



SAINT XAVIER CHURCH JESUIT

Inward Reflection. Outward Action.



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 8, 2026



WELCOME TO ST. XAVIER

Registered historic site founded in 1819
Apostolate of the Jesuit Fathers since 1845
Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam

Pastor: Fr. Paul Lickteig, SJ
Associate Pastor: Fr. James Ackerman, SJ
Fr. Damian Torres-Botello, SJ

PARISH STAFF

Sam Aberle	Bennie Barnard
Chris Crabb	Dcn. Tim Crooker
Lisa Durr	Tina Ernst
Mary Beth Fennell	Kathy Heile
Trevor Kroeger	Ashley Neugebauer
Diane Roden	Sr. Whitney Schieltz, SC
Tim Severyn	Susanne Wright

www.stxchurch.org

MASS INTENTIONS

February 9 - 14

MON	6:00	SI	Fr. Jacob Boddicker, SJ
9		SI	Special Intention of Donor
	11:30	+	Carl & Margaret Johnson <i>(Annv.)</i>
		+	Dorothy d'Epiro <i>(Annv.)</i>
TUE	6:00	+	Mr. & Mrs. Mar Web
10		+	Carol Ann Vogel
	11:30	+	Maureen Merten <i>(Annv.)</i>
		SI	Mike Green
WED	6:00	+	Mary Jean Boland
11		SI	Mike Green
	11:30	+	Jon R. Gosser
		+	Raymond Teepen <i>(Annv.)</i>
THU	6:00	+	Gerry Merks <i>(Annv.)</i>
12	11:30	SI	Phyllis Link and Family
		SI	Lorri Crum <i>(Birth.)</i>
FRI	6:00	SI	Dennis Freudenberger <i>(Birth.)</i>
13	11:30	SI	Whitaker, Franks, & Shakelford Families
		+	Anita Moran <i>(Birth.)</i>
SAT	7:00	SI	Maggie Womacks <i>(Birth.)</i>
14		+	Mark Sandmann <i>(Birth.)</i>

MUSIC

Opening:

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service
#764

Gloria: St. Henry

inside back cover of hymnal

Responsorial Psalm 112:

The just man is a light in darkness to
the upright. #1104

Preparation:

Christ, Be Our Light #590

Mass Parts:

#384, #385, #386, #390

Communion:

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart #940

Closing:

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning #744

Art: *Charity Relieving Distress*
by Thomas Gainsborough
(c. 1784)
oil painting

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday

4 PM

Sunday

7 AM, 9 AM, 10:30 AM, 5 PM

Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday

6 AM, 11:30 AM

Saturday

7 AM

Adoration & Confession

Monday - Friday: 12 - 1 PM

1st Tuesday: 5:30 - 6:30 PM

Saturday (Confession only)

11 AM - 12 PM

Lenten Reflection Groups

This Lent, upgrade your prayer journey by joining us in the Lent Reflection/Retreat Group Series centered on the book, *Epiphanies*, by the Sisters of Life. This retreat is comprised of four to six small group sessions meeting once a week featuring conversation, reflection, prayer. Various time offerings and locations (including Zoom sessions) are listed on sign-up sheets that you can find in the back of church or you can scan the QR code. Call the parish office for more information or email Fr. Ackerman at jackerman@stxchurch.org.



Lenten Reminder: Fast & Abstinence

Ash Wednesday, February 18, and Good Friday, April 3, are days of abstinence from meat and also days of fast, that is, limited to a single full meal. The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. The law of abstinence binds all Catholics 14 years and older. The law of fasting binds all Catholics from their 18th birthday until their 59th birthday (canons 97, 1252).

Ministers for Ash Wednesday

Extra ministers are needed for three of the four Masses (11:30 AM, 12:30 PM, and 5 PM) on **Ash Wednesday, February 18**. Sign-up sheets are in the server sacristy. Thank you!

Little Black Books

Coming next week: Little Black Books will be available in the back of the church. Please take a copy and strengthen your prayer journey this Lenten season!

Young Adult Group

Visit www.stxya.com to learn more about upcoming events and how to join our community. To get connected, contact Fr. Damian at damian@stxchurch.org.

