

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



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

MARCH 27, 2022 | Fourth Sunday of Lent



The Return of the Prodigal Son
Pompeo Batoni

GOSPEL MEDITATION: COMING HOME

God's love story reveals itself in our stories, experiences, and aspirations. We are all prodigal sons and daughters. There are many times in our lives when we pursued what we wanted without regard for others or God. We have sowed our oats, thrown ourselves into careless pleasures, spent what we know we ought to have saved, turned our backs on those we love and abused gifts we have been given. We even hit bottom and realized the silliness and self-destruction of it all. We needed to come home. We knew we erred and needed a gentle presence to show us God's unconditional love. This wayward journey home changed us.

As much as we need to be welcomed, we are also the one who needs to do the welcoming and mercy giving. Those whom we love need guidance, but they don't always take it. We know that what they are doing is off the mark, self-destructive and wrong. We must let them go and let it happen, even though they might get hurt. As we wait and hope, they choose to make their way back to us. They don't need us to judge them. They have done enough of that to themselves. We immediately embrace them and are just happy they're home. God uses us to help heal them. Knowing how much we craved understanding and forgiveness ourselves, we can now freely

give it away. God uses what he has taught us to teach others.

God is all about love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness. God's justice is love freely given without merit. We carry the stories of the prodigal son, the unconditional forgiving father, and the entitled angry brother with us. When we make friends with all three, humbly telling those stories to others makes us Christ's ambassadors.

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MAR 26	SATURDAY
4:00 p.m.	For vocation to priesthood in our diocese
MAR 27	SUNDAY
8:00 a.m.	Donald & Bessie Reynolds† <i>Tex & Theresa Reynolds</i>
10:00 a.m.	Pat Kleinedler† <i>Bob and kids</i>
4:00 p.m.	Lenten Reconciliation Service
MAR 28	MONDAY
8:00 a.m.	Sophia & Ralph Vilkoski† <i>Barbara Vilkoski</i>
MAR 29	TUESDAY
8:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving to God <i>Sr. Mary Ann Spangler</i>
MAR 30	WEDNESDAY
8:00 a.m.	The Phillips Family <i>Barbara Vilkoski</i>
MAR 31	THURSDAY
8:00 a.m.	Philip Patrello† <i>Rosalie Conti</i>
APRIL 1	FRIDAY
8:00 a.m.	For the reparation for sins
APRIL 2	SATURDAY
4:00 p.m.	Zachary Materkoski† Curia Family
APRIL 3	SUNDAY
8:00 a.m.	For the people of the parish
10:00 a.m.	Deceased members of the Healy family† <i>Rose & John Hess</i>

REMINDER: COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE SUNDAY, MARCH 27 @ 4 p.m.



Cross Walk Tradition Returning

St. Francis Xavier will host an ecumenical service as the final station in a Good Friday cross walk, restarting the tradition to process the cross throughout Moundsville that was paused during pandemic restrictions. The cross walk will begin at 11 a.m. Friday, April 19, at Calvary United Methodist Church on First Street and Cedar Avenue. The service at St. Francis will begin at noon. Sponsored by the Moundsville

Area Ministerial Association, the cross walk imitates Jesus' journey to Mt. Calvary. Our community's procession will include hymns, scripture readings, and prayer. The worldwide practice of churches and communities imitating the walk grew from the pilgrimage to Jerusalem that retraces the last steps of Jesus before he was crucified and buried. Everyone is invited to participate in this beautiful community tradition.

Seder Meal Planned in Concluding Lent

Our parish is planning to celebrate among us a Seder meal Tuesday evening, April 5, in the Church Hall. A Seder meal is the annual meal celebrated by those of the Jewish faith to commemorate the events of the Exodus. Its aim is to transmit to future generations the story of the original Passover when the Jewish people were finally freed from the clutches of Pharaoh.

For many Catholics, Seder meals are not a common Lenten tradition, but observing Seder is a way for us to connect to our ancient heritage as a people of God. Also, as we approach Holy Week, it is not unusual to see Catholic parishes hosting a Seder

meal to show the connection between Eucharist and Passover. If you would like to participate, please call or email the parish office.

Help Decorate Our Easter Altar Through Flower Fund

Commemorate loved ones by donating to our Easter flower fund. Names of those honored will be printed in the Easter bulletin. Forms are in the office, church, and online. Details are on the form, or you can call the office.

