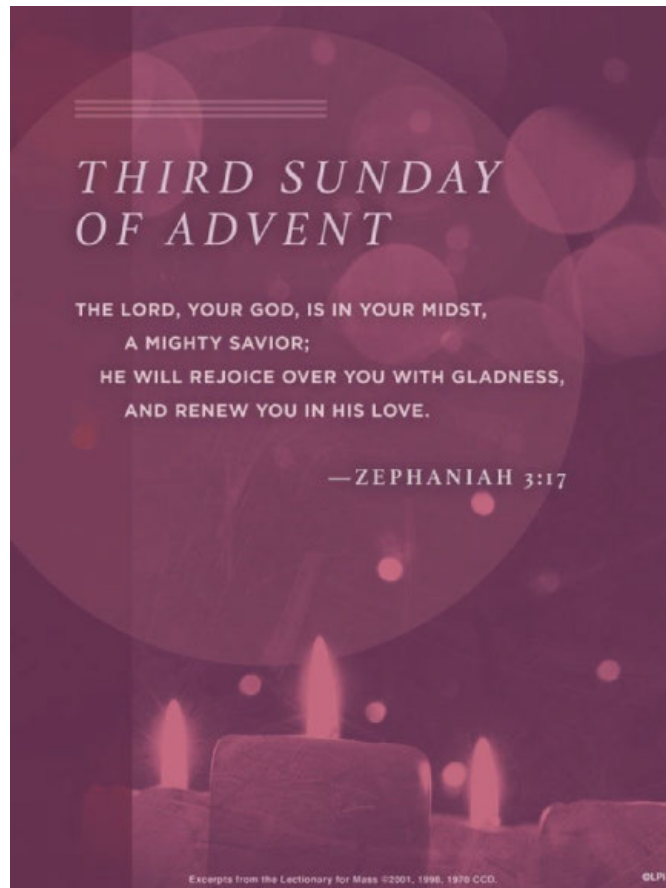




Saints Joseph and
Francis Xavier
Parish

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.



December 12, 2021

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cadaniel@ssjfx.org
Hours: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday - Friday*

*St. Francis Xavier Campus
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(847)256-4250
officessjfx@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 information about the parish, please visit our website at www.ssjfx.org*



PARISH STAFF

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nrusso@ssjfx.org

Please note: Face coverings are required to be worn in all of our parish buildings, which include our churches, parish offices and schools. Thank you.

Stewardship Report

December 5, 2021

Collected at Church:

Envelopes: \$7,592.00

Loose Cash: \$1,450.00

Electronic

Contributions: \$21,382.45

Total: \$30,424.45

If you are able, please consider contributing to the Parish electronically, through Give Central:

www.givecentral.org/location/51/event/238

Thank you for your support.

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

To dial in: call (571) 317-3116

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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, press 3 to leave a message, and we will return your call as soon as possible. All inquiries are treated in confidence.



Banns of Marriage

Colleen Fahrenbach and Michael Kaiser - Bann I

Dear Friends,

Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus

Today's second reading, used often in wedding and funeral liturgies, urges the listener to get rid of bitterness, anxiety, and uncertainty, and to allow God's love to fill our hearts with joy. Last week, as we collected hundreds, and I mean hundreds, of gifts for needy families in our community and those who are served by Catholic Charities, my heart overflowed with joy. Your kindness and generosity amazed me. I am proud and grateful. I watched as the amazing parents organized the gifts for dozens of families sponsored by the classrooms of the Schools of Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier. I listened as the Women's Club members made their plans to collect and organize toys from club members and students of our Youth Faith Formation programs. I observed boxes filling up with socks and gloves in the hallways of our early childhood center. The generosity of this community never ceases to amaze me, and really does make me rejoice.

When we choose what pleases God most, and when we recognize that we are imperfect, and that God brings perfection to our imperfection, true joy can be found. And in his wonderful letter to the Philippians, Saint Paul gives great admonition for them and for us, whether we are at weddings or funerals or just going about our daily lives.

