

**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!
- ♦ **Annual Catholic Appeal 2025:** Our parish goal is \$10,500 — : If you did not receive a brochure or pledge card for the Archdiocese of Santa Fe Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA), they are available with Mrs. Rosie DeHerrera and at the back of the church. Prayerfully consider making a Pledge to the Annual Catholic Appeal.
- ♦ **Family Visits Sign-Up**  
Fr. Joji would like to schedule family visits. If you're interested, please sign up on the sheet located at the back of the church.
- ♦ Is the Lord calling you to serve in a ministry? We have many opportunities for you to get involved. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church.
- ♦ There will be no weekday Masses from Monday, August 11th through Thursday, August 14th as Fr. Joji will be going to meet his Bishop in Austin.
- ♦ **OCIA Team Members Needed:** We are looking for adult volunteers who are interested in helping with the formation process for those interested in entering full communion with the Roman Catholic Church.
- ♦ Friday, August 15th. It is a Holy Day of Obligation, and all Catholics are encouraged to attend Mass. Masses will be offered at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Parish in Clayton at 7:00 AM and 12:10 PM, and at 6:00 PM in Folsom.
- ♦ **CCD Faith Formation classes:** Parents: if your child is ready for Religious Education, First Holy Communion, or Confirmation, be ready to register early. Rose Ramirez, our DRE, will begin registering children for CCD after Church on Sunday, August 10th.

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

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## 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 —2:00pm

Wednesday: 1:00pm—5:00pm

Thursday: 10:00am—4:00pm

### St. Francis Xavier, Clayton

Saturday Mass 5pm & Sunday 10:30am

Weekday Mass: Monday 7am

Wednesday & Friday 12:10pm

Thursday 5:30pm & Adoration

Confession: Saturday 4 pm 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.

**Notes From Fr. Joji:** On Friday, August 15th, we will celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a Holy Day of Obligation, meaning that Mass attendance is obligatory. As Catholics, we believe that at the end of her earthly life, the Blessed Virgin Mary was taken up, body and soul, into Heaven. This act of divine favor is known as the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and it allowed Mary to participate in her Son’s Resurrection. In her glory, she gives us cause to hope that we, too, can one day share in Christ’s Resurrection. The beloved disciple, often identified as St. John, later took Mary to his home in Ephesus. From extra biblical sources, Mary lived there for many years before she died and was buried in a tomb. But it didn’t just end there. These extra biblical sources also related that one of the Apostles, St. Thomas, was absent when Mary died and was buried because he was in India doing his ministry. When he came to Ephesus and wanted to pay his respect, he asked to see her body. But upon opening the tomb, Mary’s body was not there. Instead, there were sweet smelling flowers growing where her body lay. The rest of the Apostles attested that the tomb was not opened ever since Mary’s body was laid in it, and hence they concluded that God must have assumed her body into heaven along with her soul.

And since they had witnessed the Ascension of Jesus into heaven, they concluded that the same thing happened to Mary. And since Mary was conceived without sin, sin had not touched or defiled her soul, then God would not allow her body to turn to dust but rather assumed her body to heaven to share in the glory of the Risen Christ. From then till now, it was the common belief in the Church that Mary’s body was assumed into heaven. But it was only in 1950, 15<sup>th</sup> August, that Pope Pius XII officially declared Mary’s Assumption as an article of faith. In other words, the Church has boldly declared that Mary is in heaven, body and soul, a declaration that is definite and irreversible. It was a declaration not just on the authority of the Church but also under the authority of the Holy Spirit. Let us be especially mindful of Mary’s desire, that we might one day come to share in eternal life in Heaven with her and all the Angels and Saints. Let us strive to follow her example and love God with our whole being, serving Him by pouring ourselves out in humble love and service to others. Let us also seek to grow in our devotion to our Blessed Mother, for her prayers help us to live more fully and faithfully as disciples of her Son, and her example of heroic virtue is an inspiration to us all.

