



SAINT XAVIER CHURCH JESUIT

Inward Reflection. Outward Action.

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 23, 2020

WELCOME TO St Xavier

A Jesuit Ministry "in the heart of the marketplace"
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Apostolate of the Jesuit Fathers since 1845

Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam

Pastor: Rev. Patrick A. Fairbanks, S.J.
Office Manager: Mrs. Diane Roden
Business Manager: Mrs. Judith Cox
Facilities Manager: Mr. Chris Dole

Fr. Matthew Gamber S.J. Fr. Bob Ross S.J.
Fr. Jerome Veigas, S.J. Deacon Tim Crooker
Mrs. Kathy England Dr. Mark Bailey
Mrs. Mary Beth Fennell Mr. Chris Crabb

Email: office@stxchurch.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm
Sunday 7:00 am 9:00 am
10:30 am (choir) and 5:00 pm
Mon - Fri 6:00 am 11:30 am **Sat** 7:00 am
Confessions Mon-Fri 12:00n to 1:00 pm
Saturday 11:00 am to 12 noon
Baptism · Marriage · Anointing · RCIA

MASS INTENTIONS Feb. 24—29

MON 17	6:00 11:30	+ Phyllis Rose and Neal Gilday + Judy Dyer + Derrick Roberts
TUES 18	6:00 11:30	+ Cyril McCarthy (Annv.) + Charles B. Ginocchio + Betty DeVela
WED 19	ASH WEDNESDAY 6 AM, 11:30 AM, 12:30 PM & 5 PM	
THUR 20	6:00 11:30	+ Mark Henstridge + John Sansalone St Jill Eippert (Birth.) + Rita Bleil
FRI 21	6:00 11:30	+ George and Marilyn Schulenberg + Dr. Marvin Mills + Giovanni Pung Catli
SAT 22	7:00	+ Lorna Schutte and Kathy Berger

Today's readings are found at # 1110

MUSIC

Opening:

As We Gather At Your Table # 839

Gloria: Mass of Redemption

p. 17 in red Revised Order of Mass booklet

Responsorial Psalm 103:

The Lord is Kind and Merciful # 1110

Presentation: We Have Been Told # 784

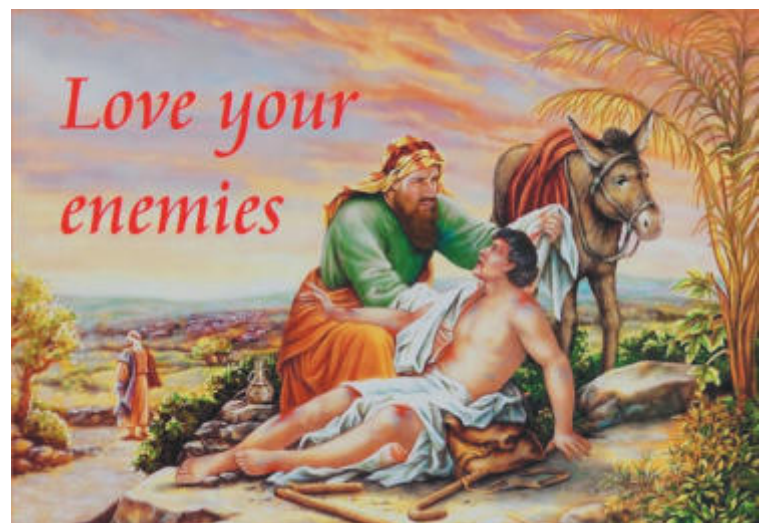
Eucharistic Acclamations:

Community Mass # 370, 373, 389

Communion: I Am the Bread of Life #945

Closing:

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy # 644



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**BE PERFECT ?**

Since February 9th we have been blessed with the Gospel readings from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Matthew tries to portray Jesus as a "new Moses" ... the fulfillment of what the Hebrew people had been waiting for. So, Matthew will write in a way that give us a hint about this fulfillment. You'll notice the Gospel of Matthew including many fulfilled prophecies that had first appeared in the Old Testament.

In His sermon, Our Lord uses words and phrases that sound rather lovely: you are the light of the world. But other commands sound impossible: pluck out your eye! The main point about the Sermon is that Jesus wants to show that he is the fulfillment of the Law. He wants to teach us about where the law ought to lead, that is, to a life of love and respect. Jesus goes further than what Moses taught. Jesus brings the law to perfection. "Be perfect," He tells us. Not meaning that we ought to pretend that we are perfect as God is, we are NOT God. We are human, and we always STRIVE to better ourselves and the way we follow the law, church teaching, and the moral roots of the faith. These are all given to make us grow. To be "perfected." In the same way that God is true in Himself, so we are to be truly human. Like a good wine, a human being will get better with age.

