

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



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

FEBRUARY 21, 2021

First Sunday of Lent

CONTACT US

Church Office: 304-845-1593

Xavier Hall: 304-845-7080

Rev. That Son Ngoc Nguyen:

Pastor | 408-858-7467

Email:

sfxmoundsville@comcast.net

Website: sfxmoundsville.org

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

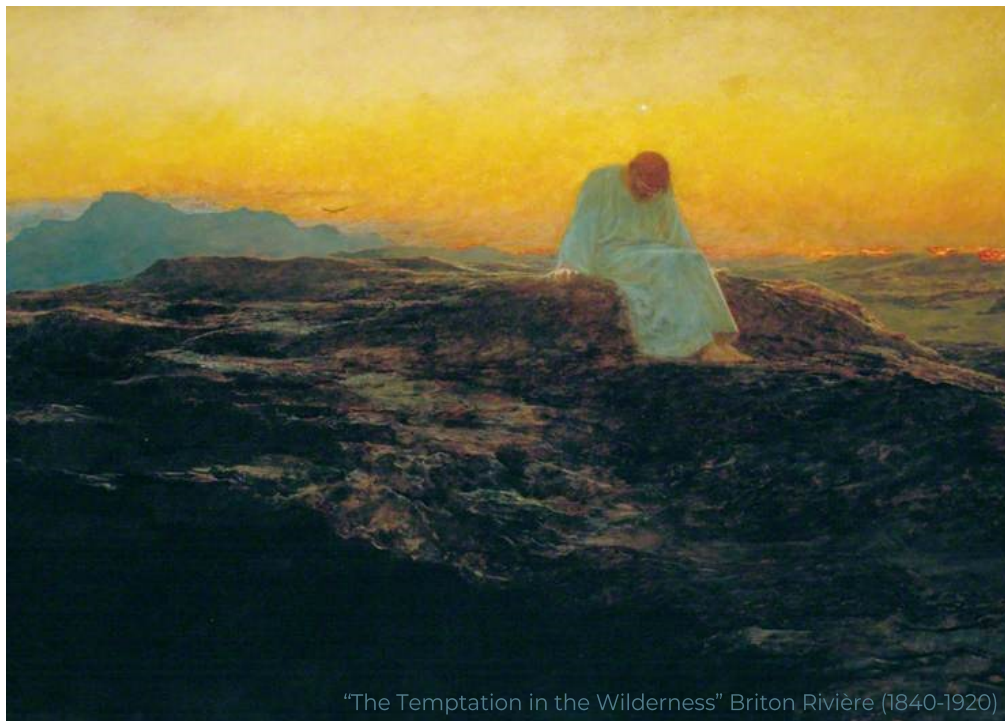
STAFF

Secretary: Robin Targosky

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Bulletin Editor: Kathy Swift

DRE: Mary Helen Marling



"The Temptation in the Wilderness" Briton Rivière (1840-1920)

One does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes forth
from the mouth of God.

[Mark 1:12-15](#)

GOSPEL MEDITATION: WHY GOD MADE GOD SUFFER

The Spirit drove Jesus into the desert--the very same Spirit who gave life to Jesus in Mary, and who descended upon Jesus in his baptism. The Spirit drove Jesus into the desert to be tempted by Satan and surrounded by beasts for 40 days. How is this possible? How could God make God absolutely suffer? How could God make God confront evil so directly? Both of these realities are part of the exact purpose of Jesus' life: to take on our flesh and our struggles and triumph over them.

