



“The Mission of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church: promote spiritual growth, religious formation, fellowship and stewardship within our parish. We shall give witness to Christ by ministering and living the Word of God.”

Saint Francis Xavier Church 611 Logan Ave Pueblo, CO 81004
 &
 Our Lady of Lourdes Mission 8800 Maryknoll Blvd Beulah, CO 81023
December 23, 2018
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. — *Luke 1:42*

Parish Office: 1725 Spruce St.
 Hours: Monday - Friday 9am-12noon / 1pm-3pm
 Parish Office Phone: 564-1125
 Parish Office Fax Number: 564-1141
 Emergency Phone: 564-2806
 E-Mail Address: stfrancisxavierpueblo@yahoo.com
 Web Address: www.sfxavierpueblo.org

Staff
 Administrator: Rev. X. Selvakumar
 Deacon: Paul Villegas
 Secretary/Bulletin Editor : Barbara Madkins
 Music Director : Alex Craciun
 Religious Formation CRE: Elizabeth “Bebe” Mestas
 Maintenance : Dru Aragon Vigil

Mediterranean Room/Hall Rental rate:
 \$50/hr for an active, contributing parishioner
 \$100/hr for non-parishioner
 There is a \$250 refundable cash damage deposit.

Our Lady of Lourdes
 Sunday ~ 8:00 am mass
 Adoration & Rosary: Sunday ~ 7:25 am
 Confession: 7:30 am

St. Francis Xavier
 Tuesday - Friday ~ 8:00 am daily mass in The Chapel
 Tuesday - Friday ~ 8:30-9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration
 Saturday~4:00-4:45pm Confession, or by appointment

Saturday ~ 5:00 pm vigil mass
 Sunday ~ 10:00 am mass

St. Francis Xavier Religious Formation
 Preschool - 12th grade + Confirmation Classes
 Sunday 8:30 am

Christmas is about His presence, not your presents.

- sign at Lynn Gardens Baptist Church, Pueblo

Mass Intentions

Saturday~ December 22 - St. Francis Xavier

5:00pm † JOHN A. & IRENE A. VIGIL by children, grandchildren, & great-grandchildren
 † JENNIFER DELACRUZ SCHILL by Patty DelaCruz

Sunday ~ December 23- Our Lady of Lourdes

8:00am † TOM LUCZAK by Marilyn West
 † MARIA MENDICELLO by Regina Fortune

Sunday ~ December 23- St. Francis Xavier

10:00am BEN & MIKE LUCERO by Family

Monday~ December 24- Our Lady of Lourdes

† BRENDA AMMAN by Dick & Ona Marie Amman

Monday~ December 24- St. Francis Xavier

† ISAIAH VIALPONDO by The Cordova & Vialpondo Families
 † DONNIE MAES by Richard & Rose Martinez
 † THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE SALAZAR FAMILY by Rich & Bebe Mestas
 † THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE MESTAS FAMILY by Rich & Bebe Mestas
 † FRANK ROMERO by Maribeth Romero
 † IRENE MADRID by Catherine Hamman & Family
 † CHARLES & PETRA McCULLEY by The McCulley Family
 † FRED & HENRIETTA ARAGON and JOSIE T. HOWE by The Aragon Family

Tuesday~ December 25- St. Francis Xavier

† ISAIAH VIALPONDO by The Cordova & Vialpondo Families
 † CHARLES & PETRA McCULLEY by The McCulley Family
 HAPPY 69th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY TO EDDIE & MARY VIGIL by Family
 † FAUSTINO W & ELVIRA LOPEZ by Family
 BABY EUGENE MUNIZ IV by Pat Muniz
 † DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE VALDEZ FAMILY by Patty DelaCruz

Saturday~ December 29- St. Francis Xavier

5:00pm FOR AN INCREASE IN VOCATIONS

Sunday ~ December 30- Our Lady of Lourdes

8:00am FOR THE HEALTH & HEALING OF MIKE MUTZ by Dave & Kathy Bleichrodt
 FOR THE HEALING OF GREG AMEY by Dave & Kathy Bleichrodt

