



## 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 Church or the Catholic Faith may also join in this class. Classes will be led by Mr. Raymond Saccoccia.
- ♦ 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.
- ♦ 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.
- ♦ There will be no Mass from September 29 through October 3, as all the clergy of our Archdiocese will be attending the convocation. We kindly ask you to keep our priests in your prayers during this time.

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

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**The Feast of the Archangels is celebrated on September 29:** This Monday we celebrate the Feast of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Jesus mentioned the presence of angels in His ministry. These pure spirits have the responsibility of representing God here on earth. The word “angel” means messenger. God wanted to make His presence felt and His will be known. These archangels are a divine gift meant to help us on our earthly journey. Angels provide that presence by guiding, protecting, informing and warn. These Archangels played very important roles in salvation history.

**St. Michael Archangel** is known as one “who is like God!” He led the angels against Lucifer and the evil spirits. St. Michael is revered as a powerful protector and warrior who leads the heavenly hosts in battle against the forces of evil. He is often depicted with a sword, fighting the devil, and is invoked as a defender of the Church and a protector of souls. St. Michael's role in the Bible is most notably described in the Book of Revelation, where he leads the heavenly armies in their battle against the dragon (Satan).

When Pope Leo XIII had a vision in 1899 that the Church will be attacked by evil in the 20th century, he asked for St. Michael's protection through a prayer. "Christian tradition recognizes four offices of Saint Michael: (i) to fight against Satan (ii) to rescue the souls of the faithful from the power of the enemy, especially at the hour of death. (iii) to be the champion of God's people, (iv) to call away from earth and bring men's souls to judgment."

**St. Gabriel** (God's strength) Archangel appeared before Mary and announced the birth of John the Baptist. It is believed that it was also Gabriel who appeared before Joseph and the shepherds. By virtue of its role and mission, Mary, Joseph, Zechariah and Elizabeth, the shepherds, and Jesus' agony in Gethsemane were provided the grace of the strength in accepting and believing the Good News of the coming of the Messiah.

**Saint Raphael** (God has healed) Archangel appeared in the Book of Tobit. Archangel Raphael healed the blind Tobias in the Book of Tobit; thus St. Raphael is invoked to ask for God's healing and mercy. The angel is also believed to be the angel in the fifth chapter of John who bestowed healing power on the pond so that the first to enter it when the water moved will be healed of whatever sickness.

God's protection, power, and healing come through these angels. It is interesting to note that their popularity rose after the exile. When the Israelites longing for God's presence was finally satisfied after being freed, they found God's manifestation of Himself in the angels. Which brings the question; Have we experienced God through His archangels? There is a story told about their encounter with St. Michael Archangel. One lady and her friend were walking in a dark and isolated alley. Suddenly, two men appeared behind them stalking them. She immediately asked the intercession of St. Michael by praying the prayer for protection given by Pope Leo XIII. Before they knew it, the two men stopped following them and disappeared. She believed St. Michael helped them.

PRAYER: Holy Archangels, St. Michael, St. Gabriel and St. Raphael, surround us with your protection and pray for our special needs as we journey towards the heavenly Kingdom which is filled with the voices of praise and worship of our Glorious God by the vast choirs of angels. Amen.

## Quotable Saints

"All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle." "Do few things but do them well, simple joys are holy."

## Readings For the Week

29 Mon **Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels** *Feast* Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or  
Rv 12:7-12ab/Jn 1:47-51

30 Tue **Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church** *Memorial* Zec 8:20-23/Lk 9:51-56

1 Wed **Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church** *Memorial*  
Neh 2:1-8/Lk 9:57-62

2 Thu **The Holy Guardian Angels** *Memorial*  
Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Mt 18:1-5, 10

3 Fri Bar 1:15-22/Lk 10:13-16

4 Sat **Saint Francis of Assisi** *Memorial*  
Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Lk 10:17-24

5 SUN Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4/Tm 1:6-8, 13-14/Lk 17:5-10

**Notes From Fr. Joji:** The month of October is recognized as a month of special devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, with particular emphasis on the praying of the Rosary. The Catholic Church looks upon the Blessed Virgin Mary as not only the Mother of God, but also as the Mother of the Church. She is a model of faith, a sign of hope, and holds a special place in the Communion of Saints. God honored Mary above all human persons by inviting her to be the mother of His Son. In honoring Mary, the Catholic Church is following the example of God Himself. We do not worship Mary as a goddess, but rather honor her for her privileged role in salvation history.

It was the Archangel Gabriel at the Annunciation who declared to Mary that she was “full of grace” (Luke 1:28) and that she had “found favor with God” (Luke 1:30). During the Visitation, Mary’s kins woman Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, called her “blessed among women” (Luke 1:42); and Mary herself declared that “all generations shall call me blessed” (Luke 1:48). We honor Mary because Jesus honored her, and we are called to imitate Jesus. Catholics ask for Mary’s intercession for the same reason that we ask for prayers from one another: “the fervent prayer of a righteous person is very powerful” (James 5:16). Because Jesus is the one mediator between God and human beings (2 Timothy 2:5), we intercede for one another as members of Christ’s Body, the Church. And if we can ask the prayers of one another, surely we should not fail to ask the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints to pray for us as well.

All true devotion to Mary is ultimately devotion to Jesus as she seeks to always bring us closer to her Son. As we meditate upon the mysteries of the Rosary, we reflect upon the life and ministry of Jesus. Mary invites us to follow the ways of her Son today, just as she once said to the waiters at the wedding feast at Cana: “Do whatever He tells you” (John 2:5).

## Prayer to Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary

Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and tender Mother of all people, I consecrate myself to your Immaculate Heart, and recommend to you my family, my country, and the whole human race. Please accept my consecration, dearest Mother, and use me as you wish, to accomplish your designs upon the world. O Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of Heaven and earth, rule over me, and teach me how to allow the Heart of Jesus to rule and triumph in me and around me, as it has ruled and triumphed in you. Amen.

## Lectors

**Saturday, September 27**—Ross Carter  
**Sunday, September 28**—Mike Diller  
**Saturday, October 4**—Sammie Wood  
**Sunday, October 5**—Pat Crisp

## FEAST OF THE HOLY GUARDIAN ANGELS

October 2nd is the Feast of the Holy Guardian Angels. Although Guardian Angels have been venerated since the early days of the Church, it wasn't until the 17th century that Pope Clement X extended their feast day to the Universal Church. Although not a dogmatic article of the faith, it is a firmly established Catholic belief that each individual human being has their own Guardian Angel assigned to them by God to watch over their soul, help them avoid sin and temptation, and lead them to heaven, taken in part from Jesus' words in the Gospel of Matthew: "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father." The Church thanks God for our heavenly helpers, the Guardian Angels, who minister to us in our need and guide us on the path of salvation. The Guardian Angel prayer reads, "Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom his love commits me here, ever this day be at my side, To light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen."

## EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

**Saturday, September 27**—Shelley & Britt  
**Sunday, September 28**—Beverly & Sophie  
**Saturday, October 4**—Andrea & Shelley  
**Sunday, October 5**—Sophie & Beverly

## USHERS

**Saturday, September 27**  
Ross Carter & Jeremy Fisk

**Sunday, September 28**  
Maurilio Valdez & Deano Arellano

**Saturday, October 4**  
Ross Carter & Jeremy Fisk

**Sunday, October 5**  
Gus Wood & Deano Arellano