

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



29th Sunday
in Ordinary Time
18 October 2020

St. Francis Xavier, Acushnet – Diocese of Fall River

Mass Schedule

(October 17th - October 25th)

Sat.	Oct 17	29 th Sunday (Vigil) (Gr)
	4:00 pm	Mesquita Family
Sun.	Oct 18	29 th Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr)
	7:00am	Paul & Adrienne Boucher
	9:00am	Fouts Family
	11:00am	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Mon.	Oct 19	St. John de Brébeuf; Martyr (Rd)
	9:00am	Harold Seguin
Tues.	Oct 20	St. Paul of the Cross; Priest (Wh)
	9:00am	Norma J. Dupre
Wed.	Oct 21	Feria (Gr)
	9:00am	Ernie Hoesterey
Thurs.	Oct 22	St. John Paul II; Pope (Wh)
	9:00am	Marguerite & Ken Correia
Fri.	Oct 23	St. John of Capistrano; Priest (Wh)
	9:00am	Harold Seguin
Sat.	Oct 24	St. Anthony Claret; Bishop (Wh)
	9:00am	Sister Louise Place
Sat.	Oct 24	30 th Sunday (Vigil) (Gr)
	4:00 pm	Domingos & Rosa Lima
Sun.	Oct 25	30 th Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr)
	7:00am	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	9:00am	OPEN INTENTION
	11:00am	Anna Saulnier

Financial Report

Due to the early submission of this bulletin because of the Columbus Day holiday, we have no parish income to report this weekend. We will catch up next Sunday. Thank you.

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: Dorothy Fouts

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

QUESTIONS ABOUT VACCINATIONS

I recently wrote about different issues related to vaccinations - both in general and in particular regarding the search for a COVID vaccine. Since then I have received a few more questions, so in response I am here providing a brief resource. The information in these responses is taken from *Catholic Health Care Ethics*, published by the National Catholic Bioethics Center; all quotes are taken from there, from the page listed. I want to be clear that these are general responses; if you have questions of a more particular nature, or want more details, please contact me directly.

Can I get a religious exemption for the flu or COVID vaccine requirements? The Church generally supports vaccinations that are medically justified: “the enormous health benefits of immunization are well documented; therefore, justice demands that we immunize for the sake of others” “Parents who claim an exemption to immunization cannot do so under any specific Catholic teaching but are free to appeal to the general right of conscience” (235). “Those who refuse immunizations without good reason harm the common good” (232).

Does the Church support the right of parents to make the final decision regarding the vaccination of their children? See the above quote. Also, “Nonetheless, in those cases where there is good medical evidence of increased probability of an adverse reaction (*to a vaccine*), caution – and sometimes outright refusal – may indeed be appropriate” (232). I want to highlight here the phrase *good medical evidence* – only where there are real grounds for caution can a refusal be contemplated.

What if a vaccine has been made from the remains of aborted unborn children? In general, if there is an alternative vaccine to one that was created with cells derived from a child killed in an abortion, parents should choose that alternative. When no alternative exists, “it is generally acceptable for Catholic parents to use the vaccine to immunize their children against a serious disease” (233). This can be permitted because “the parent is not responsible for the research that created the problematic cell line, nor is he or she responsible for the decision of the manufacturer to use that line” (232). Nonetheless, if the only option is to use one of these problematic vaccines, the parents should make their objection known, even while still being permitted to make use of that vaccine because “the degree of cooperation (*with the actual abortion*) is sufficiently small – and the benefits from immunization sufficiently great – to justify their use until such time as an alternative is made available” (233).

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

[jilh@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 7:00am, 9:00am & 11:00am

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm

Monday-Saturday 9:00am

First Friday 9:00am & 6:00pm

CONFESSIONS

Monday 5:30-6:30pm

(9:30-10:00am Monday Holidays)

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

Tuesday 6:30am-8:45am

Wednesday 6:30pm-8:30pm

Thursday 6:30am-8:30pm

Friday 6:30am-8:30pm

Saturday 6:30 am-2:45 pm

VESPERS & BENEDICTION

Monday & Wednesday: 6:30 pm

ON THE COVER

Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this..." They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." (Mt 22:19-21)

Justice is giving to each person that which is due to him. God is a person, albeit a Divine Person, who is ever entitled to *his own* due. In truth, every good thing is due back to God because every good thing comes from God.