- Sunday, February 8: Super Bowl Party (following the 5 PM Mass; Parish Center)
- Tuesday, February 17: Adoration & Fat Tuesday Party (5:30 PM; Parish Center)
- Sunday, February 22: Lenten Bible Study (4 PM; Parish Center)



Salt and Light for Today

In this weekend's readings, God invites us not just to *believe* but to *live* hope in the world as it is, not as we wish it were. Isaiah insists that the fast God desires is more than words: it's about sharing bread with the hungry, sheltering those without clothes or homes, and not turning away from our own kin. Paul, writing to the Corinthians, reminds us that our proclamation of Christ doesn't rest on persuasive rhetoric, but on a witness shaped by vulnerability and the Spirit. And Jesus calls his followers salt and light, practical metaphors for preserving goodness and dispelling darkness in the world.

Here in Cincinnati, we may not be witnessing the same enforcement actions seen elsewhere, but we are not untouched by them. The recent deaths of Renée Good and Alex Pretti – and I pray that, as of the writing of this reflection, no others have occurred – have shaken the nation and raised painful questions about the dignity of human life and how it is protected. If you feel hurt, angry, unsettled, or afraid, know that these responses are human and do not betray faith. Even these sharp emotions can become salt, deepening prayer and moving us toward compassionate action rather than indifference.

So what does this look like in practice?

Stay close to those who are vulnerable. Anyone living with fear, grief, or uncertainty. Presence, listening, and prayer are not small acts; they are signs of Christ's compassion.

Let prayer shape your response. Bring your anger, grief, and longing to God, then allow that prayer to lead you into concrete acts of care, solidarity, and service.

Live as light in ordinary life. In everyday choices, how we speak, how we show kindness, how we honor human dignity, the salt of the earth, and the light of the world take shape.

Today's Scriptures point us toward a hope that is rooted in the real suffering of our world. This hope is lived out slowly and faithfully, grounded in the Spirit and shaped by love. When we stand with those who mourn, resist despair through kindness, and allow prayer to lead us into service, we become salt and light, preserving goodness and dispelling darkness, one life at a time.



Fr. Damian Torres-Botello, SJ
Parish Family Director of Evangelization

SUNDAY READINGS – #1104

Sunday Collection for January 25	\$3,120
Online Contributions	5,508
Total for January 25	\$8,628

Support St. Xavier Church:**Celebrating Marriage & Milestones**

The marriage blessing and social have been rescheduled to **Sunday, February 15**. At the 10:30 AM Mass, Fr. Paul will offer a special homily and blessing for all married and engaged couples, as well as those living with the loss of a spouse. Join us afterwards in the Parish Center for doughnuts and coffee. Please contact Tina in the parish office at ternst@stxchurch.org or 513-721-4045 ext. 1004.

CCM Chamber Choir Concert

The CCM Chamber Choir, joined by chamber orchestra and conducted by Joe Miller, will present James MacMillan's powerful Seven Last Words from the Cross alongside Samuel Barber's Adagio for Strings here at St. Xavier Church on **Saturday, February 14**, at 7:30 PM. A devout Catholic, MacMillan's music is deeply shaped by his faith and his lifelong engagement with the musical tradition of the Church. Tickets can be purchased at ccmonstage.uc.edu.

Congratulations to...

- Landon Jeffrey Nguyen, son of Dulan and Lauren, who was baptized on February 1.

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY GROUP

Join us for a prayer and discussion group designed for women to contemplate and process issues pertinent to women as they relate to scripture, contemporary spiritual issues, and selected popular books. Next meeting: Tuesday, February 17, from 12:05 PM to 1:05 PM in the Parish Center. It will focus on our book, *Women of the Bible – a One Year Devotional Study* by Ann Spengler and Jeanne Syswerda. We will discuss Anna, The Woman of Samaria, The Woman Who Lived a Sinful Life, and The Woman with the Issue of Blood.