Last week's reading presented four pairs of "antitheses," showing that Jesus does not abolish the law but makes it perfect. For example, "You have heard it said ... but I tell you this." In today's Gospel, we hear two more pairs of antitheses on the same theme. The images aim to express an overall spirit of perfection rather than set specific rules. For example, that teaching about "an eye for an eye" is considered cruel, but the intent of the Mosaic law was to limit the violence: if someone were to pluck your eye out, don't demand anything more than his eye in return. There ought to be a greater love at work that goes beyond the simple actions of the law.

After having taught us the way of life that leads to eternal happiness, Jesus reveals to us the spirit of this way of life: love your enemies! Saint Therese of Lisieux writes, "*Oh how contrary are the divine teachings to the inclinations of nature! Without the help of grace, it would be impossible, not only to put them into practice, but even to understand them.*" (Story of a Soul, ch IX)

What must we do, above all, to love our enemies and obtain from God the reward of eternal life? We must certainly start with prayer. It is through prayer that God grants us His grace, which can accomplish anything! As Jesus said, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." We pray to our Father in Heaven and ask him to draw us to Himself, who is perfect, holy, and sanctifying. As we look forward to the start of Lent, may we hope for the grace to be "more perfect" than we were last year at this time. And at Mass today, may we really mean it when we pray: *Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

✠ST XAVIER PRAYER MINISTRY✠

Please offer prayers for the infirmed of our parish:

Lora Lee, Joe Waters, Elaine Waters, Audrey Koester, Jeff Koester, Betty Holt, Don Sumner, Joe Albers, Joan Ludwig, Diane Dryer, Dave Sturgeon, Chelsea Rust, Daniel Helmes, Angie Fennell, Melissa, Christine Schoonover, Charley Verkamp, Tim Robinson, Harry Tenkotte, Marguerite Kron, Gerry Walsh, Russ Williams, Mimi McGarry, Rosemary Kosky, Barbara Stewart, Rick Hancock, Gina Spradling, Arnold Tepe, Adelle Eaton, Terry Lawrence, Mary Murphy, Roy, Anita Snider, Thomas Willis, Shirley Tolliver Hardin, Karen Blust, Jerry Wallman, Gloria Duncan, Carl Ladwig, JoAnn James, David and Carol Grosser, Steve Wolter, Angie Randy Paul, Tom Huenefeld, Cynthia Hogan, Carmelia Schlueter, Joseph and Shiela MacDougall, Kevin Noble, Helen Sievers, Jewel Rossmann, Chris Arlinghaus, Beth Barney, Bob Wilkerson, Quinn Cobble, Diana DeVore, Lisa Spencer, Ellen Sole, Sheila Sullivan, Mary Ann Himmelmann, Karen Shaw, Bill Hughes, Sue Leeds, Chris Leeds, Edward Pestian, Erin Payne, TJ Ducklo, Doug Lange, Glenda Bauer, Betty Headsworth, Ron and Lynda Pierce, Nancy Santen, Shirley Riegling, John Massman, Joseph Brehm, Josefa Navales, Gina Martin, Bob and Jean Scheid, Robert Miller, Barbara Meridieth, Sharon Dearwester, Joan Perone, Tomie Faye Weissinger, Rose Elizabeth Sartin, Debbie Garnett, Tom Miller, Jeanne Miller, Tim Robinson, Kathy Link, Jane Melson, Steve Nieman, Lovre Dzolic, Plinio DeGoes, JoJo, Bill Robison, Arlene Fritsch, Ginny Wiltse, and Gregg.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Sunday offerings for February 16	\$ 7,523
Online Giving	3,102
Week of February 16	\$10,625

Financial Note: *If you are over age 70.5 and are required to take a distribution from your IRA, you can circumvent the tax law change and still, in effect, deduct your charitable gifts to St. X by giving to St X directly from your IRA. This gift would count as a part of your required distribution, yet would not count as income to you, so effectively giving you a deduction you might not otherwise get.*

Congratulations to

... Patrick Vincent Earley, the son of Patrick and Julia (Rouse) Earley;
 ... **Lyric Skye and Myla Raine Williams**, daughters of Michael and Holly Williams; and
 ... **Annie Carol Johnson**, daughter of Blake and Jennifer Johnson who were baptized last weekend.

