

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



16<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
In Ordinary Time  
19 July 2020

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

### Mass Schedule

(July 18<sup>th</sup> - July 26<sup>th</sup>)

<b>Sat.</b>	<b>July 18</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday (Vigil) (Gr)</b>
	4:00 pm	Simonne & George Fahey
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>July 19</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr)</b>
	8:00am	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	10:30am	Mary Booth
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>July 20</b>	<b>St. Apollinaris; Bishop (Rd)</b>
	9:00am	Gaston St. Laurent
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>July 21</b>	<b>St. Lawrence of Brindisi (Wh)</b>
	9:00am	Cesar Fernandes, Mr. & Mrs. Jose DeSousa
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>July 22</b>	<b>St. Mary Magdalene (Wh)</b>
	9:00am	Denise St. Laurent
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>July 23</b>	<b>St. Bridget; Religous (Wh)</b>
	9:00am	Cesar Fernandes
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>July 24</b>	<b>St. Sharbel Makhūf; Priest (Wh)</b>
	9:00am	Miguel Sousa & Maria do Carmo
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>July 25</b>	<b>St. James; Apostle (Rd)</b>
	9:00am	Arnold & Jaqueline Ponte
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>July 25</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> Sunday (Vigil) (Gr)</b>
	4:00 pm	Ralph & Grace Watts
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>July 26</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr)</b>
	8:00am	Stacey Gwozdz
	10:30am	<i>Pro Populo</i>

### Financial Report

#### Mail In/Drop Off Income:

14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time .....	\$4,106.25
15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time .....	\$5,075.50
Parish Building Fund.....	\$3,368.50

### 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: **Anibal V. Tavares***

### 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

#### UNDERSTANDING THE CONTROVERSY IN TURKEY

Over the last few weeks you may have noticed news reports regarding developments in Istanbul, Turkey. In particular, the issue is that the president of Turkey, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, has pushed to make the Hagia Sophia once more into a mosque.

First, what is the Hagia Sophia? It is a 1500-year-old building dedicated to the Holy Wisdom (= *Hagia Sophia*) of God that was built as the cathedral for the city of Constantinople (the original name of Istanbul). In 1453, the city was conquered by the Turks, and the cathedral was turned into a mosque. It remained so until the 1930's, when it was made into a museum. This decision was made by the founder of the Turkish State, Mustafa Atatürk, as a way of respecting the different roles the building has had while not giving dominance to any one.



When the modern nation of Turkey was founded, it had a definitely secular character. Atatürk westernized some aspects of his country while ensuring that Islamic fundamentalism would find no foothold in it. Throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century, while most Turkish people are Muslim, they have created a society in which the state and culture could develop along Western lines.

At least, such have been things until recently. President Erdoğan has been in power for almost twenty years, first as Prime Minister and currently as President. Throughout this time he has worked to steadily centralize power in himself, a process aided by his courting of Islamic conservatives for whom the return of the Hagia Sophia to the status of a mosque is both a bid and a reward for their support. When considered in the context of the modern Middle East, we can see that this isn't simply about a building; rather, we are witnessing one of the most successful secular Muslim-majority states losing that character and more closely allying itself with an Islamic conservatism that has the potential to drag Turkey into regional conflicts from which, until now, it has steered clear. Turkey's past proves the potential for what Islamic societies can be. May we hope and pray that Atatürk's vision will not be lost, and that the Western world will not lose one of our closest allies in the region.

# 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

*There is no god besides you who have the care of all... For your might is the source of justice; your mastery over all things makes you lenient to all.* (Wis 12:13, 16)

Even if one were to rule a nation with all just laws and administer those laws with perfect equity so that only what was right and good was dispensed to every person through the executive power and through the courts, there would still be injustice without the might to oblige what is good and right since man is so often apt to err and sin. In our pursuit of justice-for-all we can never be so foolish as to think that man can regulate his own communal behavior without enforcement of the law. “*Govern thyself*” is a fine maxim for moral behavior but one ill-equipped to manage a large state.

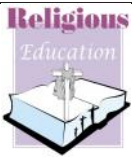
Promoters of the natural law do not declare that “might is the source of justice” as does the writer of the Book of Wisdom. If might is the source of justice then physical power, not natural right, would rule the law. Catholics believe in “right over might” yet they still understand the proper use of might in maintaining what is just and right. The author of the Book of Wisdom also understands this by stating that God has care over all. This means that God’s might is perfectly applied in just judgements because he cares for all that he has created and wills that none of it should suffer loss or punishment. Yet it does. Humans suffer especially because of the misuse of their God-given freedom.

