

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

626 4th Street • Alexandria, Louisiana 71301 • Phone: (318) 445-1451

Volume XXIX, No. 6

February 11, 2018

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Father James Ferguson, JCL, Rector • Father William Gearheard, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Richard Mitchell • Deacon Cliff Pelto

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, February 12:

12:05 p.m. Dr. & Mrs. Parch (living)

Tuesday, February 13:

12:05 p.m. Mr. Ellis Lahood

Wednesday, February 14: Ash Wednesday

12:05 p.m. Mr. Don Botler (living)

5:30 p.m. People of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

Thursday, February 15:

12:05 p.m. Joop & Jeanne Kuh

Friday, February 16:

12:05 p.m. Greg Ussery (living)

Saturday, February 17:

4:00 p.m. Helen Collins, Hope Farrar Kramer, Dr. George C. Battalora, Jr., Galardo & LaCroix Families, Albert & Marie McNamara, Jim Luczak (deceased) & Audrey Luczak (living), Atlas, Natalie & Matthew Williams (living), Greg Ussery (living)

Sunday, February 18: First Sunday of Lent

9:00 a.m. Gilchrist & White Families (living & deceased), R.J. Ducote, Gordon S. Ducote, Carl T. Ducote, Freddie A. Lavespere (deceased) & Nelda Lavespere (living), Blade Nichols (living), Brooke & Sophia Bordelon (living), Debra Fonville Lamb

11:00 a.m. People of SFX Cathedral Parish

5:30 p.m. Billy Ray Fox

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The Sanctuary Light will burn for Cecille Dunn, please remember her in your prayers.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

Weekly Budget	\$8,500.00
Last Weekend's Collection	\$11,365.22
Over or (Short)	\$2,865.22
The Church Today	\$1,121.00

ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING – FEBRUARY 13

The Altar Society will have their monthly meeting on **Tuesday, February 13, at 4:00 p.m.** at the Xavier Hall Building. Fr. Bill Gearheard will give a talk on A Better Understanding of the Book of Revelations. All attending

the class are asked to bring a bible. This talk will be given prior to the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

VIRTUS TRAINING – FEBRUARY 15

There will be a Virtus Training session on **Thursday, February 15 at 6:00 p.m., at the St. Joseph Catholic Center, Alexandria.** For more info, call 445-6424 x 213.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY - JESUS AND THE END TIMES: A CATHOLIC VIEW OF THE LAST DAYS

This 4-part video series was developed by Dr. Brant Pitre, professor of Sacred Scripture at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, and will be facilitated by Fr. Ferguson. In this Bible study, Dr. Brant Pitre helps answer the questions: What does the Catholic Church teach about the end time? Is the idea of "the rapture" a Biblical concept? How does one read the Book of Revelation? What will the Final Judgement be like, and how will we be judged?


Everyone is invited to join our bible study on four Wednesdays during Lent, beginning **Wednesday, Feb. 21, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., in the church hall.**

A light meal will follow. Hand-outs of the presentation will be available. Please contact the church office at 445-1451, ext. 14 by Monday, February 19, if you plan to attend or email the church secretary at: aryder@parish.diocesealex.org. -- Fr. Ferguson

The dates and subject content:

- **Wednesday, February 21:** The Destruction of the Temple and the End of the World
- **Wednesday, February 28:** How to read the Book of Revelations
- **Wednesday, March 7:** The Final Tribulation and the Second Coming
- **Wednesday, March 14:** The Last Judgement and the New Creation

ASH WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 14

 Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the season of Lent, is a day of fasting and abstinence. Ashes will be distributed at all Masses on Ash Wednesday, February 14. There will be two Masses; 12:05 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

SPECIAL COLLECTION - CHURCH IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE - FEBRUARY 14

On Ash Wednesday we will take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports Catholic organizations that provide affordable shelter and training for seminarians in a region that still struggles with the effect of the Soviet rule. By providing pastoral care, catechesis, and funding for building renovations, your donations help to restore the church and build the future in the region. Please give generously to the collection next week.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS – FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Please join us for the Way of the Cross at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral this Friday, February 16 at 5:30 p.m. and each Friday during this Lenten season.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE NEXT WEEKEND

If you are interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in faith or obtaining exclusive access to top-rated insurance protection for your family, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you. KC Council 3200 will conduct a membership drive after each Mass next weekend, February 17 & 18. Please consider joining our council. Following each Mass there will be a member of the Knights at the entrance of the Church. Please take time to speak with them, learn more about this wonderful organization and become a member.

