



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

Baptism of the Lord  
10 January 2021

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

### Mass Schedule

(January 10<sup>th</sup> - January 17<sup>th</sup>)

<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Jan 09</b>	<b>Baptism of the Lord (Vigil) (Wh)</b> 4:00 p.m. Harold Seguin
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Jan 10</b>	<b>Baptism of the Lord (Wh)</b> 7:00 a.m. Alice Soares 9:00 a.m. <i>Pro Populo</i> 11:00 a.m. <i>Month's Mind</i>
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Jan 11</b>	<b>Feria (Gr)</b> 9:00 a.m. James & Louisa Moniz
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Jan 12</b>	<b>Feria (Gr)</b> 9:00 a.m. Carolyn Lawrence
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Jan 13</b>	<b>St. Hilary; Bishop (Wh)</b> 9:00 a.m. George Bevilacqua
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>Jan 14</b>	<b>Feria (Gr)</b> 9:00 a.m. Brian O'Malley
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>Jan 15</b>	<b>Feria (Gr)</b> 9:00 a.m. Rose Mullin
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Jan 16</b>	<b>Blessed Virgin Mary (Wh)</b> 9:00 a.m. Pauline Cardoza
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Jan 16</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday (Vigil) (Gr)</b> 4:00 p.m. Arthur Costa
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Jan 17</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Gr)</b> 7:00 a.m. Theresa Nientimp 9:00 a.m. <i>Pro Populo</i> 11:00 a.m. Abel & Ernestina Rego

### Financial Report

**Income:**

Feast of the Holy Family .....	\$6,038.00
Christmas Day .....	\$7,135.30
Christmas Flowers .....	\$1,137.00
Mary, Mother of God (SVDP) .....	\$1,398.00
Feast of the Epiphany .....	\$2,842.00
Parish Building Fund .....	\$2,337.00

### 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: Joseph Almeida & Maria Correia*

### 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

#### FURTHER REFLECTIONS ON THE VACCINE

Building on what I said last week, I want to provide some further reflection on the vaccines for COVID. As I said last week, both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines were ethically developed without cells derived from aborted fetuses; later testing did involve some use of these. The AstraZeneca vaccine was both developed and tested using these abortion-derived cells. While none of these is free from moral problems, the first two are more acceptable than the latter. However, if the AstraZeneca vaccine is the only one available, it can be morally permissible to receive it. In asking if an alternative (i.e., the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines) is available, it would be good to state the reason for your objection to the one developed using cells derived from abortion; at the same time, remember – the nurse giving the shot didn't develop the vaccine, and should be treated with respect and gratitude for their service.

The vaccines are all cases of what is technically called **remote material cooperation** with material evil – that is, by receiving them we are involved in a tangential way with an evil that has taken place. While our cooperation with evil should be avoided as much as possible, it has to be recognized that in some cases this is unavoidable. For example, by paying taxes I am supporting any government programs that support abortion, as well as many other actions carried out by the government that I may find morally objectionable. In paying taxes I do not mean to support anything evil. I am not directly responsible for putting the money to immoral use (which would be formal cooperation), nor am I offering some direct necessary assistance to these objectionable decisions and actions (which would be **proximate material cooperation**). While formal cooperation and proximate material cooperation are both sinful, there can be cases in which remote material cooperation can be allowed if the good to be achieved by the act is proportionally greater than the evil that will result from it. This is not doing good so that evil may come from it (which would be sinful), but rather choosing the good despite foreseeing that some evil –unintended – may result from it.

With the vaccine, given the good to be reasonably expected from it as well as the very remote cooperation with the original evil act from which the fetal cells were derived, a Catholic can receive the vaccine with a clear conscience. On the other hand, if someone feels in their conscience that the connection with an abortion, however remote it may be, is too objectionable for them to receive the vaccine, they may also refuse it in good conscience.

# PARISH INFORMATION

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri: 9:30am – 4:00pm

Please make an appointment to meet with  
Father Williams to schedule a Baptism or Wedding.

## 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: office@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@sfxparish.com]

**Mrs. Michelle Russo, Parish School Principal**

[mrusso@sfxacushnet.com]

**Mrs. Anabela Shaughnessy, Asst. Principal**

[ashaughnessy@sfxacushnet.com]

## HOLY MASS

Sunday 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., & 11:00 a.m.

Saturday Vigil 4:00 p.m.

Monday-Saturday 9:00 a.m.

First Friday 9:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

## CONFESSIONS

Monday 5:30-6:30 p.m.

(9:30-10:00 a.m. Monday Holidays)

Saturday 9:30-10:00 a.m.

Saturday 3:00-3:45 p.m.

First Fridays 6:45-7:15 p.m.

