



# SAINT XAVIER CHURCH JESUIT

*Inward Reflection. Outward Action.*

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 10, 2020

## WELCOME TO St Xavier

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*Ad Maiorem Dei Gloriam*

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Email: [office@stxchurch.org](mailto:office@stxchurch.org)

### MASS SCHEDULE (suspended)

Please see our website for other options  
for prayer and spiritual communion

[www.stxchurch.org](http://www.stxchurch.org)



### ✠ST XAVIER PRAYER MINISTRY✠

**Please offer prayers for the infirmed of our parish:**  
Austin Jacob Duesing, and family, Mike Moore, Danny Dell, George Lahner, Keith Uphaus, Marty Yee, Special Intention, David Schwartz, Edward Merkes, Lora Lee, Joe Waters, Elaine Waters, Audrey Koester, Jeff Koester, Betty Holt, Don Sumner, Joe Albers, Joan Ludwig, Dave Sturgeon, Chelsea Rust, Daniel Helmes, Angie Fennell, Melissa, Christine Schoonover, Charley Verkamp, Tim Robinson, Harry Tenkotte, Gerry Walsh, Russ Williams, Mimi McGarry, Rosemary Kosky, 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, 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, Sue Leeds, Chris Leeds, Edward Pestian, Erin Payne, TJ Ducklo, Doug Lange, Glenda Bauer, Betty Headsworth, Ron and Lynda Pierce, Bill and Nancy Santen, John Massman, Joseph Brehm, Gina Martin, Bob and Jean Scheid, Robert Miller, Barbara Meridieth, Sharon Dearwester, Joan Perone, Tomie Faye Weissinger, 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.

### MASS INTENTIONS May 11—16

MON 11	6:00	+ Parish Book of Remembrance
	11:30	+ Mary Schoberg + Robert Eviston
TUES 12	6:00	+ All of the Sick of the Parish
	11:30	+ Cyril McCarthy (Birth.) + Sydney O. Fernandes
WED 13	6:00	+ John Sansalone
	11:30	+ Charles S. Ginocchio + Marge and Bob Mucker
THUR 14	6:00	+ Parish Book of Remembrance
	11:30	+ Henry Sievers (Birth.) + William Trapp (1st Annv.)
FRI 15	6:00	+ All the Souls in Purgatory
	11:30	+ Johanna Sievers + Lorna Schutte and Kathy Berger
SAT 16	7:00	+ Joe Feiertag

611 Sycamore Street Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 513-721-4045

**HELLO! (Again)**

Dear Saint Xavier parishioners,

I am happy to be back at St. Xavier Church as your interim pastor for the summer months. As many of you know I worked as pastor here from 1997 until 2005, and I have always kept a very warm place in my heart for St. X. This parish is an important work of our Midwest Jesuits, and is, of course, the original site of all our Jesuit ministries in Cincinnati. For so many years St. Xavier has been a source of spiritual inspiration and nourishment for people from all over our tri-state region; and it is a privilege for me to help this tradition continue and grow as our church enters its third century of service.

As an eighth grader I came from Erlanger, Kentucky, to Seventh and Sycamore to take the entrance exam for St. Xavier High school in 1960. Of course, when I actually started high school the school had been moved to its present location in Finneytown, so I had a lot of practice riding Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky buses for the next four years. I also attended Xavier University for four years before I entered the Jesuits. So my roots are certainly in our metropolitan Cincinnati community.

After leaving St. X Church in 2005 I worked for seven years in Chicago helping with the training of young Jesuits. I served as Formation Director for the Chicago Province, as well as the superior for some 40 scholastics and brothers doing studies at Loyola University. It is certainly a privilege (and occasionally a challenge) to work with the men who are the future of our Jesuit ministries in the United States and beyond.

In 2012 I returned to Cincinnati to work with several different ministries in the city. I was pastor of Mother of Christ and St. Bernard parishes in Winton Hills and Spring Grove Village as part of our province's commitment to accompany African Americans in their faith journeys. I also helped with retreats at Milford, and coordinated the lives of the Jesuits living in our community by St. Xavier High School. So variety has been the spice of my life lately. Though I am no longer the pastor, I continue to help with liturgies at Mother of Christ and St. Bernard; so though I will also help with Masses here at St. X this summer, I can't promise to see all of you every Sunday – unless my bi-location skills can be improved during the next couple months. (We will see about that!)