Seeing Jesus tempted here helps us to understand his full humanity. God made God suffer so that we could relate to Him. Each of us struggles with temptation daily, and it is standard to often feel alone in that battle. The "wilderness" and "beasts" are metaphorical representations of the chaos and obstacles which impede on us as we

stumble through life, bearing our burdens. The ability to turn to scripture and see Jesus facing the same difficulties is a comforting reminder that we are not alone in our struggles. In Jesus' example, in fact, we find that the wilderness is not a place to be feared, but one of great hope. It is a place of revelation and of intimacy. In our darkest moments, when we are alone and most in need of God, He appears to us. Yes, Jesus was by himself among beasts, exhausted from battling Satan's temptations, but at the same time "...the angels ministered to [Jesus]." God was on his side, and for this reason, Jesus emerged from the wilderness in proclamation.

Jesus remained in a dark place for 40 days confronting his temptations in the fullness of his humanity. Now we begin that Lenten journey. Angels ministered to Jesus

throughout this battle. We, too, are never alone in our struggles. God reaches out to us in intimacy with a yearning to create, heal, and nourish a personal relationship with each of us, especially within our darkest moments. After 40 days of restless confrontation, Jesus returned to Galilee, proclaiming the Good News to all who would hear it: "Repent, and believe in the Gospel." We pay heed to this advice when participating intentionally in the Lenten season. As we work on ourselves, we strive to experience an intimacy with God in the wilderness that transforms our hearts and sends us off in proclamation – firm in both our faith and our desire to share it.

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SATURDAY, FEB. 20

4:00 p.m. **Ronald Conner**
Daunel Gump

SUNDAY, FEB. 21

8:00 a.m. **Prado Family**
Jane Klug

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

MONDAY, FEB. 22

8:00 a.m. **Don McCormick†**
Ellen McCormick

TUESDAY, FEB. 23

8:00 a.m. **Raymond Yocum†**
Yocum Family

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24

8:00 a.m. **Sophia & Ralph Vilkoski†**
Norman & Barbara Vilkoski

THURSDAY, FEB. 25

8:00 a.m. **Sophia & Stanley Tomczyk†**
Norman & Barbara Vilkoski

FRIDAY, FEB. 26

8:00 a.m. **Madlyn Thomas**
Jim & Diana Barker

SATURDAY, FEB. 27

4:00 p.m. **Rick Koski†**
SFX Class of '64

SUNDAY, FEB. 28

8:00 a.m. **Thomas Andrews†**
Don & Agnes Gray

10:00 a.m. **Veronica DiCola†**
Tex & Theresa Reynolds

SERVANT OF GOD FATHER AUGUSTUS TOLTON (1854-1897)

is considered to be the first ordained African American Catholic priest. He escaped slavery with his mother and siblings during the Civil War. He mostly self educated and eventually attended seminary in Rome since no American seminary would accept him. He was a pastor in Chicago. [More here at bit.ly/3u3Cu8E](http://bit.ly/3u3Cu8E)



FEBRUARY BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Veronica's House Mission at St. Francis Will Provide Alternatives to Abortion

The time is right for our parish to create its own mission for women facing unplanned and unwanted pregnancies. The working title of this mission is Veronica's House, in honor of longtime parishioner Veronica DiCola, who passed away in November.

If plans come to fruition, Veronica's family will continue to honor her memory by providing, rent-free, the use of a house left to Veronica by her sister, Mary Ann Barnes. The house recently was used by Neocatechumenal Way missionaries. While our mission's title could change as plans unfold, we cannot think of a more fitting inspiration to set our spiritual course than Veronica.

Efforts already are underway to locate sisters from a religious order with experience ministering to pregnant women in need. Our vision for Veronica's House is that it become a place where our parish family can come together in shared purpose to strengthen and support the mission's goals.

The primary goal of Veronica's House is leading women away from abortion. Pregnant women who are vulnerable because of social and economic crisis also will need care. Our commitment to preventing abortions with eyes also on social isolation and poverty will serve to bring all our hearts together in the name of our faith.

Our budding mission needs as many parishioners as possible to reach out with ideas and resources. Especially key will be offering these women access to prenatal care and adoption support. We also need those who can tackle poverty and disenfranchisement, which typically create room for abortions.

