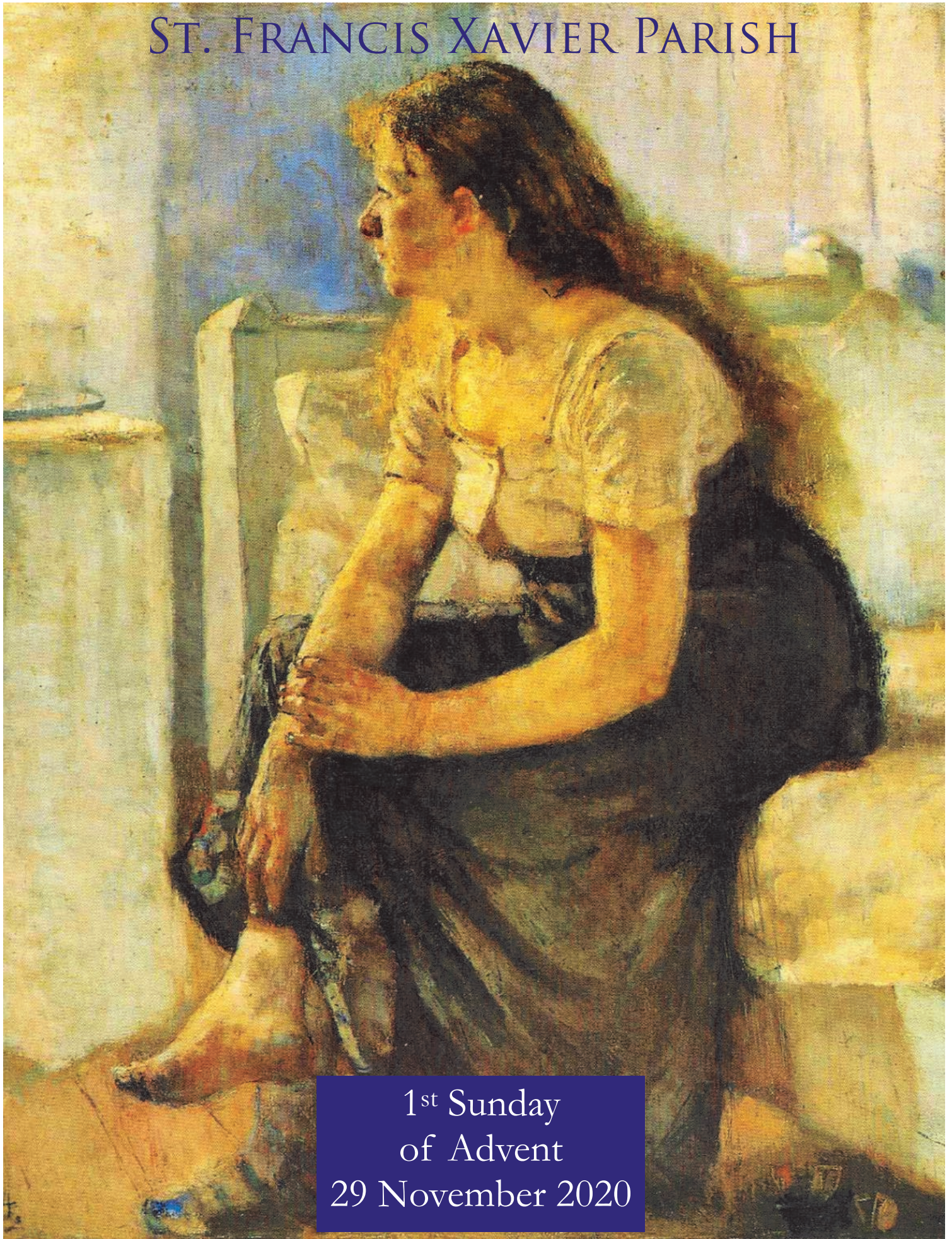


ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



1st Sunday
of Advent
29 November 2020

St. Francis Xavier, Acushnet – Diocese of Fall River

Mass Schedule

(November 28th - December 6th)

