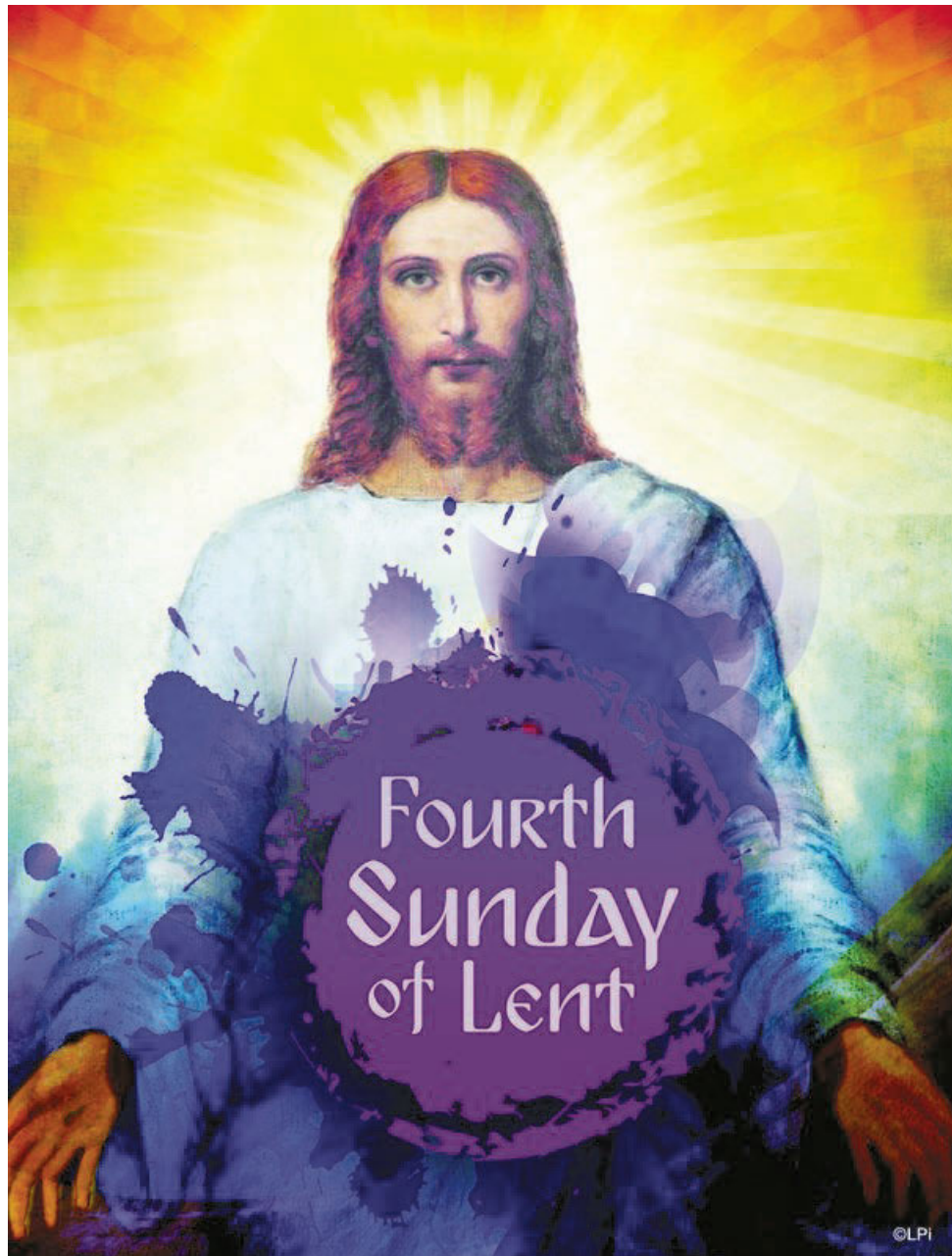




Saints Joseph and
Francis Xavier
Parish

Our Mission:

We honor the traditions of
our parish and welcome all to
unite in prayer and the Sacraments.
Loved by God and guided by the
Holy Spirit, we share the good news
of Jesus Christ through joyful
worship, faithful formation and
dedicated service.



