

St. Francis Xavier Parish

912 SEVENTH STREET, MOUNDSVILLE, W. VA. 26041

304-845-1593

sfxmoundsville@comcast.net



**T
H
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D**

Sunday

of

Advent

The desert and the
parched land will exult;
the steppe will
rejoice and bloom.
They will bloom
with abundant flowers,
and rejoice with joyful song.

Isaiah 35:1-2

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December 15, 2019

WAITING AND HOPING

The people had been searching and waiting for generations for the Anointed One of God. They knew in their hearts that they needed someone to bring them back, to close the divide that had grown between God and God's people. John's baptism of repentance prepared them for the advent, or coming, of the Christ. John's message of repentance and the demands of faith, of justice, and care for the poor and oppressed, while comforting to the weak and vulnerable, was challenging to those in positions of power. Like prophets before him, he refused to ignore the promptings of God to speak God's word. And like many prophets who preceded him, John was imprisoned and eventually martyred.

We can relate to the people who went out into the desert to be baptized. They heard John's urgent call to repentance and his declaration that the Messiah was coming soon. They heard him express God's care for those who needed it most. They were compelled to hear and respond. Their lives were changed, as their hearts were opened to the reality of God's love to which John so powerfully gave witness.

We too ache for God's healing and peace. We wait for God to break into our lives with love. Who among us has not at times felt weak, feeble, afraid? Take heart, you are not alone. God is with you. God is ready to save us from the darkness of sin and lead us to joy in the presence of God's mercy. This is the message of Advent, and of the whole of the gospel: God desires so deeply to be with us that God came to be one with us in Jesus Christ.

Today's Readings: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

DEC. 14 SATURDAY
 4:00 P.M. **Dale & Dorothy Potts†**
(Cork & Joanne Potts)

DEC. 15 SUNDAY
 8:00 A.M. **Mary & Fred Nadolski†**
(Nadolski Family)
 10:00 A.M. **Pat Kleinedler†**
(Kathy Curia Davidson)

DEC. 16 MONDAY
 8:00 A.M. **Stephanie Phillips Eddy†**
(Mary Jean Brown)

DEC. 17 TUESDAY
 8:00 A.M. **Brenda Kurko†**
(Rick & Robin Targosky)
 4:00 P.M. **Living & deceased members of the
 God's Children of Love Prayer
 group and their families**
(Loretta Saporito)

DEC. 18 WEDNESDAY
 8:00 A.M. **Josie & Mark Fertig**
(Libby G. Magnone)

DEC. 19 THURSDAY
 8:00 A.M. **Mary Magdalene Allen†**
(Veronica DiCola)

DEC. 20 FRIDAY
 8:00 A.M. **Salvatore Pellettiere†**
(Diane Haaser)

DEC. 21 SATURDAY
 4:00 P.M. **Theresa Baum†**
(Family)

DEC. 22 SUNDAY
 8:00 A.M. **Inez Rakoski†**
(Arch & Joann Blair)
 10:00 A.M. **Pat Kleinedler†**
(Pam Maxwell)

WEEKLY SCHEDULES

Lectors/ Eucharistic Ministers:

12/21 4:00 p.m. Julie Fecat/L. Yoho
 12/22 8:00 a.m. M. Hitt/John Hess
 12/22 10:00 a.m. L. Remke/P. Remke
 12/24 4:00 p.m. Children/M. Klug
 12/24 10:00 p.m. L. Whitelatch/J. Kuskey
 12/25 10:00 a.m. C. Frame/P. Remke

Altar Servers:

12/21 4:00 p.m. Frizzell
 12/22 8:00 a.m. Laberde
 12/22 10:00 a.m. Blatt
 12/24 4:00 p.m. Kent
 12/24 10:00 p.m. Swift & Miller
 12/25 10:00 a.m. Whitelatch

Gift Bearers:

12/21 4:00 p.m. John & Loretta Niemiec
 12/22 8:00 a.m. Mark Hitt
 12/22 10:00 a.m. Carolyn Gordon

Sacristy Cleaners week of Dec. 16: Joe Pavilkey

Greeters:

12/21 4:00 p.m. Yong Ae Lee Potts/Terri Porter
 12/22 8:00 a.m. Roger Frame
 12/22 10:00 a.m. Susan Board/Rosemary Patrone

Bingo: December 20, 2019

Raffle: Bob Kleinedler **Kitchen:** Pam Ryan

COLLECTION: December 1, 2019

Envelopes	\$ 2,583.00
Loose Offering	\$ 680.00
Xavier Hall	\$ 520.00
Shut-in Project	\$ 110.00
Memorial Offerings	\$ 110.00
Pennies for God	\$ 33.93

Attendance - 278

CSA Goal: \$19,070 Raised: \$10,541

Donations received from now on are returned to us.



