

**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.
- ♦ **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.

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

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**AUGUST 17, 2025**  
**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



# St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

**115 N. First Street, Clayton, NM 88415**

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

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

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

[www.sfxclayton.org](http://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.

**Gospel Reflections:** Today’s First Reading (Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10) is another version of the familiar scenario in which a prophet is ignored, derided and mistreated. In this case, it is Jeremiah who prophesied in Jerusalem during the reign of King Zedekiah. For many years he had warned the people of Judah about an oncoming disaster. Often referred to as “the weeping prophet,” Jeremiah scolded the Jewish leadership of the day for its failure to worship the one true God alone, and for its reliance on military alliances with other nations instead of trusting in the Lord. Of course, no one wanted to hear these words of doom and gloom. In fact, determined to silence him forever, but to avoid having his blood on their hands, those in power contrived to have Jeremiah arrested and imprisoned in a muddy cistern. There, they hoped he would be forgotten and would die. As a prophet, Jeremiah brought division. Not because God wanted to instigate such, but because people choosing whether to listen to and follow God’s word – or not – necessarily divided the community.

With a message no one wanted to hear, Jeremiah knew that his fidelity to the Lord could possibly result in death and yet he did not shy away from obeying God’s call. On his way to Jerusalem in today’s Gospel (Luke 23:49-53), Jesus tells his disciples that he has come to establish not peace but division. He describes how his message will divide communities and pit family members against family members. This was quite shocking in a society that deeply valued family relationships. Relationships will suffer and he himself would suffer death. As with the prophets, those who heard – and still hear – Jesus’ message, had the choice to heed it or ignore it. This is what divides. Because when we enter into Christ’s baptism with him, we are united to him, and with each other.

Today, our lives as Christians are often marked with the same kinds of turmoil as our ancient ancestors. Just as the cross is never too far from the empty tomb, so struggles and suffering are part of the human experience. Yet, as Christians we are challenged to keep our eyes firmly fixed on the Lord – never losing sight of his presence and his offer of grace. We are challenged to choose Christ’s message uniting ourselves to and drawing strength from all those who walk the pathway of the Christian life with us.

<b><i>Masses offered August 2025</i></b> <i>+All the Departed Parishioners &amp; Family Members</i> <b><i><u>SI Good Health &amp; Well-Being of all Parishioners &amp; Families</u></i></b>	
<b>Sat, Aug 16</b> + The deceased family members of the Sintas & Trujillo Families   by Teri Mansfield & Family + Jim Sintas       by Teri Mansfield + Clare Wood     by Sam & Rosa Lee Britt	
<b>Sun, Aug 17</b> +Frank & Ben Nieto       by Nieto Family	
<b>Thur, Aug 21</b> Living and deceased of Ladies Altar Society	
<b>Sat, Aug 23</b> +Clare Wood   by Ross & Shelley Carter +Clay Crisp    by Ross & Shelley Carter	
<b>Sat, Aug 30</b> +Christobal Lucero    by Stella Archuleta +Clare Wood    by Sam & Rosa Lee Britt +Max Geary     by Ross & Shelley Carter	

<b>Quotable Saints</b> “The Rosary is the most beautiful and the richest in graces of all prayers. It is the prayer that touches most the Heart of the Mother of God; and if you wish peace to reign in your homes, recite the family Rosary.” - St. Pope Pius X
<b>Readings For the Week</b> 18 Mon Jgs 2:11-19/Mt 19:16-22 19 Tue <i>[Saint John Eudes, Priest]</i> Jgs 6:11-24a/Mt 19:23-30 20 Wed Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church <i>Memorial</i> Jgs 9:6-15/Mt 20:1-16 21 Thu Saint Pius X, Pope <i>Memorial</i> Jgs 11:29-39a/Mt 22:1-14 22 Fri The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary <i>Memorial</i> Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Mt 22:34-40 23 Sat <i>[Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin; BVM]</i> Ru 2:1-3, 8-11;4:13-17/Mt 23:1-12 24 SUN Is 66:18-21/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 12:22-30