Sunday ~ December 30- St. Francis Xavier

10:00am † LOYOLA SANDOVAL by Vicki & James Medina
 † PETRA McCULLEY by The McCulley Family

Weekly Calendar

Mon	12-24	5:00pm	No Living Waters Mtg
		8:00pm	OLOL Christmas Eve Mass
		9:00am	SFX Christmas Eve Mass
Tues	12-25		SFX Christmas Day Mass
Wed	12-26		No Divine Mercy Mtg
Thurs	12-27	No daily mass.	No meetings scheduled
Fri	12-28	No daily mass.	No meetings scheduled
Sat	12-29	4:15pm	SFX Confession
		5:00pm	SFX Vigil mass
Sun	12-30	7:25am	OLOL Rosary & Adoration
		7:30am	OLOL Confession
		8:00am	OLOL Mass
		Christmas Break: no SFX	Religious Education classes
		10:00am	SFX Mass
		11:00am	Christmas Around the World Potluck, raffle, children's Christmas Play, and fellowship

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
 Tuesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
 Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
 Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
 Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
 Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
 Friday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
 Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Monday: Vigil of Christmas
 Tuesday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
 Wednesday: St. Stephen; First Day of Kwanzaa
 Thursday: St. John
 Friday: The Holy Innocents
 Saturday: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket

Prayer Chain Give and receive benefits from the power of prayer. Enter all prayer intentions in The Prayer Chain Request Book located at the front doors of the Church, or call 719-561-9052 or 719-994-2131. Your prayers are heard.

**St. Francis Xavier Ministry Schedule
 December 29 & 30**

Mass	Commentator	Lectors	Eucharist Ministers
Saturday 12/29/18 5:00 p.m. mass	Jamie Vigil	Melanie Garza Deandra Manzanares	Jeremy Gallegos Margie Gallegos Melanie Garza Amber Terrones
Servers:	Chloe Sisneros, Timothy Sisneros		Tony Baca/Lead
Sunday 12/30/18 10:00 a.m. mass	Kathy Figueroa Nick Wertz	Nadine Styduhar-Craciun Deacon Paul Carla Osorio	Kathy Figueroa Juan Casaus
Servers:	Gabriel Allen, Payton Briseno Olivia Traverso, Gabrielle Traverso		Tony Baca/Lead

Our Parish

St. Francis Xavier celebrates Christmas Around the World Fellowship, Potluck, Raffle, and Children's Christmas Play Sunday, December 23 after the 10:00 mass

Christmas Eve OLOL: 5:00 pm mass
SFX: 8:00 pm mass

Christmas Day SFX: 9:00 am mass

Christmas Prayer Guide Day 10 Care Take care packages to a local crisis center, homeless shelter, or assist a sex-trafficking care center. Some of us know personally of someone in deep need of rescue or support; some of us may not know anyone with such heart wrenching needs but we can meet and support the wonderful ministries that support these groups (and the people who serve the needy). Thank, encourage, and bless a ministry that you know does great work. It is the least we can do! *Pray for those who have dedicated their lives to help the suffering and needy. Thank God for their witness and compassionate hearts. Pray for God to grow *your* heart for those who suffer, and ask Him to create opportunities to love those that need it most. Read Psalm 72:13-14 and pray about an organization you can support this Christmas.

Pray for that ministry and the lives it impacts. **Day 11 Create** God is the Ultimate Creator; we were created to be creative! Tap into your creativity and create something that points to the beauty of Christ. For example, make a paper snowflake and write your favorite bible verse on it, bake/decorate a batch of Christmas cookies, handwrite a note to a friend. Think about what you love to do, and do it today! *Pray in thanksgiving for God's beautiful creativity and how He displays that throughout the world--particularly in nature and the unique faces of all people. Thank Him for gifts and talents He has given you, so you can be creative in His image. Ask Him to reveal how you can display His beauty for the world to see. Read: Ephesians 2:10; 1 Timothy 4:14-15; Colossians 3:23-24.

