

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



22nd Sunday
in Ordinary Time
30 August 2020

St. Francis Xavier, Acushnet – Diocese of Fall River

Mass Schedule

(August 29th - September 6th)

Sat.	Aug 29 4:00 pm	22nd Sunday (Vigil) (Gr) Mr. & Mrs. Jose DeSousa & Ceasar Fernandes
Sun.	Aug 30 8:00am 10:30am	22nd Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr) <i>Pro Populo</i> Joao & Edite Gomes
Mon.	Aug 31 9:00am	Feria (Gr) Annette Lesiak
Tues.	Sept 01 9:00am	Feria (Gr) Intentions of the Resendes Family
Wed.	Sept 02 9:00am	Feria (Gr) Ronald St. Laurent
Thurs.	Sept 03 9:00am	St. Gregory the Great; Pope (Wh) Harold Seguin
Fri.	Sept 04 9:00am 6:00pm	FIRST FRIDAY (Gr) Domingos & Rosa Lima Yvette Hebert
Sat.	Sept. 05 9:00am	Blessed Virgin Mary (Wh) Joao & Maria Martins
Sat.	Sept. 05 4:00 pm	23rd Sunday (Vigil) (Gr) Paulino, Ana Vieira & Daughter
Sun.	Sept. 06 8:00am 10:30am	23rd Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr) Dorothy Fouts <i>Pro Populo</i>

Financial Report

Income:

21 st Sunday in Ordinary Time	\$3,184.56
Parish Building Fund	\$3,134.00

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: **Gloria Fernandes & Daughters***

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

PREPARING FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Although the first day of school is almost here, it seems like last year never stopped! To give you a sense of how hard our administration and teachers have been working: the last day of classes was Friday 13 March. That evening the school was closed, for two weeks at first, and later for the rest of the year. That weekend our teachers retooled their plans. On Monday 16 March students were invited back to school to pick up books, and the next day began virtual classes. While technology has its limits, our teachers continued with their lessons right up until the end of the school year in early June. Late in June we had a wonderful Mass and outdoor graduation for our 8th graders.

It didn't stop there! We immediately began planning for the reopening of school in the fall, following state guidelines. These directed that we will need to be prepared for three models of instruction: in-person, hybrid (with some students in school and others at home), and full virtual learning, which is what we had in the Spring. Thankfully, it works out that every student has the option of attending class in-person beginning on the first day of school. For those parents who are taking extra precautions there is a virtual option for the first month, after which an assessment of the situation will take place.

If you drove by the school a few weeks ago, you've seen that we have been keeping up with building projects as well. We will be putting solar panels on the school roof this fall. These will cover the school's electrical needs while also allowing us to make our building more environmentally-friendly. We were able to benefit from an offer of the solar panel company that covered a large part of the cost of a new roof for the school, which was put on in the last few weeks. The need for the new roof was becoming more and more apparent to anyone who was in the building during a rainstorm, and so we are fortunate that we could take care of this project.

Of course, our school can only operate with the support of our community! While we normally have a School Gala dinner and auction in the Spring as our major fundraiser of the year, this year that couldn't take place for obvious reasons. In lieu of this, we had our first online gala auction, the proceeds of which will be a big help as we head into the new school year.

At the same time, our support of our parish school is always needed. **I do hope you can be generous with our School Collection next weekend**, to make sure that our school is on a firm foundation in these uncertain times and has the resources to meet whatever challenges may arise.

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**

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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

I say to myself, I will not mention him, I will speak in his name no more. But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones; I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it. (Jer 20:9)

Someone I once knew faulted me for being “addicted to religion”. This person was disturbed at how my belief in heaven colored all that I saw on earth. Interestingly, if I had spoken all day in support of liberal progressive subjects and of nothing else, this person would have judged me to be a concerned and vital citizen, but because I spoke often about God, it seemed that I required time in a rehab clinic.

Addictions never turn out well. The inordinate desire and extreme consumption of any apparent good as the one and only good always ends in unhappiness. This goes not only for those substances we consume but also for those social experiments that consume us: feminism, socialism, communism, and our new oligarchic capitalism, to name a few. True, religion too can be addictive if practiced as extremism. However, in my own humble assessment, those of us “religionists” who believe that killing a child in the womb is wrong, that hospice care is far superior to suicide, that marriage is a union of the male and female founded in nature, and that it should be legally permissible (and always advisable) for a man to enter into counseling if he thinks he is a woman, are not practicing extremism, but exercising right reason.

Now the interior suffering that the prophet Jeremiah speaks of in today’s scriptural passage (above) is not the woe of an excessive craving, but the holding back of divine adoration. The soul of Jeremiah is so united with the spirit of his creator that he cannot but speak of him. Even though Jeremiah faces pain and mistreatment when he speaks out the Lord’s word, he sees it as an even greater violence to himself when he keeps it in! This is not an addiction. This is a devotion.

