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**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- ◆ We appreciate Our advertisers! They allow us to print this bulletin, Thank you for your generosity. If you would like to place an ad here with us in our bulletin, please contact Fr. Joji.
- ◆ Thanksgiving Day Mass Schedules: Mass on Wednesday 27th, at 5:30pm, at Des Moines. Day Mass at 9:00 AM on Thursday, November 28th, Parishioners who attend the Mass are invited to bring the bread/rolls/tortillas that will be a part of their Thanksgiving meal for a blessing at the end of the Mass. The Parish Office will be closed on Thanksgiving Day.
- ◆ CHOOSING TO BELONG—ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER?  
Attending Mass and giving of your time, talent and treasure are an integral part of being Catholic. If you attend Mass here regularly, we encourage you to register as a member of our faith community. If you would like to register as a member of our parish, please call (575) 374-8894 or fill out a form in the back of the church; or we can send you a registration form.
- ◆ **The Youth Group** meets every Sunday at 5:00 P.M. Parents are encouraged to bring their children in grades 8 through 12 .
- ◆ Please remember to return the bazaar raffle tickets to the office or the collection basket.
- ◆ Donations are still being accepted for kitchen equipment. Again, thank you.
- ◆ LAS Members will meet on Monday November 18th, at 6:00 p.m, You are invited to be part of the group.

+++**Extraordinary Ministers of the Precious Blood** are still needed.  
+++**Altar Servers:** Fourth graders and above are encouraged to serve at the Celebration of the Eucharist.



**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](http://www.sfxclayton.org)

**Parish Administrator**

Fr. Joji Konkala

**Parish Staff**

Finance manager: Theresa Gard  
Secretary : Raymond Saccoccia  
DRE: Rose Ramirez

**St. Francis Xavier, Clayton**

**Saturday Mass 5pm & Sunday 10:30am**

**Weekday Mass: Monday 7am**

**Wednesday & Friday 12:10pm**

**Thursday 5:30pm**

**Confession: Saturday 4pm to 5pm**

**Adoration: Thursday 6pm to 7pm**

**Parish Office Hours (CCD Building)**

Tuesday: 9:00am—1:00pm  
Wednesday: 1:00pm—5:00pm  
Thursday: 9:00am—1:00pm

**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.

**Dear parishioners:** Sunday reflections from the Gospel of Mark 13:24-32 “And then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in the clouds’ with great power and glory.” Take a moment to ponder these words from today’s Gospel. How does this image make you feel? For people to truly understand the significance of this message, something profound has to happen within. If we find ourselves reacting with a sense of dread or fear, we have to step back and ask why. Our answer will reveal a great deal about our relationship with God. It’s hard to fall in love with a God of whom we are afraid. God does not want us to be afraid. Nor does He want us to align our wills to His in order to avoid some kind of horrendous eternal consequence. That sounds like too much of a superficial power play on the part of God who continues to seek out His children in love.

Not knowing when or how we will eventually die can be unsettling. But, more so than needing an answer to the “when” of death, the “what” of death answer we provide has more significance. What happens to us when we die? Whether we die during the natural course of our lives or when Christ comes again, the experience is the same. If we believe that we are meant to live in union with God eternally and that death completes and does not diminish us, then it is worth our time and effort to wait in vigilant hope of the Lord’s coming in glory. Our journey back to God is something beautiful to be desired, not dreaded or feared. Sadly, many folks believe that life is no more than a random occurrence without any purposeful direction or meaning. Death is simply death and nothing more. For them, the Second Coming of Christ and God’s eternal promise have no meaning. When we understand the truth about who we are, it changes things up. We then can see ourselves as works in progress who have the choice to either resist the inspirations of the Divine Artist or give into the wonderful creativity of His will. Life awaiting the fullness of Christ to come becomes an unfolding of Divine surprises and abundant joy. God is eternally merciful, forgiving, and welcoming. It is only when we directly reject this gift and turn our backs on Love itself that we have anything to fear.

