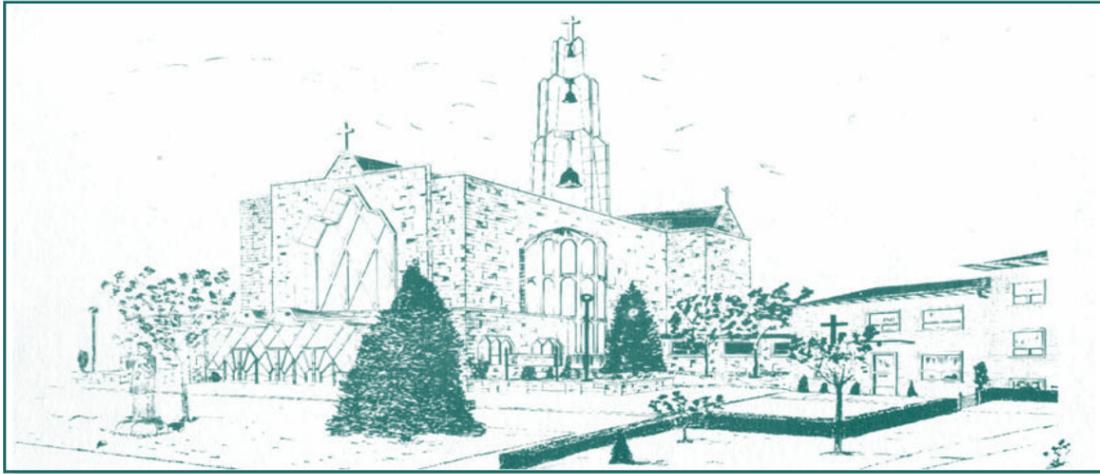


Saint Francis Xavier Parish



THE LORD'S DAY MASSES
 SATURDAY 5:30 P.M.
 SUNDAY 9:00 A.M., 11:00 A.M.
 & 4:00 P.M. (September to June)

PASTORAL MINISTERS
 Rev. Mariusz Durbajlo, Pastor
 email: fr.mariuszdurbajlo@gmail.com
 Rev. Claude Perera, Associate Pastor
 Rev. Mr. Brian T. Prieur, Permanent Deacon
 Rev. Mr. Gian Girolami, Permanent Deacon
 Ms. Wes Moga, Youth Minister

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
 Wednesday 6:00 to 6:45 p.m.
 Saturday 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. or by appointment

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY
 Contact us at least a year in advance

BLESSING OF EXPECTANT PARENTS
 After Mass on the 4th Sunday of every month
 Please be seated in the two front pews

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
 Call the parish office early in pregnancy to register for Baptism and preparation meeting.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD
 September to June Every Sunday
 During the 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Mass

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK OR ELDERLY
 Please notify the office if someone in our parish is in hospital or confined to home.

CATHOLIC FUNERAL RITES
 When death occurs in the family, please contact the parish office and we will assist you in making the liturgical arrangements. For information on Catholic burial, please contact the cemetery office at 905-522-7727 or 1-800-661-5985, or visit their website at www.thecatholiccemeteries.ca

PARISH OFFICE
 304 Highway 8
 Stoney Creek, Ontario, L8G 1E6
 Tel: 905-662-8593 Fax: 905-662-8029
 email: saintfx@cogeco.net
 website: saintfxstoneycreek.com
 facebook: St. Francis Xavier Parish, SC

OFFICE HOURS
 Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday & Sunday and Holidays - Closed

PARISH STAFF
 Mrs. Jeanette Pin, Bookkeeper
 Mrs. Marian Fontana, Secretary
 Mrs. Leorita Staesina, Secretary
 Mr. Marc Carmel, Caretaker

OUR SCHOOLS
 Saint Francis Xavier 905-523-2333
 Saint Martin of Tours 905-523-2334
 Saint Agnes 905-560-7616
 Saint Clare of Assisi 905-523-2344
 Our Lady of Peace 905-523-2330
 St. John Henry Newman 905-523-2314

PARISH REGISTRATION
 Forms are located at the entrances of the church or simply call the parish office to register.

PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE: for those considering priesthood or religious life, you may obtain information and assistance from our parish priests; parish staff or see www.vocationinfo.ca

WELCOME
 A warm welcome to all visitors who are with us today. May the Lord bless you!

LEGACIES AND BEQUESTS
 Keep your love for your Parish alive. Remember St. Francis Xavier in your will and when suggesting expression of sympathy. If anyone wishes to make such a bequest in their will please contact the Parish Office.