Now what good and sincere person who received a rich bequeathal from another good and sincere person would not be thankful and earnestly set out to please that person with a return from all that was given him. Only a thankless and covetous person would not want to please the generous person who bestowed a great gift upon him.

God, most generous, gives us many good things, but the greatest of these is LIFE. The life of man is especially precious because it comes with a promise of eternal life to those who gratefully repay their fruitfulness to God. Therefore, the best way that man can give God his due is to cultivate human life, and what is "human life" except *each and every* human life created with a rational soul at the moment of conception.

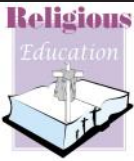
Now a good man will always cultivate human life by assisting the poor, the expectant mother and child, the widow, the orphan; his fellow man in need. However, in our time the good man is told that the expectant mother and child is not really his concern. Caesar or "the world" may still allow the good man to contribute to the health of the unborn child but also demands that he contribute to its death: Caesar wants to tax the good man to pay for abortions. Hence, Caesar no longer wants only a census tax to pay for the born; he wants a death tax to destroy the unborn. Mind you, Caesar has the sonogram; he can look inside the womb. He ought to ask his citizens the same question that Jesus asked about the Roman coin - "*Whose image is this?*" But Caesar is fearful that the answer will come back, "*It is in the image of God*".

For this 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time we place on our bulletin cover a work by the French painter **James Tissot** entitled *The Pharisees and The Sadducees Come To Tempt Jesus (1894; Courtesy Brooklyn Museum)*. Tissot was a prolific illustrator of the activities of Jesus and he offers many artistic insights into Jesus' mission.

Here we see Jesus confronted in the public square by his religious enemies. Most of the postures of the Pharisees and Sadducees seem aggressive or angry, however one with hand-on-chin appears willing to ponder Jesus' words, while another who hears raises his eyes to praise God. For His part Jesus raises His hands in brotherhood and invitation while His Apostles sit by as if stymied as to how to act amongst all these teachers of the Law. A beautiful olive tree overhangs the scene. Thus Tissot offers a sense of serenity, yet there remains a tension in this encounter that will soon lead Jesus to be condemned, first by Jewish authorities and then by Caesar.

Present day Caesar continues to be very suspicious of his good citizens - those of us who only desire to give back to God what is God's.

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 18, 2020



Catholic School families were sent an email with the Registration requirements for First Holy Communion. Please fill out the forms and return to the Rel. Ed. Office by Sun. Oct. 18th.

First Communion Parent Meeting via Zoom on Sunday October 18th @ 1pm. Please check your email for the link.

2nd Graders from SFX School receiving the Sacraments here at St. Francis will attend classes with us in the Parish Center on Sun Oct. 25 & Nov. 1, 8, 15 & 22. Please wear a mask.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Will take place on Sundays in church during our regularly scheduled class times. Every student should have an adult accompany them. This will take the place of the Family Faith Formation Classes. Every grade level will have two scheduled hours of Adoration during our class year from October-May. This will include all Sacramental Students also. Please check your email for the scheduled dates. **Sunday October 18th will be Levels 1, 4 & 3 accompanied by a parent in church.** Please note the change that Level 3 will be joining us for this hour this week instead of Oct. 25th.

To keep informed of important dates please visit our Parish Master Calendar on our website at www.sfxparish.com.

If you have any questions please email Mrs. Hammarquist at jlh@sfxparish.com
Stay Safe, Healthy and Holy
God Bless, Mrs. Hammarquist



The Tribute Money
Titian (1568)

"Show me the coin that pays the census tax." Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." (Mt 22:19-21)

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS

In this last week of October (**October 26-30**) we will hold our very important **Parish/Teacher Conferences**. Once again, because of the COVID 19 precautions, these will be held via virtual software. Parents have been able to set up appointments with the teachers of their students and during this week after the school day parents will be able to receive progress updates and make any inquiries about their children's studies. Our teachers miss the up-and-close in-person contact with their students' parents but are glad to be able to catch up with them in any way.

As we finish up this month of October dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Holy Rosary we of course continue to call upon Mother Mary to guide and intercede for our parish school so that all students, teachers, and staff will remain healthy. We will all remember to thank Mary on November 26th!