March 10, 2024



PARISH STAFF

Rev. Wayne F. Watts, Pastor
wwatts@ssjfx.org

Rev. Robert Ryan, Associate Pastor
rsryan@ssjfx.org

Msgr. Dan Mayall, Retired
dmayall@ssjfx.org

Rev. William J. Sheridan, Retired

Rev. Edward F. Harnett, Retired

Christopher and Binh Keefe, Deacon Couple
ckeefe@archchicago.org

Robert and Karen Kerls, Deacon Couple
rkerls@ssjfx.org

Curt and Sally Robey, Deacon Couple
crobey@archchicago.org

Joseph D'Arco, Director of Business Operations
jdarco@ssjfx.org

Christine Elliott, School Principal
christineelliott@saintsjfx.org

Jonathan Metzinger, Music Director
jmetzinger@ssjfx.org

John Hopkins, Music Director
jhopkins@ssjfx.org

Ron Berger, Liturgical Planner
rberger@ssjfx.org

Michael Cesario, Director, Evangelization & Ministry
mjcesario@ssjfx.org

Dana McKenna, Director, Family of Faith Program
dmckenna@ssjfx.org

**MaryClare Birmingham, Coordinator,
Ministries of Care and Bereavement**
mbirmingham@ssjfx.org

Noreen Russo, Youth Ministry Coordinator (ACTION)
nrusso@ssjfx.org

Saints JFX Mass Schedule

Daily Mass

6:30 am (SFX) Monday through Friday

8:30 am (St. Joseph) Monday through Saturday

Saturday Vigil Mass

5:00 pm (St. Joseph)

5:00 pm (SFX)

Sunday Mass

8:00 am (St. Joseph)

9:30 am (SFX)

10:30 am (St. Joseph)

11:30 am (SFX)

4:45 pm (St. Joseph)

7:30 pm (SFX) Teen ACTION Mass (September-May)

Confession is offered from 9:00 - 10:00 am on Saturday
at St. Joseph Church.

Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier Parish Offices

St. Joseph Campus

1747 Lake Avenue

(847) 251-0771

cadaniel@ssjfx.org

Hours: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday - Friday

St. Francis Xavier Campus

524 Ninth Street

(847) 256-4250

officesjfx@ssjfx.org

Hours: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday - Thursday

For emergencies outside of office hours,
please call 708-237-6665

For additional parish information, please visit
www.ssjfx.org

For information about Saints JFX School, please visit
www.saintsjfx.org

Saints JFX is on social media!

*Follow us on Instagram (saintsjfx_wilmette) and
Facebook (Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier)*

Dear Friends,

Personal invitation. As you know, we have conducted numerous surveys about participation in the life of this great parish. We conducted our own survey a few years ago and the archdiocesan Disciple Makers Inventory survey last year (we will be publishing the results of that soon, along with some action plans). The importance of personal relationships and loving, welcoming, and non-judgmental invitation comes from Jesus himself. He welcomed all. He encouraged all to come to know God's great love for the world. He did not say, "God so loved this type of person, or that type of person."

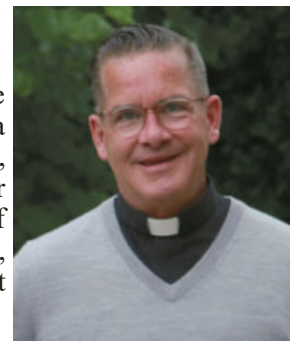
Jesus Said to Nicodemus, "For God so loved *the world* that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." The universality of that invitation encourages me. We teach that the Jesus is the manifestation of God's love. The Church is the manifestation of Jesus' love. We are the church. Therefore, we must offer that same universal love and generous invitation to all. That call requires understanding, love, and patience. By our kindness to and patience with others, in the pews or on the streets, we invite others to believe in the One that can bring salvation to all.