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 INGRASSIA MACALUSO ASSOCIATES
 69 John St. S., Suite 200
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Dates	Time	Mass Intentions and Celebrations	Prayer Calendar
Monday, February 17 James 1.1-11 Mark 8.13 Seven Holy Founders of Servite Order, (OM)	8:30 am	† Aleyamma Joseph	Rev. Luc Payette
Tuesday, February 18 James 1.12-18 Mark 8.14-21	7:30 am	† Giovan Battista Spadafora	R.I.P. Rev. Anthony Azzopardi
Wednesday, February 19 James 1.19-27 Mark 8.22-26	9:15 am 6 - 6:45pm 7:00 pm	† Dolores Pegg Sacrament of Reconciliation † Silvano Scattolon † Giovanni Susi † Francesca Panicucci	Disalced Carmelite Sisters
Thursday, February 20 James 2.1-9 Mark 8.27-33	7:30 am 11:00 am	† Aguinaldo Elias & Maria & Jose Raimondo Mass at New Village Retirement Home - † Anna Zanrosso	Rev. Gordian Okpuruka
Friday, February 21 James 2.14-24, 26 Mark 8.34-38, 9.1 St. Peter Damian, (OM)	7:30 am 8 - 9 am 5 - 7 pm	Special Intentions for Lucinda Kunkel Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, (Benediction at 9 am) Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, (Benediction at 7 pm)	Rev. Paul Vellimoozhayil
Saturday, February 22 1 Peter 5.1-4 Matthew 16.13-19 Chair of St. Peter, Apostle, (Feast)	8:30 am 4 - 5 pm 5:30 pm	Intentions for Jacob, Jackson, Lucy, Stone, Connor, Lucie, Jakob, Nicholas & Allie Sacrament of Reconciliation † David & Sophie Colterman † Pia DiGiacinto † Gina Valeri † Nicolo Mendola † Giuseppe Figliola † Ross Bommarito † Daisy Funes † Fernando DiLallo † Francesco Paradisi † Carmela Diadamo † Gaetano, Emilia & Carlo Matruglio † Anna LaLama † Carmela Cino † Gisa Saccomanti † Jessie Frazak † Achille Luison † Teresa Filice † Maria Sardo † John & Flora Sanvito Thanksgiving to Jesus, Mary & Joseph	Rev. Scott Whitfield
Sunday, February 23 Leviticus 19.1-2, 17-18 1 Corinthians 3.16-23 Matthew 5.38-48	9:00 am 11:00 am 12:30 pm 4:00 pm	† Siek Witold † Ed Chalupka Sacrament of Baptism Missa Pro Populo	

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless."
St. Teresa of Calcutta

IF YOU ARE VISITING OUR COMMUNITY THIS SUNDAY, ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH WELCOMES YOU!

THINKfast

THINKfast is our annual **social justice sleeper** for students in **Grades 5 and up!** Each year participants explore a difference justice issue through lots of fun and interactive activities, such as games, simulation activities, prayer, crafts, and group discussions. They also spend 24 hours fasting from solid foods as a reminder of those who are in need around the world. *This year's focus is climate change and the importance of the Amazon Rainforest.* We'll discover the special role that the Amazon plays for the health of the Earth and all its creatures, as well as the injustices being suffered by those peoples who live within the Amazon as the forest is exploited for profit. Come out for a fun and faith-filled experience and learn more about this important issue and how you can help make a difference! Registration forms are at the parish office and on the youth ministry page of the parish website. Dates: **Friday, February 28 (6pm) – Saturday, February 29 (7:15pm).** Cost to participate: **\$20** (contact Wes if this is a problem). **Registration deadline: Monday, February 24.**

Baptismal Preparation Meeting
A reminder to parents who will be having their children baptized here at St. Francis Xavier Church in the near future that on **Tuesday, February 18 at 6:45 pm** there will be a baptism preparation session in the Parish Center's small meeting room.

Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass
Are you celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, or 60+ Wedding Anniversary this year? You are cordially invited to join couples from across the Diocese of Hamilton for a Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sunday, June 14**, at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King at 1:30 pm. (Anniversary couples married 60 years or more may bring 1 guest if you require assistance).