Catholic Ministries Appeal

Archbishop Casey sends his thanks to everyone from St. Xavier Church who has pledged to the 2026 Catholic Ministries Appeal. If you have not yet made your pledge, please consider doing so this week. More than anyone in the world, the Catholic Church teaches, feeds, and heals. In our local community, this happens through the Catholic Ministries Appeal. You will find extra pledge envelopes in the back of the church. To make an online donation, please visit CatholicAOC.org/CMA. Thank you!

Ash Wednesday Soup Supper

On **Ash Wednesday, February 18**, St. X will host "Soup & Bread" at 5:30 PM in the Parish Center! Join your fellow parishioners for food and fellowship following the 5 PM Mass upstairs. Please call the office at 513.721.4045 and ask for Diane if you can bring some soup to share!

St. Xavier Book Club

Our group will meet on **Tuesday, March 3**, at 2:30 PM in the Parish Center. We will discuss our latest book, *The Splendid and the Vile* by Erik Larson, the biography of Winston Churchill. Beginning with Churchill's first day as prime minister and for the next twelve months, Hitler would wage a relentless bombing campaign, killing 45,000 Britons. Churchill taught the British people 'the art of being fearless,' and takes the reader back to a time of true leadership, when, in the face of unrelenting horror, Churchill's eloquence, courage, and perseverance bound a country together. Join us!

Adoration, Benediction, & Confession

Join us on the first Tuesday of every month from 5:30 - 6:30 PM in the church for Adoration, Benediction, and Confession. Exposition, Adoration, and Confession are offered every weekday from 12 - 1 PM. Jesus is waiting for you!

**CONNECT WITH ST. X!**

Sign up to receive St. Xavier Church's weekly email newsletter by completing the form on the homepage of the website.



@stxchurch

PRESIDERS FOR THIS WEEKEND - FEBRUARY 8

- 4:00 PM Fr. James Ackerman, SJ
- 7:00 AM Fr. Patrick Fairbanks, SJ
- 9:00 AM Fr. Patrick Fairbanks, SJ
- 10:30 AM Fr. James Ackerman, SJ
- 5:00 PM Fr. Paul Lickteig, SJ

PRESIDERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND - FEBRUARY 15

- 4:00 PM Fr. Paul Lickteig, SJ
- 7:00 AM Fr. James Ackerman, SJ
- 9:00 AM Fr. James Ackerman, SJ
- 10:30 AM Fr. Paul Lickteig, SJ
- 5:00 PM Fr. Damian Torres-Botello, SJ

ST. XAVIER PRAYER MINISTRY

Please offer prayers for the infirmed of our parish:

Susan Anderson, Adelle Eaton, Jeff Krohmer, Wendy Welsh, Mary Burwinkle, Norma Litherland, James Hogan, Tim, Frank & Sandy Fielers, Ella Grace Hiltz, Donna Engelhart, Sharon Dearwester, Marguerite Kron, Marilyn Freudenberg, Kathy Magner, Roxanne Modl, Peter Keiser, Patrick Auger, Iland, Conhna Davies, Stephanie Hackman, Steve Wolter, Bob Howard, Mike Green, Noah Ohlhaut, Pat Murray, Cathleen Acree, Mary Preston, Deacon Tim Crooker, David Tolle, JoAnn Komanecky, Tom Wolfram, Phyllis Link, Lawrence Wesley Colbert, Kellie Peters, Eleanor Lawler, Jim Sheehan, Shannon Boyle, Steve Smith, Lisa Durr, Harry Schneider, Blair Niernberger, Brittany Tackett, Hunter, Mark, Jenny Seithel, Kevin Noble, Raymond Hopkins, Kate W., Harper Meyer, and Ruth Bauer.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb. 13 Men's Spirituality Group - Parish Center
- Feb. 14 CCM Chamber Concert - St. Xavier Church
- Feb. 15 Marriage Milestones Mass & Reception
- Feb. 16 Presidents' Day - *No 6 AM Mass*
- Feb. 17 Women's Spirituality Group - Parish Center

Contact the parish office to learn more.

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ldurr@stxchurch.org

# of Spaces	Annual Price
1	\$474
2	\$874
3	\$1304
4	\$1665