

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

March 17 2nd Sunday of Lent

Transformed by Christ

But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, (Phil. 3:20)

Genesis 15: 5-12, 17-18 - The covenant with Abram
Philippians 3: 17-4:1 - Christ our goal
Luke 9: 28b-36 - Jesus transfigured

For Reflection: *Adults:* How are your priorities affected by your faith in Jesus *Christ*?

Kids: When you have important choices to make, do you and your family pray to make the right choice?

The Holiness Project

The important thing is that each believer discern his or her own path, that they bring out the very best of themselves, the most personal gifts that God has placed in their hearts (1 Cor 12:7), rather than hopelessly trying to imitate something not meant for them. We are all called to be witnesses, but there are many actual ways of bearing witness. (Pope Francis)

Oftentimes, it's easy to compare ourselves with others. It's tempting to see the gifts and talents of others and ask ourselves why we do not have the same. The Body of Christ is made up of all different parts - - each necessary for the functioning, health, and well-being of the body itself. Pope Francis reminds us that there are as many paths to holiness as there are people. Each of us was designed specifically by God for a unique purpose. We do not have to become St. Francis, St. Mother Teresa, St. Joan of Arc, or St. Francis de Sales. We become saints by becoming most fully and authentically who God made us to be: ourselves.

MONTHLY PRAYER GROUP

All are invited to join us for some time with God and each other. Our monthly Prayer Group meets **this Tuesday, March 19th at 3pm in the rectory.** Come and experience a moment of God's grace and reflect on the Holy Scriptures letting our Father speak to you.

50/50 RAFFLE

Annual Parish 50/50 Raffle tickets are on sale after Masses from now until April 6th when the winners will be chosen at our annual Parish Pot Luck Supper. Proceeds from the raffle will go towards the cost of installing new safety handrails on the altar. Tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for a book of 5.

TO THOSE PASSING BY

Here we are, a couple of weeks into Lent, that special time each year when we concentrate on living more and more in the way of the Lord.

Some days (*any time of year*) we can wake up with the feeling: **“This is going to be a tough one. I’ll just go on automatic pilot, grit my teeth, get through it, and begin living again tomorrow.”**

This can be a big temptation, but by turning off the “live in the present” switch, we could miss 20 opportunities to learn, to grow, to see, to ponder, to savor, to laugh, to forgive, to be surprised, to make a friend, to meet Christ in the poverty of a person in need. Psalm 118 tells us:

**“This is the day the Lord has made;
let us be glad and rejoice in it.”**

Whether it turns out to be stormy or sunny, an obstacle course or a breeze, each day is made by the Lord. It’s ours to “get through” or to embrace.

So, what about today? How will we make our way through this day?

Our parish Lenten “doings” are in each week’s bulletin. We invite you to join us whenever you would like to do that. Blessings to you now as you continue on your way.

MASS INTENTIONS

“People shouldn't be forgotten, they matter”

Jesus was aware of this when He offered us the Mass and His Body and Blood so we would remember Him. We know that the memorial of the Mass is a real participation in the ongoing life of our glorified Lord. We also believe that our deceased share that same life with Him. Unlike any other way, the Mass enables us not only to remember our deceased but also, through Christ, to share in their spiritual presence. The offering is \$15 per Mass Intention, which is a way of providing for the needs of the church and a tangible way of offering the gift of remembrance. Other ways to remember your loved ones are also available.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The 2019 Annual Catholic Appeal has begun. We thank all who have participated with a gift to the 2018 Appeal and ask that everyone prayerfully consider making a gift to the 2019 Appeal.

The work and services made possible through your donation to the Annual Catholic appeal help people in Brooklyn and Queens in ways that no one parish can alone.

Please join us and help our parish to reach its assigned Appeal goal of \$34,747.00. Please remain assured that your gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal cannot be used in the settlement of abuse claims or for anything other than their intended purpose. We encourage all to watch the brief 2019 ACA Video online at: CFBQ.org/ACAVideo.

LENT AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

WE INVITE YOU TO SHARE IN OUR LENTEN TIMES OF PRAYER AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE. AS PART OF OUR LENTEN SACRIFICE IN UNION WITH THE CHURCH ALL OVER THE WORLD, **ALL FRIDAYS OF LENT ARE DAYS OF ABSTINENCE** (NO MEAT).

The Journey - My Encounter with Jesus

Weekly Small Groups: Sundays at 10:45 am and

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30pm

Daily Reflection Booklets for personal prayer

Dynamic Catholic Best Lent ever - - on line daily reflections

What is Best Lent Ever?

It's a free email program that will guide you on an incredible journey toward the best version of yourself.

Sign up at BestLentEver.com

More Lenten Opportunities

March 30 - Lenten Retreat afternoon - 1pm-4:30pm

April 6 - Parish Pot Luck Supper

April 14 - Reconciliation Monday- Confessions available from 3pm-8pm

A LENTEN OPPORTUNITY THE JOURNEY

A WAY TO DEEPEN YOUR EXPERIENCE OF JESUS

Lent has begun.. Parish sign-ups are available in the back of church for this year's Lenten program, giving parishioners an opportunity for a unique and powerful experience parish sign-ups for this year's Lenten program are available in the back of church. Giving parishioners an opportunity for a unique and powerful experience. We are inviting parishioners (and their friends and neighbors) to sign up and join others once a week for six weeks. During these six weeks, you will be involved in a process of sharing, learning, and prayer that will help you deepen your Catholic faith, and your sense of connection to Jesus and his people.

