

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



📍 912 Seventh St., Moundsville, W.VA. 26041 📞 304-845-1593 ✉️ sfxmoundsville@comcast.net



FEBRUARY 20, 2022

Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time

CONTACT US

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StFrancisXavierMoundsville

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekends:

Saturday - 4 p.m.

Sunday - 8 a.m., 10 a.m.

Weekdays:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m.

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

STAFF

Secretary: Sr. Agatha Munyanyi, SJI

Bookkeeper: Susan Board

Bulletin Editor: Kathy Swift

DRE: Mary Helen Marling

Artwork: St. Martin the Beggar

Simone Martini (1283 - 1344)

travelingintuscany.com/art/simonemartini

GOSPEL MEDITATION: THE ULTIMATE REVENGE

Our society tends to view evil as strong and goodness as weak. Hollywood films depict the strong woman or man as the one who refuses to forgive and who violently seeks revenge. However, nothing could be further from the truth. On the contrary, it is difficult to forgive. It takes strength to love those who want to harm us. It does not take courage to seek vengeance. Rather, it takes courage to forgive. Only a strong person has the power to choose love over hate.

Forgiveness and love are powerful forces for change in society. Sometimes change can happen through violence. People will sometimes behave differently because they

are afraid. However, that type of change is short-lived. Eventually people become resentful of having to live in fear and find ways of striking back. In the end, violence only leads to more violence. The history of the world is rife with many examples of just how futile violence can be. In contrast, love can bring healing, justice, and peace to our world. Just ask the countless Christian witnesses who have chosen the path of love — Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Saint Pope John Paul II, and Dorothy Day. When we choose to forgive, it unleashes the hope of reconciliation.

Forgiveness is really the ultimate revenge.

It is up to us, the baptized followers of Jesus, to change the world through the power of forgiveness and love. Jesus himself gives us his example of merciful love that turns an act of unspeakable violence — the cross — into the moment of the world's salvation. That is what we celebrate today — a merciful God who saves us through love. That is the commitment we made at our baptism — to follow Jesus' example until the whole world knows the merciful love of God. To make that happen, we are even willing to love our enemies.

LPi



FEB. 19	SATURDAY
4:00 p.m.	Harold Ray† <i>Joanne Ray</i>
FEB. 20	SUNDAY
8:00 a.m.	For the needs of all families
10:00 a.m.	Pat Kleinedler† <i>Bob and kids</i>
FEB. 21	MONDAY
8:00 a.m.	Mary Kirchner† <i>John J. Kirchner</i>
FEB. 22	TUESDAY
8:00 a.m.	Judy Remke Hayhurst† <i>Loretta Remke</i>
FEB. 23	WEDNESDAY
8:00 a.m.	Ray Yocum† <i>Yocum family</i>
FEB. 24	THURSDAY
8:00 a.m.	Don McCormick† <i>Ellen McCormick</i>
FEB. 25	FRIDAY
8:00 a.m.	Helen Remke† <i>Loretta Remke</i>
FEB. 26	SATURDAY
4:00 p.m.	For our parish shut-ins
FEB. 27	SUNDAY
8:00 a.m.	For the spiritual and material needs of our parish
10:00 a.m.	Alice Ralbusky† <i>Bridget Scarbin</i>

THIS WEEK'S SAINTS

St. Peter Damian, St. Polycarp
<https://www.catholic.org/saints/>

Mass intentions are still available for this year. Mass forms are in the vestibule, on our website, or in the parish office any Wednesday through Friday.

Favorite Saints Series



Discovery Is Faith's Greatest Reward

This week's contributor shares his favorite saint-in-waiting, Blessed Nicolas Steno.

By Randy Swift

born in 1638 as Niels Stensen, Blessed Nicolas Steno was a Danish scientist who converted to Catholicism. He advanced our human understanding of science as a founding father of geology, crystallography, and scientific paleontology. He also pioneered the field of anatomy.

Among many important scientific contributions by Stensen was his realization of fossils. Around the year 1666 he was asked to identify a huge shark caught in the waters near Livorno, Italy. (It ended up being a Great White.) This involved dissecting the shark's head. He noticed the strong similarities between the shark's serrated teeth and a curiosity of nature called tongue-stones. Some ancients believed the small, sharp stones might be sharks' teeth, but other ideas had taken better hold. In the Middle Ages the stones were seen as serpents' tongues. By Stensen's time most people thought they fell from the sky on moonless nights. Stensen's observations backed up sharks' teeth. This led him to postulate the formation of sedimentary rock and develop theories, controversial then, about the origin of fossils and the associated geology. Steno's findings are now among the oldest geological principles.