Sat.	Nov 28	1st Sunday of Advent (Vigil) (Vi)
	4:00 pm	Flora Martin
Sun.	Nov 29	1st Sunday of Advent (Vi)
	7:00am	Aldo DeRossi
	9:00am	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	11:00am	Beverly DaSilva; Steven & Robert Gonsalves
Mon.	Nov 30	St. Andrew; Apostle (Rd)
	9:00am	Mr. & Mrs. Jose Anjo & Family
Tues.	Dec 01	Advent Weekday (Vi)
	9:00am	Seguin Family
Wed.	Dec 02	Advent Weekday (Vi)
	9:00am	Maria G. Medeiros
Thurs.	Dec 03	St. Francis Xavier; Priest (Wh)
	9:00am	Arthur Guillotte
Fri.	Dec 04	FIRST FRIDAY (Wh)
	9:00am	Alice Caldeira
	6:00pm	Eliseu, Albertina Correia & Lucy Green
Sat.	Dec 05	Advent Weekday (Vi)
	9:00am	Manuel Pereira
Sat.	Dec 05	2nd Sunday of Advent (Vigil) (Vi)
	4:00 pm	Raymond Martin
Sun.	Dec 06	2nd Sunday of Advent (Vi)
	7:00am	Mary Booth
	9:00am	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	11:00am	Nicholas Urbanek

Financial Report

Income:

All Souls	\$1,094.00
33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time.....	\$4,160.75
Diocesan Assessment	\$1415.00

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 Eucharistic Adoration please pray for the following person/s for whose intention the Sanctuary Candle burns this week: Mr. & Mrs. Jose Anjo & Family

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

CELEBRATING OUR PATRON



On 3 December 1552 Fr. Francis Xavier lay dying at the age of 46 on the island of Shangchuan, just a few miles off the coast of China. He was waiting for permission to enter the country and share the message of Jesus Christ with the inhabitants of the great Chinese Empire. He had already given a decade of his life to this work, first in the Portuguese and native settlements in India, then in the islands of Southeast Asia, and finally in Japan, where he was the first priest to ever visit the country.

Sometimes I wonder how he felt at the end of his life. Did he know the depth of his impact – bringing the faith to places that still hold it fervently, even almost five centuries later? Did he know the powerful witness that the Japanese Christians would give, remaining faithful through three centuries of persecution? How great was his dejection that he never made it to the greatest nation in the Far East?

Perhaps the greatest question – would he know how we are still inspired by his example, four and a half centuries after his death? We live in a time not of evangelization but of re-evangelization: of bringing the message of the Gospel to those who know something of Christianity but not much beyond that, or of those who have been baptized but never really instructed in the Faith. May our celebration of his feast during this first week of Advent not only bring us to a fresh appreciation of his witness, but also of how we are called to emulate it in our world of today.

Weds. 2 December – Vigil

First Vespers of the Feast - 6:30 p.m.

Thurs. 3 December – Feast of St. Francis Xavier

Mass – 9 a.m.

Adoration in church all day

Second Vespers of the Feast – 6:30 p.m.

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 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

EXCEL IN LEARNING AND LIFE: Bishop Stang, a Catholic, college-preparatory high school in Dartmouth, MA, will administer the Scholastic High School Placement Test (HSPT) on Saturdays, December 5th and 12th from 8:00 am – 11:00 am. Incoming 9th grade applicants may choose either date for virtual or in-person testing. Visit bishopstang.org for more details or to complete the required pre-registration. Merit scholarship incentives are available.

CONGRATULATIONS: to Brendon & Kayla Alexander our parish recipients of the diocesan **Pius X Youth Award** in 2020. The award honors the commitment and selflessness of teens towards Christ, His Church, and local parish communities in the Church. Due to COVID 19, this year Bishop da Cunha will bless the youth award medals *virtually* on Tuesday, 1 December at 7:00 pm. Congratulations, Brendon & Kayla - thank you for your service to Christ!

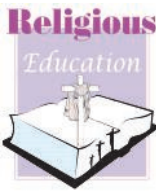
TAIZE: is a candlelit meditative prayer vigil which will be livestreamed on **Sunday 29 November at 7 pm** from St. John Neumann Church in East Freetown. You can enter the stream through the “St. John Neumann Catholic Church” Facebook page.

