Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose hope is in the Lord. He is like a tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots to the stream.

Jeremiah 17:7-8
Today’s Gospel from Luke is the Sermon on the Plain with the Beatitudes, what we usually think of as the Sermon on the Mount. It seems as though Jesus is congratulating those who would have been considered unfortunate, doesn’t it? The Beatitudes statements overturn the concept of “fortunate” in Jesus’ time, naming those who are poor, hungry, mourning, or marginalized as those who should rejoice.

Jesus continues with prophetic and startling “Woe to you!” statements, directed to those usually thought of as blessed. Heavenly reward is not a privilege of the rich and comfortable but a blessing for all who trust in God, whose reward will be great in heaven.

WHOM DO YOU TRUST?
The first reading and the psalm take a somewhat different focus: trust in God, not people or things of this world. One who trusts in God is fortunate, like a plant that produces good fruit, sustained by living waters and currents of grace. “Not so the wicked,” who wither and vanish, blowing away like the illusions of their self-absorption.

Paul, in the second reading, confronts members of the early Christian community of Corinth who were doubting, or devaluing, belief in Jesus’ resurrection and the general resurrection of the dead. Depending on the material world in their spiritual pride, they believed that their righteousness was something they had achieved on their own. They felt self-sufficient, “rich,” not in need of the ongoing saving power of Christ’s resurrection that completes the sacrifice of Good Friday through Easter, which is our true blessing.

So, congratulations! Acknowledging our need for God, we are rich in the Kingdom love of our Father. Our hunger is satisfied by the sustaining nourishment of the Spirit. Our weeping is “turned into dancing” knowing that Jesus is with us in our sorrows, in fact knew them when he walked upon earth. Reasons enough for us to rejoice, always, even when people treat us badly. God’s reward to us is the Kingdom, now and always.

Today’s Readings: Jer 17:5-8; Ps 1:1-2; 3, 4 and 6; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:20-26


St. Francis Xavier Parish
7th and JEFFERSON STREETS, MOUNDVILLE, W. VA. 26041
Rev. That Son Ngoc Nguyen

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):
Sat. 3:30 p.m., or any other time upon request.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:
By appointment. Contact the Parish House at least six months before the date of the marriage. Pre-Cana is required.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:
By appointment. The Diocese requires instructions beforehand for the parents.
Contact the parish office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (C.C.D.):
Sundays during the school term at 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. for Grades 1-12.

REGISTRATION AND CHURCH SUPPORT:
Parishioners should be properly registered at the Parish Office.
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 17, 2019

“Blessed are you who are poor,  
for the kingdom of God is yours.  
Blessed are you who are now hungry,  
for you will be satisfied.”  
— Luke 6:20-21a

WEEKLY SCHEDULES

Lectors/ Eucharistic Ministers:  
2/23  4:00 p.m.  Dave Evans/Mark Klug  
2/24  8:00 a.m.  Latrisha Whitelatch/Sherrie Kent  
2/24  10:00 a.m.  Candace Kesserling/Mark Helfer

Altar Servers:  
2/23  4:00 p.m.  Frizzell  
2/24  8:00 a.m.  Laberde  
2/24  10:00 a.m.  Blatt/Swift

Gift Bearers:  
2/23  4:00 p.m.  Kay Bosworth/ Daunel Gump  
2/24  8:00 a.m.  Pete & Judy Mysliewiec  
2/24  10:00 a.m.  Carolyn Gordon

Sacristry Cleaners: Week of February 18, 2019  
Sue Church & Cindy Gunto

Greeters:  
2/23  4:00 p.m.  Daunel Gump  
2/24  8:00 a.m.  Bridget Scarbin  
2/24  10:00 a.m.  Susan Board & Veronica DiCola

Bingo February 22, 2019  
Raffle: John & Loretta Niemiec  
Kitchen: Sue Church

COLLECTION: FEBRUARY 10, 2019  
Envelopes - $ 3, 293.00  
Loose Offering - $760.00  
Building Repair - $ 704.00  
Electronic Giving - $55.00  
Xavier Hall - $ 70.00  
Memorial Offerings - $85.00  
Central Europe - $ 25.00  
Pennies for God - $11.85  
Attendance - 291

Family & Friends  
Fun Afternoon  
Sunday, February 24, 2019  
Starting at 4:00 p.m.

Come join us in Xavier Hall for an afternoon of fun and games. Bring your favorite games to play and you favorite snack to share. The parish will provide pizza and drinks.
**PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS, FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS:**

**Prayer Request:** Robin Targosky, Sam Bee, Doreen Coffield, Ralph Mercer, Brenda Kurko, Joe Church, Don McCormick, Maggie Yeater, Miriam Kulavik, Bobby Kleinedler, Chris Colby, Richard Timko;  
**Homebound:** Semon & Phyllis Prado, Doris Murphy, Bob Tetrick, Rachel Kerekes;  
**Nursing Home:** Gary Dobbs, Patricia Schmidt, Helen Remke, Thelma Gitlin, Barbara Meyer, Elizabeth Potts, Marilyn Neidhardt, Helen Cuchta, Ron Jaworski.

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**The Sanctuary Candle**  
beside the tabernacle burns this week for:  
Dobbs  
Requested by  
Whitelatch Family

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**The opposite of addiction isn't sobriety. The opposite of addiction is connection.**  
-Johann Hari  
Friend, we want to invite you to be part of the solution in WV.

This conference is designed for the average layperson. It's for people who know about the drug problem, but who have no idea what to do.  
Experts have said that we need to reduce stigma so that healing can happen. So that became our goal when planning the 7th Annual Social Ministries conference!

**March 9, 2019**  
St. Joseph Retreat Center | Wheeling

For More Info. Call the parish office-304-845-1593.

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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

- **Feb. 24** - Family Fun Afternoon 4:00 Xavier Hall  
- **Mar. 2 - 3** - Gifts From the Holy Land sold after Masses  
- **Mar. 6** - Ash Wednesday  SFX/Knights Fish Fry  
  And every Friday in Lent  
- **Mar. 13** - Parish Council Meeting 6:30

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Thank you all who support the Kroger Community Rewards Program.  
We encourage St. Francis Xavier Parishioners to link their rewards card to Community Rewards.  
Kroger has recently upgraded their system, and as a result your Non-Profit Organization (NPO) has a new account number.  
**SFX ORGANIZATION NEW NUMBER IS TN889**  
The more you shop at Kroger, the more money SFX will earn!  
39 Households participated.

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Our Organist, Denise Freeland, and our Choir Director, Kathryn Wallington have recommended we purchase a new organ. The one we have now is over 40 years old and broken again. A replacement will cost $32,000. We will be grateful for any donations.

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**THANKS ALOT**  
© J.S. Patrick Co., Inc.

To all who helped with the Knights of Columbus / St. Francis Xavier Fish Fry, thank you! We could not do it without cooks, shoppers, donations, bakers, workers and customers!

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**Masses at Nursing Homes**  
Father That Son celebrates Mass at Moundview Nursing Home every third Tuesday at 11 a.m. He celebrates Mass at Cameron Nursing Home at 11:00 every first Thursday at 11 a.m. All are welcome to join him.