

Dates	Time	Mass Intentions and Celebrations	Prayer Calendar
Monday, January 7 1 John 3.22-4.6 Matthew 4.12-17, 23-25 St. André Bessette, (Memorial)	7:30 am	† Pierina Pin	Rev. Stipe Renic
Tuesday, January 8 1 John 4.7-10 Mark 6.34-44 St. Raymond of Penyafort, OM	7:30 am	† Holy Souls in Purgatory	Rev. Peter Watters
Wednesday, January 9 1 John 4.11-18 Mark 6.45-52	7:30 am 6-6:45pm 7:00 pm	† Mario & Maria Gilardone Sacrament of Reconciliation † Filippo & Genie Pacenza † Pierina Pin † Joseph DeSimone † Hilda Sayers † Pasqualina Mazzetti † Dion Alampi † Angelo Mancuso † Fr. Patric Bodendistel (January 3, 1979)	Felician Franciscan Sisters
Thursday, January 10 1 John 4.19-5.4 Luke 4.14-22	7:30 am 10:30 am	† Bill Meek Mass at Clarion Nursing Home - † Francis Sienna	Rev. Ilija Petkovic
Friday, January 11 1 John 5.5-13 Luke 5.12-16	7:30 am 8 - 9 am 5 - 7 pm	† Arlene Gregorios Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament , (Benediction at 9 am) Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament , (Benediction at 7 pm)	Msgr. Ivan Vuksic
Saturday, January 12 1 John 5.14-21 John 3.22-30 St. Marguerite Bourgeoys, (Memorial)	8:30 am 4 - 5 pm 5:30 pm	† Ermelinda & Mario Cupelli Sacrament of Reconciliation † Virginia Allegra-DiSanza † Cecile & Anthony Amorosi † Yolanda Scaglione † Angelo Tirone † Pasqualina Mazzetti † Laura Spinelli † Pierina Pin † Teresa & Giuseppina Caruso † Angelo Mancuso † Calogero Agro † Carlo Napoleone	Rev. Michael Vanderbeek
Sunday, January 13 Isaiah 42.1-4, 6-7 Acts 10.34-38 Luke 3.15-16, 21-22	9:00 am 11:00 am 4:00 pm	† Giuseppe Varrasso † Rosario Paolini † Emanuele Centofanti	

"Christ could be born a thousand times in Bethlehem – but all in vain until he is born in me."
Johann Scheffler

If you are visiting our community this Sunday, St. Francis Xavier Parish welcomes you!

Donation Envelopes

Your 2019 envelopes are in the Chapel Hall in alphabetical order. Parishioners who do not have envelopes and would like to begin using them, please complete a Parish registration form and indicate that you would like to support the parish through the use of offertory envelopes. Envelopes will be available for you the following weekend. Parishioners who are snowbirds, call the parish office and we will be happy to keep your envelopes until you return. Another option for all to consider is signing up for automatic withdrawal that we have been advertising. If your envelope number has changed, for the first two weeks, please write your name and address on your envelopes. If you are new to our area and would like to register in our Parish, please call the parish office at **905-662-8593**.



LE BUSTE PER L'OFFERTA DEL 2019 sono pronte per voi nell'ufficio di questa chiesa per essere ritirate. Usate solo le buste nuove. Non usate le buste vecchie degli anni passati.

MARY: A Biblical Walk with our Blessed Mother

This is a powerful Bible Study that reveals Mary's unique role in God's kingdom and in our lives. You will experience the gospel through the eyes of Mary and get a vivid glimpse into her daily life. Seeing her in this way will lead you to a deeper relationship with the Blessed Mother and her son, Jesus. Based in the Gospel of Luke, we will explore the Annunciation, Visitation, Nativity, Presentation and Finding Jesus in the Temple. We will continue with the Wedding at Cana and Mary at the Cross in the Gospel of John, concluding with the Book of Revelation, where Mary is Crowned with Glory.

- Tuesday evenings: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
- **January 8, 2019 to February 26, 2019** Chapel Hall, Saint Francis Xavier Parish.
- Class Format: 7 pm to 7:45 pm: Opening Prayer / Small Group Discussion.
- 7:45 pm to 8:00 pm: Refreshments / Fellowship
- 8:00 pm: Video / Closing.
- Workbook: \$36.75 ea. (purchase at first class), 106 pages, beautifully illustrated with questions & responses.
- a great "keepsake" addition to your personal library

Registration / Information: call Vera at 905-561-9099 or vfedorik@skylinc.net. (Register early - we need to know how many workbooks to order).



Questions of the Week

Theme: The mystery of the incarnation - Jesus is a gift to all humanity. **Question for Children:** In your life, who helps you to see Jesus in other people such as a classmate or a friend? **Question for Youth:** Life can sometimes be rough: losing your home, moving, feeling fear or danger. How do you experience God being and staying with you in such times? **Question for Adults:** How this past week did you demonstrate God's love at home and at work?

"Share the Journey", walk for refugee assistance

Share the Journey #sharejourney In continuation of this year's campaign to assist refugees, our parish's Development and Peace group is planning a fundraiser walk which will take place on Sunday, June 2nd. The walk will include prayer, music, and the opportunity to hear real-life stories of refugees. The group is looking for adults and students in Gr. 7 and up who would like to be part of the walk's planning team. This would involve meeting several times starting in the winter, assisting with advertising, preparing supplies, collecting funds, planning the programme for the walk, and being present on the day for various roles. If you would be interested, or for more information, call Wes at the Parish Office by **Friday, January 11th**. First meeting taking place by the end of January.

