

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



20<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
16 August 2020

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

**Mass Schedule**

**(August 15<sup>th</sup> - August 23<sup>rd</sup>)**

<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Aug 15</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> Sunday (Vigil) (Gr)</b>
	4:00 pm	Maria Carmo Amaral
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Aug 16</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr)</b>
	8:00am	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	10:30am	Patricia Booth
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Aug 17</b>	<b>Feria (Gr)</b>
	9:00am	Souls in Purgatory
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Aug 18</b>	<b>Feria (Gr)</b>
	9:00am	Maria & Michael Poirier
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Aug 19</b>	<b>St. John Eudes; Priest (Wh)</b>
	9:00am	George Bevilacqua
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>Aug 20</b>	<b>St. Bernard; Abbott (Wh)</b>
	9:00am	Don & Helen Watts
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>Aug 21</b>	<b>St. Pius X; Pope (Wh)</b>
	9:00am	Filomena Torres, Brother Manuel & Jose Eduarda Ponte
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Aug 22</b>	<b>Queenship of Mary (Wh)</b>
	9:00am	Joseph & Jeanne Olivier
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Aug 22</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> Sunday (Vigil) (Gr)</b>
	4:00 pm	Lillian Stamo
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Aug 23</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr)</b>
	8:00am	Jeffrey & Joseph Newett
	10:30am	<i>Pro Populo</i>

**Financial Report**

**Income:**

19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time .....\$4,331.91

**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**

**PRAYERS FOR CHINA**

*First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out—  
 Because I was not a socialist.*

*Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out—  
 Because I was not a trade unionist.*

*Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—  
 Because I was not a Jew.*

*Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me..*

Lutheran pastor Martin Niemöller's thoughts – captured in the poem above – bear witness to a powerful truth: injustice and wrongs to anyone, anywhere, are a warning to everyone else. If we refuse to help any other human person in need – no matter who they are – not only am I failing as a Christian to offer them help, but also ignoring a problem that might later come for me.

Several months ago I wrote about the persecution of the Uighur people in Western China. Seen as a threat to the centralizing tendencies of the government because of their ethnic and religious differences from most of China (like most Central Asians, they are ethnically Turkish, and largely Muslim), over a million of them have been put into concentration camps – called “re-education camps” by the government – since 2015. The persecution against them continues.

More recently China has begun another persecution, this time in Hong Kong against those protesting the government's suspension of their civil rights. As a result, the government has made repeated moves to bring the territory under greater government control and to remove the freedoms that many in the former British territory enjoy. A new law imposed by the central government on 1 July greatly increases the penalty for doing actions seen as threats to public order (e.g., protests for democracy) with a minimum 10-year jail sentence. Catholics have been in the front lines of those working to preserve freedom in Hong Kong and have paid the penalty: just last Monday a new series of arrests included Agnes Chow, a 23-year old activist, and Jimmy Lai, 72, a noted philanthropist and supporter of the democracy movement. Joseph Cardinal Zen Ze-kium, the 88 year old Cardinal and former Bishop of Hong Kong, has made a statement of his preparedness to be arrested.

The threat that the Communist Chinese government poses to the rest of the world is becoming more apparent. Let's pay attention, as election time draws near, as to which candidates will support the Uighurs and those in Hong Kong – because if we ignore their suffering, who can say how long it will be before our problems begin?

# 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-8:30pm

Wednesday 6:00pm-7:00pm

Friday 9:30am-8:30pm

Saturday 9:30 am-2:45 pm

## VESPERS & BENEDICTION

Monday & Wednesday: 6:30 pm

## ON THE COVER

*Thus says the LORD... The foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, ministering to him, loving the name of the LORD... will be acceptable on my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. (Is 56:1, 6-7)*

You have probably read how the United States Representative from New York, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, recently denounced the statue of the missionary priest St. Damien of Molokai (which stands in the U.S. Capitol's National Statuary Hall), as part of a "pattern" of "patriarchy" and "white [supremacy]". This charge has been ably addressed by many such as Dr. Paul Kengor (*Catholic World Report*), Michael Warren Davis (*Crisis Magazine*) and Bishop Robert Barron of *Word on Fire* (who called Ms. Cortez's comments "ridiculous"). We will not add here to their fair criticism.

Yet what was absent from these critical pieces was a constructive (and instructive) declaration about the mission of the Church which sadly even the Church has not made in response to Rep. Cortez. So here it is: The Church which has been sent out by Christ with a special commission to make disciples of all nations is not, nor ever will be, a vehicle for "colonization" but rather for evangelization and the salvation of souls. It is vital that we repeat this to all who want to claim or infer that the mission of the Church is, by its evangelical activity, racist, when it sets out earnestly to overcome paganism and false religion in various nations and cultures.