### **Masses offered November 2024**

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

**Sat, Nov 16,** +Robert Rael by Joe and Rosie DeHerrera  
 +Sam Britt by Rosa Lee Britt  
 +Michael Barrera by Ross and Shelley Carter

**Sun, Nov 17,**  
**8:00 A.M.** +Elaine Ann Kennedy & Dick Kennedy by  
 Nancy Townley

**10:30 A.M.** +Geneva Benavidez by Judy Steen  
 +Eloisa Valdez by Judy Steen  
 +Sam Britt by Rosa Lee Britt

**Mon, Nov 18** +Sam Britt by Rosa Lee Britt

**Sat, Nov 23** +Michael Barrera by Ross & Shelley Carter  
 +Andrew Garcia by Ross & Shelley Carter

**Sun, Nov 24**  
**8:00 A.M.** +Elaine Ann Kennedy and Dick Kennedy by  
 Nancy Townley

“When we pray, the voice of the heart must be heard more than that proceeding from the mouth.” St. Bonaventure

#### **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER:**

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my heart. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

#### **Readings for the week**

**18 Mon** Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop

Ti 1:1-9/Lk 17:1-6

**19 Tue** Weekday Rv 3:1-6, 14-22/Lk 19:1-10

**20 Wed** Weekday Rv 4:1-11/Lk 10:1-10

**21 Thu** Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
 Rv 5:1-10/Lk 19:41-44

**22 Fri** Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr  
 Rv 10:8-11/Lk 19:45-48

**23 Sat** Saint Clement I, Pope and Martyr  
 Rv 11:4-12/Lk 20:27-40

**Why Light Votive Candles?** In the Christian tradition, light is a symbol of faith, truth, wisdom, virtue, grace, the divine life, charity, the ardor of prayer and the sacred presence which flow from Christ Himself. With this background, we can appreciate the usage of votive candles. Here, as in early Christian times, we light a candle before a statue or sacred image of our Lord or of a saint. Of course, we do not honor the statue or the image itself, but the one whom that statue or image represents. The light signifies our prayer offered in faith coming into the light of God. With the light of faith, we petition our Lord in prayer or petition the saint to pray with us and for us to the Lord. The light also shows a special reverence and our desire to remain present to the Lord in prayer even after we depart from the church and go about our daily business.

Also, the burning candle symbolized a sacrifice, which is made in both the offering of the prayer and the acceptance of the Lord's Will. In all, the usage of votive candles is a pious practice which continues today in many churches. The symbolism reminds us that prayer is a "coming into" the light of Christ, allowing our souls to be filled with His light, and letting that light burn on in our souls even though we may return to our other activities.

At Our Catholic Church, we have votive candles located on the two side of the Back, one which honors the Statue of Pieta (Jesus and Mary at Mount Golgotha), and the other side which honors the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our candles are open flames, so please be careful when lighting them. Those wishing to have a candle lit to represent their prayer intentions are asked to use the available offering box to make a donation.

#### **November 9 and 10, 2024**

#### **St. Francis Xavier**

**Saturday/Sunday collection: \$2281.00**

#### **Our Lady of Guadalupe, Des Moines**

**Sunday collection: (No Mass 11/10)**

#### **Lectors**

Sat., November 16— Shelley Carter

Sun., November 17— Pat Crisp

Sat., November 23— Ross Carter

Sun., November 24— Mike Diller

Thu., November 28—Raymond Saccoccia

#### **Eucharistic Ministers:**

Saturday, November 16—Rosie DeHerrera  
 Andrea Naranjo

Sunday, November 17 — Beverly Reeser  
 Sophie Arguello

Saturday, November 23—Rosie DeHerrera  
 Shelley Carter

Sunday, November 24—Beverly Reeser  
 Raymond Saccoccia

#### **SICK AND HOSPITALIZED:**

Please continue to keep our sick parishioners and their caregivers in your prayers.

#### **PRAYER FOR HEALING:**

Loving and compassionate God, when your Son walked the earth he extended his healing hand toward the sick and cured those afflicted with every disease. We turn to you now in our need and ask you to care for those who are ill. Protect those who face surgery, and watch over those held bound by infirmity. Through the power of your healing love, free from every disease and suffering those who are beset by poor health. Guide with your wisdom all who provide care, and assist doctors, nurses, and medical workers so that they may effectively relieve suffering and bring health to all whom they treat. Amen.