

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



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**DECEMBER 27, 2020**

THE HOLY FAMILY

## CONTACT US

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StFrancisXavierMoundsville](https://www.facebook.com/StFrancisXavierMoundsville)

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Weekends:**

Sat - 4 p.m. Sun - 8 a.m., 10 a.m.

**Weekdays:**

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m.

Holy Days: 8:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.

## STAFF

**Secretary:** Robin Targosky

**Bookkeeper:** Susan Board

**Bulletin Editor:** Kathy Swift

**DRE:** Mary Helen Marling



## GOSPEL MEDITATION: THREE GIFTS AND THE HOLY FAMILY

Tragedy and disappointment are inevitable. What sees you through this? There will be challenges, changes, unexpected circumstances, interrupted plans, hurts, and injustices experienced by every human being at some point in their lives. We will be asked to adjust our plans, change course, and even encounter suffering and death. Where do we learn all of the lessons we need to live life well? Some of them we learn along the way, but much of what we bring to life, positive and negative, comes from our early beginnings, our families. This is our early world and provides the blueprint for how we see the bigger, more inclusive world, which unfolds before us.

Our families of origin can be sources of grace, heartache or a combination of both.

Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication, and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. They can also determine whether we have an accessible and healthy relationship with God. Many of life's challenges can literally bring us to our knees and require that we possess a strength of character that resides well beyond the superficialities of our world. At some point we will all need three coping gifts that can be given to us only by God: faith, hope, and love. Our families help us learn that we are not the ones responsible for their creation, but God who provides!

Our experience of early family life colors all of our relationships and what we expect to achieve from life in general. Resolving conflicts, dealing with difficulty and suffering, celebrating accomplishments, prioritizing our needs, listening to God's call, understanding relationships, understanding disappointment, learning about the virtues, and living a centered life are all lessons our families either succeed in teaching or do not. To succeed, as God has designed and ordered our world, is to discover His presence and then trust that presence. The Holy Family can teach even the most dysfunctional family how to best use God's gifts of faith, hope, and love to find Him and do His will. Their simple humble example is always before us, showing us the way. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

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**SATURDAY, DEC. 26**

**4:00 p.m. Matthew Hicks†**

*Lucille Hicks*

**SUNDAY, DEC. 27**

**8:00 a.m. Joseph A. & Mary Patrello†**

*Cathy & Roger Frame*

**10:00 a.m. Patty Kleinedler†**

*Her husband*

**MONDAY, DEC. 28**

**8:00 a.m. Fred & Judy Mehler†**

*Cathy & Roger Frame*

**TUESDAY, DEC. 29**

**8:00 a.m. Rob Clayton†**

*Ed & Mary Dugas*

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 30**

**8:00 a.m. Patty & Blase Sacus†**

*Cynthia L. Gunto*

**THURSDAY, DEC. 31**

**4:00 p.m. Leo Moraski†**

*Vigil Debra Freeland*

**FRIDAY, JAN. 1**

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

**10:00 a.m. For the People**

**SATURDAY, JAN. 2**

**4:00 p.m. Maiolo Family†**

*Kathryn Wallington*

**SUNDAY, JAN. 3**

**8:00 a.m. Regina Gonchoff†**

*John & Maryann Mysliwiec*

**10:00 a.m. Veronica DiCola†**

*St. Francis Xavier Choir*



HONORING ST. FABIOLA, who devoted herself to charitable works and aiding churches. She also built the first Christian public hospital in the West, where she personally tended the sick. She is patron of the hospice care movement.  
*Feast Day - Dec. 27th*

**Nativity, Novena Highlight Latin Observances**

**Missionaries Share Christmas Traditions**



Thank you to our visiting missionaries Jose Miguel, left, and Alan for sharing Christmas traditions in their native countries. The two left just before Christmas to return to seminary in New Jersey.

*In Paraguay there is a Christmas tradition in which we set the Nativity Scene in our houses.*

We place the figures of the Holy Family, the angel, the star, the shepherds and the Three Kings, and we decorate it with summer fruits, since Christmas in December is summer there. Some people use watermelons, grapes, oranges or pineapples in their decoration; however, in every Nativity Scene there is a coconut flower. This is a three-foot-long flower enjoyed all season which has a very good aroma.

Everybody writes a letter to the Three Kings. At the feast of the Epiphany the Three Kings come to the Nativity scene to visit the baby Jesus. The Kings also give gifts to all those in the house. When I was a child, I wrote them a list of gifts I wanted. Now that I am older I write them letters asking for their intercession. After January Sixth we turn the figures of the Kings around since they have already seen the Savior and should be on their way back. Finally, after the feast of the Lord's Baptism, we remove the Nativity Scene.

**By Jose Miguel Serafini Careaga**

*The most important Christmas tradition from the part of Brazil that I am from (Sao Paulo) is the Christmas Novena.*

Officially by the Church, the Novena begins on the Seventeenth of December. However, we begin it before so throughout the Advent Season we can be preparing ourselves for the celebration of the Incarnation of our Lord. The parishioners usually organize themselves by groups, which sometimes may be quite numerous and sometimes very small. We celebrate the Novena in the houses usually twice a week and up to nine days. It is a very opportune moment to invite a neighbor, a relative, or a friend who was away from the Church. Since it is a celebration which happens in a house, people will be more comfortable coming to a house.

Every day of the Novena is celebrated in a different house. There, the Word of God is proclaimed and there is a moment for reflections and for songs. The familial context of the Novena always creates an environment of expectancy for the Celebration of Christmas and communion among those who attend it. Usually the one who is hosting the celebration will offer some homemade finger food for everyone in the house, and it is truly a feast.