'Unplanned', The Movie
Hamilton Right to Life and the Diocese of Hamilton are partnering to bring you a complimentary showing of the eye-opening film, UNPLANNED. The film is based on a true story of the youngest Director of Planned Parenthood, Abby Johnson and her journey of transformation. This film viewing will be held at the Nicholas Mancini Centre, 44 Hunt Street, Hamilton, **Wednesday, February 19 at 7 pm.** (Doors open at 6 pm). For further information, call the Hamilton Right to Life office at 905-528-3065 or the Hamilton Diocese Family Ministry office at 905-528-7988 ext 2250. The registration link can be found online at www.hamiltonrighttolife.org. While the movie showing is free, donations to Hamilton Right to Life are accepted and appreciated as we strive to educate people to recognize and affirm the sanctity of human life.

Questions of the Week
Theme: God's Commandments are a way of life. **Question for Children:** Which rules cause you the most difficulty? Why? **Question for Youth:** In your own words, describe what the spirit of God's law is. **Question for Adults:** Have you considered that laws are made with love? Do you accept God's love through his laws??

Palms and Ashes
As Catholics, we are accustomed to having religious objects "blessed," which signifies the permanent sanctification and dedication of an object for some sacred purpose. Once a religious object is blessed and dedicated for divine worship or veneration, it must be treated with reverence and must not be used in either an improper or profane way (cf. Code of Canon Law, #1171). As the time of Lent approaches some of us might ask: what do I do with "old" palms blessed a year ago? The basic rule is to burn or to bury them. Please remember that the ashes that will be used to mark the beginning of Lent come from the branches blessed and distributed last Passion Sunday. **We invite you to bring the branches taken home last year to the church and place them in containers that are located in the lobby of the church, so that they may be burned and used in the Ash Wednesday liturgy on February 26th.**



Lighthouse CD of the Month
The Spirituality of Marriage
Dr. Tim Gray. Throughout the Church's history there has been crisis and confusion over Church teaching. Today, there is crisis and confusion surrounding the Sacrament of Marriage. As Augustine Institute President and Professor Dr. Tim Gray explains, this crisis presents an immense opportunity, as it encourages us to explore and discover the depth of this mystery, described by Pope Benedict XVI as "a Gospel in itself". When lived faithfully and well, marriage serves as a bold witness to the love and saving power of God. **This CD is available in the Lighthouse Media kiosk in the church Narthex.**

Thinking about Separation or Divorce?
Is your marriage or that of a relative or friend heading for divorce? Retrouvaille is designed to help marriages regain their health. The Retrouvaille program is highly successful in saving marriages. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend **March 13.** Call **905-664-5212** or visit retrouvaille.org



Thank-You from Youth Ministry!
Heartfelt gratitude goes out to the individual(s) who made a very generous anonymous donation to our Youth Ministry this past weekend. Thank-you for supporting our efforts to accompany and serve our young people on their journeys of faith. Your gift is so appreciated.

Perpetual Enrolments
Give the Gift of Prayer for **Special Occasions, Birthdays, Graduations, or Wedding Anniversaries.** Mass cards for Living and Deceased persons are available at the Parish Office. Your offerings help support **Sisters of the Precious Blood** in Hamilton. The plainer/smaller Mass cards are **\$10 ea.** and the fancier/larger Mass cards are **\$20 ea.**

Milk Bags for Mats
If you find yourself with an abundance of either the blue and white or red and white milk bags and would like to be free of them, we will accept as many as possible so we may continue making the mats. Please bring the clean, dry bags to the parish office or drop them off in the Narthex of the church. Our next session is March 3rd and at this time we have a shortage of bags. Thank you for continued help in this matter.

2019 Income Tax Receipts
The tax receipts from \$20 and up are ready to be either picked up, e-mailed to you or post mailed. **If you wish to have your receipt emailed,** please request this **by email to us** along with your envelope number and address to bookkeeper_sfx@cogeco.net. The balance of receipts will be mailed out by the end of February.

2020 Lift Jesus Higher Rally
LJHR is an annual event for Youth and Adults that focuses on evangelizing through uplifting music, testimonials, confessions, reflections, Divine Mercy celebration and Eucharistic Procession. Rally Location: Metro Toronto Convention Centre: John Bassett Theatre, 255 Front Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5V 2W6. Rally Time: Saturday, March 7, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events
Feb. 18 - 6:45 pm – Baptismal Prep. Mtg.- SMR
Feb. 18 - 7:00 pm – Bible Study – CH
Feb. 19 - 7:00 pm – SSVp Part. Council Mtg.-GH
Feb. 19 - 7:30 pm – CWL Executive Mtg. - RCR
Feb. 20 - 7:00 pm – RCIA program – SMR
Feb. 20 - 7:00 pm – SSVp - RCR
Feb. 21 - 7:00 pm – SFX Card Club – GH + SMR

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORT OUR PARISH WITH THEIR OFFERINGS.

