

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

The Most Holy Trinity  
7 June 2020



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

### Mass Schedule

(June 6<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>)

<b>Sat.</b>	<b>June 6</b>	<b>Most Holy Trinity (Vigil) (Wh)</b> <i>Pro Populo</i>
	4:00 pm	
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>June 7</b>	<b>Most Holy Trinity (Wh)</b>
	8:00am	Rogério & Fernando Cunha
	10:30am	Abel & Ernestina Rego
	5:00pm	For All Souls
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>June 8</b>	<b>Feria (Gr)</b>
	9:00am	Gloria Fernandes & Grandparents
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>June 9</b>	<b>St. Ephrem (Wh)</b>
	9:00am	Annette Poitras
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>June 10</b>	<b>Feria (Gr)</b>
	9:00am	Maria N. Silva
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>June 11</b>	<b>St. Barnabas; Apostle (Rd)</b>
	9:00am	Edward Sabatowski
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>June 12</b>	<b>Feria (Gr)</b>
	9:00am	Maria Cidade
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>June 13</b>	<b>St. Anthony of Padua; Priest (Wh)</b>
	9:00am	Ron Pimental & Catherine White
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>June 13</b>	<b>Corpus Christi (Vigil) (Wh)</b>
	4:00 pm	Simone Beaulieu
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>June 14</b>	<b>Corpus Christi (Wh)</b>
	8:00am	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	10:30am	Month's Mind

### Financial Report

#### Mail In/Drop Off Income:

Ascension Thursday .....	\$1,083.00
Sunday, 24 May .....	\$2,727.70
Sunday, 31 May .....	\$7,334.00

### Prayers Please

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

### 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

#### A CATHOLIC RESPONSE TO RACISM?

These last few weeks have had some very high highs and very low lows. Over the last several days the public life of our parish is beginning to start up once again. The beautiful weather has only served to complement the spiritual joy we are all feeling!

Outside of our community, as we all know, things are not as joy-filled. The last several weeks have seen the killings – better, murders – of two Americans of African heritage. On 25 May, George Floyd was killed by a police officer in Minneapolis after being arrested on suspicion of using a counterfeit bill. This simply exacerbated tensions after the shooting death of Ahmaud Arbery in southern Georgia by two white men on 23 February.

The details of both cases have been covered in the news already, and I will not attempt to summarize them here. You can read the facts for yourself: having done that, I think each of us needs to ask ourselves, what sort of response does this call forth from me as a Christian?

It is depressing to have to admit that, over fifty years after the great advances made by the Civil Rights movement of the 50's and 60's, racism still persists in our culture. While the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is rightly held up as an example of peaceful pressure for greater civil rights, we can't forget that during his lifetime he was seen as a dangerous agitator, and that his life was ended by an assassin's bullet. The Civil Rights movement is not something that we can celebrate as complete – it is a yet-unrealized dream for which we must still work

The riots that are now taking place across the country are being rightly condemned, and it is important to note that George Floyd's own brother has called for an end to the violent protests. At the same time, we can't, as a result, dismiss the demand for justice that is the motive for both the peaceful protests and the riots. The beginning of our response must begin with an honest self-assessment of the limitations of our own viewpoint. As a white man, I cannot presume to understand what it is like to be an African-American responding to this situation, much less judge them without trying to understand what is giving rise to their anger. At the same time, I can't presume to know what it is like to be a police officer responding to a reported crime – a situation that is so often dangerous for them.

Good and evil must be recognized for what it is – on both sides; yet the persistent underlying tension of racism must also be addressed, or this current cycle will simply repeat again in the future.

# 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

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. (2 Cor 13: 13)*

It is quite possible that in spending so much time trying to understand the mysteries of our faith by studying the more difficult passages of the Bible that we overlook the simple passages that propound the mysteries of our faith with far less difficulty. We see this with the last sentence of today's second reading taken from the very last sentence of the last chapter of Paul's second letter to the Corinthians whereby he offers a brief farewell salutation that unlocks our hearts to the mystery of the Holy Trinity.