ADVENT PARTICIPATION: As we are now in the season of Advent we ask that each parishioner consider making a sincere retreat of the heart in order to prepare spiritually for the celebration of the arrival of the Christ Child. During Advent please consider coming more often to daily Mass, to Vespers and to pray before the Real Presence of Jesus in our Adoration Chapel. You might also consider some private devotions at home such as praying the Holy Rosary or reading the Bible. Please also make an effort to go to Confession before the celebration of Christmas

ATTENTION ADORERS: We ask that all adorers wear their protective masks during their visits to the adoration chapel. One may be tempted to pull down his or her mask during holy hours etc. however unless there is a good medical reason for doing so, we ask that you please wear your mask for the entirety of your visit. It may be the case that you have no noticeable symptoms of the COVID virus, but a cough or sneeze still might spread the virus if you appear asymptomatic but are carrying the virus. Please continue to pray for an end to this pandemic.

2021 RELIGIOUS CALENDARS ARE HERE: Thanks once again to **Acushnet Creamery** for sponsoring our lovely calendars which keep us all up-to-date on the liturgical seasons and celebrations with beautiful sacred images. The calendars have arrived and you will be able to pick them up after the weekend Masses **next week**. Please make sure you use them daily as a reminder especially of daily Mass!

1st Sunday of Advent- November 29, 2020



Religious Education *First Reconciliation is Monday 30th November 7:00pm for those First Communicants names that end B-M and 7:30pm for those ending P-V. Please keep our second graders in your prayers as they prepare to receive their second sacrament the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Don't forget your mask.*

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Sundays in church during our regularly scheduled class times led by Fr. Williams. Every student should have an adult accompany them. This will take the place of the Family Faith Formation Events that we had in prior years. Every grade level will have two scheduled hours of Adoration during our class year from October-May. This will include all Sacramental Students also. **Sunday Dec. 6th will be Levels 7 & 8 accompanied by a parent in church @ 10:05am.** Please be on time, you will be escorted to a pew by your teacher before we start. Please remember your mask.

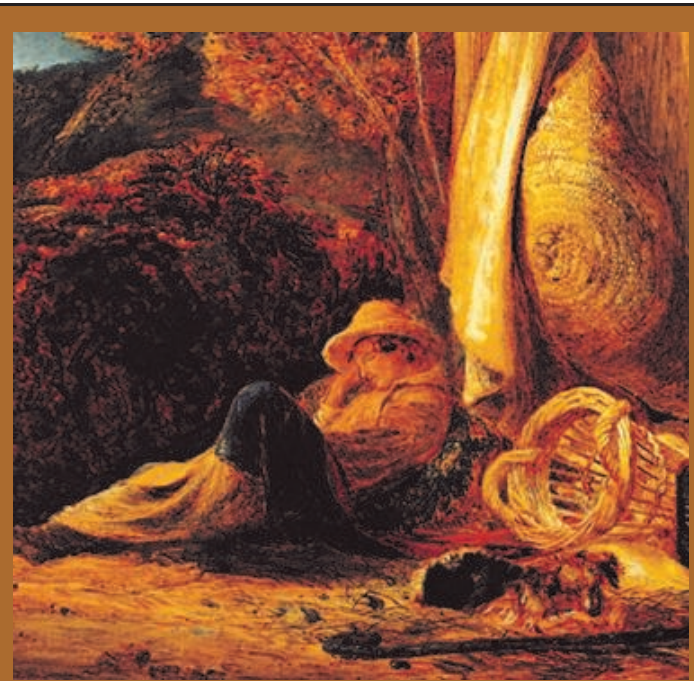
SAVE THE DATE: Upcoming Confirmation (Level 9) Service Project on Saturday December 19th. Wreaths Across America @ Bourne National Cemetery times to be announced.

On-Line learning: Families, that chose to have their child stay at home, need to check their emails each week for the lesson / power point / videos and return the work and / or at-home-activity that is requested of them to be up-to-date for that week.

Please pray the St. Gertrude Prayer, as we remember those that have gone before us in the month of November. We can derive great comfort from the hope that our loved ones are enjoying Eternal Life with God, it never hurts to pray for their souls and remember to pray for those that have no one to pray for them.

