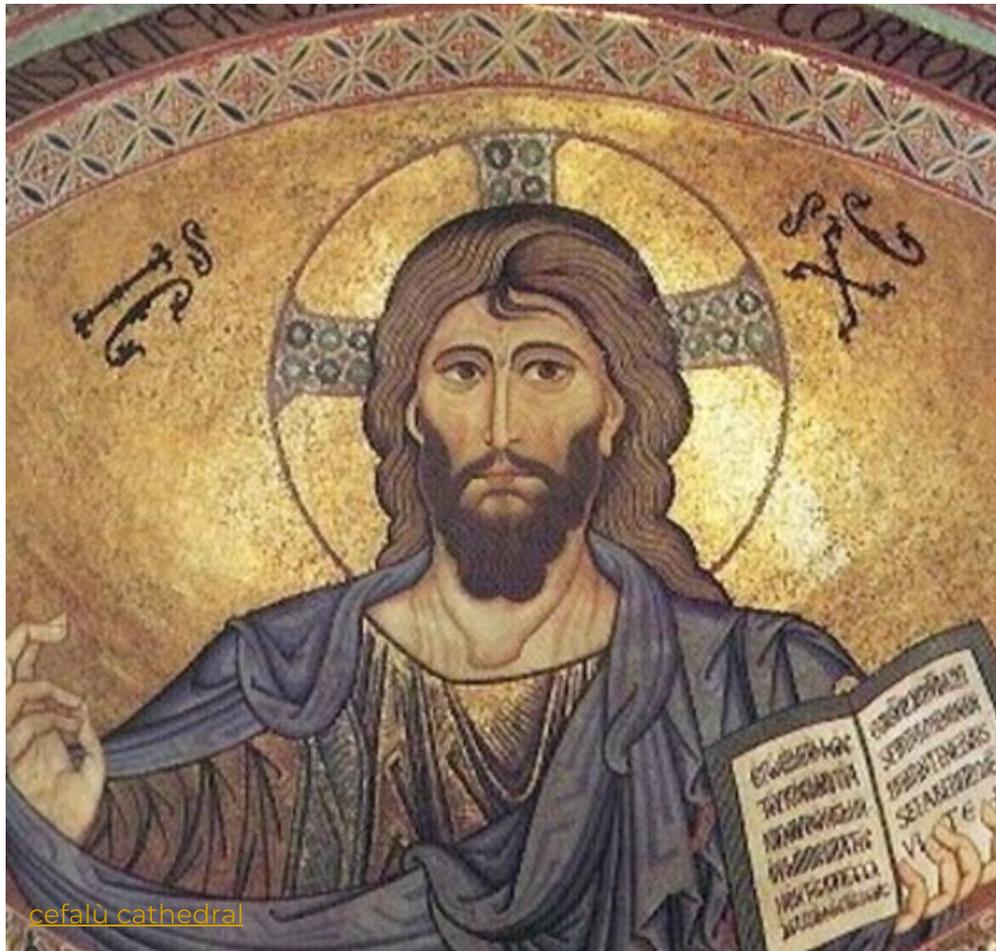


ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



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NOVEMBER 21, 2021

Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

CONTACT US

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Website: sfxmoundsville.org

Facebook: [facebook.com/](https://facebook.com/StFrancisXavierMoundsville)

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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

GOSPEL MEDITATION: BRINGING LIGHT TO DARKNESS

We often come to life expecting all the pieces of the puzzle to fit. We want and expect harmony, order, and fairness, the achievement of rewards for good behavior, good health, and happiness. Willing to put in a good measure of effort, we desire positive results. When life gets hurtful, unjust, and downright ugly, we become unsettled and can quickly fall into despair. This is especially true if we are people of faith who believe in a God who sees things on our terms and works in favor of our life agenda.

Does it help to know that God understands and that hardship, failure, disappointment, injustice, confusion, and

all of life's ugliness do not make faith irrelevant or irrational? God is wonderfully and surprisingly creative! He turns the tables on our understanding of life and what it means to be a king. God sends us a king who is not exempt from life's ills but embraces them. The king that God gives to us knows what it means to be poor, suffer insults, be ridiculed, face rejection, endure suffering, be betrayed, and face a most unjust and horrific death. This is our king. Jesus is not a king of prestige or grandeur but a king who brings light to darkness, hope to despair, sinners to mercy, and new life out of death. Christ dances before us pleading with us to hold on, cling to love, and be strong in faith!

There may be hardship and disappointment now, but there are more surprises to come.

Once we understand this truth, we will also understand that we are on a most incredible and awesome universal journey to Christ and becoming one in Christ. We all carry within us the image of God—the image of our suffering king. Even though there are ample things that can challenge our faith, we also know that our deepest joy comes from union with God and our brothers and sisters. One day, the fullness of that joy will be ours when we are all eternally one with Christ our King forever. ©LPi



NOV. 20	SATURDAY
4:00 p.m.	Jim Regiec† <i>Jerry & Lottie Durbin</i>
NOV. 21	SUNDAY
8:00 a.m.	Patricia "Trish" Kurelac† <i>Paul & Louise Hicks Family</i>
10:00 a.m.	Leo Moraski† <i>Kathy Moraski †</i>
NOV. 22	MONDAY
8:00 a.m.	Josephine Harris† <i>Libby Magnone</i>
NOV. 23	TUESDAY
8:00 a.m.	Bill Tennant† <i>Theresa & Tex Reynolds</i>
NOV. 24	WEDNESDAY
8:00 a.m.	Marie Lohri† <i>Theresa & Tex Reynolds</i>
NOV. 25	THURSDAY
9:00 a.m.	Benefactors of St. Vincent DePaul living and dead
NOV. 26	FRIDAY
8:00 a.m.	Sara Walters† <i>Theresa & Tex Reynolds</i>
NOV. 27	SATURDAY
4:00 p.m.	Sara Walters† <i>Suzy Lunau</i>
NOV. 28	SUNDAY
8:00 a.m.	Rocco & Helen Rich† <i>Karen Eisenhauer</i>
10:00 a.m.	Megan Freeland Roskovensky <i>Latrisha Whitelatch</i>