Jesus accepts, welcomes, and invites Nicodemus. Nicodemus, out of fear, comes to Jesus at night, in darkness, so that no one would know. Jesus invites and encourages. He reminds and promises. He utters the often-quoted line. We even know the citation: John 3:16. The only Son came to invite - and to encourage the invited to go and invite others themselves. And we have a great opportunity to encourage others to accept - **the promise of eternal life**. Jesus' invitation plants a seed in the heart of Nicodemus. Later we will see Nicodemus again, standing at the foot of the cross, boldly helping Joseph of Arimathea prepare Jesus' body for burial.

So, we must hear Jesus' call. That call will require personal conversion. Lent is a great time to focus on that call and the conversion the call entails. On this Laetare Sunday, the Church invites to *rejoice* in God's mercy and in God's love. As we rejoice in God's mercy, we ought to plan to attend our parish wide communal reconciliation service. We will celebrate the Reconciliation service in the evening of one of our patronal feasts, Saint Joseph's Day, March 19th, at 7:30pm in Saint Joseph Church. Join us and prepare for Easter by availing yourself to the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

I hope you are entering into the spirit of Lent. If you know of others who have been away, invite them to this community. Remind them that the Church needs them, that God loves them, and the perhaps they need the Church. Let's

make it our goal this Lent to make Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier a beacon of hope-filled light, welcoming all who live near or travel through this great village of Wilmette. Let's hear the invitation, experience conversion, and go out and do some inviting!



I share with you below a thought-provoking text, which will help us to live and evaluate our Lent, meaningfully and joyfully, personally and in community. Maybe you have seen this before. I think it is worth repeating every now and then. Hopefully we, as individuals, families, and as a parish, can put these words into practice in our lives.

Feasting and fasting By William Arthur Ward

LENT SHOULD be more than a time of fasting. It should also be a joyous season of feasting. It is a season in which we could try to:
Fast from judging others; feast on the Christ indwelling them.
Fast from words that pollute; feast on phrases that purify.
Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude.
Fast from anger; feast on patience.
Fast from pessimism; feast on optimism.
Fast from worry; feast on divine order.
Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation.
Fast from self-concern; feast on compassion for others.
Fast from idle gossip; feast on purposeful silence.
Fast from problems that overwhelm;
Feast on prayer that sustains.

Peace,

PS Monday evening at 6:30 in the SFX gym, the Lakota Group will unveil their findings for the Campus Master Plan. It promises to be an exciting even as we pivot from planning to executing the plan. One Parish. One Plan. One Future.

Weekly Mass Schedule

4

<p>Monday March 11, 2024 6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Rosemary Harrington +Archie Kelly (L)John Marshall</p> <p>Tuesday March 12, 2024 6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Betty Torreblanca +Hansueli Wick (L)Herah Cecilia Kim (L)Chris Lee & Family</p> <p>9:00 am-10:00 am SJ Eucharistic Adoration</p> <p style="background-color: #fff9c4; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">+ Deceased / (L) Living SFX - St. Francis Xavier SJ -St. Joseph</p>	<p>Wednesday March 13, 2024 6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Trudy & Frank Fernholz +Juanita Quispe (L)Intentions of theThomas Frantzen Family</p> <p>Thursday March 14, 2024 6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Francis Naphin (L)Michael Cesario</p> <p>Friday March 15, 2024 6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Guillermo Cannon +James Merrick +Frank Robey +Joseph Soukenik (L)Carolyn Daniel</p> <p>7:30 pm SJ Stations of the Cross</p>	<p>Saturday March 16, 2024 8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Justin Hil +Tony Hill (L)Rehbock Family</p> <p>9:00 am-10:00 am SJ Confession</p> <p>3:00 pm SFX Wedding Wolfe/Urban</p> <p>5:00 pm SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Hendrickson, SJ</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Michael Tischler +Deceased Members of the DiClementi/Stewart Families (L)Rehbock Family</p> <p>5:00 pm SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Barb Dhein +John McGeady</p> <p style="background-color: #fff9c4; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Masses are livestreamed on our YouTube channel. Search <i>Saints JFX</i> on www.youtube.com</p>	<p>Sunday March 17, 2024 8:00 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Will Weir +Liliana Suci</p> <p>9:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Rosaleen Byrne +Thomas Lyons II +Peter Meenaghan +Tom Sampson</p> <p>10:30 am SFX Baptism Nuzzo Family</p> <p>10:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Roseanne Grimes +Kitty & Bob Jones +Frank & Veronica Merges +Scotty Patterson +Laken Riley +Olivia Sergot</p> <p>11:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Roseanne Grimes +Liliana Suci</p> <p>4:45 pm SJ <i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i></p> <p>7:30 pm SFX ACTION Mass <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p>
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Please pray for the sick and those in need:

Carmen Albino
Laura B.
Lorraine Bixler
Jim Bohlman
Art Devereaux

Paul "PJ" DiClementi Jr
Peter DiClementi Jr
Sally Griffin
Sheila Groark

Rick Hawkinson
Catherine Horan
Bob Kerrigan
Tiffany McGivern

John McGuinness
Eden McKenna
Pam O'Reilly
Allen Stone
Carla Zaramella

*In prayer
and loving memory of:*

*Brother Paul Roman Berceau
Jim Daly*



Please email officessjfx@ssjfx.org to add or remove a name.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is dedicated to helping the poor and others who have fallen upon difficult times.

If you or someone you know is in need of help, please call the parish office at (847) 256-4250 and ask for extension 44. If you are calling outside of business hours, please press 3 to leave a message, and we will return your call as soon as possible. All inquiries are treated in the strictest of confidence.



Saints JFX Ministry of Care



Experienced Ministers of Care are available to bring communion to our parish sick and homebound, those in senior facilities, and Evanston Hospital.

If you or a family member would like to schedule a visit, please contact the MOC Care line at (847) 256-2273 (CARE) or email mbirmingham@ssjfx.org

Sacraments at Saints JFX

Sacrament of Baptism

Request form can be found on our parish website: ssjfx.org/baptism.html

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 9:00 am-10:00 am at St. Joseph Church or by appointment. Please call 847/256-4250

Sacrament of Marriage

Request form can be found on our parish website: ssjfx.org/weddings.html

Parish registration forms can be found on ssjfx.org/join-our-parish.html

Stewardship Report

March 3, 2024

Collected at Church:

Envelopes: \$ 5,850.00

Loose Cash: \$ 1,711.00

Electronic

Contributions: \$21,880.00

Total: \$29,441.00

If you are able, please consider contributing electronically via PushPay using the QR code.



Thank you for your generosity.

Marriage Banns

*Maura Elizabeth Wolfe and
Nathanial Steven Urban
Bann III*



Pray the Rosary

Please join us to pray the Rosary at 7:30 am daily

To join online:

<https://www.microsoft.com/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting>

Meeting ID: 243 977 469 891

Passcode: MYhkSx

If you prefer to call in:

Dial (872)242-9930;

Conference ID: 267-145-550#

The Rosary is also prayed at 8:00 am, Monday through Saturday at St. Joseph Church, followed by 8:30 am Mass. All are welcome.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY, PRAY FOR PEACE

US Air Force

Ssgt John Wesley Hobbs
2nd Lt Luke Stenberg

US Army

Rev Chaplain Maj John Barkemeyer
LTC Kelly Quinn
Cpt Christopher Cannon
Cpt Ryan Cannon
PFC Richard Carlson
Sgt Harrison Daniels
Maj Jason Harlan
Pvt Ryan Higgins
Erik Larson (Army Reserve)
SPC Zach Lueken
Sgt Brenda Lore Mayo
Sgt David Lore Mayo
Seth Miller
Lt Col Anita Scattone
Lt Ryan Slattery

US Marine Corps

Pvt Stuart Corboy III
Sgt Joseph Devroy
Cpt Peter Dulaney
Sgt Brandon Galgay
Sgt Aidan Gobeyn
Cpt Brad Gustafson
Ssgt Walter Ramirez
Cpt William Smith
Cpl Trevor J. Talbot
Pvt 1st Class Stevie Williams

