

All for the greater glory of God! ~St. Francis Xavier

# Welcome to **ST. FRANCIS XAVIER Catholic Parish**

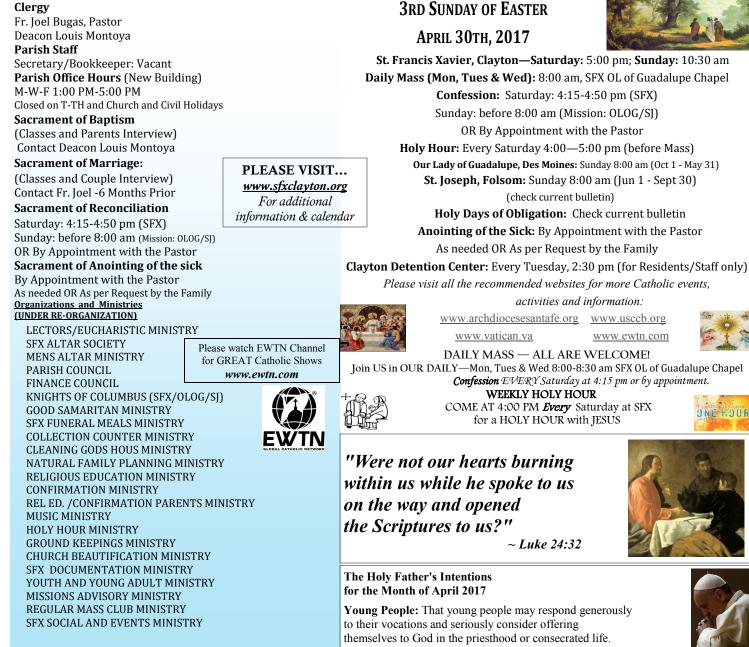
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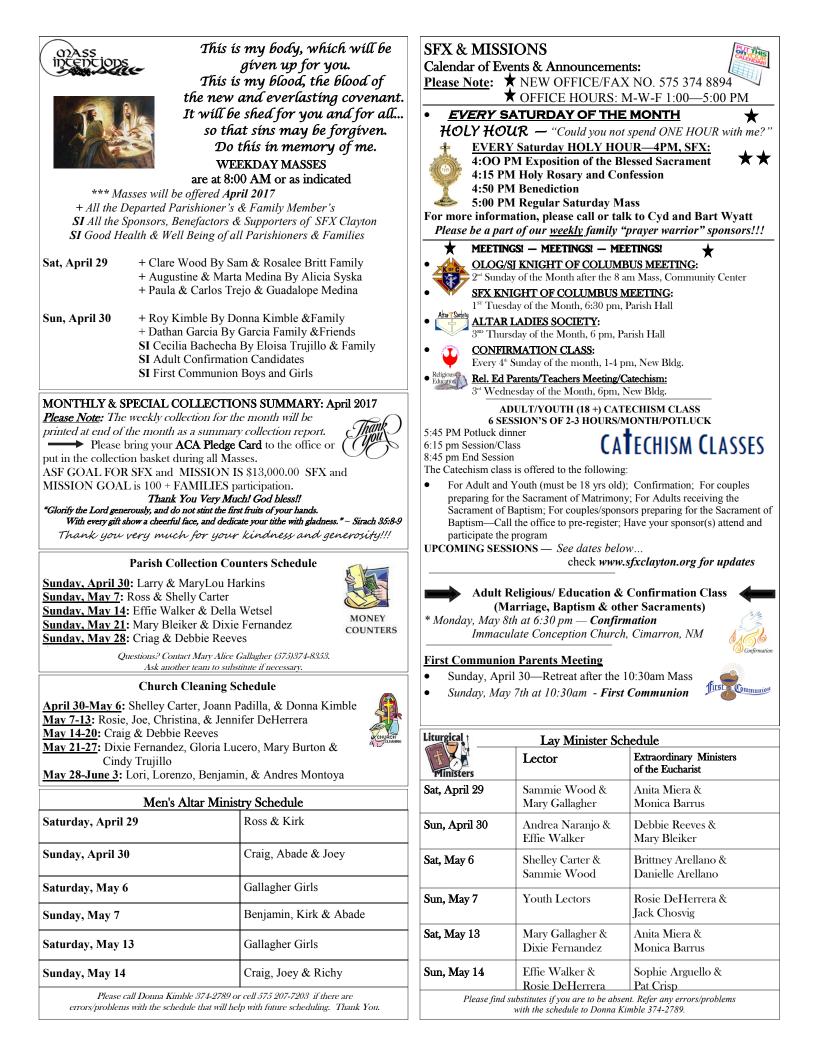
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"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."

# Clergy





# KNOWDNG YOUR FADTH...

"... They called the church together and reported what God had done with them and how he had opened the door of faith..."~Acts 14:27

LECTIONARY READINGS & REFLECTIONS

Monday, May 1st – Sunday, May 7th, 2017 MONDAY: St. Joseph the Worker



Gn 1:26-2:3 Mt 13:54-58 "The feast of St. Joseph the Worker was established by Pope Pius XII in 1955 in order to Christianize the concept of labor and give to all workmen a model and a protector. By the daily labor in his shop, offered to God with patience and joy, St. Joseph provided for the necessities of his holy spouse and of the Incarnate Son of God, and thus became an example to all laborers.

