



## 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!
- ◆ **CONFIRMATION**— Classes will be held every Sunday at The Religious Education Building from 9:15 A.M. to 10:15 A.M followed by 10:30 A.M Mass attendance (required). Contact Mrs. Rose Ramirez (575) 303-3755 for more information for both CCD and Confirmation classes.
- ◆ **ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (OCIA)**- OCIA Classes have begun. Classes are held on Wednesdays from 5:00 to 6 PM. For more information, please contact the parish office or Fr. Joji. Also, those who are interested to learn more about the Bible or the Catholic Faith may also join in this class. Classes will be led by Mr. Raymond Saccoccia.
- ◆ **Saturday, September 27**— There will be a Seminar on Catechesis from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with Sr. Mary Edna, Faith Formation Director. All CCD teachers and confirmation teachers are required to attend. Lunch will be provided.
- ◆ The LAS will be having a Fundraiser meal on Saturday, October 4, 2025 During the Arts & Crafts Festival. Volunteers are needed to cook, clean, take money, wash dishes, and waitressing. Meals will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Thank you!! Prep workers are also needed on Friday October 3, 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.
- ◆ There will be the commissioning & blessing of catechists this weekend, after the final blessing at Mass.
- ◆ 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.

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

**BuseyBANK**

22 MAPLE ST.  
 CLAYTON, NM  
 88415  
 (575) 374-8301



Rosie DeHerrera  
 QB/Owner  
 Rhonda Aragon QB  
 Douglas Cowan AB  
 575-374-2444

P.O. Box 246  
 Clayton, NM 88415

www.bigcountryrealty.com



People helping people. The way  
 banking should be.

623 S 1st  
 Clayton, NM 88415  
 575-374-8000



Michael D. Hass

Sharon K. Hass

324 Main St. • Clayton, NM  
 374-2211

www.hassfuneralhome.com

Burns Lumber  
 & Hardware  
 612 E. Route 66 Blvd.  
 Tucumcari NM  
 (575) 461-1241  
 300 North 2nd St.  
 Texline, TX  
 (806) 362-4808  
 2400 N. Prince St.  
 Clovis, NM  
 (575) 935-1111  
 Shop online @



**Gospel Reflections:** It is always interesting to reflect on the kind of people Jesus hung around with in the Gospels. More often than not, Jesus is found associating with and even dining with what the scribes and Pharisees considered to be socially unacceptable people – public sinners and outcasts. In fact, Jesus usually avoided the “acceptable people” for they had no real use for his message, and clearly resented his influence and ability to connect with the poor, the sinner, and the outcast. Over and over again, it is the “socially acceptable” people who question Jesus’ authority to speak on behalf of God, and even accuse him of being an accomplice of Satan when he healed the sick and forgave sinners. It becomes evident that they are the true “outcasts” for they are on the outside looking in – observing the good that Jesus is doing, but distancing themselves from him.

The evangelist Luke uses Jesus’ parable in today’s Gospel (Luke 16:1-13) to speak to this community. The steward has failed to perform his primary duty of caring for his master’s wealth. Realizing that his own security is not at risk since he is about to be unemployed, he seizes the initiative and reduces the loans of two merchants who were indebted to his master. In doing so, he hopes to endear himself to them so that they might look out for him once he is no longer employed. Perhaps the steward thought that his master might even change his mind and keep him as an employee, since the master was apparently impressed with the steward’s resourcefulness even though it was at the expense of his master. Jesus uses the image of the steward to teach about the Kingdom of Heaven. He is not praising the dishonesty of the conniving steward. Rather, he is saying that we are to be as cunning in our pursuit of the Kingdom of Heaven.

If we can be, as the steward, so resourceful in the pursuit of worldly matters, should we not be even more resourceful in seeking the Kingdom of God? “Your ultimate allegiance is not to the government, not to the state, not to the nation, not to any man made institution. The Christian owes his ultimate allegiance to God, and if any earthly institution conflicts with God’s will it is your Christian duty to take a stand against it. You must never allow the transitory evanescent demands of manmade institutions to take precedence over the eternal demands of the Almighty God (Martin Luther King, Jr.).” This is the point Jesus is trying to make. Unfortunately, when we look around our man made kingdoms are far more prevalent than God’s kingdom. When we start seeing greater evidence of justice, equity, dignity, respect, opportunity, gentleness, holiness, solidarity, honesty, simplicity, care for creation, and a decrease in ambition, then we will know that God’s kingdom is being served. We will be doing what we are supposed to do.

