE ON FATHER LEONARD: Many of you of course know well Father Leonard Kayondo and have supported his work in this parish to bring, through us, material, intellectual and spiritual improvements to villages in Rwanda, Africa. Father Williams recently sent an email to Father Leonard to check on him and to inform him of the ordination of Father Steven Booth. Father Leonard expressed his sadness in not being able to attend the ordination, as he was invited. Father Leonard is presently still in Rwanda and had planned to return to the United States but the travel restrictions concerning the COVID 19 pandemic have kept him in Rwanda. Father Leonard wishes to say that he hopes to be able to travel soon and see us again and he give his regards to our parishioners, his friends.

Also, some time ago Father Leonard sent us **photos** of the fruits of our donations to the Rwanda education fund. Our Religious Ed Director, Janine Hammarquist, has put these into a **collage** which is now being displayed in our church narthex. Thank you for your generosity in supporting these children being educated in their homeland.

MASS INTENTIONS: Our parish Mass Book will open again on **Wednesday, 8 July** after the 9am Mass. At that time we will be taking prayer intentions for Holy Mass here at the parish for the period of **January 1st to June 30th, 2021**. We will have more details in next weekend's bulletin especially about the process. If you are unable to come to the parish that morning, please call the parish office after 11:00 am on July 8th.

READINGS FOR WEEK OF JUNE 28, 2020

Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 [2a]/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42
 Monday: Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [5b]/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19
 Tuesday: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12/Ps 5:4b-6a, 6b-7, 8 [9a]/Mt 8:23-27
 Wednesday: Am 5:14-15, 21-24/Ps 50:7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16bc-17 [23b]/Mt 8:28-34
 Thursday: Am 7:10-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10cd]/Mt 9:1-8
 Friday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 20:24-29
 Saturday: Am 9:11-15/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 9b]/Mt 9:14-17

Join us for Vespers...

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY
6:30 PM

Independence ...

... is the natural right to pursue the Greater Glory of God.

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY
FROM SFX PARISH

FIRST FRIDAY
HOLY MASS

3 July
9:00am
&
6:00 pm

THE SACRED LITURGY FOR 13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 28 JUNE

ProceSSIONAL Hymn: Praise My Soul the King of Heaven

Praise my soul the King of heaven, to his feet thy tribute bring; Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, ever more his praises sing, Alleluia, Alleluia, Praise the everlasting King

1st Reading: 2 Kgs 4:8-11; 14-16a

One day Elisha came to Shunem, where there was a woman of influence, who urged him to dine with her. Afterward, whenever he passed by, he used to stop there to dine. So she said to her husband, "I know that Elisha is a holy man of God. Since he visits us often, let us arrange a little room on the roof and furnish it for him with a bed, table, chair, and lamp, so that when he comes to us he can stay there." Sometime later Elisha arrived and stayed in the room overnight. Later Elisha asked, "Can something be done for her?" His servant Gehazi answered, "Yes! She has no son, and her husband is getting on in years." Elisha said, "Call her." When the woman had been called and stood at the door, Elisha promised, "This time next year you will be fondling a baby son."

Responsorial Psalm: *For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord*

2nd Reading: Rom 6: 3-4; 8-11

Brothers and sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him. As to his death, he died to sin once and for all; as to his life, he lives for God. Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading: Mt 10:37-42

Jesus said to his apostles: "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. "Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me. Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward. And whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple—amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward."

Offertory Hymn: Come Down, O Love Divine

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn: I Am the Bread of Life

Recessional Hymn: Immortal Invisible God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light in accessible hid from our eyes, Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, Almighty, victorious, they great Name we praise.