Congratulations to

... **John and Rebecca (Sandor) Gradoville** who were married last weekend.

**ASH WEDNESDAY, February 26**

Masses:

6 AM, 11:30 AM, 12:30 PM and 5 PM.
 Ashes will be distributed at all.

**PRESIDERS FOR THIS WEEKEND FEBRUARY 23**

4:00pm	Fr. Patrick Fairbanks, SJ
7:00am	Fr. Bob Ross, SJ
9:00am	Fr. Patrick Fairbanks, SJ
10:30am	Fr. Matthew Gamber, SJ
5:00pm	Fr. John Kroeger

PRESIDERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND MARCH 1

4:00pm	Fr. John LaRocca, SJ
7:00am	Fr. Bob Ross, SJ
9:00am	Fr. Matthew Gamber, SJ
10:30am	Fr. Matthew Gamber, SJ
5:00pm	Fr. Terry Baum, SJ

Please remember

Joyce Reinersman and
Timothy Brennan who were buried
from here this past week. *Eternal
rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let
perpetual light shine upon them.*

**SAINTS OF LENT—Sunday, March 1**

Fr. Matthew Gamber S.J. will give a talk with a slide show called, "Saints of the Lenten Season" at 6 PM on Sunday, March 1st after the 5 PM Mass, in the Parish Center. Begin your Lenten program at this parish event! Refreshments provided.

TENDER MERCIES—February 23

If you can donate a food item this month, please call the office. We appreciate all your support!

ST X MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Our gathering meets every two weeks on Thursdays from 12:00 - 12:50 (bring your lunch!). Please call 513-884-4916 to attend.

ST X NEWSFLASH

Our weekly Newsflash comes by email each Friday to those who subscribe. If you would like to receive our **weekly Newsflash**...or join our **Facebook group**, go visit our parish website at www.stxchurch.org, scroll down and see where you can and sign up on our home page!

2020 Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA)

Please prayerfully consider supporting this year's CMA. Your help is needed as we stand ***Together for the Faith of the Gospel*** for thousands of people served throughout our archdiocese. To donate online, please visit www.CatholicAppeal.info. Envelopes in the pews.

Catholic Ladies Morning of Reflection

This is a Lenten morning for women on Saturday February 29 from 8 - 11:30 AM at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral, downtown Cincinnati. Join us for this very powerful way to begin the Lenten journey.

ADULT AND NOT CONFIRMED?

Are you a baptized Catholic who attends St. Xavier Church but have not received the Sacrament of **Confirmation**? You may have the opportunity to be confirmed at the Easter Vigil on April 11th. Call the office for Fr. Matthew Gamber, SJ at 513-721-4045 or mgamber@stxchurch.org

Get together to pray the Rosary

Join our Rosary prayer group here at St. Xavier Church. Our next gathering is on Wed evening, **March 18** at 7:00 pm upstairs in church. Ave Maria!

Baptism Prep Classes Sessions are 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the Parish Center. Next **March 17**. Call the office to register.

ST. XAVIER ALTAR LINEN MINISTRY

We are looking for generous volunteers every other Tuesday morning to assist with laundering and ironing of altar supplies. Bonus feature—lots of laughter and good friends! Call the office today!

St. Xavier Book Club

Our book group will meet on Tuesday, March 31, at 3pm in the Parish Center. We will discuss our newest novel "At the Water's Edge" by Sara Gruen. This historical novel is about friendship, about moving on past tragedy, and about how we don't have to let the past own us. Join us for lively discussion! If you need a copy to read, see Diane in the parish office.

ST VINCENT de PAUL needs your arms!

The St. Xavier/Cathedral Conference of St. Vincent de Paul meets every Saturday at 9am in the basement of the Cathedral. We are in great need of a **few strong arms** to help. An hour or so of your time would be great! Leave your number at the church office if you can help. We will contact you.

FOOD FOR ALL

Have you been looking for a special project to reach out to those in need? Nutritious and affordable food is not readily available to every person in Cincinnati. So Catholic Charities travels to where hunger is located. For more, contact April Hoak at 513.672.3720 or ahoak@ccswoh.org or at www.ccswoh.org

NOVENA of GRACE - March 4 to 12

Beginning March 4 and extending to March 12 (*the anniversary of the canonization of Ignatius Loyola and Francis Xavier*) we will pray this traditional novena following our daily Masses. Pamphlets will be in the back of church.

To close the novena we will offer Benediction after the 11:30 AM Mass on Thursday, March 12.



jan kirlinger
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