When you read this, we will have less than two weeks until we celebrate the coming of Christ into our lives. As Paul tells us to rejoice, John the Baptist gives great advice to his listeners as he exhorts them to get ready. He invites them and us to turn from evil ways and to do good and live generously. He encourages them and us to be attentive to the call of the Lord in our hearts as we go about our daily lives. The people ask him, "What should we do?" He tells them to share what they have, to live honestly and justly, to be fair and kind. It sounds so simple. But so often we don't do those things. Now, in this final stage of preparing

for Christ we can acknowledge our wrongdoing and commit to doing those things that John prescribes. As a people of faith, we can commit to doing that together.

In the past two weeks you should have received our Christmas card as well as a letter requesting your support of our year-end and Christmas appeal. I am happy to report that we have already received some generous gifts from dedicated parishioners and stakeholders. We rely heavily on the generosity of our parish families as we make disciples, build community, and inspire witness here in Wilmette and behind. I hope you will join me in making a substantial year-end gift to the parish so that we can continue our important ministries.

John advises his questioners to share their gifts as they prepare for Christ's coming. That admonition serves us well today. When we live generously and let go of material attachment, we prepare ourselves for the salvation that comes from Christ. When we make Christ the priority rather than the accumulation of more than we need, we prepare ourselves well. Then, and only then, will we be ready to make the good news that John preached millenniums ago our own.

The Solemn Blessing of today's Mass prays, "*As you run the race of this present life, may God make you firm in faith, joyful in hope, and active in charity.*" That's my prayer for all of us this week. Amidst the darkness that exists in our world, experiencing the joy that God's mercy brings to us, we must follow the call and the example of the Baptist and prepare the way of the Lord, with kindness and good deeds. I have no doubt that we can.

Peace,




Readings for the week of December 12, 2021

Monday:	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday:	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23; Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday:	Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday:	Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a, and 13b; Lk 7:24-30
Friday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Saturday:	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Sunday:	Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Weekly Mass Schedule

<u>Monday December 13, 2021</u>	<u>Wednesday December 15, 2021</u>	<u>Saturday December 18, 2021</u>	<u>Sunday December 19, 2021</u>
6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i> 8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i> Intentions: +Maggie DiClementi +Rich Flick +Lucia Fonte	6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i> 8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i> Intentions: +Guillermo Cannon +Hon. Charles P. Horan <u>Thursday December 16, 2021</u> 6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i> 8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Harnett</i> <i>Deacon Kerls</i> Intentions: +Joseph O'Connor <u>Friday December 17, 2021</u> 6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i> 8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i> Intentions: (L) People of the Parish	8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i> Intentions: +Henry F. Stec (L) Rehbock Family Intentions 9:00 - 10:00 am SJ Reconciliation 11:00 am SJ: Baptism <i>Presider: Deacon Robey</i> 2:00 pm SJ: Baptism <i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i> 5:00 pm SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Harnett</i> <i>Deacon Kerls</i> Intentions: +Deceased Members of the Quinn & Davis Families 5:00 pm SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i> Intentions: +Jill Malan +Michael Tischler <div style="background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Masses are livestreamed on our YouTube channel. To find our channel, search Saints JFX on www.youtube.com </div>	8:00 am SJ <i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i> Intentions: +Arlene Carlson +Mary J & Woody Herlocker +Ron McEachern (L) Liliana Suci 9:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i> Intentions: (L) People of the Parish 10:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i> Intentions: +Arlene Carlson +John & Phyllis Cossarek +Pio & Carolina Gambacorta 10:45 am SFX: Baptism Presider: Fr. Ryan 11:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i> Intentions: +Robert Spriggs +Meyer, Takarchik, Ruhala 12:30 pm SFX: Baptism <i>Presider: Deacon Robey</i> 7:30 pm SFX ACTION Mass <i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i>
<div style="background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> + Deceased / (L) Living SFX - St. Francis Xavier Church SJ - St. Joseph Church </div>			