God is patient and lenient with us. St. Peter tells us so: “*[God] is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance*” (2Pt:3:9). That is, God’s leniency is given for the benefit of our salvation, but never so we may abuse his love and justice. Even in matters of human justice, clemency should be given to those who express sincere sorrow over their wrongdoing and the will to amend their ways. Yet, leniency always risks future suffering. Even Our Lord concedes that His leniency may cause the suffering of others or else as in today’s Gospel reading, Jesus would not allow the weeds to grow in the midst of the wheat. (Mt 13:28-29)

For this 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time we place on our bulletin cover a heartfelt work by the English Romantic **John Everett Millais** entitled, *Order of Release* (1853). Here is a Scottish prisoner being released by a written order from an English jail. The man released has an injured arm. Did he resist a just arrest? Or was he mistreated by his captors? We cannot say. We know that both these scenarios occur. Millais paints the same leaning posture by jailor and prisoner; the former inspecting the order; the latter seeking his wife. The man’s reception is interesting. The canine is excited, but notice that his nose points to the union of hands. The child sleeps as if this was an ordinary event, but may be worn out by crying. The wife is stalwart. She has come on business. Her face, not focused on the British soldier, indicates both family and national pride and the effort it took to gain the release.

What we have here is a scene resulting from leniency. Every act of leniency is best when it brings about a reunion of love. This is especially the case with the leniency of the Most High.

# 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 19, 2020



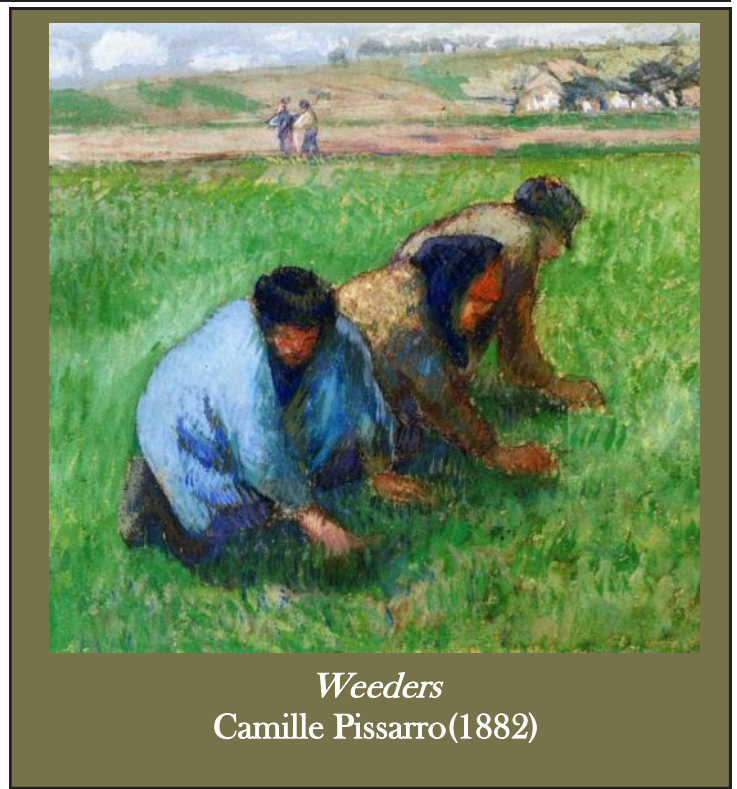
## **Congratulations to our First Communion Class**

Gavin Ashley, Savannah Amaral-Beckman, Amelie Blakesley, Thomas Bodeau, John Bravo, Mariel Brunelle, Sofia Carreiro, Grace Chagnon, Emma Cusick, Luke DaSilva, Daniela DesRoches, Brandon Dube, Chance Estrella, Amelia Frias, Kathryn Hamel, Daniel Stewart, Clare Shaughnessy, Mya Lovegrove, Troy Martin, Madison Pereira, Jayden Resendes, Keegan Sampson, Blake Umbelina, Logan Verissimo and Mayla Viveiros. *Please continue to keep them in your prayers as they make their way back to Holy Mass during these current times. "If angels could be jealous of men, they would be so for one reason: Holy Communion."* (St. Maximilian Kolbe)