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

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

Recently Sick: Bobby Kleinedler, Sami Wilson, Anna Mae Veronis Holliday, Kathryn Ferrera, Danielle Wilson, Loretta Saporito, Mary Stees, Judith Harbert, Annalyn Liette, Sandina Leonard, Deanne Ferraro, Debbie Hand, Georgia Pettit, Lida Schellhase, Carmina Oakland, Bob Shutler, Joe Church, Joseph Grampa

KING DAVID BECKONS

We are sponsoring an overnight trip to see the live play *David* at the Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster, Pa., June 16 & 17. The cost per person is \$180 and includes a chartered bus ride, a double occupancy room at Tru by Hilton, a hearty Amish meal at Hershey Farms, and a ticket to see the show.

Sight & Sound productions bring to life classic Bible stories using state-of-the-art special effects, meticulously detailed sets, and trained animals.

A signup sheet is in the vestibule.

SCHEDULES APRIL 2 & 3

LECTORS / EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

4:00 p.m. **D. Prado / J. Fecat**

8:00 a.m. **C. Frame / L. Remke**

10:00 a.m. **L. Freeland / L. Yoho**

ALTAR SERVERS

Please volunteer

SACRISTY

Suzanne Artimez / Ellen McCormick

OFFERING MARCH 13, 2022

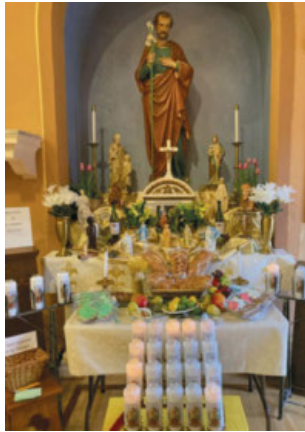
Envelopes	\$2,532.00
Loose Offering	\$339.00
Church Repair	\$576.00
Xavier Hall	\$55.00
OTHER COLLECTIONS:	
Priest Retirement	\$27.00
Ukraine Collection	\$165.00
Candles	\$22.00
Memorial Fund	\$1,600.00
Online Giving	\$75.40
Attendance	175

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)
THANK YOU

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact W. Va. Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to contacting civil authorities, report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the diocese at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.

ST. JOSEPH ALTAR INSPIRES

We are so grateful to everyone who helped observe St. Joseph's Feast Day by giving to the poor, buying candles, and bringing an array of foods, religious and other items to decorate his altar. We are especially thankful to Mary Taskalines and Libby Magnone for the time and care they took to beautifully decorate the altar. We are continually blessed by the contributions of these parishioners.



MANY THANKS TO FINANCE

council members John Sicurella, Karen Eisenhauer, Loretta Niemiec, Kevin Britt, and Libby Magnone for their work reviewing and approving our parish's 2021 finances and annual report to the diocese. Special thanks to Susan Board for her diligence keeping our parish's books and for creating this annual report. You can find the report posted in the vestibule.

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT AND GLANCE OUR UPDATED CALENDAR!

While there, notice that the Children's Station will start at 7:30 Friday evening, April 8. All parish children are invited to take part in this Easter tradition. Note also those items in purple related to Lent, Holy Week, and Easter.

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.

CALENDAR

11 a.m. to 5 p.m.	FRIDAY FISH FRIES Xavier Hall
Fridays During Lent 6:30 p.m.	STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Wednesdays A.M.	EXODUS: CALLED TO FREEDOM
Thursdays P.M.	10-week Bible Study Church Hall
Sunday March 27 4 p.m.	PENANCE SERVICE Fr. Naegele Speaker
Friday April 8 7:30 p.m.	LIVING STATIONS WITH OUR PARISH YOUTH
Friday April 15 3 p.m.	GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS
CAMP CARLO EARLY-BIRD RATE DEADLINE THURSDAY - JUNE 1 CampCarlowv.org	
Sunday April 3 4 p.m.	UKRAINE PRAYER SERVICE Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church 4136 Jacob St, Wheeling
Monday April 4	ORDERS DUE - EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS
Saturday April 9	EASTER FLOWERS TO SICK & SHUT-INS
APRIL 19 - GOOD FRIDAY CROSS WALK & ECUMENICAL SERVICE Begins at 11 a.m. at Calvary UMC and ends at SFX with services	
Wednesdays 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.	LINE DANCING WITH LOTTIE VFW Moundsville
Tuesday May 10 6:30 p.m.	PARISH COUNCIL Church Hall
Thursday & Friday June 16 & 17	TRIP TO LANCASTER, PA., to SEE DAVID

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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