US Navy

Cmdr Kevin Carlson
PO2 Kevin Morrison
ENS Hugh Rider
Lt Cmdr Tom Smith
Shane Zeman

US National Guard

Liam Gobeyn
Sgt Steven Tetzlaff
Sgt Jackson Knott
Lt Col Grant Swinger

*If you would like to add or remove a name,
please contact us at officesjfx@ssjfx.org.*



Readings for the week of March 10, 2024

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (6ab)/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21 *Scrutiny:* 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 *Scrutiny:* Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45



The Remain in Me Series will be hosted in the Saint Francis School Atrium starting at 7:00 p.m. on the following dates, please register and we'll see you there!

Session 1: The Imperative of Worship – February 12, 2024

Session 2: The Eucharist as a Matter of Life and Death - March 18, 2024 - Please note this is a change from the original date.

Session 3: The Eucharist as a Summons to Participation - April 15, 2024

Session 4: From the Sacrifice of Jesus to Our Sacrificial Living - May 13, 2024

Session 5: The Eucharist Is the Sacrament of the Lord's Abiding Presence - June 10, 2024

Please join us for the next session on March 18. Sign up by scanning the QR code. Contact mjcesario@ssjfx.org for more information.

Please join us Monday March 11!



Join us to learn more!

One Plan Presentation

Join the Saints Joseph Francis Xavier Parish and Master Planning Team for a **Community Presentation of the Saints JFX One Plan on March 11th at the SFX Gymnasium**. The **SJFX One Plan** is a cohesive master plan for the Parish that will serve as a **long-term vision and investment strategy** to guide improvement and maintenance of the Parish's internal and external facilities.

The **presentation will begin at 6:30pm** followed by a chance to explore summary exhibits with similar information and opportunities to help the Parish prioritize improvements. The Planning Team, Steering Committee, and Parish leadership will be available to answer questions!

WHEN: Monday, March 11 6:30 - 8:30 pm	WHERE: St. Francis Xavier Gym 808 Linden Avenue, 60091
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www.SaintsJFXOnePlan.com

From the Loft

This week our parish choir sings from the St. Joseph Church loft. Setting the mood for our continuing Lenten journey, the prelude before Mass is the famous and beautiful "God So Loved the World" by John Stainer. This is a classic anthem, sung in Christian churches of every denomination, and every country throughout the world.

Then at communion, we will sing "I'd Rather Have Jesus", This anthem ties in beautifully with the scriptural readings, as we sing "I'd rather have Jesus than silver or gold. He's all that my hungering spirit needs".

We conclude this Sunday's service with a joyful hymn, "Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee". Laetare Sunday is a time to joyfully anticipate the Resurrection, and so today our hymns are more upbeat and joyful.

Our choir sings again on Palm Sunday... there is a spot for you in our choir. Join us for rehearsal before Mass.

John Hopkins
jhopkins@ssjfx.org



At the Easter Vigil we will welcome our ten RCIA participants into the Catholic Church. We invite you to continue reading their stories, and ask that you keep them in your prayers during their final weeks of preparation.



Anthony Romano: Anthony will receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

Hi, my name is Anthony Romano, I attended Loyola academy class of 2017. I'm excited to be taking these steps along my faith journey and am blessed to have a supportive family and community help me through this process. My RCIA classes have been a great help to my knowledge and understanding of faith and religion. Thanks for the support!



Brad Campbell: Brad will receive the sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation.

Hi, my name is Brad Campbell, I am a doctor, so my handwriting is terrible, but I am excited to join the parish, nonetheless. I love playing saxophone, reading, traveling the world, and helping my patients. My fiancée Jess and I have two needy dogs and are slowly learning how to beat our elders at pickleball! We can't wait to get to know y'all!