It's a joy to re-connect with people I already know here at St. X, and I look forward to meeting many of you who have come new to the parish during the last fifteen years. The church (especially the undercroft area) has radically changed since I was last here, and I realize that many other things have also evolved and grown. That's great, and it will be a pleasure for me to learn what's new and celebrate the continuing development of our parish.

Certainly our current situation of suspended Masses and confessions is a real challenge for all of us. We will do our best re-open services at St. Xavier in the safest manner possible when our Ohio bishops give us the green light. Meanwhile we trust that our Risen Lord is with us always, giving us his support, direction, and hopefulness for each of our lives. Be assured of my prayers and blessings for all of you now, and in the coming months, as we move together on the path of God's Kingdom. And Happy Mother's Day to all of our moms!

*Fr. Bob Thesing, S.J.*

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

**Sunday offerings for May 3**      \$6,413

**THANK YOU** to all those who remembered to support St Xavier Church during these hard times. If you are interested to donate electronically, see our website for information about online giving.

**FIRST COMMUNION and CONFIRMATION**

Lift up these young children in your prayer as they prepare themselves for First Communion and Confirmation soon. **Susan Stewart-Pirone, Margaret Meyers, Grace Sychay, Alexander Siller and Braxton Rhinehart** for First Communion and **Brennan Bucher** for Confirmation. We are grateful to Mary Fetick, John Kollar, Emily Conklin, and Clare Krumme for preparing them. May the grace of our loving God envelop these young people as they receive these sacraments.

**RCIA: CATECHUMENS AND CANDIDATES****OUR NEW CATHOLICS**

In light of the alternative schedule for the month of April and May, Our 9 candidates and catechumens will receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at a date to yet be determined. Please keep them in your prayers: **Chelsea Cole, Chris Stratmoen, Brittany Bishop, Paul Dieterlen, Brittney Fernandez, LaToiua Foster, Zachary Powell, Riley Sheehy, Emily Voll**

**Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam**



### Pope Francis Prayer to the Blessed Mother

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes toward us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen

### Farewell from Fr. Fairbanks

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." Dickens captured well the feeling of late 18th century Europe, and those are not so different from our own. At the end of April 2020, I am feeling too the motions of good times and bad. April 30 was my last day as pastor, and starting May 1 our parish welcomes Fr. Bob Thesing S.J. as the interim pastor until Fr. Lickteig arrives in September. It is with sadness that I depart, and I will certainly miss you all. I am most grateful to Fr. Thesing, especially for taking over amid two separate crises--the worst of times. The first crisis is obviously the Covid pandemic, and the second is my own health misfortune. Early Sunday morning a week back, I suffered a mild heart attack and was taken quickly to Good Sam to be checked by expert cardiologists. Via angiogram, they found a small blockage and decided it best to treat the ischemia with medicines. I am very grateful for their attention and care, and that I was out and back to the Jesuit community Tuesday afternoon. However, it is Jesuit policy that anyone who has spent significant time in a foreign country, city, or location of risk (i.e. a hospital) ought to undergo a 14 day quarantine before coming back into the house. So, I find myself next door on the campus of XU with 14 days to pray, relax, recover, read, take lots of pills, and lots of naps. Indeed this will be a time of retreat for me, "the best of times." I will be able to pray for each of the St Xavier parishioners, and I will keep in prayer any intentions that I receive from you. Later this spring, before I leave for Chicago, I hope we can arrange a time for a "final Mass" and reception. Although the exact time is unclear now, we will keep you posted as directives appear. For now, thank you for your prayers and best intentions which may be sent to the parish office at St X: 611 Sycamore, 45202. Fr. Patrick Fairbanks, S.J. [pafairbanks@stxchurch.org](mailto:pafairbanks@stxchurch.org)

### SILENT DIRECTED RETREAT

In collaboration with Spirituality Network, a silent Directed Retreat is being organized from 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, Fremont, OH. The retreat fee is \$750 for a standard room. For more information and registration contact

Fr. Jerome Veigas at [jveigas@stxchurch.org](mailto:jveigas@stxchurch.org).





*jan kirlinger*  
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