*Christmas
 Schedule*

St. Francis Xavier Parish Invites You to Worship with us at Christmas

December 24: 4:00 pm Mass beginning with Children's pageant

10:00 pm Mass following 9:30 Carols by the Choir

December 25: 10:00 am Mass

Rev. That Son Ngoc Nguyen, pastor

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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

By appointment. The Diocese requires instructions beforehand for the parents.

Contact the parish office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (P.S.R.):

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

Church Office Phone: 304-845-1593

Church Hall Phone: 304-845-9238

Xavier Hall Phone: 304-845-7080

Rev. That Son Cell: 408-858-7467

Parish Office Email:

sfxmoundville@comcast.net

Website: sfxmoundville.org

MASS SCHEDULE:

Weekends: Saturday - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday - 8:00 a.m./10:00 a.m.

Weekdays: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m.

Holy Day Mass Schedule:

8:00 am, 7:00 p.m.

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS,
FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS:**

Prayer Request: Sara Walters, Georgia Pettit, Diane Young, Joanne Potts, Mike Davis, Tex Reynolds, Norma Holmes, Marjolea DeBold, Linda Anderson, Tony & Jerrie Skvarka, Dave Williams, Bobby Kleinedler, Barbara Harris, Joe Church. **Homebound:** Semon & Phyllis Prado, Doris Murphy, Rachel Kerekes. **Nursing Home:** Bill Tennant, Gary Dobbs, Patricia Schmidt, Helen Remke, Barbara Meyer, Elizabeth Potts, Helen Cuchta, Ron Jaworski.



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Virginia where all people can access the services they need to be happy, healthy and reach their full potential. Guided by God's love, Catholic Charities collaborates with community partners, parishes and families to provide caring and compassionate services to people in need and work toward lasting and meaningful change. Please welcome Latrisha Whitelatch, Interim Coordinator of the Neighborhood Center in Wheeling who will speak about the importance of your contribution to this collection on Christmas.

Parish youth are invited to a bowling party on Monday, December 30 from 11 am to 2 pm at St. Clair Lanes in St. Clairsville. Games, shoe rental and pizza will be provided by the parish.

Letter to a Suffering Church
by Bishop Robert Barron

Books available in the church and in the vestibule

Please join us for our **Communal Penance Service** this Sunday at 4:00.

Homilist is Father James Lacrosse

Volunteers are still needed to help deliver Christmas flowers to those who cannot make it to Mass. Please meet in the church parking lot at 9 am on Saturday, Dec. 21.

Bishop Brennan will celebrate the Feast of Baptism of the Lord with us January 12 at 10:00 Mass. All mothers-to-be will be blessed by the Bishop at this Mass.

Everyone is invited to a covered dish luncheon after Mass. Please sign up in the church vestibule.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Dec. 15** - 11am Decorate the Church
- Dec. 15** - 4 pm Communal Penance Service
- Dec. 17** - 11am Mass at Moundview with Holiday Carols
- Dec. 19** - Pick up holiday baked goods orders
- Dec. 21** - 9 am Deliver flowers to shut-ins
- Dec. 24** - 4 pm Children's Mass
9:30 pm Carols with the Choir
10:00 pm Christmas Mass
- Dec. 25** - 10:00 am Christmas Mass
- Dec. 30** - 11 -2 Parish youth bowling party
- Jan. 12** - 10 am Mass with the Bishop

DISCIPLESHIP AND DRAFTS

Young adults between the ages of 18-39 are invited to Generations Restaurant in Wheeling on Thursday, January 2, 2020 starting at 7:00 p.m. This is an evening of friendship and dialogue, to enjoy a brew and grow in the path of discipleship with the Lord in a casual setting. The guest speaker for the evening is Bishop Mark Brennan.



SPOTLIGHT ON MINISTRY

The Saint Francis Xavier Conference of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society distributed 45 baskets of food to our neighbors in need on Saturday (with help from our parishwide canned good drive). This is a quiet group who lends a helping hand throughout the year to the poor or to those who are simply down on their luck. They provide assistance with food, medical needs and temporary lodging. We are grateful for their steady presence.

**Mass & Christmas Carols at
Moundview Nursing Home**

On Tuesday, December 17 at 11:00 Father That Son will celebrate Mass with the Catholic residents at Moundview Nursing Home. Come join him at Mass and sing Christmas Carols with the residents.

We are decorating the church for Christmas after 10am mass this weekend. (12/15)
Please help if you can!

We do not currently have anyone to clear the walks and steps when it snows. If you are able to help or know someone who can help please contact the church office. We cannot have Mass if the snow is not cleared.

Office of Safe Environment

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, contact local law enforcement, or contact WV Child Protective Services: 800-352-6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese, contact this diocesan number: 888-434-6237.



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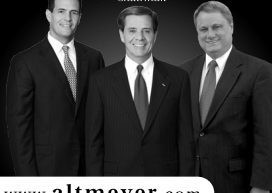


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