Churches Highlight of Journey



We promised to share when we could Fr. That Son's photographs of the Seven Churches of Revelation from the part of his recent pilgrimage that included Turkey. The eve of Advent seems a good time to consider the churches. The Apostle John wrote letters to these churches while he was exiled at Patmos for practicing Christianity. John received prophetic visions from Christ instructing him to write what he saw and send it to the churches. Father said he felt most blessed to visit all the churches, some of which involved steep climbs to reach. He also was moved to witness the archaeology that proves the churches existed and to consider at the sites the messages written to the congregations.

Ephesus was a major Roman city of eclectic cultures and influences. Withstanding false prophets was the warning for them.



Sardis was seen as spiritually dead for compromising beliefs to survive hardships. Alive outside but dead within was their rebuke. They were told to repent before all was lost.



Smyrna was a rich and important seaport, so persecution came in the form of financial hardship. Congregants were told to hold fast to spiritual wealth.

Philadelphia won praise alone for keeping the faith. A strong synagogue community hostile to Christians did not deter them. They were small, which limited their strength, but an open-door policy prevailed.



Pergamos was seen as Satan's throne, likely because Zeus' Temple was there. Congregants were told to repent or face wrath from John.



Thyatira was a city of artisans and many guilds, but it also was home to Jezebel, who led many cults. Her followers would be struck dead, they were assured.



Laodicea was scolded for allowing economic prosperity to cause spiritual bankruptcy. It is written that Jesus would "spit out" the congregation if they did not repent for being spiritually lukewarm. Only those who opened the door to Christ's wealth would share in His spiritual banquet.

Prayer REQUESTS

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

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

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.

A reminder that our Thanksgiving Day collection benefits St. Vincent de Paul Society and their ongoing support for those in need.

CALENDAR

Saturday Nov. 20 2 p.m.	MOUNDVILLE CHRISTMAS PARADE
Dec. 5 4 p.m.	ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE
Wednesdays 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.	LINE DANCING WITH LOTTIE VFW Moundville
Saturday Dec. 11 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	BREAKFAST WITH SANTA Xavier Hall Reservations Deadline
Saturday Dec. 18	FLOWERS TO HOMEBOUND
Dec. 19 after 10 a.m. Mass	DECORATING CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

SCHEDULES DEC. 4 & 5

LECTORS/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	
4:00 p.m.	A. Wise / please volunteer
8:00 a.m.	C. Frame / S. Kent
10:00 a.m.	L. Niemiec / L. Yoho
ALTAR SERVERS	
ALL MASSES - Please Volunteer	
SACRISTY - Please Volunteer	
Jenny Ingram / Daunel Gump	

OFFERING NOV. 7, 2021

Envelopes	\$3,998.00
Loose Offering	\$458.00
Church Repair	\$22.00
Xavier Hall	\$452.00
Diocesan	\$409.00
OTHER COLLECTIONS:	
All Souls	\$72.00
All Saints	\$42.00
Candles	\$16.00
Online Giving	\$356.15
Attendance	204

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THANK YOU

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency or confidentially contact W.Va. Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to contacting civil authorities, please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.

OUR SFX ELVES

are hard at work preparing for Breakfast with Santa Dec. 11 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Xavier Hall, and the Elder Elf decided families can now come for \$5 each. Disregard last week's pricing information.



Please make your reservations by Dec. 8 with Julie at 304-312-1711, Ruth at 304-215-4906 or Briana at 304-281-1674. We must limit the number of tickets at the door, so be sure to save a spot soon!

A reminder to our special helpers contributing gifts to spend under \$20 for each and to bring them unwrapped to the church office by Dec. 8. Gifts are needed for boys and girls ages two to 11. Thanks for your support!



PLEASE BE GENEROUS in this week's special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

In the United States, one in eight people lives in poverty. With this collection, you support programs that address the root causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and those working on the margins.

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.

HOLIDAY NOTES

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY is accepting monetary donations to purchase food cards for their annual Christmas Basket mission. Donations can be dropped in the collection at Masses or at the office. Please be sure to mark your donations for SVDS baskets.

WE WILL BE DECORATING THE church for Christmas Dec. 19 after 10 a.m. Mass.

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE service will be offered Dec. 5 at 4 p.m. here at St. Francis. Fr. Doney Chacko and Fr. Arul Anthony will join Fr. That Son to hear confessions. All are welcome!

OUR CHRISTMAS PAGEANTS are a highlight of the holiday season! Please be sure to call Lottie Durbin at 304-845-4011 or the parish office to say your children and grandchildren will take part.

THE GABRIEL PROJECT AT SFX will be closed Thanksgiving Day. It will reopen Thursday, Dec. 2.

WE ARE RENEWING OUR CALL for lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and altar servers. Our Sunday celebration of Mass involves so many people; we are particularly grateful for those who assist. All ministries allow us to offer up our talents, however small, our time, and our love to our Lord and to our brothers and sisters at St. Francis Xavier. Please call the office to say you will serve.

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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