Day 12 Invite Invite someone to church—share a bulletin or forward an online resource that includes parish activities you can attend together. Statistics show it takes about 8 invitations before someone will say “yes”. Keep inviting with a generous heart and a welcoming smile. *Pray for God to create opportunities where you can invite others to attend mass and parish events with you. Who immediately comes to mind? Pray that God is preparing them to *hear* the invitation and accept it. Read: Acts 14:37; Matthew 5:15-16; Mark 8:35; Matthew 28:19-20. **Day 13 Prayer Walk** Walk through your

Due to Holiday alterations in the bulletin production deadlines, the December 16 offertory will be reflected in the December 30 bulletin.

\$14,000 is needed, each month, to cover SFX expenses. As of December 9, \$ 2,895.47 has been collected in the December offertory. December expenses will only be covered if \$ 11,104.53 is raised by month-end.

News within The Diocese of Pueblo

Christmas Prayer Guide Day 13 continued: neighborhood and pray for it. Pray for the building of a community, its safety, care and compassion for each other. Now, take the same walk around St. Francis Xavier's neighborhood *For example: "Lord, thank you for the community you have placed me in, and the dear neighbors you have surrounded me with. I ask you to pour out your steadfast love on everyone. For those that don't know you, I pray you will give them a desire to know you, and an opportunity for me to share your love with them." Read: 1 John 5:14-16; 2 Chronicles 7:14; Ephesians 6:18.

Day 14 Gifts Make or buy a spiritual note, or bible message on cd. Use your creativity and present it with an invitation to attend services. Create an invitation to an experience; something that will last long after the Christmas tree is put away.*Pray for God to let your gifts be received in a spirit of love and gratitude. Ask Him to allow this to be the beginning of a deeper relationship within your community. Read: Romans 10:17; Matthew 5:14; John 13:35 **Day 15 Forgive** Let this Christmas be the last season you hold onto any bitterness, hurt or unforgiveness towards someone that has wounded you. Ask the Lord to help you forgive, and prayerfully consider seeking counseling to help you work through your pain. *Prayerfully thank God for his tender mercy and forgiveness *to you* Read: Matthew 6:14-15; Isaiah 1:18; Mark 11:25 **Day 16 Write** Write a family Christmas letter and instead of sharing the year's accomplishments or concerns, provide a testimony of God's faithfulness and grace over you and yours. Give God the glory for every good thing and praise Him through *each trail*. *Pray with thanksgiving for all the ways God was faithful this year. Recall His steadfast love and kindness through each month, and thank Him for all the ways He fortified you and enabled you to persevere. Read: 1 Chronicles 16:34; Romans 8:28; Psalm 63:3

Day 17 Affirm Spend the day affirming the people around you. Acknowledge their importance and that they matter to God and to you. Get creative with a variety of ways to share this message. For example, it could be a surprise handwritten note an encouraging email to your priest or friends that always lend spiritual support, compliment your neighbors on their Christmas decorations, and don't forget those closest to you—your family! *Prayerfully thank God for all the beautiful qualities you see in the people you love. Affirm their worth by praying over their gifts and talents. Pray the affirmations you share are accepted with grace and that hearts are encouraged because of it. Read: Colossians 3:12-14; Isaiah 58:10-11; Mark 12:31; Romans 13:8-10

Diocesan Ministry Fund as of Dec.14

Thank you for your generous commitment to the DMF campaign.

Our Lady of Lourdes has currently paid \$6,319; the goal is \$6352. Twenty-two families have pledged; twenty families have fully paid their pledge. (No change since the last report.)

St. Francis Xavier has currently paid \$27,495; the goal is \$31,290. Sixty-seven families have pledged; sixty families are fully paid. \$3,795 is needed to pay the 2018 DMF commitment in full.