



## 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.

### 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!
- ♦ **ACA**—Reminder to those parishioners who have pledged for ACA to please make their final payment as soon as possible. The Archdiocese is trying to close this out for 2025.
- ♦ We are going to order the 2026 Sunday envelopes for our parish. We encourage all our parishioners to use the Sunday envelopes, as this makes it easier for your tax-exempt record keeping. If anyone is interested, please call the parish office or sign up on the sheet at the back of the church. Please make sure to add your phone number and home address.
- ♦ We would like to form a Men's Group in our parish. If you are interested in joining, please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church or contact Mr. Robert Montoya.
- ♦ October is the Month of the Rosary. We invite you to come and pray the Rosary with us every Saturday at 4:30 p.m. and every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. throughout the month of October in the Church.
- ♦ A second collection will be taken on October 19th for Mission Sunday.
- ♦ We are in the process of getting the Bazaar Raffle tickets ready for early December. We are in need of prize money donors for this year's Bazaar Raffle. If you would like to donate toward the raffle prizes, please contact the parish office or Fr. Joji.
- ♦ Fr. Joji would like to continue family visits on the first, third, and fifth Sundays of each month, after the 10:30 am Mass. Please sign-up on the sheet at the back of the church.
- ♦ Congratulations, Mr. Raymond Sisneros, on receiving the St. Francis of Assisi Award Medal for your faithful service and dedication to the Church. May God bless you abundantly.

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

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**Gospel Reflections:** On this twenty seventh Sunday of ordinary time, the holy mother church invites us to reflect on one of the most important Christian and theological virtues – Faith. It is the foundation of our Christian life. Faith gives us a new vision and version of life. Without faith, we see only the dark side of life. Without faith, we remain helpless and slaves to despair and hopelessness. Faith liberates us and helps us to see the power and love of God at work in our lives. In the first reading of this Sunday, we are reminded of this very popular verse from the book of Habakkuk: “...the just shall live by his faithfulness.” As human beings, at times in life we find ourselves in the shoes of the prophet Habakkuk. We simply find ourselves helpless, and everything goes dark and hope appears hopeless to us. It is part of the process of Christian growth and maturity. The good news is that God will not fail us if we remain faithful during such moments. He will definitely break his silence at his own, and appropriate time in order to reassure us that he is there for us. Through these words that, “the just shall live by his faithfulness, God simply encourages us to remain faithful in good deeds and actions. This faith in question is a saving faith. The Just here is the one who still perseveres in good deeds. He is the one who still trust in the saving power of God. He is the one who still prays to God. In the second reading, Paul strikes the same note by admonishing us thus: “Fan into flame the gift that God gave you...keep as your pattern the sound teaching you have heard from us, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.” Here, the Apostle calls us to action. He awakens us to realize who we are. He reminds us of the power of God at work in us through the sound teachings we have received. He encourages us to preserve the faith, (the sound doctrine) which we have received from God through the Holy Spirit and His apostles. Hence, this simply reminds us that our journey is a journey of faith. This faith must be constantly questioned and also called into action. It must be lived out through steadfastness and perseverance. This faith must be demonstrated through actions because: “...faith without action is dead” (James 2:26). So, the type of faith we are talking about here is not the type that is blind and always asleep. No, it is the faith that sees good opportunities and takes advantage of them. It is not like the faith that most of us preach today, that seems to suggest that should we go to sleep every second and expect God to assume our responsibilities and solve all our problems. On the contrary, it is faith that moves us into action. In today’s gospel, the Apostles of Christ reminds us of what we should be praying for each day. That is, praying to Christ: “Lord increase our faith.” Their humility and acceptance of their lack equally reminds us of the importance of faith in our Christian life and journey. Each time I read this passage, I remember this short story. A rusty shield once said to the sun, “dazzle me,” and the sun responded: “polish yourself and I will dazzle you.” Our Lord Jesus Christ is always ready to increase our faith. However, we must humbly ask for it. Second, we must make the necessary efforts through our actions. Finally, we need faith to preserve in good works. We need it in order to remain steadfast during difficult moments in life. We need more faith in order to trust in God’s will and judgement. So, we must humble ourselves each day to say: “Lord, increase our faith.”

