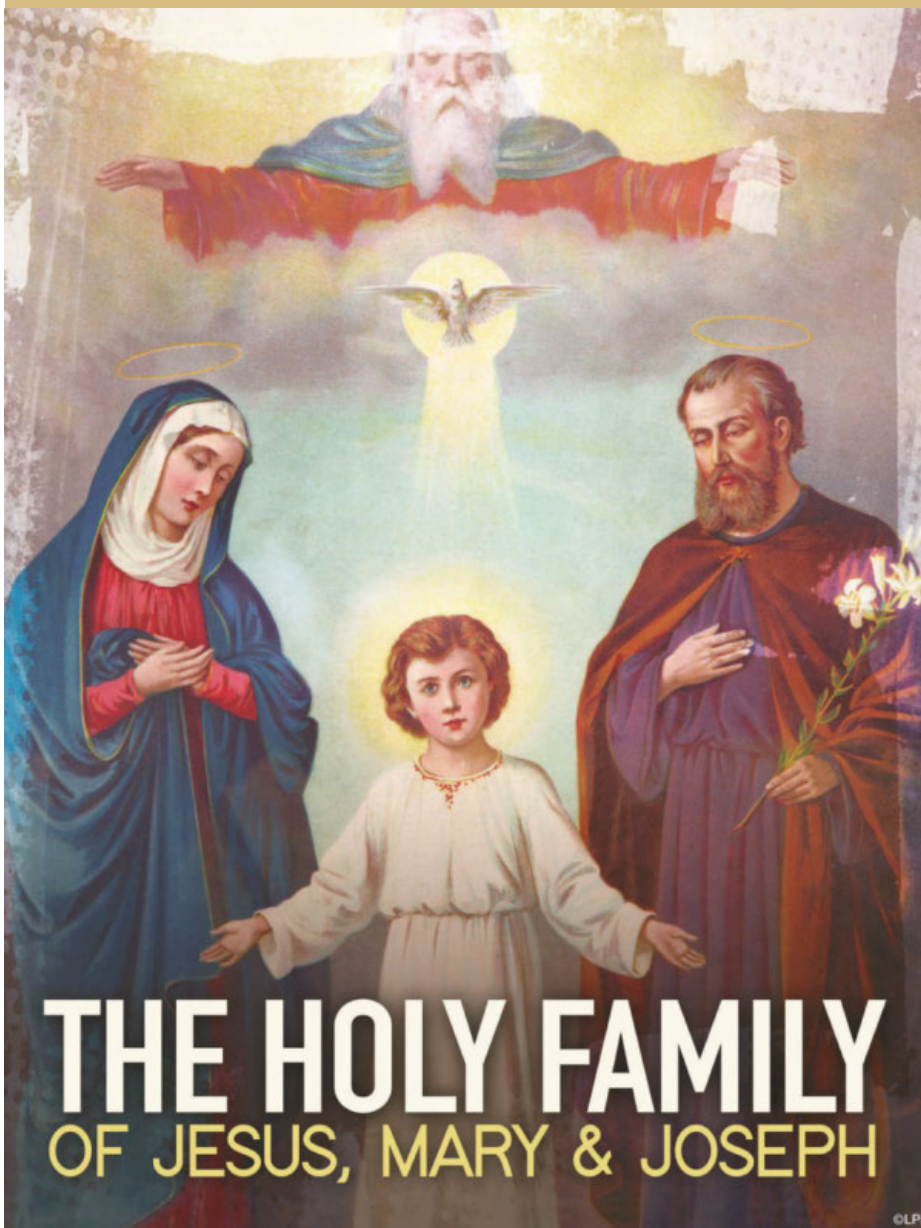




Saint  
**Francis Xavier**  
Catholic Church & School

December 26, 2021 A.D.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



### Holy Mass Schedule & Intentions

**Monday, December 27**

*No Public Mass*

**Tuesday, December 28**

*No Public Mass*

**Wednesday, December 29**

8:15 am † Bob & Lorraine Westphal

**Thursday, December 30**

8:15 am † Tom Stout

**Friday, December 31**

4:30 pm † Steve Gulesserian

**Saturday, January 1**

9:30 am † Thomas Blattner

4:30 pm SFX Parishioners

**Sunday, January 2**

8:30 am SFX Parishioners

10:30 am † Gen & Ken Metz

### Confession Schedule

**Saturdays** 3:30 - 4:15 pm

**Sundays** 9:45-10:15am

*\*If this time does not work for you please contact Father to set up an appointment.*

### Eucharistic Adoration Schedule

**Wednesdays** 8:45-9:30 am

*\*Please contact Karen Szudera for more information (608-831-2412).*

### Weekly Sanctuary Lamp

**In Memory of:**

Bernadette M. Heim

**THE HOLY FAMILY**  
OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

## Parish Office

**Hours: M - Th, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm**  
2947 Thinnes St.  
Cross Plains, WI 53528  
(608) 798-0100 Fax (608) 798-2976  
info@sfxcrossplains.org