***Masses offered August 2025***  
*+All the Departed Parishioners & Family Members*  
***SI Good Health & Well-Being of all Parishioners & Families***

**Sat, Aug. 9** +Viola Ruiz by Ricky Maestas  
+Clare Wood by Chip & Sammie Wood  
+Rose Trujillo by Teri Mansfield

**Sun, Aug. 10**  
**8:00 A.M.** *SI* Marcie Harris Charles (Health)  
by Carlos & Bernie Fernandez

**Sun, Aug. 10** +Elida Valdez by Rose Cardenas  
+Clare Wood by Chip & Sammie Wood

**Fri, Aug 15**  
**12:10 P.M.** +Clare Wood by Chip & Sammie Wood  
+Frank & Ben Nieto by Nieto Family

**Quotable Saints**

Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin too much.  
You can never love her more than Jesus did.  
Let your love for Mary grow deeper each day and she will never lead you astray. — St. Maximilian

**Readings For the Week**

11 Mon Saint Clare, Virgin *Memorial*  
Dt 10:12-22/Mt 17:22-27  
12 Tue *[Saint Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious]*  
Dt 31:1-8/Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14  
13 Wed *[Saints Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs]* Dt 34:1-12/ Mt 18:15-20  
14 Thu Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr  
*Memorial* Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17/Mt 18:21-19:1  
15 Fri **THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Solemnity** [Holy Day of Obligation]  
Day: Rv 11:19a;12:1-6a, 10ab/1Cor 15:20-27/ Lk 1:39-56  
16 Sat *[Saint Stephen of Hungary; BVM]*  
Jos 24;14-29/ Mt 19:13-15  
17 SUN Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Heb 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53

**Summer Bulletin Message: Catechesis corner:**

**Introduction to the Roman Missal – PART IVA**  
The Liturgy of the Eucharist: Understanding the Ritual and Meaning

Last week, we concluded our discussion at the Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful). This week, we turn our attention to the Liturgy of the Eucharist. According to the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), once the Universal Prayer is completed, all are seated, and the Offertory chant begins. This marks a pivotal moment in the liturgy, emphasizing the participation of the faithful. During the Offertory, certain members of the congregation bring forward the bread and wine, signifying the active participation of the faithful. There are prayers of blessing, acknowledging God’s providence in providing these gifts. These prayers may be spoken silently or aloud, and when spoken aloud, the congregation responds, “Blessed be God forever.” Unfortunately, many view the Offertory as a mere pause in the Mass—a time to sit and wait while preparations take place at the altar. However, the significance is much deeper.

The Offertory is not only about preparing the gifts of bread and wine; it is also about preparing ourselves. Each one of us is called to offer our hearts and lives on the spiritual altar, joining our prayers, joys, and sorrows to Christ’s sacrifice. This is a moment to consciously unite ourselves with what is about to unfold on the altar. A meaningful personal practice is to ask the Holy Spirit to place our needs and intentions upon the paten, and those of our loved ones, living and deceased, into the chalice, uniting them to Christ’s sacrifice.

**August 2 and 3, 2025**  
**St. Francis Xavier**  
**Saturday/Sunday collection: \$2994.00**  
**St. Joseph, Folsom**  
**Sunday collection: \$645.00**

*Thank you for your Generosity!!*

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**  
**Saturday, August 9**—Britt and Andrea  
**Sunday, August 10**—Sophie and Beverly  
**Saturday, August 16**—Britt and Andrea  
**Sunday, August 17**—Sophie and Beverly

**USHERS**  
**Saturday, August 9**  
Jeremy Fisk & Ross Carter  
**Sunday, August 10**  
Maurilio Valdez & Robert Montoya  
**Saturday, August 16**  
Gus Wood & Ross Carter  
**Sunday, August 17**  
Deano Arellano, Robert Montoya

**Lectors**  
**Saturday, August 9**—Britt Fisk  
**Sunday, August 10**—Mike Diller  
**Saturday, August 16**—Sammie Wood  
**Sunday, August 17**—Effie Walker

**A prayer for Vocations:**  
God our Father, you made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ.  
We ask that You inspire young people whom you call to the priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow your will.  
Send workers into Your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and Your people are strengthened by the sacraments.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

.....  
**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