Masses offered September 2025		
+All the Departed Parishioners & Family Members		
<u>SI Good Health &amp; Well-Being of all Parishioners &amp; Families</u>		
Sat, Sep. 20	+Clay Crisp +Buster Davis +Jody Irwin	by Ross & Shelley Carter by Ross & Shelley Carter by Ross & Shelley Carter
Sun, Sep. 21	+Clay Crisp +Pita Maestas +Bennie Sanchez	by Chip & Sammie Wood by Gloria Lucero & Family by Joseph Archuleta
Sat, Sep. 27	+Clay Crisp +Buster Davis +Jody Irwin	by Ross & Shelley Carter by Ross & Shelley Carter by Ross & Shelley Carter
Sun, Sep. 28	+Matias &Sofia Martinez (B-Day) (Anniv.)	by Judy Steen & Family

**SEPTEMBER 21: CATECHETICAL SUNDAY!**  
Today, September 21, 2025, we celebrate Catechetical Sunday!  
This day recognizes and blesses our catechists, the teachers of faith. But it’s not just for religion teachers or Sunday school volunteers. Parents, godparents, grandparents, family, and even friends—all of us who live and witness the Catholic faith—are catechists. Passing on faith begins at home. By praying together, attending Mass, living a Catholic life, and learning more about our faith, we show our families what it means to follow Christ.

Thank you to all who share and witness the faith in everyday life. Today, we pray in a special way for you. This year, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 21, 2025, with the theme “*Always be ready to give an explanation...for a reason for your hope.*” (1 Pet 3:15)

Those who the community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is a time when all the Church rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith. *Thank you for your ministry and for your dedication!*

**BLESSING OF CATECHISTS!**  
Heavenly Father, you are the source of life and love. Send down your Spirit upon these catechists. Inspire them to be not only teachers of your truth, but witnesses of your love. Give them the courage to heal. Help them to see the pain of those around them so that they may offer hope through loving gestures of support and prayer. May they be merciful to others as you are merciful. Give them the joy to proclaim the Good News of salvation. Help them see your will at work in their lives so that they may share it with others. May they, in their words and deeds, offer continual praise to the one who saves us. Give them the wisdom to teach. Help them discover the mysteries of our faith in new and exciting ways. May their curiosity inspire those who they instruct to become your loyal disciples. We pray to you, almighty Father, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ the Master-Teacher, the Healer, and the Savior, and in unity with the Holy Spirit who inspires us with knowledge, courage, and understanding. Amen.

September 13 and 14, 2025  
St. Francis Xavier  
Saturday/Sunday collection: \$2053.00  
St. Joseph, Folsom  
Sunday collection: \$391.00  
Seminary Support & Peters Pence: \$375.00

~Thank you for your Generosity!!~  
**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS**  
**Saturday, September 20**—Rosie & Andrea  
**Sunday, September 21**—Sophie & Beverly  
**Saturday, September 27**—Shelley &Britt  
**Sunday, September 28**—Beverly & Sophie

**USHERS**  
**Saturday, September 20**  
Robert Montoya & Ross Carter  
**Sunday, September 21**  
Maurilio Valdez & Deano Arellano  
**Saturday, September 27**  
Ross Carter & Jeremy Fisk  
**Sunday, September 28**  
Maurilio Valdez & Deano Arellano

**Lectors**  
**Saturday, September 20**—Rosie DeHerrera  
**Sunday, September 21**—Raymond Saccoccia  
**Saturday, September 27**—Ross Carter  
**Sunday, September 28**—Mike Diller

**St. Pius of Pietrelcina | Feast Day: September 23**  
Best known as Padre Pio, St. Pius was born Francesco Forgione in 1887 in Pietrelcina, Italy. As a young boy he suffered many illnesses including typhoid. He joined Capuchin Franciscans at 15 and took the name of Pius or "Pio" in honor of Pope Pius I. He was ordained in 1910, and at this time he received the marks of stigmata, the wounds of Christ, but they eventually healed. Frequent illnesses continued to plague him as a young man.

Padre Pio served in the Italian Medical Corps during World War I, but he was discharged early because of illness, which was likely tuberculosis. He was assigned to the friary in San GiovanniRotondo. In 1918, while continuing to serve at the friary, the stigmata appeared again, and this time remained until his death.

Many faithful came to see him at the friary, his days were long, beginning with Mass at 5 a.m. then hearing confessions all day with breaks to bless the sick. A simple man, content to do God’s will on earth and with the ardent desire to serve the sick and poor in whom he saw Christ, he urged a hospital, Casa (House for the Relief of Suffering).

Padre Pio died at the age of 81 in 1968 and in 2002 Pope John Paul II proclaimed him “St. Pio of Pietrelcina.”