For this 22nd Sunday in Ordinary time, we place on our bulletin cover a painting by the Baroque master **Adam Elsheimer** entitled *St. Paul* (Wikiart-1605). Elsheimer was a German painter who made his way to Rome absorbing its methods and adapting these to his German training. He eventually converted from Lutheranism to Catholicism. His style was influential on the Germanic (Dutch) traditions of Rembrandt and Rubens, the latter with whom he became friends.

Even though this image is of St. Paul, it is reminiscent of Jeremiah and of all who feel exiled for speaking their faith. Here Paul stands head bowed leaning on a sword, not for doing battle, unless one means battle for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Paul is painted here in a lovely pastoral scene and the image is meant to emote in us a sense of peace for having spoken out on behalf of God, his commandments, and his virtues. Paul’s clothing even takes on the color of the landscape which not only makes for a beautiful synchronized image but bespeaks the universality of Paul’s mission, “*I have become all things to all, to save at least some*” (1 Cor 9:22).

Lastly, Elsheimer places Paul upon the heights as one who has risen above the world through the knowledge of God. Paul must descend into the world, and we who know what Paul knows must follow him, burning interiorly and helplessly to speak the Good News.

sng@sfxparish.com

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 30, 2020

Religious Education



2020/2021 Religious Education Classes:

Plans are underway for the start of the coming year. We will be returning with a *hybrid model* of remote learning and 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. Please return the form via mail, parish metal drop box (outside of the office) or the collection basket at Mass (write Religious Education on the outside of envelope) by September 21. 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.

Religious Education Office hours are Mon, Tues, & Fri 9:30-Noon until Sept. 11th.

Stay Safe, Healthy and Holy
God Bless, Mrs. Hammarquist

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS

And just like that, summer break is officially over, as we joyfully reopen our school doors after six long months of closure. March 13th seems "oh, so long ago" and we happily welcome back our older and taller students to school! This past week, we welcomed back our committed and prayerful staff. It was so fantastic to see our faculty faces in the same room to celebrate the gift of our vocations to Catholic education. We expect that this coming Tuesday, our students will come rushing back with the excitement. Masked and socially distanced, our school's opening is one like none other we have experienced. We will begin with four half-days, to ease the transition, introduce new procedures and safety measures, as well as to "beat the heat" that sets in the school building this time of year. Thank you for your continued prayers for a successful opening to the 2020-2021 school year.

God Bless, Michelle Russo/Principal

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

September 6th - SFX School Collection
September 13th - Building Fund



Ignatius & Companions Set Off to Save Souls
Carlos Saenz de Tejada (20th Century)

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" (Mt 16:24b-26)



First Friday Mass
4 Sept
9:00 am &
6:00 pm

HELPING OUT OUR FIRST RESPONDERS: On Saturday 22 August our parish center hosted a state testing for new Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). Several people who have been trained by GMEC Enterprises LLC (Rochester, MA) were assessed by state examiners in our parish center and passed the state exam allowing them to begin work in Massachusetts as EMTs. We are glad to have been able to assist in the process of sending more first responders into the community. Please pray for these mostly young people as they get started in this new career of helping others and saving lives.

**SFX
WOMEN
OF GRACE**

From the desk of Johnette Benkovic Williams: “We at *Women of Grace* are here again to help you fortify your children and build a strong perimeter of protection around them (and you) by offering you our **Back to School Novena of Masses**.

If you are a teacher, catechist, or school administrator, know that we will be praying for you as well. We will be asking Our Lord to give you supernatural vision and fortitude to bring the presence of Christ to your classroom in every way you can.

It is fitting that this special Novena of Masses began on **August 27th, the Feast of St. Monica**.

Go to the link <https://shop.womenofgrace.com/novena-back-to-school> to submit your special intention for this Novena of Masses and to enroll

**NEW SUNDAY MASS
TIMES COMING**

As we mentioned in last Sunday’s bulletin we will be adding a third Sunday morning Mass and will also be adjusting the Mass times accordingly. **Below is the new Mass Schedule to begin on Sunday, September 13th:**

- 7:00 AM
- 9:00 AM
- 11:00 AM

Many parishioners have already emailed or called the parish office to indicate which Mass they would like to attend. In order to see that every household that regularly attends the 8:00 am and the 10:30 Mass will be given a chance to select the new Sunday Mass time they will want to attend, our ushers will have forms for recording your full name, the Mass you are now attending, and the Mass you wish to attend. While we will not have these forms at the 4 pm Mass; any Saturday vigil Mass goers may call or email the parish office if they would like to move to one of the Sunday Mass times.