Join Us for Our Holy Week and Easter Services

March 23, Palm Sunday (Vigil)

5:00 pm St. Joseph
5:00 pm St. Francis Xavier

March 24, Palm Sunday

8:00 am St. Joseph
9:30 am St. Francis Xavier
10:30 am St. Joseph
11:30 am St. Francis Xavier
4:45 pm St. Joseph

March 27, Tenebrae

7:30 pm St. Francis Xavier

March 28, Holy Thursday

8:30 am Morning Prayer - St. Joseph
7:30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper - St. Joseph*
**Church will remain open concluding with Night Prayer at 10:30 pm*

March 29, Good Friday

8:30 am Morning Prayer - St. Joseph
3:00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion - St. Francis Xavier
5:30 pm Living Stations of the Cross - St. Joseph
7:30 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion - St. Joseph

March 30, Holy Saturday

8:30 am Morning Prayer - St. Joseph
10:30 am Basket Blessing - St. Joseph
7:30 pm The Easter Vigil - St. Francis Xavier

March 31, Easter Sunday*

8:00 am St. Joseph
9:30 am St. Francis Xavier
9:45 am St. Francis Xavier Gym
10:30 am St. Joseph
11:30 am St. Francis Xavier

**There will be no 4-45 pm Mass on Easter*



STUDENTS OF THE PARISH IN GRADES 4TH - 8TH ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN:

*Living Stations of the Cross
on Good Friday*

Students of the parish in grades 4th - 8th are invited to participate in Living Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, March 29th at 5:30PM at St. Joseph Church.

There will be two practices to prepare for Living Stations: Tuesday, March 26th at 7:00PM - 8PM in SJC and Friday, March 29th at 11:00AM - Noon in SJC

Participants will return at 4:30PM to get ready for the 5:30PM Living Stations.

Please contact Dana McKenna at dmckenna@sjfx.org or call 847-251-3734 for more information.

Please sign up using the QR code



Saint Joseph Table Next Sunday

In honor of the feast of Saint Joseph, on Sunday March 17th, the Women's Club will have a Saint Joseph Table in the Community Room at the St. Joseph campus after the 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Masses. Legend has it that many years ago in Italy there was a terrible drought and the people prayed to St. Joseph to end it. When the rains came the people vowed to have a feast in honor of St. Joseph and donate money to the poor. In keeping with long tradition, we will have plenty of food for all who come and we will accept free will donations for the Vincent DePaul Society. We will also have some baked goods for sale as we always get more goodies that we eat.

To volunteer or questions please call Mary Versino (847.251.8392) or Marion Kahle (847.769.9619).

Thanks to the Testa family and Testa Produce for the fruit they donate every year.

Join us for the annual
Saints JFX
Easter Basket Blessing!

Please join us on
Saturday, March 30th at 10:30am
in Saint Joseph Church.

Fill your basket with foods you would enjoy at your first Easter meal. Items to include in your basket:
Ham, sausage, lamb, breads, eggs, chocolate, bitter herbs, butter, wine, candy or any other delicious treats.

The Saints Joseph & Francis Xavier

S T P A T R I C K 's

Day Party happens March 16th

**CLANNA AGUS CEOL
LE CHÉILE**

IN THE SFX GYM *from* 2-5PM
IRISH MUSIC, FOOD, DRINKS, KIDS ACTIVITIES
and **IRISH DANCE PERFORMANCE**

Tickets are on sale!

Please scan the QR code below.

All are welcome!



Please join us for Stations of the Cross at 7:30 pm at St. Joseph Church on Friday evenings during Lent: March 8, 15 and 22.

Living Stations of the Cross will be held at 5:30 pm on Good Friday, March 29 at St. Joseph Church.

LENTEN MISSION

United in Him: Conversations and Connections to the Heart of Christ

Join Father Robert Ryan as he leads a parish Lenten mission at Ss. Peter & Lambert Parish (at St. Lambert church). The church is located at 8148 Karlov, in Skokie. The mission will be held on Thursday, March 14 at 7:00pm in Trainor Hall. Any Questions? Please call the rectory at 847-673-1492.

Fr. Robert Ryan grew up in Antioch, IL, and went on to attend Michigan State University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Advertising. After university, he moved to Austin, TX, where he worked in Sales and Marketing for a large technology company until his return to the Chicago area in 2012, when he rediscovered his Catholic faith because of his parents.