World Youth Day Retreat

World Youth Day, an event that takes place every 2 - 3 years bringing together Catholic young adults from all over the world for 1 - 2 weeks of faith-formation events and cultural experiences. The next WYD is in Panama, January 2019 and to be a small part of it we will be having a **retreat at the parish from the afternoon of Saturday, January 26th to the afternoon of Sunday, January 27th**, which will include the opportunity to watch coverage of the final WYD events, as well as observing this year's theme: "I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to Your Word." (Luke 1:38) The retreat will be geared to ages 16 and up. Teens, young adults, and adults are all invited to attend. A registration form with finalized details will be available on the youth ministry page of the parish website and in the letter trays in the Narthex. Our parish is starting to think about plans to attend the following WYD (the date and location to be announced on Sunday, January 27th). Do you think you might be interested in attending World Youth Day in the future, or experiencing a bit of the events in Panama?



From the Pastor's Desk

Mrs. Louise Kunkel, our dedicated and long-serving secretary, has retired at the end of December. We wish her only the best for the future and thank her for all she has done for our parish community. Louise, we have been so blessed by your kindness, compassion, and love of the Lord. There will be an open house gathering for Louise on **Sunday, January 13, after 11 AM Mass in the Parish Hall**. All are welcome to stop by to see and wish her well.

We also wish to welcome Mrs. Leorita Staresina to the parish staff as our new part-time secretary! Leorita has been giving her time, talents, and energy to our parish for many years in a variety of volunteer roles including RCIA, youth ministry, New Evangelization, and liturgical ministry. We look forward to having her in this new role and wish her all the best as it begins!

Fr. Mariusz

Theology on Tap

A special invite goes out to young adults between the ages of 19 and 40, to attend our 3rd event of the season, Tuesday, January 15th 7-9 pm at the Albion Hotel, in Guelph. Teresa Hartnett, Director of Family Ministry, will be speaking on the topic "Living Life in a Throw Away Culture". Free finger food will be provided. All are welcome. Visit us on Facebook "Theology on Tap Guelph" or contact us at: theologyontapguelph@gmail.com

"Grief Relief"

Has someone you cared about died? Are you grieving the loss of the person's presence in your life? Are you wondering if these feelings are normal? You are not alone! **"Grief Relief"** – is a six week educational and support series dealing with grief Wednesdays - January 23, 30, & February 6, 13, 20 and 27, 7 - 8:30 p.m. at Good Shepherd Square Community Room – 15 Ray St. North. Facilitated by Linda Nash (MDiv) and Sister Margarida DaSilva (SSND). There is no cost to participate. All are welcome to attend these free sessions – come to all sessions, or any one or more you can. To register contact Sister Margarida (905) 515-0789; MDaSilva@gσχ.ca or Linda Nash (905) 308-8401; LNash@gσχ.ca

Upcoming Events

- Jan. 7 - 7:00 pm – Quest & Epic Youth Groups
- Jan. 8 - 7:00 pm – Bible Study - CH
- Jan. 9 - 7:00 pm – HarmonKnights Practice - SMR
- Jan. 9 - 7:00 pm – Parish Council Mtg. – RCR
- Jan. 9 - 7:30 pm – K of C Gen. mtg. – Chambers
- Jan. 10 - 7:00 pm – RCIA program – SMR
- Jan. 11 - 7:00 pm – SFX Card Club – GH + SMR

Thank you to all who support our Parish with their financial offerings – your contributions assist in the spiritual, pastoral and practical work of the Parish and the upkeep of St. Francis Xavier Church.

The Epiphany of the Lord

Traditionally the date for the feast of the Epiphany is January 6th – the day on which it is still celebrated in the Eastern churches. For us this festival has been transferred to Sunday so more of the faithful can enter into its message and meaning. Originally an Eastern feast, Epiphany has traditionally had three principal motifs: the universality of salvation depicted in the story of the magi coming from the East, the announcement of Jesus' identity as the beloved Son and the inauguration of His public ministry at John's baptism of Jesus in the Jordan, and the nuptial symbolism of the wedding feast at Cana pointing to Jesus as Bridegroom and Spouse of the church. The Western church only focuses on the magi motif on Epiphany; the other two motifs are celebrated on later Sundays. Some scholars speculate that the January 6th date was arrived at by computing backward nine months from April 6th, the date of Christ's passion and death according to the solar calendar in use at the time. Since the early church thought of Christ's conception and death as one event (both celebrating Christ's entry into Life), it was logical to make January 6th a "nativity" festival celebrating the three motifs outlined above.

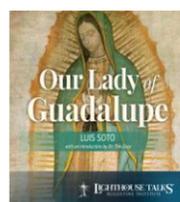


These historical considerations are reminders that the liturgical calendar is not intended to offer us historical accuracy about salvation events. Rather, its purpose is to lead us through an annual celebration of the paschal mystery as that mystery unfolds in our lives today.

Marriage Preparation Program

Will be taking place on March 1/2, 2019. Letters are going out in January to those couples from our parish who will be getting married in the near future. Anyone wishing more information, please call the parish office at 905-662-8593 as soon as possible. Thank you.

Lighthouse CD of the Month



Many people have heard of Our Lady of Guadalupe, but few people know her story. In this talk, speaker and catechist **Luis Soto** (who himself was born and raised in Mexico) shares the little-known history and life-changing importance of Mary's appearance to a peasant man named Juan Diego, and the miraculous image she left behind. Loved by millions (including St. John Paul II), Our Lady of Guadalupe is a patron and example of how to share the Gospel with the whole world. This CD and others are available in the Lighthouse Media kiosk that is located in the Narthex (lobby) of our Church by the library.