No Classes for all Levels on Sunday November 29th due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

*Dec. 3rd Feast Day !St. Francis Xavier - Pray for Us!
Stay Safe, Healthy and Holy
God Bless, Mrs. Hammarquist*



The Sleeping Shepherd
Samuel Palmer(1830)

"Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping." (Mk 13:35-36)

St. Vincent de Paul Announcements

- 1) Our St. Vincent de Paul Society is looking to form a group from SFX Parish to assist on the 1st Saturday of each month at Damien's Food Pantry in East Wareham. Presently they have 4 parishioners on the team. Please call the parish office if you are interested in volunteering.
- 2) Starting on the weekend of December 5th and 6th and again on the 12th and 13th, the Society will place a Christmas "Gift Box" at the entrance of the church for all Masses, In lieu of the annual "Giving Tree" (due to the pandemic) the "Box" will be there for parishioners to donate gift cards such as: Wal Mart, Amazon, Kohls, Dunkin Donuts, Cumberland Farms, Jeffrey's Pizza, Acushnet Creamery and the like.

Thanks for your great support

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8

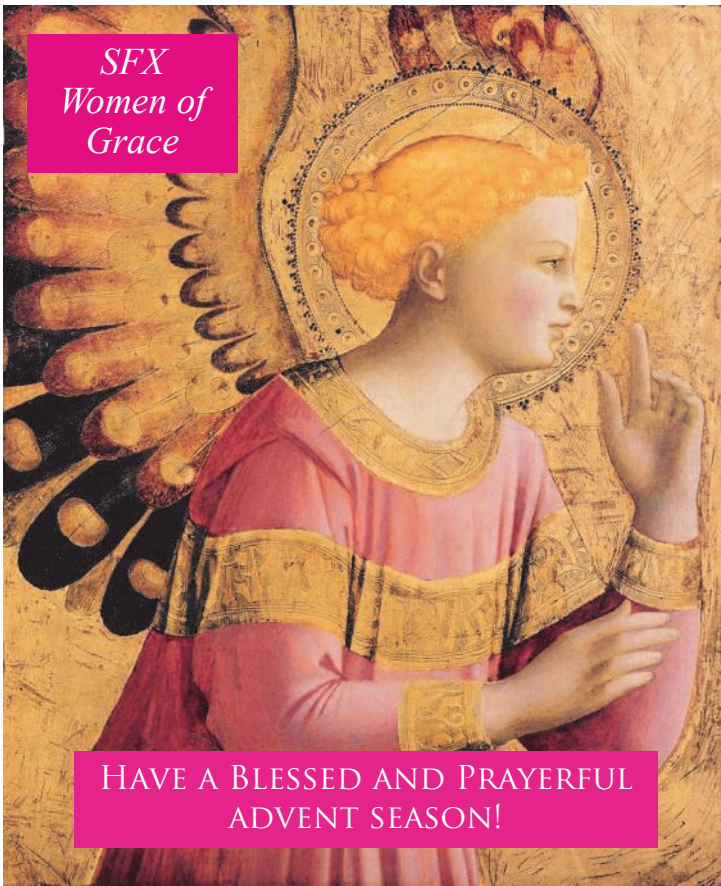


ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS

Upon our return to school this coming Monday, after a wonderful Thanksgiving reprieve, the adrenaline will surely be flowing! We are thrilled to maintain an in-person model of learning and will continue to rely on the vigilance of our school families as we move forward into the days and weeks ahead. The health and wellness of our school community is of the utmost importance, yet so much depends upon the actions of the larger community! Please pray for the continued health and well-being of our faculty and students. *The season of Advent has begun!* It brings with it a natural sense of excitement amongst the students. The Christmas countdown, in addition to our patronal feast day and the annual St. Nicholas' visit will surely be an opportunity for some "masked excitement". Please keep our students (AND staff) in your prayers this Advent, while we work under the pandemic guidelines preparing for Our Lord's arrival with perseverance ... and patience!

God Bless, Michelle Russo/Principal

SFX
Women of
Grace



HAVE A BLESSED AND PRAYERFUL
ADVENT SEASON!