While on a retreat at Mundelein Seminary in 2015, he heard the Lord invite him to the priesthood of Jesus Christ. While studying at Mundelein, he earned a Master of Arts in Philosophy and Religion, a Master of Divinity, a Baccalaureate in Sacred Theology, and most recently, a Licentiate in Sacred Theology, specializing in Dogmatic Theology.

Fr. Ryan was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago in 2021, where he has since been serving as the Parochial Vicar of Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier Parish in Wilmette, IL. In addition to his parish work, he has served as the Papal Envoy of the Relics of Blessed Carlo Acutis to the New World, serving on the Vocations Office Leadership Team, and directing the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage through Chicago this summer.



Family Promise News and Update

Family Promise here at SsJFX continue to help one family at a time. Thanks to our support as well as other congregations along the North Shore over a 1000 individuals have been helped last year.

We will be hosting FP guests again April 7 through 21 at the convent.

Family Promise is a nationwide organization helping homeless families with children. **The shelter program** is the group of guests we help 2-3 times a year by letting them stay overnight at the Convent at St. Joseph Campus.

To find out more about the FP operations go to familypromisechicagos.org

Donations can be made to the Evanston based organization online at the above website address or mailed to *Family Promise CNS P.O. Box 484 Glencoe, IL 60022* (if mailing a check due to the high level of fraud occurring- use a gel pen and mail from the main post office box)

See the following thank you note from Ladizia, a recent guest at Family Promise.

Below is Ladizia's thank you note which captures how dynamic a program this is for the many families facing difficult times.

Ladizia has been housed in her apartment in DesPlaines for a month now, and the SsJFX family promise helped her obtain some of the items on her wish lists. Below is a picture of Ladizia, George and Mary Pearce and Paula and Mike Humbach and other volunteers who helped her celebrate her "graduation" from the shelter program at FP.

Tracy McKeithen (the director of FP) said: "She left me letters that she typed to Family Promise and to the Family Promise Congregations. She said these are from her heart." Below is the letter that Ladizia wrote to Family Promise congregations.

To Congregations of Family Promise,

I'm so Thankful for the several congregations that gave my family a warm place to sleep at night. How you guys made my family feel as comfortable as possible. The gift giving and making my children never feel like they went without. How some of the volunteers brought their children and their families to meet us. The food was well thought of a lot of the time and we always had desert. We were fortunate enough to be there around the holidays. My children and myself got everything we wanted and needed. Anything I couldn't afford the volunteers made a miracle happen. And they were more than happy to do it. My children remember a lot of the children they met who volunteered to play or keep them occupied. We got to see the Harlem Globetrotters. My kids absolutely enjoyed that my son still talks about it. We are so happy because we got to experience somethings we have never experienced and meet people that do good for the world from the kindness of their hearts. We have been out of the program for almost month and the volunteers are still showing up for us. We are very grateful for the gifts Everyone has given us.



GET READY : DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY IS APRIL 7

On the 2nd Sunday of Easter, 2000, St. John Paul 2 proclaimed this day to be the annual Feast of Divine Mercy. Jesus asked St. Faustina to be His "Secretary of Mercy" and tell everyone about His Divine Mercy. He asked for special prayers and meditation on His Passion each afternoon at the 3 o'clock hour, the hour of His death on the cross. "This is the hour of great Mercy for the whole world, the hour of grace." This is said on any rosary. We must also practice mercy towards others: "I am giving you 3 ways of exercising mercy towards your neighbor: by deed, by word and by prayer." These 3 equal the "fullness of mercy".

Jesus also asked that Divine Mercy Sunday be preceded by a Novena beginning on **Good Friday**, this year March 29. See thedinemercy.org for details. This is a great way to prepare to celebrate Holy Week and Easter.

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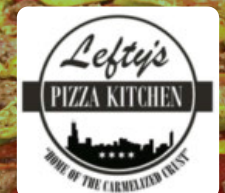
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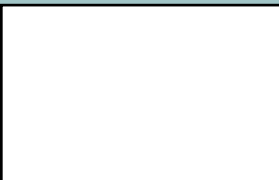
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