Let's create a brand new label for pro life, a label that signifies hearts in action, the hearts of St. Francis Xavier Parish. Please reach out to Fr. That Son, Andrew, or contact the church office as soon as possible with your thoughts and ideas. Starting this mission will not be easy, but we are up for the task!

Virtual Prayer Meetings Planned

Fr. That Son is eager to begin weekly virtual prayer meetings as soon as possible. All we need to know is who would like to join!

The sessions will be offered using Skype, which is free and simple to

use on all devices. Complete and unobtrusive support will be available to whoever needs it.

Fr. That Son will lead the prayer sessions, which he plans to keep brief so there is time for everyone to visit afterward.

Please contact the parish office immediately if you are interested.

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, Cindy Gunto, Chuck Taskalines, Jim Halliday, Celeste Evans, Phil Remke, Suzy Lunau, Ashton Gardill.

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

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

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

Calendar of Events

Fridays During Lent	K of C Fish Fry 11 a.m. until fish runs out 304-845-7080 to order
Fridays During Lent 6:30 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Wednesdays 9 a.m. or Thursdays 6:30 p.m. Beginning March 10 & 11	Jesus: The Way, The Truth, and the Life 10-Week Video Study Program Church Hall REGISTER HERE
Friday, April 30	Last Day to File DWC Tuition Assistance factsmgt.com

LECTORS

- Feb. 27** 4:00 p.m. **D. Evans**
- Feb. 28** 8:00 a.m. **L. Remke**
10:00 a.m. **S. Taylor**

OFFERING FEB. 7, 2021

Envelopes	\$2,898.00
Loose Offering	\$222.00
Church Repair	\$75.00
Xavier Hall	\$455.00
Latin America	\$50.00
OTHER COLLECTIONS:	
Memorial	\$125.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$10.00
Pennies for God	\$3.69
Online Giving	\$298.40
Attendance	127

[PLEASE CLICK TO DONATE](#)

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.



THE SPECIAL COLLECTION for this week benefits the Black and Indian Mission, which exists to help local African American and Native American diocesan communities spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and respond to real and pressing needs on the ground. The collection is taken up every year on the First Sunday of Lent, and it allows the Office to continue as the embodiment of the Church's concern for evangelizing the Black and Indian peoples of the United States. Funds support and strengthen evangelization efforts in dioceses throughout the United States, including the Archdiocese for the Military Services. You can learn more about this mission at blackandindianmission.org/.

THE EASTER SEASON IS TIME

to celebrate resurrection and new life all around it. To better focus on this theme, all are invited to join a virtual event at St. Joseph Retreat Center as we reflect on *Our Common Home* and all of God's creation using Pope Francis' "Laudato Si."

These are Zoom sessions on consecutive Tuesdays beginning April 6 and concluding May 11. Start time is 7 p.m., and the cost is \$30. Contact Anna Marie Troiani at atroiani@csjoseph.org to sign up.

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.

SUMMER SESSIONS OF YOUTH camp, now called Camp Carlo, are set for this year at the diocesan property in Huttonsville, W.Va. There will be four weeks of diocesan camp from Sunday, June 27, to Saturday, July 24. For more information, visit dwc.org/diocese/ministries/youth.

The camp's name now honors Blessed Carlo Acutis, the Italian teen and computer whiz who used the internet to spread his faith. Carlo, who died in 2006 at age 15 from cancer, was beatified in October of 2020.



Nov. 1 to Jan. 31
47 Households
\$234.27

Visit the address below to link your Kroger Rewards card to our parish. No card? **Click the web address below to register.** Need help? Let us know. Let's get more parishioners earning rewards for St. Francis!
<https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
FREE ONLINE MEMBERSHIP
FOR THE FIRST YEAR
regular dues \$30/year

ONGOING UNTIL 11:59 p.m. ET JUNE 30

CLICK BELOW TO VISIT
kofc.org/joinus
enter the code MCGIVNEY 2020

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.