Parish Office Closed:
Monday, February 17 – **Family Day**
Please remember that the morning Mass that day is at 8:30 AM

Prayers for the Deceased
In your charity, please remember in your prayers those who passed away from our parish community: **† Mark Ljuljdjuraj, † Carmela Carbone & † Mario Agresta.** Also remember their families in your prayers. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace." Amen.**

Deluxe Pancake Breakfast
The Knights of Columbus Council 7969 will be a sponsoring a Deluxe Pancake Breakfast after all morning Masses on **Sunday, February 23.** The breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, ham, scrambled eggs, hash browns, toast, coffee/tea, and juice. The breakfast will run from **9:30 am to 1pm.** **Adults: \$10 and Children: \$6.** Tickets can be purchased at the door. Everyone is invited. All proceeds go to support Knights charities.



Bible Camp 2020
- save the dates! Bible Camp is offered each summer for students in Grades 2 - 5 (campers), Grades 6 - 7 (leaders-in-training) and Grade 7s who have completed the leader-in-training/Grades 8 and up (leaders). Camp combines a wide variety of activities including prayer, games, group discussions, crafts, sports, music, drama, and science experiments into an overall faith-focused theme. This year's camp dates: **Week 1: July 6–10** and **Week 2: July 27–31.** Participants can choose **one** of two weeks to attend. *Registration forms and more information will be available after the March Break, so stay tuned!*



SSVP 2020 Soupfest
The Society of St. Vince de Paul at our parish is pleased to announce that our annual **Lenten Soup Fest** will be held on **Sunday March 22nd!** Who will dethrone last year's winner – Lina Caruso's Italian Wedding Soup? Challengers welcome! If you wish to submit a soup, please contact the office. *"Thank you for helping us serve in hope."*

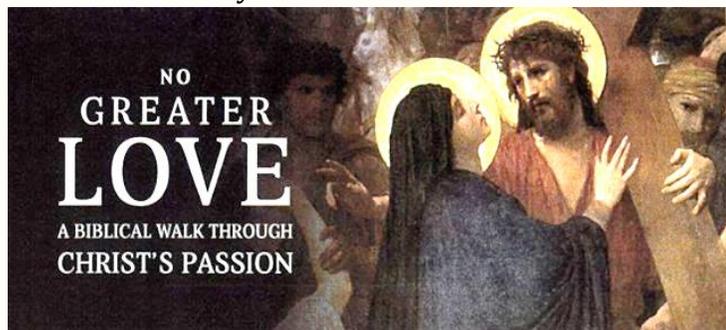


LENT 2020

“NO GREATER LOVE”

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, **No Greater Love** is a five-part video series that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Best-selling author Edward Sri guides you through the last hours of Christ's life in this biblical pilgrimage.

While taking this study, you will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the Garden of Gethsemane to the Mount of Calvary.



Every step of the way, biblical experts reveal how Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death.

With these insights, Catholics can come to a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love - drawing closer to Jesus than ever have before.

Authored and presented by Edward Sri, **No Greater Love** also features: Fr. Mike Schmitz, Jeff Cavins, Jennifer Fulwiler, Curtis Martin, Teresa Tomeo, Fr. Josh Johnson, and Elizabeth Sri.

In this study, we discover...

The Biblical background to each scene in Christ's passion.

- ❖ What was Jesus going through at each moment?
- ❖ How did the Old Testament foretell of Christ's death?
- ❖ Why did Christ die for us? What did it accomplish?
- ❖ What was the meaning behind of the tearing of the temple veil, the crowning with thorns, and other events during Christ's Passion?

Edward Sri also unpacks commonly misunderstood sayings of Jesus, such as...

"Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass?" - Was Jesus thinking of backing out at the last minute?

"My God, my God why have you abandoned me?" - Was Jesus really abandoned by the Father on the cross?

"You have said so." - What does that mean?

You are invited to join in with this study, which will take place on the five Sundays of March:

March 1st
March 8th
March 15th
March 22nd
March 29th

We will meet in the Chapel Hall of the Parish Centre. Each session will start at approximately 10:00am (after the conclusion of the 9:00am Mass) and will run for about 50 minutes, ending in time for the start of the 11:00am Mass. **There is no cost to participate in this study.**

2020 LENTEN GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

Spend your time with Christ in the Gospel this Lent alongside Bishop Barron and the Word on Fire community.