You won't read the term "Holy Trinity" in the Bible, but you will find many instances of it. For example, Paul closes his second letter to the local church of Greek believers in Corinth with a blessing that asks for *grace, love, and fellowship* by attributing each one of these supernatural gifts as aspects of the three divine persons of the Blessed Trinity. The name of "God the Father" may not be obvious in Paul's farewell address, but understanding correctly Saint Paul to be a pious Jew we are assured that his reference to "God" means "God the Father".

The Father is the everlasting foundation of the Godhead and is often referred to by the Apostles and Church Fathers as "God". This does not implicate his Son and Spirit as lesser beings than God, as the Jehovah Witnesses would wish us to believe. The Son and the Holy Spirit are God too. They are God by being of the same divine substance proceeding from the Father in their existence (Being). The mystery here is that they *eternally* proceed from the Father so that there was never a time when they did not exist and were not with the Father. In the language of the Bible, especially the New Testament, "God" often means "Father" only to stress that specific divine person who begets the Trinitarian Godhead although there was never a time when the Holy Trinity was not begotten.

Bedazzled yet? Good, you should be! For not even the great minds of St. Augustine or St. Thomas Aquinas could precisely and adequately describe the infinite Godhead. To accomplish this they would have had to been able to describe the indescribable. This is why it is best to speak about the Holy Trinity through esteemed pulsations of the heart such as the blessing offered by Paul to the Corinthians; for the deep mysteries of God are often best understood by the heart, being made manifest through praise and blessings... and sacred art!

Thus we place on our bulletin cover for this **Most Holy Trinity** Sunday a work by **Fra Filippo Lippi** entitled *Mystical Nativity or Adoration in the Forest* (1459). Here we see an image of the Nativity which is intentionally expressive of the Holy Trinity. Lippi has used the primordial forest as a symbol of timelessness to disclose the three Eternal Divine Persons: Father, Son and Spirit. Both the Blessed Mother and St. Romuald (upper left) pray in Adoration to the Son, who in His assumed human nature authentically reveals the Father (**Jn 14:9**). Lippi also paints John the Baptist in a separate space to the left standing on a rock holding a banner which reads, "*Behold, the Lamb of God*".

Long before there was life on earth, there was ever-abiding Life. There was without beginning the never-ending Most Holy Trinity.



## Most Holy Trinity Sunday - June 7, 2020



**We're Back!** - reminds me of the animated dinosaur movie based in New York's Central Park. But that is not what I am referring to. We could not have resumed Holy Mass at a better time. Pentecost the completion of the Holy Spirit within us and now this week, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit". This prayer leads us into the mystery we celebrate this Sunday, the Most Holy Trinity. The Holy Trinity is a life of communion to be lived, shared and celebrated liturgically. We need to go beyond talking about love, communion, sharing and putting that into practice by being instruments of reconciliation, mercy and communion. As we are returning to Holy Mass let us remember that we are God's instruments here on earth as we practice to be good stewards in communion with others.

**Please 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 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 mid June.

God Bless, Mrs. Hammarquist  
jlh@sfxparish.com

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER  
PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS

With the finish line in sight to a very different school year, I thank you for your continued prayers for our parish school. Never did I foresee needing to direct a virtual school community. I cannot say enough about the support, encouragement, patience and cooperation demonstrated by our SFX family. While challenges "crept in" to virtual classrooms, our teachers, parents and students have readjusted and rectified all issues that arose, in order to facilitate positive outcomes. While students may show signs of "losing steam" towards the end, as always, they are being encouraged to finish strong in true SFX fashion! Our virtual end of the school year will include fun Zoom meetings and assemblies, as well as a drive-by-drop-off of materials and pick-up of summer packets. We miss our students terribly and look forward to the day that we can be reunited as a school community. God bless and again, thank you for continuing to keep our students and their families, and our amazing faculty, in prayer.