Any Time by Appointment

## ADORATION

Monday 9:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m.

Tuesday 6:30 a.m.-8:45 a.m.

Wednesday 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Thursday 6:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m.

Friday 6:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m.

Saturday 6:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m.

## VESPERS & BENEDICTION

Monday & Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.

**WEEKEND CHURCH SEATING PLAN:** We continue to work hard each week to ensure that all parishioners and others can have a seat at Sunday Mass. It is because of our advanced planning, the additional Sunday Mass, and the diligent work of our ushers that we have been able to accommodate a reasonable and safe attendance at Holy Mass during a pandemic. Here, we would like to review a few points we are often asked about:

*First*, we still ask that you call the parish office if you are just returning to Mass so we can place you on the parish seating plan.

*Second*, if you do call and the Mass you desire to attend is full (on paper) you may still come to that Mass. We only ask that you arrive about 10 minutes before Mass begins so the ushers may be able to judge better by that time as to who is coming and who is not coming so they might know better where to seat you. In the parish office we generally do not take families off the schedule if they do not attend their scheduled time here and there. However, many absences may result in one's name being taken off the schedule.

*Third*, if on any given week you are not able to attend, please email or call the parish office. In this way the ushers will be able to be provided with information that the particular pew you are seated in will be vacant for that particular day and time.

*Lastly*, as of now there is no need to make a reservation at a daily or First Friday Mass. Mass attendance has never been so high as to go beyond the pandemic seating space up to this point.

Thank you and if you have any questions regarding seating at Mass, please call the parish office.

**MASS INTENTIONS:** Our Mass Book opened last week on **Wednesday, 6 January 2021**. At that time we took *many* intentions for the period of **July 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021**. If you were unable to come to the parish that morning, please call the parish office with your requests and we can assist you over the telephone; *by this time many of the Mass dates will be taken but we will help you to find a suitable date*. (Please note that we can still also accommodate Masses offered in Rome for your loved ones during the rest of the year of 2021 from this January onward).

As in the past, there will be on January 6<sup>th</sup> the usual procedure of standing in line to reserve 3 Mass Intentions and returning to the back of the line (if one desires) for no more than 2 more, bringing the maximum to 5 Masses that can be scheduled that day. This allows us to keep the line moving and provides fairness to all those seeking Mass intentions.

**IMPORTANT:** However, due to the pandemic guidelines, no one will be admitted into the parish center without wearing a mask and social distancing will be respected. If you would prefer to call the office rather than come in person, please do so. Someone will take your Mass requests over the phone and these will be fit into the Mass intention book after all the Masses are recorded by those who come in person.

## Baptism of the Lord - January 10, 2021

### Religious

Education



Classes resume on Jan. 10, 2021

### Baptism of the Lord.

No classes on Sunday January 17 in observance of MLK Jr.

**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 Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> will be all First Communion Level 2 Students accompanied by a parent in church @ 8:00am.** Please be on time, you will be escorted to a pew by your teacher before we start. Please remember your mask.

Let us not forget that we can take an hour out of our weekend to view Holy Mass on television or on the internet. Even though the Pope has instituted a dispensation from actually attending Mass during this time due to the pandemic we can still view it and take part in kneeling and standing and responding to the prayers at home. *God commanded us to keep holy the Sabbath, and Mass is the way a Catholic fulfills that requirement. And if God tells us to do something, we should do it.*

### Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

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

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER  
PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS

Back in the saddle again! Twenty twenty one is off to a solid start, as we reopened our doors this past Monday. Rested and rejuvenated our faculty and students returned ready for action. Many of our scholars have decided to learn remotely these days, which is both a wonderful option for our school community. This upcoming week, our testing window will open, and our students will demonstrate their brilliance as they complete the MAP Growth winter testing. Please continue to pray for the health and wellness of our school community. Thank you for your continued prayers and

... God Bless, Michelle Russo/Principal



*St. John the Baptist Pointing to Christ (1655)*  
Bartolome Esteban Murillo

*This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." - Mk 1:7-8*

**2020 TAX REPORTS:** If you would like a printout of a report of your annual offerings to the parish for your 2020 tax filing, please call the parish office. When you call please specify if you would like us to email you the form or if you will pick it up.

**HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSING:** On Monday, 18 January, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the parish office will be closed. However, we will still have morning Mass at 9 am and our full Eucharistic Adoration program. Vespers and Confession are cancelled for that evening, but there will be Confession *after* the 9 am Mass on Monday morning. **Please note** that this is our usual liturgical schedule for federal holidays.