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

**Sat, Oct. 4** +Clay Crisp by Jean McConnell  
+Evangelina Sisneros by Ross & Shelley Carter  
+Robert Rael by Joe & Rosie DeHerrera

**Sun, Oct 5** +Tony Maestas by Gloria Lucero & Family  
+Bennie Sanchez by Carmel Sisneros  
***SI*** In Memory of parishioners of Sacred Heart Church (Moses, NM)

**Mon, Oct 6** +Clare Wood by Ross & Shelley Carter  
**Wed, Oct 8** +Clare Wood by Chip & Sammie Wood  
+Clay Crisp by Jean McConnell  
**Fri, Oct 10** +Clay Crisp by Blake & Lynnette Prather

**Quotable Saints**  
“Not just beads...but a weapon placed in our hands by the Mother of God herself. Through it, countless souls have found peace, families restored, and battles, both spiritual and earthly, won.”  
~Our Lady of the Rosary

**Readings For the Week**  
6 Mon *[Saint Bruno, Priest; USA: Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin]*Jon1:1-2;2,11/Lk 10:25-37  
7 Tue **Our Lady of the Rosary Memorial**  
Jon 3:1-10/Lk 10:38-42  
8 Wed Jon 4:1-11/Lk 11:1-4  
9 Thu *[Saint Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs; Saint John Leonardi, Priest]* Mal 3:13-20b/Lk11:5-13  
10 Fri JI 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Lk 11:15-26  
11 Sat *[Saint John XXIII, Pope; BVM]*  
JI 4:12-21/Lk 11:27-28  
12 SUN 2 Kgs 5:14-17/2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19

**The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary.** This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7th. It was instituted to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful. The feast was introduced by Pope St. Pius V (1504-1572) in the year 1571 to commemorate the miraculous victory of the Christian forces in the Battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571. The pope attributed more to the "arms" of the Rosary than the power of cannons and the valor of the soldiers who fought there. The Rosary as a form of prayer was given to St. Dominic (1170- 1221) by Mary, the mother of Our Lord, who entrusted it to him as an aid in the conflicts with the Albigensians. The Dominican pope, St. Pius V, did much to further the spread of the Rosary and it thereafter became one of the most popular devotions in Christendom. It was the same Pope St. Pius V, who in 1569 officially approved the Rosary in its present form with the Papal Bull. It had been completed by the addition of the second half of the "Hail Mary" and the "Glory be to the father" at the conclusion of each mystery. Current scholarship traces the development of the Rosary to the High Middle Ages where it came into being in various medieval monasteries as a substitute for the Divine Office for the lay monks and devout lay persons who did not know how to read. Instead of the 150 psalms, they would pray 150 "Our Fathers" counting them on a ring of beads known as the crown or "corona". With the growth of popularity of Marian devotion in the twelfth century, the "Psalter of the Blessed Virgin Mary" developed now substituting 150 "Hail Mary’s" in place of the "Our Fathers." The practice of dedicating the entire month of October to the Holy Rosary developed toward the end of the last century. Pope Leo XIII (papacy: 1878-1903) strongly promoted the increase of devotion to the Blessed Mother by encouraging the constant use of the Rosary. Beginning on September 1, 1883, he wrote a total of 11 encyclicals on the Rosary, with the last in 1898. Many other popes have contributed to help increase devotion to the Rosary by their writings. devoted the last section of his Apostolic Exhortation Marialis Cultus to the Angelus and the Rosary. In this document, he wrote that "the Rosary retains an unaltered value and intact freshness."

**September 27 and 28, 2025**  
**St. Francis Xavier**  
**Saturday/Sunday collection:** \$2197.20  
**St. Joseph, Folsom**  
**Sunday collection:** \$436.00

*~Thank you for your Generosity!!*

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**  
**Saturday, October 4**—Andrea & Shelley  
**Sunday, October 5**—Sophie & Beverly  
**Saturday, October 11**—Shelley & Britt  
**Sunday, October 12**—Sophie & Beverly

**USHERS**  
**Saturday, October 4**  
Ross Carter & Jeremy Fisk  
**Sunday, October 5**  
Gus Wood & Deano Arellano  
**Saturday, October 11**  
Robert Montoya & Gus Wood  
**Sunday, October 12**  
Deano Arellano & Maurilio Valdez

**Lectors**  
**Saturday, October 4**—Sammie Wood  
**Sunday, October 5**—Pat Crisp  
**Saturday, October 11**—Britt Fisk  
**Sunday, October 12**—Sandy Vaughn

**Saint Bruno of Cologne | October 6**  
Bruno, born in 1030, is also known as Saint Bruno the Carthusian for the monastic order he founded. Bruno refused the nomination to replace de Gournai as it was his intention to retire to live in solitude and prayer. This first period of monastic life was not to last long. Bruno was called to help Urban II, a former student of his, against the antipope Guibert of Ravenna and the hostile Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV. While working with Urban II, he rejected another offer to become bishop, this time of Calabria. Eventually Bruno was allowed to return to monastic life. The order was known for its strict asceticism, poverty, and prayer and its unique organization combining the life of the hermit with that of the collective life of traditional monks. Saint Bruno wrote several commentaries on the psalms and on St. Paul's epistles. He died on October 6, 1101, and was never formally canonized because his order renounces all public honors. However, Pope Leo X gave permission for Carthusians to celebrate his feast in 1514 and his name was added to the Roman calendar in 1623