Please pray for the sick and those in need:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Seda Aghajani | John Patrick Gabby | Will Leming | Brian Slowinski |
| Carmen Albino | Ryan Glassberg | Betsi Burns Landolt | Charlotte Soracoe |
| Rory Andrykowski | Phillip Hall | Barbara Lori-Mayo | Mary Stapleton |
| Ginnie Becker | Tim Hanson | Dolores Meier | Liliana Suci |
| Heather Campbell | Barbara Hardy | Colin Mowbray | Trudy Tonelli |
| William Carlin | Barbara Hawkinson | Daniel O'Herron | Elliott Villarreal |
| Cecelia Cruz | Laura Hendricks | Pam O'Reilly | David W. |
| Peter DiClementi, Jr. | Loretta Jacobs | John Ondrejicka | Krista Wilkinson |
| Gino DiPaolo | Carol Kelly | Monica Pecuch | Audrey Williams |
| | Bob Kerrigan | Olivia Sergot | Shirley Zeeb |

*In prayer
and loving memory of:*

*Our beloved
family members*



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

Saints JFX Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24, Christmas Eve

3:00 pm St. Joseph
 3:00 pm SFX
 3:15 pm SFX School Gym
 5:00 pm SFX
 5:30 pm St. Joseph
 10:00 pm Christmas Concert St. Joseph
 10:00 pm Christmas Concert SFX
 10:30 pm St. Joseph
 10:30 pm SFX

December 25, Nativity of Our Lord

8:00 am St. Joseph
 9:30 am SFX
 10:15 am SFX School Gym
 10:30 am St. Joseph
 11:30 am SFX

December 26, Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:00 am St. Joseph
 9:30 am SFX
 10:30 am St. Joseph
 11:30 am SFX

From the Loft

Today, the Third Sunday of Advent coincides with the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Mary is the Patron Saint of Mexico and Patroness of the Americas. Heard at the SFX Masses today is a beautiful Spanish *Ave Maria* by William Gomez and a traditional Mexican song to the Virgin of Guadalupe, "Buenos Días, Paloma Blanca". Below is a translation.

Good morning, White Dove, today I come to greet you, greeting your beauty in your celestial kingdom! You are mother of the Creator that enchants my heart, thanks I give you with love. Beautiful girl, holy girl, your sweet name praised, because you are so blessed, that I come to greet you. Resplendent like the dawn, pure and sensitive and without stain, what pleasure my soul receives. Good morning, white dove!

This Sunday at the 10:30 Mass at St. Joseph, the choir will sing "Lord of Peace" by Joseph Martin. The words prepare us for the coming of Christ: *"Lord of Peace and God of Love, give us eyes to see Your face. Fix our thoughts on You, we pray. Give us strength; guide our hearts, keep us near"*.

Our "Christmas Choir" is forming...ALL are welcome. No long term commitment: just one rehearsal the morning of Sunday December 19th, and then we sing starting at 10:00 pm Christmas Eve. You may choose either church. For details, reach out to Jonathan or John. Make a joyful noise!

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

RETURNS



Thursday, December 16th

5:00 to 6:00pm

Meet outside St. Francis Xavier Church for a brief warm-up before heading into the neighborhood to spread holiday cheer.

• Festive attire encouraged •

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Saints JFX Parish

Christmas Eve Family Mass with First Grade Pageant Friday, December 24 - SFX church at 3 pm

First grade families - reserve your half pew now! Pews will have name tags so you will know where you will be sitting. A seating chart will go out on Monday, December 20th after our practice in the church at 11:00 am. Parents do not need to stay for practice.



If your child would like to participate in the pageant, please contact Dani Froelich: dfroelich@ssjfx.org or (847)256-4250

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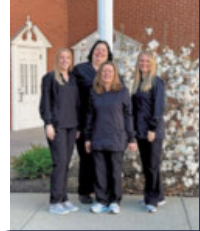
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