**A BIG THANK YOU:** from your Saint Vincent de Paul Society for your most generous assistance with the Christmas Box this year (in lieu of the annual Giving Tree). Because of your wonderful assistance the parish charitable society was able to assist 18 families and 22 homebound individuals - that's 40 households in our area that were maintained with food and joy during this Holy Season. Thank you to all who donated gift cards and continue to do so at the parish center and for all your monetary donations, anonymous or otherwise.

**SFX  
Women of  
Grace**

*"Behold,  
I stand at  
the door  
and knock..."*  
- Revelation 3:20

*God will never trespass on our free will.  
Daily, God calls us to surrender to his plans and  
will. Today, He is calling you to give everything  
to Him. What is He asking you to surrender?*

**DAILY GRACELINES**  
[WWW.WOMENOFGRACE.COM](http://WWW.WOMENOFGRACE.COM)

**SFX PRAYER LINE**

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

**READINGS FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 10, 2021**

**Sunday:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3])/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

**Monday:** Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9 [cf. 7c]/Mk 1:14-20

**Tuesday:** Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 7]/ Mk 1:21-28

**Wednesday:** Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Mk 1:29-39

**Thursday:** Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11 [8]/ Mk 1:40-45

**Friday:** Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8 [cf. 7b]/Mk 2:1-12

**HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND:** If you know of any parishioner who has not been able to attend Church due to a medical condition *and* the inability to leave the home *and* that this person would like to receive Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, please call the parish office to speak to Father Williams or Deacon Dave. We have received permission from the bishop some weeks ago that the priest and deacon may visit homes and distribute Holy Communion. The reception of the Blessed Sacrament at home will not be at this time a weekly thing as it once was due to the fact that our many number of lay extraordinary Eucharistic ministers are still not bringing Holy Communion into the community. However, Father and Deacon are attempting to fit in all our homebound parishioners into a reasonable rotating schedule. Thanks for your assistance and understanding.

**2021 RELIGIOUS CALENDARS ARE STILL HERE:** Many of you have taken one of our lovely calendars with beautiful Christian art for 2020. We still have many of these available, so if you know of someone who cannot get out, please take some for them. If you see the calendars disappear from the church entrance we will still keep some in the office just in case people ask about them for a few more weeks or so. Call the parish office if you need one or a few.

**UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**January 17<sup>th</sup>** - Catholic Communication  
**January 24<sup>th</sup>** - Diocesan Assessment

**MONTH'S MIND MASS**

We remember the following individuals  
that were deceased or memorialized  
in the past month at our  
**Sunday 11:00 am, Jan 10<sup>th</sup> Holy Mass**

**Maria Correia  
Joseph Almeida**

**WINTER CANCELLATIONS:** As a rule we do not cancel Holy Mass for stormy weather, however please always put your own safety first in judging whether it is safe for you to come to Mass.

Further, if you are a regularly scheduled Eucharistic adorer you should receive a telephone message from the parish for any cancellations. The telephone number showing up on your Caller I.D. will be **"508-995-7600"**. Please answer all calls from this phone number since the schedule of cancellation will be in the message. There is often a slight pause in the message system so please do not hang up if you do not hear a voice immediately. The system is set up to leave voice mail in the event of a no-answer.

If you are a regularly scheduled adorer and do not receive a call in the event of a storm, please contact the parish office so we can check and update your contact information for future calls. Thank you.

## *Baptism of the Lord- January 10, 2021*

### THE SACRED LITURGY FOR THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD, 10 JANUARY

#### **Processional Hymn: Songs of Thankfulness and Praise**

*Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise, Manifested by the star, To the sages from a far; Branch of royal David's stem, In thy birth at Bethlehem; Anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.*

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Is 55:1-11**

Thus says the LORD: All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat; come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk! Why spend your money for what is not bread, your wages for what fails to satisfy? Heed me, and you shall eat well, you shall delight in rich fare. Come to me heedfully, listen, that you may have life. I will renew with you the everlasting covenant, the benefits assured to David. As I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander of nations, so shall you summon a nation you knew not, and nations that knew you not shall run to you, because of the Lord, your god, the Holy One of Israel, who has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call him while he is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked man his thoughts; let him turn to the Lord for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, not are your ways my ways, says the Lord. As high as the heavens are above the earth so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.

For just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it.

**Responsorial Psalm:** *You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.*

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Jn 5:1-9**

Beloved: Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. In this way we know that we love the children of God when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whoever is begotten by God conquers the world. And the victory that conquers the world is our faith. Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ, not by water alone, but by water and blood. The Spirit is the one who testifies, and the Spirit is truth.

#### **Gospel Reading: Mk 1:7-11**

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descended upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

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

#### **Communion Hymn: There's a Witness in God's Mercy**

#### **Recessional Hymn: Alleluia Sing to Jesus**

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! His the scepter, His the throne. Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone. Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood, Jesus out of every nation Hath redeemed us by His blood.*