**Congratulations to our Confirmation Class** Rebecca Antonio, Sarah Correia, Sara Hartford, Samantha Goulart, Hannah Pereira, Liza Pinette, Caden Plante, Brady Poirier, Samantha Tavares, Mya Teixeira, Abigail Thomas, Kyle Vieira. *Please continue to keep them in your prayers so that they remain steadfast in prayer and in sharing their Catholic Faith with others, especially during the trials and tribulation of today much like the Apostles in their day.*

**Summer Religious Education Office hours** will be:  
Mon, Tues, Fri 9:30am-Noon.

Stay Safe and Healthy  
God Bless, Mrs. Hammarquist



*Weeders*  
Camille Pissarro(1882)

*"He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, "First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn."'"* (Mt 13:29-30)

**MASS INTENTIONS:** Our Mass Book opened last week for the period of **January 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021**. If you were unable to come to the parish that morning, please call the parish office if you would like to schedule a Mass intention for that time period. (Please note that we can also accommodate Masses offered in Rome for your loved ones during the rest of the year of 2020).



## St. John Neumann Parish "One Day ONLY Barn Sale"

Saturday July 25th, 2020  
8a.m. to 2p.m @ Parish Barn  
On Rt. 18 (Middleboro Road)  
East Freetown, MA.  
Next to Cathedral Camp.  
Bargain hunters paradi\$e!

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER  
PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS

We are back in the office after a short break and are in full (or at least half) swing with our summer office hours. Our administrative staff and teachers will be especially busy over summer adopting and adapting to the new guidelines for returning the students to classwork. We will be putting much thought into safe and best practices for the 2020-2021 school year. We are grateful to our facility director John Guillotte and his summer side-kick Dominic Correia for ensuring a spotless environment and for assisting with new seating and other spatial arrangements as we prepare for another exciting school opening!

**Summer Office Hours are:**  
**Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays**  
**from 9:30am-1:30pm.**

God Bless, Michelle Russo/Principal

## UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

July 26<sup>th</sup> - Diocesan Assessment  
August 2<sup>nd</sup> - Peters Pence  
August 23<sup>rd</sup> - Building Fund

## DIVINE MERCY HOUR



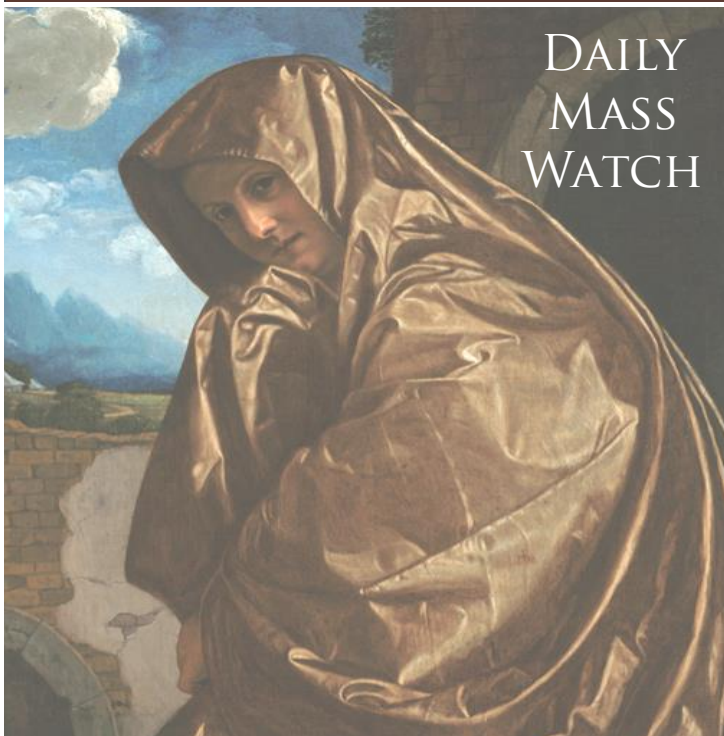
Parishioner and *Women of Grace* leader Carol Eccleston is looking to start up a parish apostolate of prayer for the Divine Mercy Chaplet. The idea was conceived during the time of the pandemic especially when we were all keeping mostly to our own homes. The apostolate asks for people to commit to one day of the week to offer prayer at 3:00 pm, the Divine Mercy Hour. This is being proposed as a way to bring consolation to the heart of Jesus in these tumultuous times. If you are interested and able to commit to one day per week to pray the chaplet and do so with the knowledge that others are joining you in this, then please contact Carol at [lovepeaceandprayer@gmail.com](mailto:lovepeaceandprayer@gmail.com).