**Summer Bulletin Message: Catechesis corner: Part IVB**  
**The Invitation to Prayer and Preparation for the Eucharistic Prayer**

Once the gifts are prepared at the altar, the priest invites the congregation to prayer by saying, “Pray, brothers and sisters...” In response, the people rise and say, “May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of His name, for our good and the good of all His Holy Church.” This exchange highlights the active spiritual role of the faithful, who through their prayers support the priest so that the offering may be pleasing to God.

Following the Prayer Over the Offerings, the Preface Dialogue begins. The priest proclaims, “The Lord be with you,” and the people respond, “And with your spirit,” without using any hand gestures. The priest then says, “Lift up your hearts,” to which the faithful respond, “We lift them up to the Lord.” This moment calls for the uplifting of our hearts—not our hands—as we prepare to enter into the sacred Eucharistic Prayer.

The Preface then leads into the Sanctus (“Holy, Holy, Holy”), which the entire congregation sings or recites. According to the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), only the priest is to recite the Eucharistic Prayer. The congregation participates through faith, silent reverence, and by joining in the designated responses such as the Sanctus, the Memorial Acclamation, and the Great Amen.

**Conclusion: Unity in Liturgy**  
The unity of posture and responses reflects the unity of the Church in worship. Adhering to these prescribed gestures and refraining from imitating the priest’s movements ensures that the liturgy remains faithful to its intended structure. By understanding and fully engaging with the Liturgy of the Eucharist, we deepen our participation in the sacred mystery of Christ’s sacrifice.

**August 9 and 10, 2025**  
**St. Francis Xavier**  
**Saturday/Sunday collection: \$1753.50**  
**St. Joseph, Folsom**  
**Sunday collection: \$296.00**

*Thank you for your Generosity!!*

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**  
**Saturday, August 16**—Britt and Andrea  
**Sunday, August 17**—Sophie and Beverly  
**Saturday, August 23**—Britt and Shelley  
**Sunday, August 24**—Beverley and Sophie

**USHERS**  
**Saturday, August 16**  
Gus Wood & Ross Carter  
**Sunday, August 17**  
Deano Arellano, Robert Montoya  
**Saturday, August 23**  
Robert Montoya  
**Sunday, August 24**  
Maurilio Valdez

**Lectors**  
**Saturday, August 16**—Sammie Wood  
**Sunday, August 17**—Effie Walker  
**Saturday, August 23**—Shelley Carter  
**Sunday, August 24**—Raymond Saccoccia

**St. Rose of Lima | August 23**  
Born Isabel Flores de Olivia in April 1586 in Lima, Peru to Spanish colonists, Saint Rose of Lima took the name Rose at her confirmation in 1597. Legend holds that she received this nickname as an infant because a servant saw her face transformed into a rose. Even as a child Saint Rose was dedicated to Christ. Growing up she made many secret penances. And when she was old enough to be married, she deterred suitors by cutting off her hair and rubbing pepper on her face to make it blister. She took a vow of chastity even though her parents wished her to marry. She fasted many times a week and permanently abstained from meat. Eventually her parents gave in and allowed her to join the Third Order of St. Dominic, although she was not permitted to live in a convent. Saint Rose undertook severe penances, allowing herself only two hours of sleep a night in order to have more time to pray, wearing a heavy silver crown with spikes on the inside imitating Christ’s crown of thorns, and even burning her own hands. However, she also cared for the sick and hungry, and sold her beautiful embroidery and fine lace, as well as flowers she grew, to help raise funds for the poor. She died at the age of 31 on August 24, 1617. Pope Clement X canonized her in 1671, she was the first saint of the New World, born in the Americas. Saint Rose of Lima is the patron saint of Latin America and the Philippines.