Please visit: <https://www.lentreflections.com>



"...Blaise Pascal said that most of us spend our lives seeking divertissements (distractions), for we cannot bear the weight of the great questions. We play, gossip, eat and drink, seek the most banal entertainment - so that we don't have to face the truth about ourselves, the reality of death, and the demands of God. The Spirit drives holy people into the desert because it is the place where the divertissements disappear: "He fasted for forty days and forty nights."..."

Would you like a deeper, more powerful Lent this year? To start each day by drawing closer to Christ? Then sign up for Fr. Robert Barron's free daily Lent reflections list. Each day, from Ash Wednesday (February 26) until Easter Sunday (April 12), Fr. Barron will send you a short reflection, straight to your inbox. There's simply no better way to super-charge your Lent, to prepare yourself for Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection.

So sign-up at **www.lentreflections.com**

PS. Please share this with friends, family members, priests, and fellow parishioners. Invite them to journey through Lent with you, Fr. Barron, and thousands of others! The best part is that it's all FREE!

LENT 2020

DON'T GIVE UP CHOCOLATE FOR LENT

SO... WHAT IS BEST LENT EVER?



It's a totally free and totally awesome daily Lenten video program (sent straight to your email) that will help you unlock your God-given potential.

Please join me and your fellow parishioners for Dynamic Catholic's BEST LENT EVER, which is all about how the saints are ready to

help you create holy moments and become the-best-version-of-yourself. Every day during Lent, you'll receive an email with a short video from Matthew Kelly and the Dynamic Catholic team. It's free and easy to sign up. All you have to do is go to DynamicCatholic.com and enter your name and email address. I encourage you to invite your family and friends to sign up, too (the website has a page to help you send email invites to your friends). Again, that's **BestLentEver.com**. Together, we'll have an incredible 40-days of Amazing Possibilities.

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LENTEN REFLECTIONS

Lenten Reflections with Dr. Tim Gray

This Lenten season join FORMED Daily for video reflections from esteemed scripture expert Dr. Tim Gray. You don't have to be a FORMED subscriber to view these short 3-minute videos on formed.org/lent

Christ's love for you is bursting forth. Embrace him and let his mercy pierce your heart during this Lenten season. He is waiting for you. Will you respond to his call?

Join us for a 40-day journey of welcoming his tender love, beginning with these short, daily videos from Scripture scholar Dr. Tim Gray. Live in Christ's love and let him transform your life as you watch these awakening reflections during Lent 2020.

Everyone in our parish has free, unlimited access to FORMED!

PREPARING FOR LENT

The Season of Lent, an annual Season of self-denial and renewal begins on **February 26**. "Every year in the middle of a week in late winter we go to Church and have the ashes smudged upon our clean foreheads. Every year the churches are filled with the regulars and the not-so-regulars. Why do we still undergo this ritual of ashes that is centuries old, as old as the prophets who pleaded with God's people to turn back from sin and toward God? We go because we need to go, because at least once a year we need to be reminded that our deepest hunger is the hunger for God. Lent is a gift that the Church in her wisdom celebrates every year. It is a gift of time, a gift of contemplation, and a gift of quiet so that we may listen to the Word, who whispers to us to come back to the God who created us. It encourages us to turn away from the noise and over-indulged appetites so that we may understand the hunger that can be filled - with the grace of God - only by prayer, fasting, and giving to the poor. So we go to our parish churches once a year to have crosses signed upon our faces. It is in this same manner that, when the Gospel is proclaimed, we take our right thumbs, trace three crosses, and pray: may the word of God be in my mind, on my lips, and in my heart. The prayer of the whole Church, the Body of Christ, is that each year the sign of the cross penetrates a little deeper and moves us toward fuller conversion toward the light of Christ."

FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH



Thursday, March 19, at 6 pm sharp. A meatless meal, (fish, pasta, salads, coffee and dessert). Bring pictures of loved ones, & statues you have of St. Joseph for the St. Joseph Table. Donations are also welcomed to defray our costs. Price \$25 ea. & only 150 tickets are available at the parish office. Remember, tickets sell out quickly!

CWL SPRING LUNCHEON

CWL ladies. Join us for our 70th Anniversary CWL Spring Luncheon to be held at Liuna Gardens on **Sunday, April 28**, at 1 pm. Tickets may be purchased from Josie Merolli (905-643-2970), Mickie Puglia (905-662-5304) or the Parish Office. Price is \$35. Plan on attending and invite a friend!

