

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- ◆ **A warm Welcome to all our guests.** We are so happy you are here to celebrate with us!! New to Our Catholic Church Parish? You will find forms at the back of the church, please Drop a form at the parish office with your information or call us at 575-374-8894 to register with us!
- ◆ First Holy Communion will be on Sunday, May 4th at the 10:30 a.m. mass
- ◆ First Holy Communion will be on Sunday, May 11th at the 8 a.m. Mass (In Des Moines)
- ◆ Fundraiser for the Ladies Altar Society for Kitchen equipment: They will be raffling off \$300 worth of lottery ticket scratchers. They are one ticket/\$10 or three tickets/\$20. Drawing will be held on Mother’s Day May 11th. Raffle tickets are available in the office.
- ◆ Please Turn in CRS Rice Bowls by next week, If you used a (CRS) Rice Bowl as a means of almsgiving during Lent, please return your Rice Bowl to the church or parish office.
- ◆ May Rosary Devotion: Throughout the month of May, we will be praying the Rosary in the church in honor of our Blessed Mother. We especially invite you to join us for the Rosary: Saturdays at 4:30 PM (before the evening Mass) & Sundays at 10:00 AM (before the morning Mass)
- ◆ Join us on Sunday, May 18, after the Sunday Mass, for the Blessing of the Kitchen, followed by a Potluck Lunch! Everyone is warmly invited! Come and be part of this joyful celebration as we share fellowship together as a parish family.
- ◆ **Annual Catholic Appeal 2025:** Our parish goal is \$10,500 — and we need everyone’s help to reach it. Please make your pledges and be part of this mission of love and service.
- ◆ Saturday, May 3, We kindly invite men of the parish to help us move some wood items from parish hall to the storage Room from 9:00 to 11:00 A.M. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.
- ◆ **Special thanks** to the **Ladies Altar Society** for preparing and distributing the beautiful Easter bags. Your kindness and service are a true blessing to our parish.
- ◆ Stay updated with important church announcements and other information on our Facebook page. St. Francis Xavier Catholic Parish.

Thank You to Our Sponsors—We are Grateful for Your Support!



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APRIL 27, 2025
Divine Mercy Sunday



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, NENM Detention Facility
www.sfxclayton.org

Parish Administrator

Fr. Joji Konkala

Parish Staff

Finance Manager: Theresa Gard
Secretary : Esperanza M. Elliott
DRE : Rose Ramirez

Parish Office Hours (CCD Building)

Monday: 10:00am—4:00pm
Tuesday: 10:00am —4:00pm
Wednesday: 1:00pm—5:00pm
Thursday: 10:00am—2:00pm

St. Francis Xavier, Clayton

Saturday Mass 5pm & Sunday 10:30am
Weekday Mass: Monday 7am
Wednesday & Friday 12:10pm
Thursday 5:30pm & Adoration
Confession: Saturday 4pm to 5pm

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Des Moines

Sunday Mass 8am (Oct 1 - May 31)
Confession: Sunday before 8am

St. Joseph, Folsom

Sunday Mass 8am (Jun 1 - Sept 30)
Confession: Sunday before 8am

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: The Sacrament of Baptism classes are offered. Contact Fr. Joji.
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Couples must contact the parish office at least six months in advance of the desired wedding date. They must participate in a Weekend for Engaged Couples and attend an introductory class in Natural Family Planning.
SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK: The Sacrament is administered upon request to those seriously ill, permanently handicapped, very elderly, and those undergoing major surgery.
HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK: Holy Communion will be brought to the home. Please call the rectory or the priest when someone is ill and unable to come to church.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Healing plays a huge role in our society. As a nation, we spend billions of dollars annually on healthcare. Like our physical health, our spiritual health also needs attention. Throughout the Gospels, physical and spiritual healing are major characteristics of the ministry of Jesus. Some healings are recalled in great detail while others are simply mentioned in passing. Yet all of these healings are signs of the Kingdom of God. In today’s Gospel (John 20:19-31), we hear the ministry of spiritual healing being passed on the Eleven through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Remember that Judas had not yet been replaced after having taken his own life out of the grief of having betrayed Jesus.

This Gospel passage is the scriptural basis for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). John tells us that the Risen Jesus appears to the Ten on Easter Sunday (Thomas was absent) as they hid in the Upper Room where they had celebrated the Last Supper three days earlier. No doubt the air was thick with fear and apprehension as the Apostles believed that they might be next to be arrested and crucified. But Jesus appears among them like a fresh breeze filling the room. After twice greeting them with the words “Peace be with you” to calm their fears, he instructed them: “As the father has sent me, so I send you.” He breathed on them and said: “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.”