The unjust inference perpetrated by Rep. Cortez - that the very missionary work of Father Damien is supremacist and colonizing - is sad-to-say perpetrated even within the Church itself. For example, just before the 2019 Amazon Synod, Father Corrado Dalmonego of the Consolata missionaries serving in Amazonia made it a matter for boasting that his order has baptized no one in over five decades! What such churchmen do not realize is that while they sit pitifully self-satisfied in a place of "presence and dialogue" there is an ever-growing enemy which sees even their watered-down mission as nuisance and ideologue. In response to this hostility, Catholics need to boldly declare for the Great Commission of Our Lord even under threat of being called "racists".

For this 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time we place on our bulletin cover a work by the High Renaissance master **Fra Bartolomeo** entitled *Christ with the Four Evangelists* (1516 - [Wikiart](#)). Bartolomeo was a Dominican Friar who resided mostly in Florence. He was friends with Raphael and each gained artistically from their association.

Here is the High Renaissance: classical architecture, idealized and precise human figures, flowing, clinging cloth and postures of virtuous purpose. St. John (the youngest shown) points to Jesus where all evangelization begins. The gospel writer standing near him points outward indicating the command to take Jesus out into the world. The two evangelists on our right embrace in a show of solidarity as the one in the forefront (right) looks forward as if to challenge us to profess Christ to others. Upholding this cause to bring all peoples into the Church is the chalice of the Blood of Christ, the Holy Eucharist, while the mirror below it reflects the world as a dry wilderness without the Good News of Jesus.

Let us never treat the word of God, the commission to make new disciples, and the teachings of the Church as an affront to race, and culture. They are the great hope of both.

## 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 16, 2020

### Religious Education



#### 2020/2021 Religious Education Classes:

Plans are underway for the start of the coming year. We will be returning with in-person classes, social distancing and wearing masks.

We will be providing each child with their own lap desk and writing instruments for those registered in the Religious Education Program. There will also be some remote learning this year depending on class sizes. If you are registering your child this coming year but are still apprehensive about returning to a classroom setting please contact Mrs. Hammarquist and special arrangements will be made.

Registration forms will be going out at the end of August for those previously registered in the program. If you are parishioners and you have a child that is in public school Grades 1-8 (9th Public or Catholic School) and would like him/her to attend our program for the 2020/2021 year please call the office to set up an appt. with Mrs. Hammarquist. Classes begin on Sunday September 27th.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** The church is open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Mon. & Fri. 9:30am - 8:30pm 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. *Don't forget your mask.*

Stay Safe and Healthy  
God Bless, Mrs. Hammarquist

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER  
PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS

Due to COVID-19, we were forced to postpone our annual school fundraiser this year. This annual event generates a significant amount of attention and funding for our parish school. We are excited to announce that this year's event will be an **online, virtual auction!** This coming **Thursday evening, August 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**, we will *virtually* join forces to raise the necessary funds to help our school continue to flourish. Please consider joining in on the fun, by registering soon to "attend" this online event. Bidding on items will actually begin on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> and will conclude on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Registering online is easy at [www.embracegrace.givesmart.com](http://www.embracegrace.givesmart.com)! Thank you to those parishioners who made reservations for the in-person event; if you would like a refund for the ticket cost, please contact the school at (508) 995-4313. Your continued support and generosity is greatly appreciated. Please log in and start bidding as we continue to *Embrace Grace* at St. Francis!

God Bless, Michelle Russo/Principal

### UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

August 23<sup>rd</sup> - Parish Building Fund  
August 30<sup>th</sup> - Diocesan Assessment



*The Canaanite Woman*  
Limbourg Brothers (14<sup>th</sup> Century)