This time spent in Italy led Stensen to pursue fresh study, but not in relation to science. His observational skills turned to religion. He was raised a devout Lutheran, but Catholicism confronted him in his travels around Italy. He admired his saintly Catholic friends and peers. The devotion of the Italian people impressed him also. He was determined to understand it. Faith and reason are compatible in Catholicism. It also provides the best for the inquisitive, he decided. He also found grace he privately longed for in the Catholic treatment of the Holy Trinity. I identify with Blessed Steno as a convert to Catholicism. I embrace his thinking as a man of discovery. I also found Catholicism this way as a convert.

I love science. God has given us so much in His creation—more than we can comprehend. I consider science a beautiful way that God grants us understanding of His creation. We ask questions, and God guides us (sometimes in mysterious ways) to discovery. From Blessed Steno's last lecture: "Beautiful is what we see. More beautiful is what we comprehend. Most beautiful is what we do not comprehend."

Blessed Nicolas Steno converted from Lutheranism to Catholicism in 1667 and became a priest and bishop. He died in 1686, and Pope John Paul II beatified him in 1988. His feast day is the anniversary of his death, Dec. 5.

Randy serves our Parish School of Religion as a substitute and as lead instructor for Confirmation. He also recently began serving as a Eucharistic Minister.

Prayer
REQUESTS

Homebound: Rachel Kerekes, Doris Murphy, Phyllis Prado.

Nursing Homes: Hazel Markey, Katie Renshaw, Joan Weekly, Alma VanSyoc, Ron Flading, Barb Meyer, Raymond Pennybacker, Mary Yanen.

Recently Sick: Joseph Grampa, Bobby Kleinedler, Anna Mae Veronis Holliday, Sami Wilson, Kathryn Ferrera, Danielle Wilson, Loretta Saporito, Mary Stees, Judith Harbert, Megan Freeland Roskovensky, Annalyn Liette, Mike Gardill, Sandina Leonard, Deanne Ferraro, Celeste Evans, Ted Scarbin, Debbie Hand, Georgia Pettit, Lida Schellhase.

CALENDAR

Ash Wednesday (March 2) Xavier Hall	LENTEN FISH FRIES BEGIN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Weekend of March 5	GIFTS FROM THE HOLY LAND Xavier Hall
Wednesday morning March 9	EXODUS: CALLED TO FREEDOM 10-week Bible Study Church Hall
Thursday evening March 10	DEADLINE FOR SIGNUPS - FEB. 20
Tuesday April 26 7:30 p.m.	RIVERDANCE @ THE BENEDUM
CAMP CARLO EARLY-BIRD RATE DEADLINE THURSDAY - JUNE 1 CampCarlowv.org	
Wednesdays 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.	LINE DANCING WITH LOTTIE VFW Moundsville

SCHEDULES FEB. 26 & 27

LECTORS / EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

4:00 p.m. **D. Evans / R. Swift**
8:00 a.m. **C. Frame / S. Kent**
10:00 a.m. **A. Taylor / J. Klug**

ALTAR SERVERS

Please volunteer

SACRISTY

Ruth Bertrand / Julie Anderson

OFFERING FEB. 6, 2022

Envelopes	\$2,319.00
Loose Offering	\$229.00
Church Repair	\$10.00
Xavier Hall	\$383.00
OTHER COLLECTIONS:	
U.S. Church Missions	\$10.00
Candles	\$25.00
Memorial Fund	\$1,200.00
Online Giving	\$559.20
Attendance	173

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)

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

**SFX
VALENTINE'S
DANCE
&
Pizza
Party
2022**



LENTEN FISH FRY VOLUNTEERS and donations are still needed to help the Knights of Columbus run things this season. **Volunteers** are most needed to prepare and serve food. **Donations** of pop, water, foil, sandwich bags (zipped or folded) and baked goods are must-have items. Please drop off donations at the church office or the gym on Friday mornings. For information and to volunteer, please contact **Chuck Taskalines** at **304-845-7326**

CALLING ALL VETERANS

St. Michael Parish recently formed a veteran's group focused on spiritual fellowship and journeying together with Christ. If you have served our country in the armed services, please consider joining the group Thursday, March 10, from 7 - 8 p.m. in the parish office. Contact Ty Miller at 304-780-9878 or cwo.ty.e.miller@gmail.com for more information.

GIFTS FROM THE HOLY LAND olive wood carvings will be for sale in the church vestibule the weekend of March 5. Proceeds help 200 Christian families stay in the Holy Land and work toward peace in the Middle East.

WE ARE PLANNING A TRIP TO see **Riverdance** at Pittsburgh's Benedum Theater in April. We reserved 14 seats for the Tuesday, April 26, performance. Single tickets are \$32, and the show begins at 7:30 p.m. The **Riverdance** theatrical production is acclaimed worldwide for its Grammy award-winning score and the energy and passion of its Irish and international dance. This latest production is reimagined with lighting, projection, stage, and costume designs. Please call the office or let Father know if you would like to come.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):

Sat. 3:30 p.m. or 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.

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.