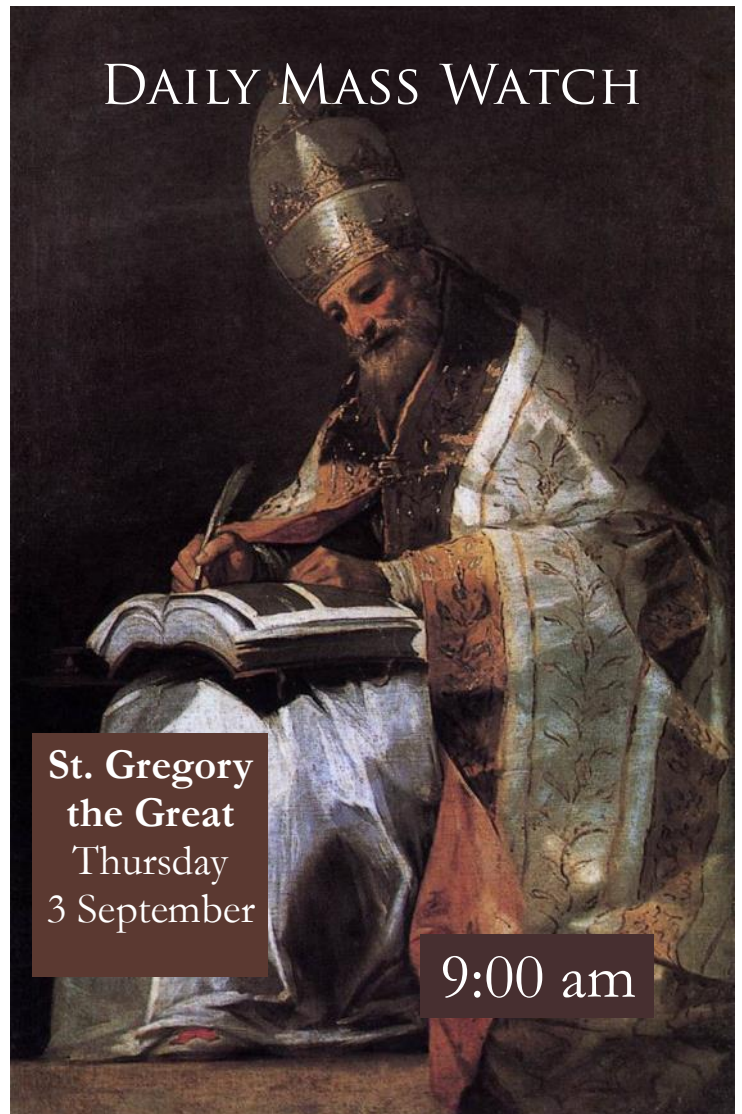
The primary reason for adding the extra Sunday Mass is to make room for more individuals and families that are returning to the Holy Liturgy. We also anticipate that as the students return to religious education we will have more families in attendance (thus especially the need for the 9:00 and 11:00 am Masses). We thank you for your patience, understanding and flexibility in this most challenging process.

READINGS FOR WEEK OF AUGUST 30, 2020

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2b]/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27
Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102 [97]/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14 [17]/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21 [12]/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [1]/Lk 5:1-11
Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40 [39a]/Lk 5:33-39
Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21 [18]/Lk 6:1-5

PARISH ANNUAL APPEAL: We thank all those who have already begun to send in their annual appeal donations or pledges. We in the parish office are always amazed at the eagerness of parishioners to support their parish and our work for Christ. We also know that this is a difficult time for many of you and so we are especially appreciative of your gifts and sacrifices.

DAILY MASS WATCH



**St. Gregory
the Great
Thursday
3 September**

9:00 am

THE SACRED LITURGY FOR 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 30 AUGUST

ProceSSIONAL Hymn: Praise to the Lord

*Praise to the Lord the Almighty, the King of crea-
tion;*

*O my soul praise him, for he is my help and salva-
tion,*

*All ye who hear, Now to his altar draw near,
Joining in glad adoration.*

1st Reading: Jer 20: 7-9

You duped me, O LORD, and I let myself be
duped; you were too strong for me, and you
triumphed.

All the day I am an object of laughter;
everyone mocks me.

Whenever I speak, I must cry out,
violence and outrage is my message;
the word of the LORD has brought me
derision and reproach all the day.

I say to myself, I will not mention him,
I will speak in his name no more.

But then it becomes like fire burning in my
heart, imprisoned in my bones;

I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure
it.

Responsorial Psalm: *My soul is thirsting for
you, O Lord my God*

2nd Reading: Rom 12: 1-2

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies
of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacri-
fice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual
worship.

Do not conform yourselves to this age
but be transformed by the renewal of your
mind, that you may discern what is the will of
God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.

Gospel Reading: Mt 16:21-27

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must
go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the
elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and
be killed and on the third day be raised. Then
Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke
him, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall
ever happen to you." He turned and said to
Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an ob-
stacle to me. You are thinking not as God
does, but as human beings do."

Then Jesus said to his disciples,

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny
himself, take up his cross, and follow me.

For whoever wishes to save his life will lose
it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will
find it. What profit would there be for one to
gain the whole world and forfeit his life?

Or what can one give in exchange for his
life? For the Son of Man will come with his
angels in his Father's glory, and then he will
repay all according to his conduct."

**Offertory Hymn: Love Divine, All Loves
Excelling**

**Communion Hymn: O Jesus, We Adore
Thee**

**Recessional Hymn: Now Thank We All Our
God**

*Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands
and voices*

*Who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world
rejoices*

*Who from our mother's arms, hath blessed us on
our way*

With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today