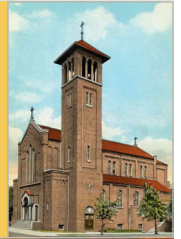


ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

912 SEVENTH STREET, MOUNDSVILLE, W. VA. 26041

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sfxmoundsville@comcast.net



THERE WAS A LANDOWNER
WHO PLANTED A VINEYARD,
PUT A HEDGE AROUND IT,
DUG A WINE PRESS IN IT,
AND BUILT A TOWER.
THEN HE LEASED IT TO TENANTS
AND WENT ON A JOURNEY.

MATTHEW 21:33

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 4, 2020

The Church presents today's Old Testament and Gospel readings together, as a pair. We delight in the symmetry between the two passages. Jesus, who is the Word of God, knows the Hebrew scriptures by heart and intends for his parable to echo Isaiah. As Jesus begins speaking, he summons the words of Isaiah, knowing his learned audience of chief priests and elders will feel comfortable with a familiar scripture passage. These scholars recognize immediately that Jesus is referring to a prophetic passage about sin, about the chosen people's tendency to turn away from God and grow "wild."

AMAZED BY INNOVATION

What Jesus does next surprises his audience. He adds a new twist to Isaiah's well-known words, adding a new character, the landowner's very own son. Adding this innovation shows that Jesus confirms the prophet's warning—that God longs for "his cherished plant" to grow according to the divine plan. The narrative twist also allows Jesus to reveal the fullness of God's plan in a way

his audience can understand. Like a master teacher, Jesus respects the knowledge and faithfulness of the chief priests and elders, and then builds on what they know. By adding the landowner's son to the parable of the vineyard, Jesus gently expresses his own mission as the Son of God. Matthew's Gospel often depicts the chief priests and elders as oppositional; they worry that Jesus will abolish the law and foment rebellion. As the Lord said earlier in Matthew's Gospel, however, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill" (Matthew 5:17). Jesus' audience is skeptical about him, horrified at the thought of a mere human being claiming that he is the Son of God. Jesus' masterful approach provides an opportunity for his audience to give him the benefit of the doubt. In this way, Jesus proposes—not imposes—his kingship, inviting us all to follow him.

Today's Readings: Is 5:1-7; Ps 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20;
Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

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Faith In Action: Jamie Boudreaux

Parishioner Jamie Boudreaux's relationship with God is friendship of the highest order. It is a bond that explains her devotion to Mass and the Eucharist as well as her trademark floppy hat, which those who know her understand is her way of answering the call of St. Paul. "Saint Paul says in scripture women should wear a head covering (to show reverence) when we pray—so I do," Jamie says.

Jamie draws effortlessly upon the words of St. Paul, who along with the Prophet Isaiah are foundational in her friendship with God and her powerful conversion many years ago that guided her fully to Him through charismatic renewal.

"I physically experienced the hand of God," says Jamie. "...and from that moment on I've experienced true healing."

St. Paul is at the center of Catholic charismatic renewal and its promise that the same gifts of the Holy Spirit that empowered the early Church are still available to believers. The now 59-year-old Jamie can attest to the gifts. They lifted her from hardships as a young wife and mother living in Louisiana—hardships that included the premature births of twins, her daughter battling cancer at age 11, ongoing health challenges for the twins and her daughter, and sustained financial struggle that put everything on the brink for her, her family, and for her husband Ricky.

"God brought me to my knees," says Jamie. "I said 'what do You want from me?' I couldn't take it anymore. From that moment on, it wasn't right away, but things started changing." This surrender led her to a healing Mass and receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

"In an instant, you know things ... you just have this knowledge. It's in your heart," Jamie says. "He becomes personal to you."

Jamie turned her outward acts as a Catholic into conversation with God—time dedicated to nurturing the friendship. "If you have a friend and you don't spend much time with them, your friendship is going to dwindle—and it may even disappear. It's the same thing with God," Jamie says, who attends Mass daily and visited often the St. Joseph Adoration Chapel at St. Michael's Church in Wheeling before

last year. It is Jamie who created the St. Joseph's altar at St. Francis to share her traditions for giving thanks. God's hand brought Ricky work as a consultant and project foreman in the oil and gas industry—work that prospered them and later led them for seven years to Moundsville—and Jamie to St. Francis. Ricky's work here is finished, so they are returning to Louisiana. "This place I'm going to miss, because the people here are so kind. I see people following Jesus's teaching here, I see a lot of people helping their neighbors," says Jamie. She and Ricky will be returning in time to help their daughter in a new battle for restored health. Jamie admits she is worried, as any mother would be, but worry is backsliding. Staying true to the gifts isn't without struggle. She is taking it to her friend God.