"Workmen and all those laboring in conditions of poverty will have reasons to rejoice rather than grieve, since they have in common with the Holy Family daily preoccupations and cares" (Leo XIII)." (-*Catholic Culture.com*)

# TUESDAY:

"St. A defen oppos the W

St. Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Acts 7:51–8:1a Jn 6:30-35 "St. Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria and a great defender of the orthodox faith, throughout his life opposed the Arian heresy. By denying the Godhead of the Word the Arians turned Christ into a mere man, only higher in grace than others in the eyes of God. St. Athanasius took part in the Council of Nicea in

325 and until the end remained a champion of the faith as it was defined by the Council. In him the Church venerates one of her great Doctors. He was subjected to persecutions for upholding the true teaching concerning the person of Christ and was sent into exile from his see no less than five times. He died at Alexandria in 373 after an episcopate of forty-six years." (-Catholic Culture.com)

WEDNESDAY:

# St. Philip & St. James the Less, Apostles

1 Cor 15:1-8 Jn 14:6-14 "The Apostle Philip was one of Christ's first disciples, called soon after his Master's baptism in the Jordan. The fourth Gospel gives the following detail: 'The next day Jesus was about to leave for Galilee, and He found Philip. And Jesus said to him: Follow Me. Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the town of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him: We

have found Him of whom Moses in the Law and the Prophets wrote, Jesus the Son of Joseph of Nazareth. And Nathanael said to him: Can anything good come out of Nazareth? Philip said to him: Come and see'

(John 1:43ff)." — *The Church's Year of Grace, Pius Parsch* "St. James the Less, a brother of the Apostle Jude, was of Cana of Galilee. He is the author of one of the Catholic Epistles in the New Testament. He was favored by an appearance of the Risen Christ (I Cor. 15:7). After the dispersion of the Apostles he was made Bishop of Jerusalem. He was visited by St. Paul (Gal. 1:19). He spoke after Peter at the meeting



of the Apostles (Acts 15:13). When he refused to deny the Divinity of Christ, the Jews cast him down from the terrace of the temple and clubbed him to death. The Breviary contains a very moving description of his death. 'When he was ninety-six years old and had governed the Church for thirty years in a most holy manner, the Jews sought to stone him, then took him to the pinnacle of the temple and cast him off headlong. As he lay there half dead, with legs broken by the fall, he lifted his hands toward heaven and prayed to God for the salvation of his enemies, saying: Lord, forgive them for they know not what they do! While the apostle was still praying, a fuller struck his head a mortal blow.' His relics now rest next to those of St. Philip in the church of the Holy Apostles in Rome, and their names are mentioned in the first list in the Canon of the Mass." — The Church's Year of Grace, Pitus Parsch (-Catholic Culture.com)

	THURSDAY:	Thursday of the 3rd Week of Easter: National Day of Prayer Acts 8:26-40	Jn 6:44-51
N	FRIDAY:	Friday of the 3rd Week of Easter Acts 9:1-20	Jn 6:52-59
	SATURDAY:	Saturday of the 3rd Week of Easter Acts 9:31-42	Jn 6:60-69
	SUNDAY:	4th Sunday of Easter: World Day of Prayer for Vocations	
		Acts 2:14a, 36-41 1 Pt 2:20b-25	Jn 10:1-10



World Day of Prayer for Vocations Acts 2:14a, 36-41 1 Pt 2:20b-25 Jn 10:1-10 "I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full." (-Catholic Culture.com)

# The Diary of St. Faustina

"Today, I am sending you with My mercy to the people of the whole world. I do not want to punish aching mankind, but I desire to heal it, present it to My merciful Heart. You are the secretary of My mercy; I have chosen you for that office in this and the next life...to make known to souls the great mercy that I have for them and to exhort them to trust in the bottomless depth of My mercy."



# CHRIST'S MERCY IS FOR YOU!

"Christ's desire to tell you about His mercy was so great that he made sure St. Faustina wrote it all down. Through this diary, Jesus specifically tells us how He wants His most Merciful Heart to be adored, and how He longs to bring peace and forgiveness of sins to all who seek His mercy.

The Divine Mercy Devotion is simple, but rich in meaning and full of Christ's promises:

## The Divine Mercy Image

The risen Savior shows rays of light coming from His heart, which was pierced by a sword during the crucifixion. "The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls... Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter."

#### The Feast of Divine Mercy

Jesus requested this feast to be celebrated the Sunday after Easter as a time of mercy for all people. "On this day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy...let no soul fear to draw nearer to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet."

## The Divine Mercy Chaplet

Jesus, Himself, dictated these prayers to St. Faustina. It is a prayer of atonement and appeasement of God's wrath. "...by saying the Chaplet you are bringing humankind closer to Me. The souls that say this chaplet will be embraced by My mercy during their lifetime and especially at the hour of their death."

# The Hour of Mercy

Jesus asked that we commemorate the hour of His death each day.

"...as often as you hear the clock strike the third hour; immerse yourself completely in My mercy, adoring and glorifying it; invoke its omnipotence for the whole world, and particularly for poor sinners; for at that moment mercy was opened wide for every soul."

Spreading the Divine Mercy Message Jesus instructs us to live the Divine Mercy message of trust in God and active love towards our neighbors.

"Souls who spread the honor of My mercy I shield through their entire life as a tender mother her infant, and at the hour of death I will not be a Judge for them, but the Merciful Savior."

#### **Renewal of Religious Life**

through the desire of people to live God's mercy, Christ's message is spread by our life and words. "These efforts of yours...are pleasing to Me; they are the delight of My Heart. I see every movement of your heart with which you worship Me." Read Christ's words for yourself!

Learn how He wants to pour His mercy out on you, your family, your friends, your community, your parish...ON THE WHOLE WORLD!

"When a soul sees and realizes the gravity of its sins, when the whole abyss of the misery into which it immersed itself is displayed before its eyes, let it not despair, but with trust let it throw itself into the arms of My mercy, as a child into the arms of its beloved mother. These souls



have a right of priority to My compassionate Heart, they have first access to My mercy. Tell them that no soul that has called upon My mercy has been disappointed or brought to shame." (-Catholic Company)