ADORATION MON. 9:30AM-9:30PM & WED. 6-7 PM



VESPERS MONDAY & WEDNESDAY - 6:30

## DAILY MASS WATCH



Feast of St. Mary Magdalene  
Wed 22 July - 9:00 am Mass

## READINGS FOR WEEK OF JULY 19, 2020

Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 [5a]/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30  
Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 12:38-42  
Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8a]/Mt 12:46-50  
Wednesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2]/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18  
Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11 [10a]/Mt 13:10-17  
Friday: Jer 3:14-17/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Mt 13:18-23  
Saturday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [5]/Mt 20:20-28

## A BIOGRAPHY OF BLESSED STANLEY ROTHER

From the Archdioceses of Oklahoma City

While he served in Guatemala, a civil war raged between the militarist government forces and the guerrillas. The Catholic Church was caught in the middle due to its insistence on catechizing and educating the people. During this conflict, thousands of Catholics were killed. Eventually, Father Rother's name appeared on a death list. For his safety and that of his associate, Father Rother returned home to Oklahoma. He didn't stay long, though, as he was determined to give his life completely to his people, stating that "the shepherd cannot run." He returned to Santiago Atitlan to continue the work of the mission.

Within a few months, three men entered the rectory on July 28, 1981 fought with Father Rother and executed him. His death shocked the Catholic world. No one was ever held responsible. The people of Santiago Atitlan mourned the loss of their leader and friend. They requested that Father Rother's heart be kept in Guatemala where it remains enshrined today.

In 2007, his Cause for Canonization was opened. In June 2015, the Vatican voted to formally recognize Oklahoma's Father Stanley Rother a martyr. The determination of martyrdom was a critical step in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City's Cause to have Father Rother beatified, the final stage before canonization as a saint.

On Dec. 1, 2016, Pope Francis officially recognized Father Rother as a martyr for the faith. He is the first martyr from the U.S. and the first U.S.-born priest to be beatified. The Rite of Beatification was held on Sept. 23, 2017, in Oklahoma City – an event attended by more than 20,000 people from around the world.

Blessed Stanley Rother's story is the subject of various books, documentaries and an upcoming feature film. The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is in the final stages of design of a 2,000-seat shrine church, museum and campus in his honor, to be located in south Oklahoma City.

THE SACRED LITURGY FOR 16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 19 JULY

**ProceSSIONAL Hymn: When I Survey The Wondrous Cross**

*When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died, My richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride...*

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Wis 12:13, 16-19**

There is no god besides you who have the care of all, that you need show you have not unjustly condemned. For your might is the source of justice; your mastery over all things makes you lenient to all. For you show your might when the perfection of your power is disbelieved; and in those who know you, you rebuke temerity. But though you are master of might, you judge with clemency, and with much lenience you govern us; for power, whenever you will, attends you. And you taught your people, by these deeds, that those who are just must be kind; and you gave your children good ground for hope that you would permit repentance for their sins.

**Responsorial Psalm: Lord, you are good and forgiving**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Rom 8: 26-27**

Brothers and sisters: The Spirit 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. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit, because he intercedes for the holy ones according to God's will.

**Gospel Reading: Mt 13:24-43**

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off. When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well. The slaves of the householder came to him and said, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where have the weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' His slaves said to him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' He replied, 'No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot...

... the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest; then at harvest time I will say to the harvesters, 'First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barn.'"" He proposed another parable to them. "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants. It becomes a large bush, and the 'birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.'" He spoke to them another parable. "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour until the whole batch was leavened." All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables. He spoke to them only in parables, to fulfill what had been said through the prophet: *I will open my mouth in parables, I will announce what has lain hidden from the foundation of the world.* Then, dismissing the crowds, he went into the house. His disciples approached him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." He said in reply, "He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

**Offertory Hymn: Lord Jesus Think On Me**

**Communion Hymn: Blest Are They**

**Recessional Hymn: Let All Things Now Living**

*Let all things now living A song of thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly raise, who fashioned and made us , protected and stayed us by guiding us on to the end of our days...*