"I've been through a lot in my life, and if I hadn't had God, who knows where I would be. I got through that because I knew God was leading us. I knew he was going to take care of it. We just need to listen and trust him. ...We are all in his hands." — K. Swift

"In an instant, you know things ... you just have this knowledge," Jamie Boudreaux on renewal.

Masses for the Week

- OCT. 3 SATURDAY**
4:00 P.M. **Charles Freeman†**
(Chuck & Mary Taskalines)
- OCT. 4 SUNDAY**
8:00 A.M. **John & Dorothy Wayman†**
(Bob & Margaret Shutler)
10:00 A.M. **Bernard & Sophie Skryzpek†**
(Carolyn Gordon)
- OCT. 5 MONDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Children of God Prayer Group living & deceased members**
- OCT. 6 TUESDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Theresa Myer†**
(Tex & Theresa Reynolds)
- OCT. 7 WEDNESDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Ralph & Kay Amedro†**
(Tina Minor)
- OCT. 8 THURSDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Semon & Phyllis Prado**
(Danny Prado)
- OCT. 9 FRIDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Tom & Louise Wise†**
(Family)
- OCT. 10 SATURDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Roger & Cathy Frame Wedding Anniversary**
- OCT. 11 SUNDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Mary Nadolski**
(Nadolski Family)
10:00 A.M. **Joe & Ellen Curia†**
Curia Family

WITH DEEPEST
sympathy
to the family and loved ones of
Regina Gonchoff,
our heartfelt condolences.

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 parents or guardians. Contact the parish office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (PSR):

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

Email: sfxmoundsville@comcast.net
Website: sfxmoundsville.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 Days: 8:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.

**PRAY FOR OUR
PARISHIONERS
& FRIENDS**



Recently Sick: Joseph Grampa, Jane Klug, Eleanor Smith, Thomas Sullivan, Sara Walters, Bobby Kleinedler, Anna Mae Veronis Holiday, Sami Wilson, Bill Fowkes, Joanna Bierce, Isabella Wood, Dale Whitlatch, Sandye Yoho.

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

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

Names of those recently sick will appear for approximately two months to ensure requests stay current. Please resubmit requests after this period for those who still need our healing prayers.

LECTORS

- Oct. 10 4:00 p.m. **D. Prado**
- Oct. 11 8:00 a.m. **R. Hess**
- 10:00 a.m. **L. Remke**

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Disaster Relief:	\$126.00
Candles:	\$14.00
Attendance:	155

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Respect Life Month

Theme Asks Us to Live the Gospel of Life



October is Respect Life month, and the first Sunday of October is Respect Life Sunday in the U.S. Church. It is during this time the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on the dignity of every human life. This year's theme is "Live the Gospel of Life." It aims to inspire us to transform our culture by allowing the Gospel

of Christ to touch and transform our own hearts and the decisions we make. May we strive to imitate Christ and follow in his footsteps, caring for all life around us. The annual program is a nationwide effort to help Catholics understand, value, and become engaged with building a culture that cherishes every human life. You can learn more about this year's theme for Respect Life month at usccb.org.

OCT. 7 IS THE YEARLY feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The purpose of the rosary is to help us meditate on the great mysteries of our salvation. Pius XII called it a compendium of the gospel. The main focus is on Jesus—his birth, life, death, and resurrection. The Our Fathers remind us that Jesus' Father is the initiator of salvation. The Hail Marys remind us to join with Mary in contemplating the mysteries.




THE DIOCESE IS FUNDING a five-week course about the Traditions of the sacraments to run Oct. 18 - Nov. 21. The course is open to any member of the diocese, and tuition and book costs are free to them. Contact Jeanne McKeets at jmckeets@dwc.org for more information or to register. Please provide your name, address, and phone number. Registration deadline is Friday, Oct. 16th.

WELCOME BACK PSR/CCD students and teachers for a new year of growing and learning together in the faith! Students, teachers, and parents were glad to see each other, and all are looking forward to a blessed year. Please pray for our PSR family's success.

THE SPECIAL COLLECTION this weekend aids the Diocesan Priests' Retirement Fund, which provides support for benefits, medical expenses, nursing home costs, and group living expenses for diocesan priests.

THE MASS INTENTIONS book for 2021 opens Monday, Oct. 5. A reminder that forms are available in the church vestibule, at the entrance of Xavier Hall, and in the FORMS menu at sfxmoundsville.org. Contact the parish office at 304-845-1593 if you need a form mailed. We are happy to help.

REMINDER: ANIMALS  will be blessed by Father Sunday, Oct. 4, at 1 p.m. outside the church to celebrate the feast day of St. Francis Assisi.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Council 1907 in Moundsville is participating in the 2020 "Bosco's Friends Helping Friends" fundraiser Oct. 14th and 15th. Simply shop Bosco's online or at the Ohio Valley Mall in St. Clairsville. Mention the Knights of Columbus 1907 when checking out to get 5 percent off your purchase. No shopping pass to buy this year!



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