The Apostles were given a holy responsibility to share God’s healing and forgiveness with others in Christ’s name. They become instruments of the very mercy and forgiveness that Jesus so abundantly and generously bestows on all who come to him with a contrite heart. A week later, John shows how Thomas personally experienced this life-changing mercy. Thomas had found it hard to believe what the other Apostles had told him about their encounter with the risen Lord. So, Jesus appears in the Upper Room a second time a week later when Thomas is present and invites Thomas to probe the wounds of crucifixion in his hands and side. Thomas is brought from doubt to belief and makes one of the great declarations of faith: “My Lord and my God!” The need for that mercy and healing is just as great today as it was in the first century.

Masses offered April/ May 2025

+All the Departed Parishioners & Family Members
SI All the Sponsors, Benefactors & Supporters of SFX
SI Good Health & Well-Being of all Parishioners & Families

Sun, Apr 27
8:00 A.M. +Chuck Montoya by Mr. &Mrs. Carlos Fernandez

Sun, Apr 27 +Pita Maestas by Angela Montoya
+Pita Maestas by Silas & Amora Salguero

Sat, May 3 +Levinio & Carolina Lovato by Rose Alford
+Inasita Padilla
by PeeWee, Vivian, and Laura Padilla

+Tina Craine & Joseph Vigil
by Jerrah & JoeVigil

Sun, May 4 +Felix & Adelina Montoya
by Jerrah & Joe Vigil

Quotable Saints

“O Lord, may your luminous truth lead me and make me walk in your presence sincerely, with a perfect heart.” St. Gertrude the Great

“Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever. I hold the keys to death and the netherworld.” Revelation 1:18b

Readings For the Week

28 Mon Saint Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr
Acts 4:23-31/Jn 3:1-8
29 Tue Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin
Acts 4:32-37/Jn 3:7b-15
30 Wed Saint Pius V, Pope
Acts 5:17-26/Jn 3:16-21
MAY 2025
1 Thu Saint Joseph the Worker
Acts 5:27-33/Jn 3:31-36 (270)
2 Fri Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor
Acts 5:34-42/Jn 6:1-15 (271)
3 Sat Saints Philip and James (Feast)
1 Cor 15:1-8/Jn 14:6-14

DIVINE MERCY: Today we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. It is a Feast Day formally established by Pope St. John Paul II. According to private revelations that she recorded in her diary, St. Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun, reported that Jesus had appeared to her on several occasions. He called for a Feast of Mercy to be observed on the Second Sunday of Easter and said that this Feast of Mercy would be a very special day when “all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened” (St. Faustina’s Diary, 699). Our Lord made a great promise to all those souls who would go to Confession and then receive Him in Holy Communion on the Feast of His Mercy, now called Divine Mercy Sunday, throughout the Catholic Church. Jesus promised that “The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.” (St. Faustina’s Diary, 699)

Pope St. John Paul II said that the image portrays the Risen Jesus Christ bringing Mercy to the whole world. Our Lord said to Sr. Faustina: “I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish”. (St. Faustina’s Diary 341, 48) Our Lord said to St. Faustina: “When you go to confession, to this fountain of My mercy, the Blood and Water which came forth from My Heart always flows down upon your soul...” and “Every time you go to confession, immerse yourself entirely in My mercy with great trust, so that I may pour the bounty of My grace upon your soul. When you approach the confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you.”

April 19 and 20, 2025

St. Francis Xavier
Saturday/Sunday collection: \$4222.10
Our Lady of Guadalupe, Des Moines
Sunday collection: \$502.00

Lectors

Saturday, April 26—Rosie DeHerrera
Sunday, April 27—Mike Diller

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
Saturday, April 26—Britt and Andrea
Sunday, April 27—Rosie and Beverly

Congratulation to Parents and Godparents for Baptizing! Jacob Matthew Dawson Bunker, Shan Patrick Cooper Toda, Lucas Leroy Toda Lopez (Des Moines) and Izaiah Ray Baxley & Marcus Nathaniel Trevino who were Baptized into Catholic Faith.



USHERS
Saturday, April 26
Jeremy Fisk & Gus Wood
Sunday, April 27
Maurilio Valdez & Andre Wat

Prayer for the Sick

O Heavenly Father, we lift up all those who are facing illness today. We ask that You bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies. Calm their fears and let them experience the healing power of Your love. In Jesus’ name. Amen