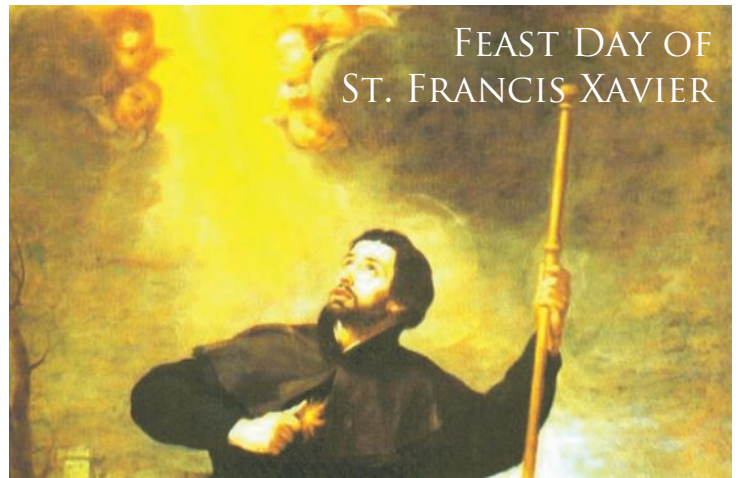
SFX PRAYER LINE

Please call 508-850-6649 between 8am & 8pm
Or email your prayer request to:
sfxprayerline@gmail.com

READINGS FOR WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2020

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37
Monday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10]/Mt 4:18-22
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

FEAST DAY OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



Wed. 2 Dec:

6:30 pm - 1st Vespers & Benediction

Thurs. 3 Dec:

9:00 am - Holy Mass

9:45 am to 6:30 pm - Adoration in Church

6:30 pm - 2nd Vespers & Benediction

Some December Marian Celebrations

8 December - Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception:

Vigil Mass - Dec. 7 at 7 p.m.

Feast Masses - Dec. 8 at 9 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

9-12 December: - Anniversary of the Apparitions of Guadalupe: Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the parish church

10 December - Feast of Our Lady of Loreto

Daily Mass - 9:00 a.m.

12 December - Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe - Advent Morning of Recollection:

Daily Mass - 9:00 a.m.

Confessions - 9:30 a.m. -10 a.m.

Reflection - 10:00 a.m.

Confessions - 10:15 a.m. -11:00 a.m. (or later)

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

December 6th - Parish Building Fund
December 13th - Religious Retirement Fund

ON THE COVER

For this 1st Sunday of Advent we hear in the Gospel reading from Mark, *“Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’”*

On our bulletin cover is a painting by **Edvard Munch** entitled simply *Morning* (1884 - Wikiart). This could be a contemporary interpretation of Mary Magdalen arising on Easter Morn. It could also be you this Advent season, keeping eager spiritual vigil for the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ. *“Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come!”*

1st Sunday of Advent- November 29, 2020

THE SACRED LITURGY FOR 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, 29 NOVEMBER

ProceSSIONAL Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel! Shall come to thee. O Israel.

1st Reading: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7

You, LORD, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever. Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear you not? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage. Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you, while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for, such as they had not heard of from of old. No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you doing such deeds for those who wait for him. Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways! Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful; all of us have become like unclean people, all our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves, and our guilt carries us away like the wind. There is none who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to cling to you; for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us up to our guilt. Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands.

Responsorial Psalm: *Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved*

2nd Reading: 1 Cor 1:3-9

Brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus, that in him you were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge, as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel Reading: Mk 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

Offertory Hymn: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Communion Hymn: Soul of My Savior

Recessional Hymn: O Come, Divine Messiah

O come, divine Messiah!
The world in silence waits the day
When hope shall sing its triumph
And sadness flee away

Dear Savior, haste
Come, come to earth
Dispel the night and show thy face
And bid us hail the dawn of grace
O come, divine Messiah!
The world in silence waits the day
When hope shall sing its triumph
And sadness flee away

O Thou, whom nations sighed for
Whom priests and prophets long foretold
Wilt break the captive fetters
Redeem the long-lost fold

Dear Savior haste...