On Christmas Eve, we used to go to Mass in the evening and on the way back wait until midnight, when around the table a banquet was ready, and we would pray, thanking the Lord for his goodness to us. Only after Christmas Mass the kids of the house would put the baby Jesus on the manger.

**By Alan de Almeida Barreto**

**Prayer REQUESTS**

**Recently Sick:** Joseph Grampa, Eleanor Smith, Bobby Kleinedler, Sandye Yoho, Anna Mae Veronis Holiday, Sara Walters, Bill Fowkes, Joanna Bierce, Isabella Wood, Dale Whitlatch, Mike Morris, Sami Wilson, Bob Kleinedler, Kathryn Ferrera.

**Homebound:** Semon & Phyllis Prado, Rachel Kerekes, Doris Murphy, Deanne Ferraro.

**Nursing Homes:** Hazel Markey, Katie Renshaw, Joan Weekly, Alma VanSyoc, Ron Flading, Betty Kerns, Marie Lohri, Bill Tennant, Ron Jaworski, Raymond Pennybacker, Helen Remke, Barb Meyer.

Names of those recently sick will appear for two months. Please resubmit requests for those who still need our healing prayers.

## NEWS & COMMUNITY

### Calendar of Events

<p><b>Ongoing through Thursday, Dec. 31</b></p>	<p><b>Giving Tuesday Diocesan Assessment Exemption</b> Please write "Giving Tuesday" on your checks or envelopes</p>
<p><b>Thursday, Dec. 31 4 p.m. Vigil</b> <b>Friday, Jan. 1 10 a.m. Mass</b></p>	<p><b>SOLEMNITY of MARY, MOTHER OF GOD</b> Holy Day of Obligation</p>
<p><b>Sunday, Jan. 3 to Saturday, Feb. 6</b></p>	<p><b>Survey of Catholic Doctrine Course</b> jmckeets@dwc.org</p>
<p><b>Beginning Wednesday, Jan. 6</b></p>	<p><b>Bible Study: The Prophets</b> 5:30 p.m. in the Church hall</p>

### LECTORS

<b>Jan. 2</b>	4:00 p.m.	<b>M. Hitt</b>
<b>Jan. 3</b>	8:00 a.m.	<b>R. Hess</b>
	10:00 a.m.	<b>C. King</b>

### OFFERING DEC. 13, 2020

Envelopes	\$2,300.00
Loose Offering	\$168.00
Church Repair	\$772.00
Diocesan Collection	\$575.00
<u>Other Collections:</u>	
Christmas:	\$225.00
Christmas Flowers	\$320.00
Shut-in Project	\$185.00
Memorial	\$110.00
Immaculate Conception	\$105.00
Online Giving	65.15
Attendance	153

Report suspected child sexual abuse to law enforcement or Child Protective Services at 800-352-6513. Report suspected cases by Diocese personnel to the Diocese at 888-434-6237.

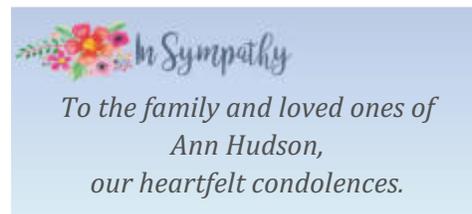
**AN IMPROMPTU BIBLE STUDY** on the *Prophets* will be held on five Wednesday evenings starting Jan. 6th at 5:30 p.m. in the church Hall. There is no workbook or homework--or fee! We will watch the DVDs from Ascension Press followed by a discussion. Let the office know if you will attend. The spring Bible study will start in March. Call Mary with any questions: 304-810-4380.

**THE WINNER OF THE KNIGHTS** of Columbus 50/50 raffle pot of \$425 is Bob Hill, and the ticket was sold by Kevin Holmes. The raffle replaced the Knights' annual steak fry fundraiser, which could not be held because of pandemic.

**ANY CONTRIBUTION MARKED** "Giving Tuesday" received through Dec. 31 will be exempt from diocesan assessment. This means every day can be Giving Tuesday until the end of the year!

Giving Tuesday proper was held Dec. 1 with the goal of inspiring global giving that is as widespread as Cyber Monday shopping. We are grateful to the diocese for extending the exemption.

Please remember to write "Giving Tuesday" on your check or envelope to ensure that our parish continues to benefit from the exemption.



**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):**

Sat. 3:30 p.m. or any other time upon request.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:**

By appointment. Contact the parish office at least six months before the date of the marriage. Pre-Cana is required.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (PSR):**

Sundays during the school term at 9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m. Grades 1-12.



Be sure to tell these parishioners what a lovely job they did making everything especially beautiful for us this season: Bruce and Suzanne Artimez, Eric and Linda Miller, Roger and Cathy Frame, Sue Church, Cindy Gunto, Ellen McCormick, Mary Taskalines, Mark and Gina Hedrick, Libby Magnone, Jim Taylor, Dillon Mangino, and Thomas (Andrew) Andrews.

**SURVEY OF CATHOLIC DOCTRINE**, a five-week course offered through the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation will be offered Jan. 3- Feb. 6.

This is a hybrid model offering both live weekly lectures as well as a rich variety of online resources.

The course will look at some of the major doctrines of the Catholic Church including the Trinity, original sin, church, salvation history, and the communion of saints. Time will also be spent deepening understanding of terms and concepts such as magisterium and ecumenism.

This course is being underwritten by the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, which pays 100 percent of the tuition. Course instructor is Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu.

For more information or to register, contact Jeanne McKeets at the diocese by sending her an e-mail: jmckeets@dwc.org.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:**

By appointment. The diocese requires instructions beforehand for parents or guardians. Contact the parish office.

**REGISTRATION, CHURCH SUPPORT:**

Parishioners should be properly registered at the parish office. Please be sure to update your information when you move or change phone numbers.



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