KCs FISH FRY FEBRUARY 14 & FRIDAYS DURING LENT THROUGH MARCH 23

Our local Knights of Columbus council 3200 will have their annual Lenten Fish Fry in Xavier Hall from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14, and each Friday during Lent from Feb. 16 through Mar. 23. Price is \$6.00 a plate, dine-in or take-out. For take-out call 447-3663 with a minimum of four orders. Menu includes fried fish, french fries, hush puppies, and coleslaw. (Please note that the Fish Fry will not be served on Good Friday) *The price is \$6.00, not \$7.00 a plate.*

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. This means that we do not eat meat and we have only one full meal.

The other Fridays of the season of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. The obligation to abstain from meat binds Catholics 14 years of age and older. The obligation to fast, limiting oneself to one full meal and two lighter meals in the course of the day, binds Catholics from the age of 18 to 59. Those who are younger or older may freely embrace these disciplines. But Lenten disciplines should never endanger your health.

It is obvious that abstaining from meat is meaningless for vegetarians, who must choose some other form of abstinence. It is equally obvious that

replacing meat with a gourmet seafood meal is not in keeping with the spirit of Lent.

FIRST STEUBENVILLE SOUTH JUNIOR HIGH CONFERENCE - FEBRUARY 24 - 25

The first annual Junior High Conference will be held February 24 - 25 in downtown Alexandria for students in grades 5 - 8. "Beyond the Limits" will feature an exciting lineup of speakers and musicians including Bishop David Talley, Father John Wiltse, our host Chris Padgett, Kelly Lombardi, the Josh Blakesley Band and more! Register online at www.steubenvillesouth.com or www.diocesealex.org or call Gennie Ashy at 318-445-6424, ext. 259.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Rebecca Dauzat, Gail Deville, Steven Haise, Bennie Hastings, Anna Parker, Paul Riddle, Preston Stemmann, Gayla Verzwylt, Andrew Waldron, Sharon White, Rev. Jacob Thomas, Feb. 13, Msgr. Steve Testa, Feb. 14, Rev. Louis Sklar, Feb. 16

NECROLOGY

Rev. Edward Deasy +Feb. 13, 2000

SPECIAL COLLECTION – RESTORATION FUND FEBRUARY 10 - 11

The monthly collection for the Restoration Fund will be taken up, Saturday, February 10 and Sunday, February 11. Your continued support and generosity is deeply appreciated.

SPECIAL COLLECTION – BLACK & INDIAN MISSION FEBRUARY 17 & 18

Next weekend we will be taking up a collection for Black and Indian Missions. This collection exists to help diocesan communities to build the Church among the African American, Native American and Alaska Native people of God. It supports parish life and catechesis, evangelization, Catholic education, and vocations in Black and Indian Missions across the United States. Please give generously.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DEACON ASPIRANT

Luke White

FOR OUR MILITARY

If members of your family have been called to active military duty, or are already on active duty, please let us know, and we will place their names for prayer in the church bulletin. Please call the church secretary at telephone 445-1451, ext. 14, or you may email her at aryder@parish.diocesealex.org.

Known military are: Gerard A. Abair, Jr., Brent Marcus Barbour, Byron P. Barbour, Quincy Bordelon, Christopher Fraser, Bryce Gadway, Garrett Gilchrist, Andrew Hill, Jeffrey Kelso, Evan Nugent, Natalie T. Wall.

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PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Richard Alexander, Loraine Barham, Betty Battalora, Helen Bellino, Richard Brazil, Irene Broussard, Georgia Brown, Ann Marie Bruner, Kimberly Ann Bryant, Patricia Briggs, Marie Burns, Anna Cannella, Rosa Cannella, Brent Caplan, Wayne & Barbara Cole, Charles "Buddy" Cosenza, Daren Coutee, Joann Cumella, Kathy Cumella, Kevin Jude Cumella, Angelo R. "Brother" D'Angelo, Bob Descant, Kathyleen Dixon, Rose Marie Francis, Bernard Fontenot, Velma Galardo, John Gallent, Barbara Goff, Gloria Goff, Bobby Grant, John Gremillion, Gill Murrell, Nugent, Cleta Perry, Bea Phillips, Tammy Rachal, Patsy Rayner, Mark & Alma Reitzell, Barbara Ponthier, Lou Ann Rigby, Kemal Sanli, Kenneth Smentek, Preston Stemmann, Jackie Storer, Janelle Struble, J. B. Theriot, Ruby J. Williams, Jacob Williamson.

We encourage our parishioners to call with the name of family members who are ill and wish to be remembered in prayer in the weekly church bulletin. Their names will remain on the list for approximately one month. Please notify the church secretary by the 1st Wednesday of the Month at 318-445-1451 x 14 so they can be included for the upcoming weekly church bulletin. If we do not hear from you, we will assume that your family member may be taken off the list.

Before someone's name is placed in prayer, be sure to have permission from that person to publicize his or her name in the bulletin.

ADVERTISER FOR THE WEEK:



*Rapides Air
Heating & Cooling*

**3739 Rigolette Rd.
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We appreciate our advertisers and encourage your patronage.