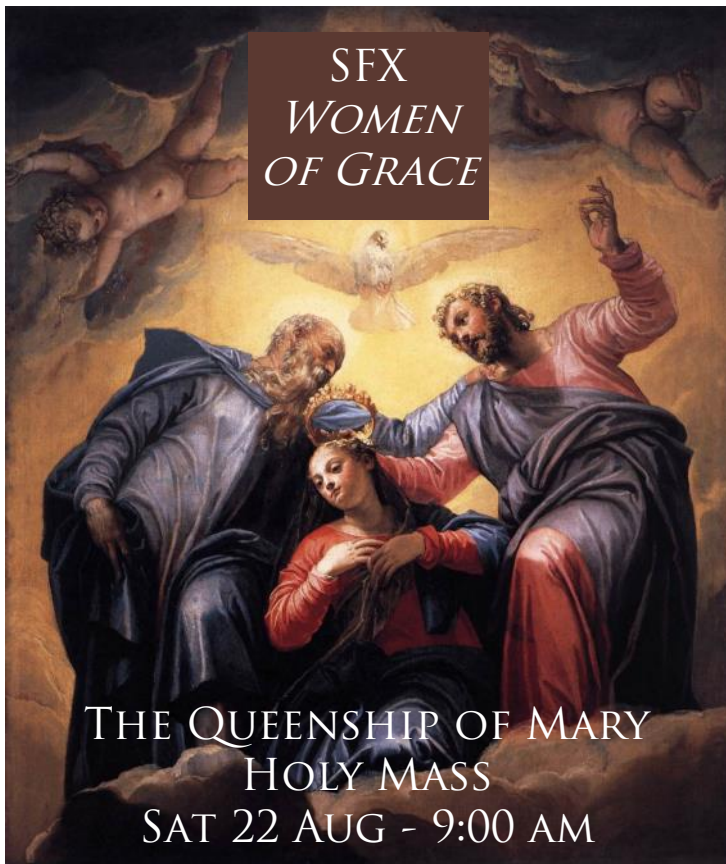
*And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." He said in reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, "Lord, help me." (Mt 15:22, 24-25)*

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY "POP-UP":** Our parish apostolate to the poor and homebound will once again be "popping-up" in our parking lot to set up a donation site for their charitable causes. Since they are not collecting food or other items at this time due to the pandemic, they are asking for cash/check donations and particularly grocery gift cards for those in need. We will have St. Vincent de Paul parish representatives in our east parking lot on **Saturday 22 August from 10 am to Noon** to collect your donations.

We are still selling grocery gift cards in the parish office so if you would like to purchase one or a few from the parish office please call Steve at 508 995-7600.

Lastly, on 22 August our St. Vincent de Paul Society will be joined in our parking lot by folks from *St. Kilian House*, a new Bedford facility overseen by Catholic Social Services that offers acute, temporary housing to homeless youth. St. Kilian's will offer information about its services and even though we live in a quiet rural area, homelessness of all kinds can still show up unexpectedly in every neighborhood.

Our SVDP Society will set up with a canopy, signs, and cones etc. for easy drop of your cards and donations. Thank you.



SFX  
WOMEN  
OF GRACE

THE QUEENSHIP OF MARY  
HOLY MASS  
SAT 22 AUG - 9:00 AM

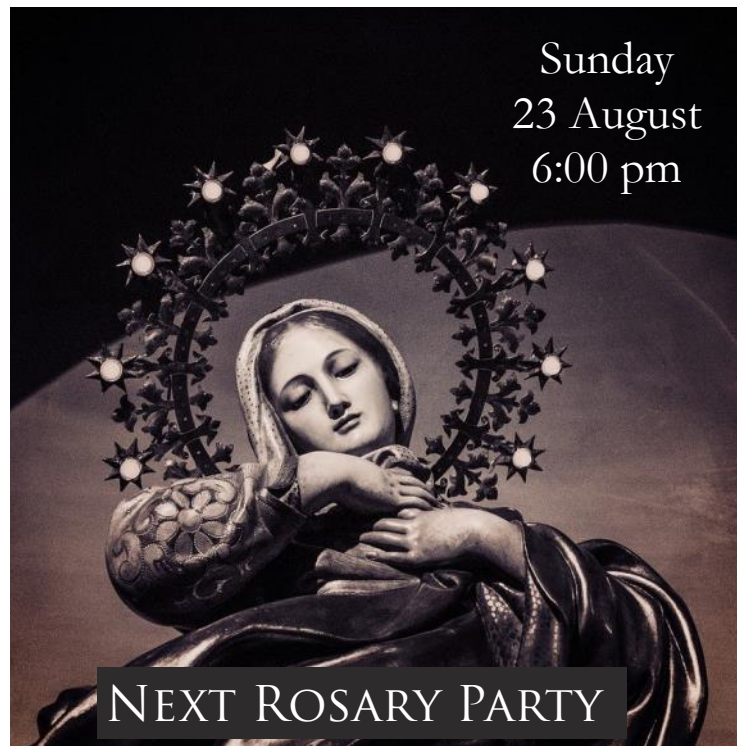
**DAILY MASS WATCH:** This week is a premier week for saints. On Wednesday we celebrate the memorial of **St. John Eudes**, a 17th century priest who preached over 110 missions throughout France and who spread a great devotion to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. At Thursday Mass we celebrate **St. Bernard of Clairvaux** who founded monasteries in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and who became a counselor to bishops and popes and a peacemakers to kings. Bernard gifted to the Church his great devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. On Friday of this week, we recall at Holy Mass, **St. Pope Pius X**. Pius was dedicated to the formation of the clergy and the increased piety of the laity. He encouraged the laity to more frequent reception of the Holy Eucharist. He wrote a great encyclical in 1907 spelling out the dangers of Modernism. Finally on Saturday 22 August we top off four days of feasts to celebrate the **Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. All of these daily Masses are at 9 am. See you there!