God Bless, Michelle Russo/Principal

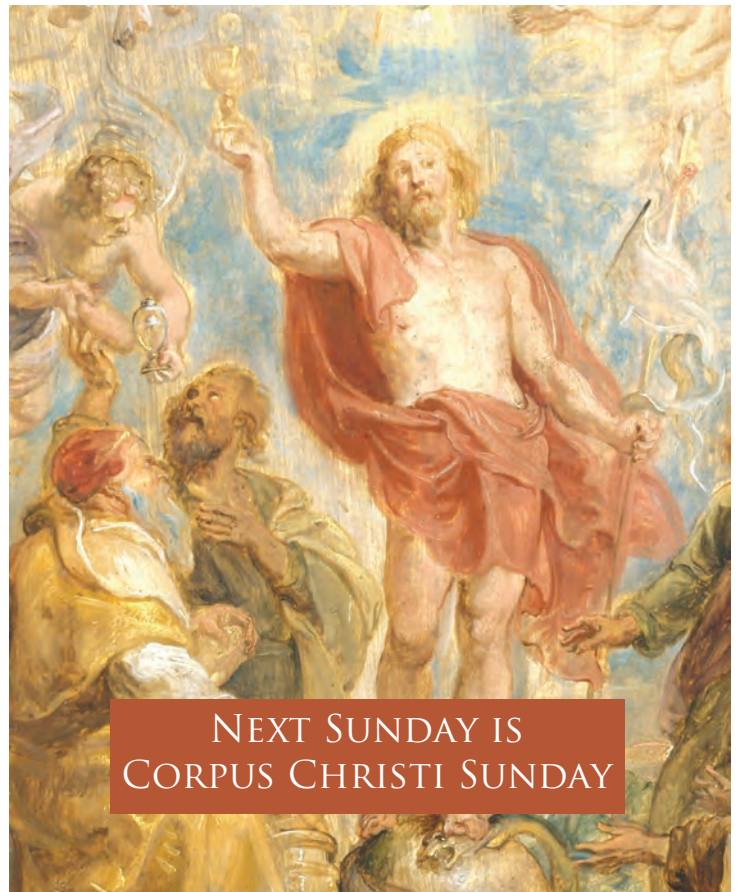
### UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

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



*The Holy Trinity*  
El Greco(1778)

*God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. (Jn 3:16-17)*



NEXT SUNDAY IS  
CORPUS CHRISTI SUNDAY

SFX  
WOMEN  
OF GRACE

THE CONTRIBUTION  
OF WOMEN

*“Reconcile men with life and above all, we beseech you, watch carefully over the future of our race. Hold back the hand of man, who, in a moment of folly, might attempt to destroy human civilization... Women of the entire universe... you to whom life is entrusted at this grave moment in history, it is for you to save the peace of the world.”*

*Pope Paul VI, “To Women” (8 December 1965)*

**DEACON PEPIN’S ANNIVERSARY:** We apologize for missing the announcement of the anniversary of Deacon David Pepin’s **ordination to the diaconate**. Deacon Dave was ordained on 5/18/02 (that’s 2002, not 1902 for those of you who are wondering). This year makes, for David, 18 years of service to the Lord as a “servant” to the altar, to the sick, to the lost, and to all of us here in our parish and in other parishes. Please wish Deacon Dave a blessed anniversary and *may the Lord watch over him and keep him!*

**PARISH ENVELOPES:** We apologize if you did not receive your parish envelopes for the months of May & June. We have a relatively new envelope company and (our old one was bought out by the new) and we cannot say if the pandemic and work issues surrounding it are the cause of this problem. Anytime you do not receive your parish offering envelopes, please contact the office and let us know. In fact, if you have already called the office about this (for May/June) please call us again so we can get an accurate tally to report to our envelope printer. Thank you.

**PARISH ANNUAL APPEAL & CATHOLIC APPEAL:** Our parish 2019-2020 Annual Appeal **ends on June 30<sup>th</sup>**. We thank everyone who has donated to this appeal which allows us to meet our parish operational expenses and has been particularly important in this fiscal year with the downturn in collections due to the pandemic.