God Bless, Michelle Russo/Principal

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL THANKSGIVING FUNDRAISER:

Our own parish St. Vincent de Paul Society is planning another "pop up" fundraiser on **Saturday 15 November** after the 9 am Mass and until 11:00 am. Due to the COVID restrictions and the desire to not collect and distribute canned goods etc. from one household to another, the focus of this "pop up" fundraiser in our east parking lot (elevator side) is to receive donations of grocery food cards so that our local poor can either go shopping or their family members or SVDP members can shop for them for the Thanksgiving dinner this year. As always, thank you for your great generosity to the local poor.

CORRECTION - EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION TIMES:

Last week we reported incorrect new hours for Adoration to begin on **Wednesday 21 October**. Adoration will not begin after 9 am Mass on Wednesday **but during Wednesday Vespers at 6:30 pm** and go overnight from there. Thus, the only public hours for Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesday will be from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, the first hour of which will be a Holy Hour of prayer led by Deacon David Pepin. See page 3 of the bulletin for the full schedule.

"Thank you, every woman, for the simple fact of being a woman! (St. Pope John Paul II)

HOLY MASS - 9 AM
THURSDAY
22 OCTOBER

SFX
Women of
Grace

SFX FALL
ADULT ED
SERIES

INTRODUCTION TO THE PROPHETS
A Video Series by Father Riley Williams
Every Week for Six Weeks

Go to: <https://www.sfxparish.com/online-bible-study/>

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA: Once again we are facilitating the opportunity for parishioners to donate to a wreath for a veteran they do not know or one that they do know and is interred at **Bourne National Cemetery**. A \$15 donation buys one wreath. If you have a loved one in the cemetery and would like to have a wreath laid please contact Steve in the parish office. On **Saturday 19 December** our Confirmation Students (9th grade) will go to the cemetery to lay wreaths in the cemetery.

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

October 18th - Propagation of the Faith
October 25th - Diocesan Assessment
November 1st - All Saints Day

READINGS FOR WEEK OF OCTOBER 18, 2020

Sunday: Is 45:1, 4-6/Ps 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10 [7b]/1 Thes 1:1-5b/Mt 22:15-21
Monday: Eph 2:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4ab, 4c-5 [3b]/Lk 12:13-21
Tuesday: Eph 2:12-22/Ps 85:9ab-10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 9]/Lk 12:35-38
Wednesday: Eph 3:2-12/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [cf. 3]/Lk 12:39-48
Thursday: Eph 3:14-21/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19 [5b]/Lk 12:49-53
Friday: Eph 4:1-6/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 6]/Lk 12:54-59
Saturday: Eph 4:7-16/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [1]/Lk 13:1-9

40 DAYS
FOR
LIFE

Join your fellow parishioners
on Saturday 24 October - Please
sign up in the church entrance!

RCIA - or the *Rite of Christian of Initiation of Adults* is for those who are interested in becoming Catholic. We will once again hold instructional sessions beginning in January and running through March 2021 to prepare those desiring to receive the **Holy Sacraments** of Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation. If you know of anyone interested in entering into the Catholic faith or those seeking a return but who are lacking some sacraments, please call Steve in the parish office.

ANNUAL SFX BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

Please see the donation envelopes on the
pro-life table in the parish entrance!

Please return envelopes on or by November 1st

THE SACRED LITURGY FOR 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 18 OCTOBER

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.

1st Reading: Is 45:1, 4-6

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, Cyrus, whose right hand I grasp, subduing nations before him, and making kings run in his service, opening doors before him and leaving the gates unbarred: For the sake of Jacob, my servant, of Israel, my chosen one, I have called you by your name, giving you a title, though you knew me not. I am the LORD and there is no other, there is no God besides me. It is I who arm you, though you know me not, so that toward the rising and the setting of the sun people may know that there is none besides me. I am the LORD, there is no other.

Responsorial Psalm: *Give the Lord glory and honor*

2nd Reading: 1 Thes 1:1-5B

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: grace to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers, unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ, before our God and Father, knowing, brothers and sisters loved by God, how you were chosen. For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction.

Gospel Reading: Mt 22:15-21

The Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap Jesus in speech. They sent their disciples to him, with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are a truthful man and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. And you are not concerned with anyone's opinion, for you do not regard a person's status. Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" Knowing their malice, Jesus said, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin that pays the census tax." Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Offertory Hymn: Be Thou My Vision

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...*