

Who Are the People of God?

This is still an unresolved theological issue. For so long the resolute answer of many was: the Roman Catholic Church is the people of God. However, the Second Vatican Council's Decree on Ecumenism (*Unitatis Redintegratio*) opened the Church's understanding to include all Christian denominations, paraphrasing Ephesians 4:4-5: "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one Baptism" (UR 2). The council went even further in the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (*Lumen Gentium*), "calling together a people made up of Jew and Gentile, making them one, not according to the flesh but in the Spirit. This was to be the new People of God" (LG 9).

To be united with Protestants is one thing; to be united with Jews is quite another. For centuries, many interpreted the New Testament to say that the Jews lost favor with God. Such thinking supported—even caused—various forms of anti-Semitism, ethnic and religious persecution, and killings. We realized how wrong this thinking was. Vatican II quotes

today's second reading and later states: "This sacred synod wants to foster and recommend...mutual understanding and respect which is the fruit, above all, of biblical and theological studies as well as of fraternal dialogues" (Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions [*Nostra Aetate*], 4).

We may have corrected some grievous errors in this matter, but we have not gotten much further than Paul did in resolving the issue. However, he experienced "great sorrow and constant anguish in my heart" (Romans 9:2) because of the separation. Do we?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- The original followers of Jesus were simply different kinds of Jews.
- Much of our Christian religious tradition is grounded in the Old Testament.



[Peter] became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him.

MATTHEW 14:30-31



St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

115 N. First Street, Clayton, NM 88415

Office and Fax: (575) 374-8894 Email: sfxclayton@gmail.com

Rectory: (575) 374-8900 (After 9:00 PM-Emergency Only)

Missions: Des Moines, Folsom, Moses, NENM Detention Facility

www.sfxclayton.org

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jason Pettigrew
Deacon: Dcn Louis Montoya (Retired)
Business Manager/Finance: Theresa Gard
Secretary: Lucine Montoya
Religious Education: Rose Ramirez
Adult Religious Education: Rev. Jason Pettigrew

Parish Office Hours (CCD Building)

W, TH, F 1:00pm -5:00pm
Closed on M, TU and Church & Civil Holidays

Sacrament of Baptism

(Classes and Parents Interview)
Contact Pastor

Sacrament of Marriage

(Classes and Couple Interview)
Contact Fr. Jason -6 Months Prior

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

By appointment with the Pastor

AUGUST 9TH

St. Francis Xavier, Clayton

Weekend Mass: Saturday 5:00pm Sunday 10:30am

Daily Mass: (Wed-Spanish)-Fri at 12:10pm

Thurs at 5:30pm

Adoration (Holy Hour): Thurs 6:00-7:00pm

Honor of Our Blessed Mother Mass: 1ST Sat 10:30am

Confession: Saturday 4:00-5:00pm OR By Appointment

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Des Moines

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:00am (Oct 1 - May 31)

Confession: Sunday before 8:00am OR by appt

St. Joseph, Folsom

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:00 am (Jun 1 - Sept 30)

Confession: Sunday before 8:00am OR by appt

NENM Detention Facility, Clayton (For Residents/Staff)

1st, 2nd & 3rd Sunday's Mass 2:00PM

Confession: Sunday 1:30pm—2:00


Nursing Home, Clayton

Every 4th Sunday 1:30 PM

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*This is my body, which will be given up for you.  
This is my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant.  
It will be shed for you & for all... so that sins may be forgiven.  
Do this in memory of me.*

*Masses will be offered August 2020  
+ All the Departed Parishioner's & Family Members  
SI All the Sponsors, Benefactors & Supporters of SFX Clayton  
SI Good Health & Well Being of all Parishioners & Families*

|                    |                                                          |                                                                               |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Fri, Aug 7</b>  | +Clare Wood                                              | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>Sam & Rosalee Britt                               |
| <b>Sat, Aug 8</b>  | +Stephen 'JR' O'Donnell<br>+John Luther<br>+Clare Wood   | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Chip & Sammie Wood |
| <b>Sun, Aug 9</b>  | +Anne Conder<br>+Clare Wood<br>+Lorri Montoya            | by Frances Green<br>by Chip & Sammie Wood<br>by Chip & Sammie Wood            |
| <b>Sat, Aug 15</b> | +Stephen 'JR' O'Donnell<br>+John Luther<br>+Clare Wood   | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Chip & Sammie Wood |
| <b>Sun, Aug 16</b> | +Anne Conder<br>+Clare Wood<br>+Lorri Montoya            | by Frances Green<br>by Chip & Sammie Wood<br>by Chip & Sammie Wood            |
| <b>Sat, Aug 22</b> | +Stephen 'JR' O'Donnell<br>+Jim Miller<br>+Lorri Montoya | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Chip & Sammie Wood |

