

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

912 SEVENTH STREET, MOUNDSVILLE, W. VA. 26041

304-845-1593

sfxmoundsville@comcast.net



**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

SEPTEMBER

27
2020



**Humbly regard others
as more important
than yourselves,
each looking out not
for his own interests,
but also for those of others.**

Philippians 2:3-4

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The prophet Ezekiel scolds God's chosen people for demanding more than they deserve. Acting like spoiled children, the Israelites complain when their wicked actions lead logically to negative consequences. Nature has built-in punishments for bad behavior: laziness leads to unpreparedness; overwork leads to exhaustion; overindulgence leads to poor health; violence leads to injury. The natural world brims with corrective countermeasures to our poor choices. Why is it, Ezekiel wonders, that we become upset when sin leads to predictable and natural punishments?

SUPERNATURE

Animals never object to punishment, only humans. A wounded gerbil wouldn't shake her fist at the skies and ask, "Why me?" But as Ezekiel knows, human beings complain constantly. Humans are supposed to be more logical than animals, yet we irrationally protest natural consequences that we do not like, such as pain or death. Mysteriously, our bitterness against nature is rooted in our unique capacity for greatness. Unlike every other creature in the universe, we humans are

made in the image and likeness of God. We may live in the natural world, but God calls us every minute to supernatural glory. Though we are mortal, God's mercy has destined us for immortality. Our hearts long for perfect bliss unlike anything we will ever know on earth. No wonder we demand so much from God! Preserved for glory as we are, we experience pain when earthly life falls short of our divine expectations. Jesus shows us the antidote for that pain—service. Though we share in the kingship of Christ, we must demonstrate our royalty as Jesus does, by serving others. As Saint Paul tells us, Jesus is God, yet takes the form of a slave—our slave. The Gospel encourages us to imitate Jesus in this way. We may object to being a servant at first, and even grumble about it. But God's strength can help us overcome natural objections and enter gracefully into our supernatural role, heirs to the kingdom of God.

Today's Readings: Ez 18:25-28; Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9;
Phil 2:1-11 [1-5]; Mt 21:28-32

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Priesthood Sunday: Giving Thanks to Those Called to Serve

Each year, the Church observes Priesthood Sunday the last week of September. It is a time set aside to honor our priests, without whom Sacraments could not be celebrated.



Fr. That Son

Our parish is greatly blessed to be under the care of Fr. That Son, whose disposition to do good is always at work, often behind the scenes. His prudence and generosity constantly are in motion, each making way daily for the other. His energy and spirit make it easy to forget he serves us alone, without an associate, and his commitment to providing for us is exemplified throughout these challenging times, modeling for us hope, humor, and grace.

Please take time to give thanks for Fr. That Son, especially in your prayers, and also consider our former pastors and associates, whose addresses we share for those who would like to write.

Rev. Vincy Sebastian Illickal T.O.R.
204 Furbee Ave.
Mannington, WV 26582

Fr. Ed Stafford
11045 St. Joseph Blvd
Mantua, OH 44255

Rev. Harold F. Dunn M.S.A.
2111 Market St.
Wheeling, WV 26003

Fr. Terry Adams
Saint Francis Friary
PO Box 500
Loretto, PA 15940-0500

Patrick Condron
Lazarus House
95 E 11th St
Wheeling, WV 26003-3127

Fr. Raju Antony
Bishop's House,
Civil Lines, Khandwa M.P.
450 001
India
Email: rev.raju.a@gmail.com

Fr. Ranjan Ekka
Franciscan Ashram
PO Adhikari - Via Khoribari
Dt. Darjeeling West Bengal 734427
India

Rev. Patsy J. Iaquina
2372 Buckhannon River Rd.
Volga, WV 26238

Rev. Msgr. Samuel S. Sacus
689 Alexander Court
River Vale, NJ 07675

SEPT. 26 SATURDAY
4:00 P.M. **Danny Prado**
(Terry & Chris McDonald)