The sessions last about 90 minutes and provide video experiences, discussions, times of silent prayer, and shared prayer around our greatest needs. Groups will be forming throughout the week, at various times, so you can be part of

The Journey. Sessions have begun.

OUR PARISH SUPPORT

We rely on the generosity of your contributions to support our church and its mission.

Always remember...God calls all of us to practice the good stewardship of our time, talent and resources, in gratitude to Him for all He has given us.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

*Includes Parish Pay **

Sunday, March 10, 2019 & Ash Wednesday \$3,888.00

THE BEST LENT EVER 2019

ONLINE REFLECTIONS

We all know the things that make us happy, but we don't always do them. Lent is an opportunity to change that. This year we invite you to do something different. Sign up for Best Lent Ever, a **FREE** video-based email program featuring internationally acclaimed speaker and *New York Times* bestselling author Matthew Kelly. Every day from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday, Matthew will help you identify what stands between you and happiness... and what to do about it. Are you ready for your best Lent ever? Sign up at BestLentEver.com

ORDINARY HOLINESS: A PARISH RETREAT

Save the date! This year for Lent, St. Francis Xavier parish is pleased to offer an afternoon retreat on **Saturday, March 30th from 1:00 to 4:30 pm** in the SFX school auditorium. The theme is "Ordinary Holiness," which is part of our parish-wide focus in response to Pope Francis's exhortation that we are not called to do extraordinary things, but ordinary things with love. The retreat will include short presentations by parishioners, prayer, reflection, a short video and small group discussion, as well as time for hospitality. All parishioners and friends are invited. Sign up in back of church..

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER ANNUAL PARISH POT LUCK SUPPER

Our Annual Parish Pot Luck Supper will take place on **Saturday, April 6th at 6:00pm in the school auditorium.** Sign up sheets are in back of church. Please fill one out and return to the baskets in the vestibule. You will notice the sign up sheet includes volunteer opportunities. We rely on parish volunteers to make this a success. Please sign up to assist. All are welcome to attend. Parishioners are encouraged to invite neighborhood friends to come along for a night of food, music and fun with our parish family.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday, March 18

7:00am: A.A.
9:30am: Berkeley Carroll
6:00pm: SFX Youth Sports

Tuesday, March 19

7:00am: A.A.
9:30am: Berkeley Carroll
3:00pm: Prayer Group
6:00pm: SFX Youth Sports

Wednesday, March 20

7:00am: A.A.
9:30am: Berkeley Carroll
6:30pm: St. Vincent de Paul
6:30pm: Cub Scouts
7:30pm: Choir
7:30pm: Boy Scouts

Thursday, March 21

7:00am: A.A.
9:30am: Berkeley Carroll
4:30pm: SFX Youth Sports
7:30pm: RCIA

Friday, March 22

7:00am: A.A.
9:30am: Berkeley Carroll
7:00pm: Religious Ed.- Grades 7 & Up

Saturday, March 23

9:00am: Super Soccer Stars
9:30am: A. A.
10:00am: Religious Ed. - Grades K - 6
11:00am: Girl Scouts
1:00pm: SFX Youth Sports
4:30pm: Confessions

Sunday, March 24

9:30am: Children's Liturgy of the word
10:00am: Sunday Morning G. A.
1:00pm: SFX Sports
6:30pm: Al Anon

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 16

5:00 **Morris and Josephine
Krieger**

Sunday, March 17

9:30 **Janie Jaime**
12:15 **Francis and Emanuel
Damiani**

Monday, March 18

9:00 **Mr. Charles Esposito**

Tuesday, March 19

9:00 **Dr. Joseph G. and Martha
Paterno**

Wednesday, March 20

9:00 **St. Anthony**

Thursday, March 21

9:00 **Jeanette Khan**

Friday, March 22

NO MASS - COMMUNION SERVICE AT 9:00 AM

Saturday, March 23

9:00 **Michael Colasuanno**
5:00 **Aloyse Schmit**

Sunday, March 24

9:30 **Alvin and Matthew
Leonard**
12:15 **William Greene**

THE HOSTS AND WINE are donated this week in memory of **Gregory Baldwin** by Doreen Patrillak.

IN OUR PRAYERS

May God strengthen and give peace to all of our sick parishioners, relatives and friends, especially for:
Robert Schlegel, Daniel Joseph, Matt Speicher, Edna Fialo, Helen Harris, Anthony Garzillo, Carmen Ortiz Edward Renard, and James and Ada Mae O'Connor.
May the hope and the Resurrection dawn on our deceased relatives and friends. We lift them up to our heavenly Father who heals all ills and gives new life.

AUTOMATED GIVING

WE SHARE

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP YET?

It benefits you and our parish!

Enrollment is friendly and trouble-free.

Managing your account through We Share is easy.

USE YOUR CREDIT CARD TO MAKE YOUR

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION

Simply visit the **WE SHARE WEBSITE**
at stfxbrooklyn.org or call 1-800-950-9952

for more information.

ST. ANTHONY NOVENA

A Novena of **13 Tuesdays** in honor of St. Anthony of Padua will take place at Our Lady of Peace Church following Mass times: 8am, 12 noon and 7pm beginning on March 19th.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER BOOK GROUP

Please note that **we are not meeting in March**. If you'd like to plan ahead, our book for Lent is *Station to Station: an Ignatian Journey through the Stations of the Cross*, by Gary Jansen. Lent begins this year on March 6th and Easter Sunday is April 21st; our book group will meet on Sunday, April 28th.