## Announcement

**PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER DONATING  
YOUR TIME:**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR!**

CCD Teachers      Confirmation Teachers  
Lectors                      Church Cleaners

### Lectors and Sanitizing after Masses

Sat, Aug 8 5:00pm - Sammie Wood—Lector  
- Rose Alford—Sanitizing

Sun, Aug 9 10:30am - Effie Walker—Lector  
- Sophie Arguello-Sanitizing

#### Weekly Collections Summary: July/August 2020

|              | <u>SFX</u>  | <u>OLOG</u> |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| August 01-02 | \$ 1,293.00 | \$ 607.00   |
| July 25-26   | \$ 1,305.00 | \$ 244.75   |
| July 18-19   | \$ 1,473.00 | \$ 197.00   |
| July 11-12   | \$ 1,638.00 | \$ 300.00   |

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[www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)  
[www.catholicculture.org](http://www.catholicculture.org)

### **ACA Pledge Goal Report**

**St. Francis Xavier-Clayton**  
**% of Participation - 11.2**  
**Number of Families -312**  
**Parish Goal - \$13,500.00**  
**% Goal Pledged -64.40%**  
**% Goal Paid -62.51%**  
**Total Pledge-\$8,694.00 Total Paid-\$8,439.00**  
**Short-\$5,061.00**

All Ministry schedules are updated  
monthly and posted on the church website.  
If you need to know when you serve,  
check [www.sfxclayton.org](http://www.sfxclayton.org)!!

# Dear Padre,

## The Bible is critical to our Christian lives, but why is it so hard to understand?

The Bible is a unique piece of literature—perhaps the most distinctive in the world. In fact, it is not just one publication. The word *Bible* derives from a word meaning “library.” The Bible is a library of books—seventy-two books, to be exact—dating from antiquity, written and edited by authors known and unknown. It contains, as any library would, a vast array of literary forms and expressions. It covers more than 3,000 years of history. Reading and understanding the Bible, and living up to its precepts, is indeed a formidable task and will take us all a lifetime to do.

The first key to the Bible is noting that this isn’t just the work of human authors; it is the word of God. We acknowledge the human element of the Bible, the authors’ lived experience, the historical circumstances that form the background of the revelation. But we believe unequivocally that the truth and meaning of the Bible is the inspiration of God. The Catholic view is that God was able to reveal truth through the work of sacred writers.

The Scriptures are layered accounts. They begin with historical facts, followed by years of oral tradition, and ending with the author’s final version.

The best way to familiarize yourself with Scripture is to find a good Bible-study program or group. This will acquaint you with the history of Israel, the times and culture in which the Bible was written, and its rich variety of literary forms. Enjoy your biblical journey.

—Fr. Joseph Morin, CSsR  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



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### A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

We must ensure that in the usual activities of every Christian community, in parishes, in associations, and movements, there actually be at heart the personal encounter with Christ who communicates himself to us in his word, because, as St. Jerome teaches us, “ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.”

—ADDRESS TO CATHOLIC BIBLICAL FEDERATION, JUNE 19, 2015

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## Calendar

### Monday

AUGUST 10  
St. Lawrence,  
Deacon and Martyr  
2 Cor 9:6–10  
Jn 12:24–26

### Tuesday

AUGUST 11  
St. Clare, Virgin  
Ez 2:8–3:4  
Mt 18:1–5, 10, 12–14

### Wednesday

AUGUST 12  
Weekday  
Ez 9:1–7; 10:18–22  
Mt 18:15–20

### Thursday

AUGUST 13  
Weekday  
Ez 12:1–12  
Mt 18:21–19:1

### Friday

AUGUST 14  
St. Maximilian Kolbe,  
Priest and Martyr  
Ez 16:1–15, 60, 63  
or 16:59–63  
Mt 19:3–12

### Saturday

AUGUST 15  
The Assumption of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary  
Rv 11:19a;  
12:1–6a, 10ab  
1 Cor 15:20–27  
Lk 1:39–56

### Sunday

AUGUST 16  
Twentieth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
Is 56:1, 6–7  
Rom 11:13–15, 29–32  
Mt 15:21–28

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