**CONGRATULATIONS:** to *Walter Duchaine* our newest parishioner who received the Sacraments of Confirmation & Holy Eucharist at daily Mass on Monday, 10 August. Walter was baptized as an infant in the Episcopal church and has grown in a new love of the Catholic faith. Please pray for Walter as a new seed of the Church.

**LAWNMOWER REPAIR:** Recently a young man, Jakob Shurtleff, owner of *JS Small Engine Repair* in Acushnet fixed the parish lawnmower as a donation. He was very diligent in picking up the lawnmower and returning it in perfect working order the same day. If you need a repair you can reach him at **508-933-1973**.

## READINGS FOR WEEK OF AUGUST 16, 2020

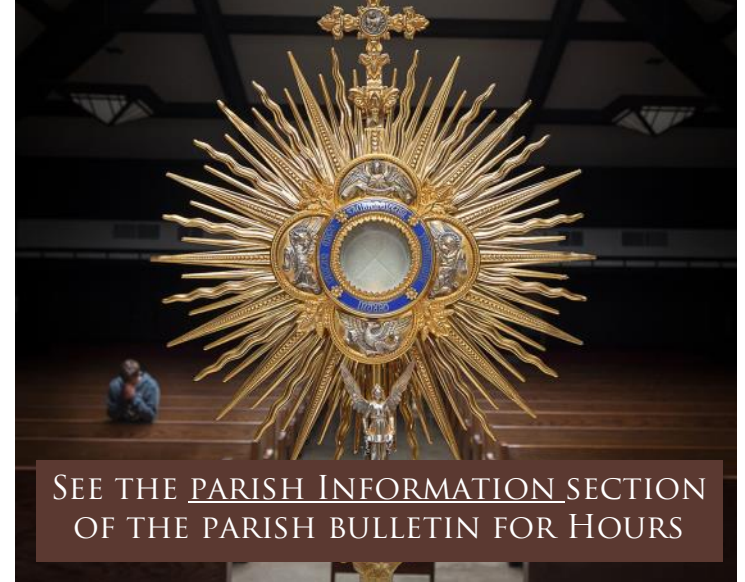
Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [4]/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28  
Monday: Ez 24:15-24/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21 [cf. 18a]/Mt 19:16-22  
Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30, 35cd-36ab [39c]/Mt 19:23-30  
Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 20:1-16  
Thursday: Ez 36:23-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 [Ez 36:25]/Mt 22:1-14  
Friday: Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [1]/Mt 22:34-40  
Saturday: Ez 43:1-7ab/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 10b]/Mt 23:1-12



Sunday  
23 August  
6:00 pm

NEXT ROSARY PARTY

Adoration Has Returned to SFX



SEE THE PARISH INFORMATION SECTION  
OF THE PARISH BULLETIN FOR HOURS

THE SACRED LITURGY FOR 20<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 16 AUGUST

**Processional Hymn: All People That On Earth Do Dwell**

*All people that on earth do dwell,  
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell,  
Come ye before him and rejoice...*

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Is 56:1, 6-7**

Thus says the LORD:  
Observe what is right, do what is just;  
for my salvation is about to come,  
my justice, about to be revealed.  
The foreigners who join themselves to the  
LORD, ministering to him,  
loving the name of the LORD,  
and becoming his servants—  
all who keep the Sabbath free from profanation  
and hold to my covenant, them I will bring to  
my holy mountain and make joyful in my house  
of prayer; their burnt offerings and sacrifices  
will be acceptable on my altar, for my house  
shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

**Responsorial Psalm:** *O God, let all the nations praise you*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Rom 11:13-15, 29-32**

Brothers and sisters: I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I glory in my ministry in order to make my race jealous and thus save some of them. For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable. Just as you once disobeyed God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now disobeyed in order that, by virtue of the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God delivered all to disobedience, that he might have mercy upon all.

**Gospel Reading: Mt 15:21-28**

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, “Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon.” But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her. Jesus’ disciples came and asked him, “Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us.” He said in reply, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, “Lord, help me.” He said in reply, “It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters.” Then Jesus said to her in reply, “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And the woman’s daughter was healed from that hour.

**Offertory Hymn: Come Down, O Love Divine**

**Communion Hymn: All You Who Seek a Comfort Sure**

**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...*