Parishioners should also have received by now a mailing from the diocesan Catholic Appeal. The return envelope is self-addressed to go directly back to the diocese so you may mail it yourself. If you are staying away from post offices these days you may place it in the collection basket, however please place a stamp on the envelope and we will be glad to mail it for you.

READINGS FOR WEEK OF JUNE 7, 2020

Sunday: Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/2

Cor 13:11-13/Jn 3:16-18

Monday: 1 Kgs 17:1-6/Ps 121:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [cf. 2]/Mt 5:1-12

Tuesday: 1 Kgs 17:7-16/Ps 4:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7a]/Mt 5:13-16

Wednesday: 1 Kgs 18:20-39/Ps 16:1b-2ab, 4, 5ab and 8, 11 [1b]/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13 [2a]/Mt 5:20-26

Friday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-16/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14 [8b]/Mt 5:27-32

Saturday: 1 Kgs 19:19-21/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/Mt 5:33-37

FROM DEACON STEVEN BOOTH  
FOR THE EVENT OF HIS  
PRIESTLY ORDINATION:

It has been a long time coming! My ordination is finally here. Unfortunately under the current circumstances the ordination will have to be a small private event. It is with this in mind that I would like to first express my disappointment over not being able to have my whole parish there. From a concern for public safety the Bishop has asked me to invite only immediate family and friends. I hope you understand.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your many years of prayer and support. Everyone at St. Francis has been so kind and generous. From the very beginning I was warmly welcomed and throughout my whole time in seminary always felt like I had a home in St. Francis, a place where I could escape from the humdrum of seminary and classes to experience the reenergizing vitality and joy of a parish focused on Christ. This is, of course, a testament to God’s Goodness and his constant gifts of Grace but it is also a testament to you all for your openness to cooperate with God’s Grace and build something beautiful at St. Francis Parish and School.

I’m excited and grateful, yet regretful that you all can’t be there. Please know of my continued prayers. I hope to be able to celebrate Holy Mass at St. Francis Xavier with you in the near future when we get back to normal! Lastly, you’re not off the hook. Your prayers have gotten me this far, but now that I am to be ordained I need them more than ever. Please keep praying for me. Pray that I will be able to shoulder the burden of priestly responsibility well. Pray that I will be a holy priest. Pray that I will be a faithful, joyful, and courageous priest. And, if God wills it, maybe even a little successful ;)

**God Bless! Deacon Steven Booth**



## Most Holy Trinity Sunday - June 7, 2020

### THE SACRED LITURGY FOR MOST HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY, 7 JUNE

#### **Processional Hymn: O God Almighty Father**

*O God Almighty Father Creator of all things,  
The Heavens stand in wonder, while earth they  
glory sings;  
O Most Holy Trinity, Undivided Unity, Holy God,  
Mighty God, God Immortal be adored.*

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Ex 34:4B-6; 8-9**

Early in the morning Moses went up Mount Sinai as the LORD had commanded him, taking along the two stone tablets.

Having come down in a cloud, the LORD stood with Moses there and proclaimed his name, "LORD." Thus the LORD passed before him and cried out, "The LORD, the LORD, a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity." Moses at once bowed down to the ground in worship. Then he said, "If I find favor with you, O Lord, do come along in our company. This is indeed a stiff-necked people; yet pardon our wickedness and sins, and receive us as your own."

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Glory and praise forever!*

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Cor 13: 11-13**

Brothers and sisters, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the holy ones greet you.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

#### **Gospel Reading: Jn 3:16-18**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

#### **Offertory Hymn: O Breathe On Me, O Breath of God**

*O Breathe on me, O Breath of God, fill me with life anew  
That I may love the things you love,  
And do what you would do*

#### **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, Thou Almighty King**

#### **Recessional Hymn: O God Beyond All Praising**

*O God beyond all praising we worship you today and sing  
the love amazing that songs cannot repay;*

*For we can only wonder at every gift you send, at blessings  
without number and mercies without end;*

*We lift our hearts before and wait upon your word, we honor  
and adore you, Our great and mighty Lord!*