SEPT. 27 SUNDAY
8:00 A.M. **Mary Ann Barnes†**
(Mary Jasinski)

10:00 A.M. **Stephanie Phillips Eddy†**
(Cindy Gunto)

SEPT. 28 MONDAY
8:00 A.M. **Bill Fowkes**
(Chuck & Mary Taskalines)

SEPT. 29 TUESDAY
8:00 A.M. **Freeman Family members living and deceased**
(Carolyn Gordon)

SEPT. 30 WEDNESDAY
8:00 A.M. **Theresa Myer†**
(Ellen McCormick)

OCT. 1 THURSDAY
8:00 A.M. **Betty Key†**
(Marshall-Wetzel-Tyler AFL-CIO)

OCT. 2 FRIDAY
8:00 A.M. **Donald & Bessie Reynolds†**
(Tex & Theresa Reynolds)

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)

There will be a special collection Oct. 4 for the Diocesan Priests' Retirement Fund. This provides support for benefits, medical expenses, nursing home costs, and group living expenses for diocesan priests.

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, Sue Riffle, 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. 3 4:00 p.m. **A. Wise**

Oct. 4 8:00 a.m. **T. Wise**

10:00 a.m. **M. Hitt**

WEEKLY OFFERING SEPT. 13, 2020

Envelopes:	\$3,547.00
Loose Offerings:	\$188.00
Church Repairs:	\$930.00
Xavier Hall:	\$145.00
Diocesan:	\$107.00
Other Collections:	
Online Giving:	\$185.15
Assumption:	\$20.00
Disaster Relief:	\$100.00
Pennies for God:	\$4.00
Candles:	\$2.00
Attendance:	135

Thank you for sending your donations and for using online giving.

OUR MASS INTENTIONS book for 2021 opens Monday, Oct. 5. Forms are available in the church vestibule, at the entrance of Xavier Hall, and at our website sfxmoundsville.org. Please be sure to contact the parish office at 304-845-1593 if you need a form mailed. We are happy to help.

IN-PERSON PARISH School of Religion begins Sept. 27 from 9 - 9:45 a.m. in the former school. Students are reminded to bring their own masks. If you forget or need a mask, we will provide one. If you still need to register your child, just show up, and we will take care of you. All are welcome!

THE INFANT of PRAGUE Novena at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Wheeling continues Mondays at 7 p.m. until Nov. 9. Each week offers a guest homily, exposition and benediction of the blessed sacrament, music, and prayers to Infant of Prague. This year's theme is "Fruits of the Holy the Spirit."

WHEELING UNIVERSITY is the best regional university in West Virginia for 2021. U.S. News and World Report Best Colleges determined the school's ranking. The university also is rated a Best Value School among its peers. The institution rated 59th in the Best Regional Universities, South Region, making it the highest ranked in the Mountain State. Regarding the best value rating, U.S. News factors total expenses, financial aid, and academic quality. Those numbers show 54 percent of students receive need-based aid, while 70 percent of that aid is provided through scholarships or grants.

WE WILL BE SPONSORING a missionary family and two seminarians beginning the first week of October from the Neocatechumenal Way. The Neocatechumenal Way is a charism with the Catholic church dedicated to Christian formation. Its members embrace a tripod ministry: Word of God - Liturgy - Community. The seminarians will be staying with Father in the rectory, and the family will stay in McMechen at the home of Veronica DeCola's sister, Mary Ann Barnes, who recently passed away. Father will share more soon about the work of these missionaries and all they hope to share during their stay at St. Francis.

FATHER WILL BE BLESSING animals at 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4, in the church to celebrate the feast day of St. Francis Assisi—with social distance, of course!

THE SECOND COLLECTION this week supports The Catholic University of America located in Washington, D.C. and its efforts to provide academic scholarships in keeping with the commitment of its founding bishops in 1887. It's the only U.S. university with Pontifical faculties at its 12 schools. Students are enrolled from all 50 states and nearly 100 countries.

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