## Parish Staff

### Pastor

*Fr. Scott Jablonski*  
(608) 798-0100  
fr.scott.jablonski@sfxcrossplains.org

### Office Manager & Cemetery Sexton

*Denise Adler*  
(608) 798-0100  
denise.adler@sfxcrossplains.org

### Director of Operations

*Stacey Eslinger*  
(608) 798-2423  
stacey.eslinger@sfxcrossplains.org

### Director of Faith Formation

*Marc Laudonio*  
(608) 798-2975  
marc.laudonio@sfxcrossplains.org

### Coordinator of Faith Formation (Preschool & Elementary School)

*Laurie Sabbarese*  
(608) 798-0100  
laurie.sabbarese@sfxcrossplains.org

### Coordinator of Faith Formation (Middle School & High School)

*Molly Mahoney*  
(608) 798-0100  
molly@sfxcrossplains.org

### Director of Worship

*Josephine Cowen*  
(608) 798-1224  
josephine.cowen@sfxcrossplains.org

### Director of Pastoral Care

*Cheryl Chamberlain*  
(608) 798-3142  
cheryl.chamberlain@sfxcrossplains.org

## St. Francis Xavier School

### Principal

*Mrs. Petrece Klein*  
(608) 798-2422  
petrece.klein@sfxcrossplains.org

## A Note from Fr. Scott

Dear friends,

Merry Christmas! May the joy and peace of Jesus, our newborn King, be yours throughout this Christmas season and the new year ahead! As we continue to celebrate the Lord's Nativity and approach the end of 2021 I want to share a few updates with you.

As you can see when entering church, our new beautiful stained-glass window has been installed just in time for these holy days! I'm deeply grateful to Fr. Tom for his vision and leadership in getting this project started (and paid for in full!) before I arrived. I'm also deeply grateful to Sr. John Rose – who I never met but who I look forward to meeting, God-willing, on the other side of eternity – for her faith and generosity (even in death), which made this project a reality. I also know that many of you have made contributions to assist with these efforts over the past decade as well – so thank you!

As you know (and can hear!) we also have a new sound system in church, which was paid for by a longtime parishioner who died and left a bequest to the parish with the stated intention of improving things within the church. May he rest in peace, and may God reward him for his generous gift which will serve our faith community for many years to come!

Also, I want to provide you with a brief update on the progress that is being made on the Creek Crossing Development Project (just north of the parish). As you can see when you drive by, the major infrastructure work has been finished and lots are now available for purchase. I'm grateful to the Creek Crossing Board Members (who constitute a separate legal entity from the parish) for their work in ensuring the success of this project up to this point – working in conjunction with the Village of Cross Plains, the State of Wisconsin, the DNR, etc. – and for their commitment to maximizing this gift for the long-term good of the parish. As you may or may not know, our parish is the sole beneficiary of this project. Nevertheless, it will still be at least a couple of years before we see any of the proceeds because lots must first be sold, loans repaid, etc. If you or anyone else you know is interested in purchasing a lot or would like more information, please contact Board Director Jeff Lee (jlee.res@gmail.com).

Finally, I want to humbly ask you to consider making an extra end of the year donation to St. Francis Xavier and/or increasing your weekly offertory giving throughout 2022. Unfortunately, our costs continue to increase (just like everywhere else) and the extremely high inflation rates only make the situation more challenging. In addition, because of COVID, some sources of income that we have traditionally relied upon have not returned to pre-COVID levels or projections. As such, all of this taken together means that we are a bit behind on meeting our annual budget at the halfway point of the parish's fiscal year. So, anything that you can do to help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your help, and thank you to all of you who give so generously!

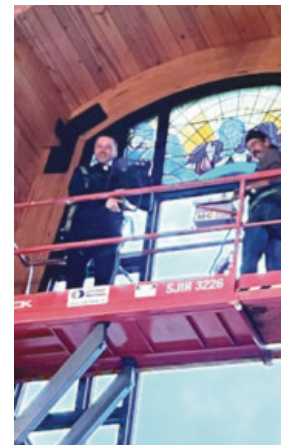
Once again, may you have a blessed and merry Christmas and New Year!

All for Jesus,

Fr. Scott



Both, Fr. Tom and Fr. Scott, were able to install a piece of the new stained glass!



### Becoming a Parish Member

Are you new to our community? Or, perhaps you've never officially joined our parish? Either way, we would love to have you become a registered parish member. Please contact the parish office for more information.

### Becoming Catholic

If you or someone you know is interested in exploring the possibility of becoming Catholic or learning more about the beauty of the Catholic faith please contact our Director of Faith Formation, Marc Laudonio.

### Sacrament of Baptism

If you are interested in having your child baptized at St. Francis Xavier please contact our Director of Faith Formation, Marc Laudonio, or visit our website.

### Sacrament of Marriage

If you would like to get married at St. Francis Xavier please contact Fr. Scott at least 6 months prior to your desired wedding date to begin the marriage preparation process.

### Anointing of the Sick

If you or a loved one are in need of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick please contact our Director of Pastoral Care, Cheryl Chamberlain - unless it is an emergency, in which case please contact the parish office and/or Fr. Scott directly.

### Cemetery & Burials

Please contact Denise Adler in the parish office if you are interested in purchasing a cemetery plot or columbarium niche, or if you have any other cemetery related questions.

## Meet Our Teacher



Mr. Mack

#### INTRODUCTION:

Hi. I'm Mr. Mack and this is my 5th year teaching Middle School at St. Francis Xavier.

#### FUN FACT:

My mom went to school here and that's the reason she became Catholic!

#### WHY I TEACH

About 20-years ago, I began to sense the Lord was calling me to be a teacher. I've been confirmed in that call as I've had the pleasure to work with such wonderful students and their families!

#### CLASSROOM WISH LIST

Indoor recess games such as:

- 3 up 3 down
- Hasty Baker
- Mixed Doubles
- Boom Goes the Dynamite



### What is SCRIP?

SCRIP is an ongoing fundraiser for our parish and school, whereby we sell gift cards to hundreds of different local and national restaurants, gas stations, retailers, and other businesses and they donate a portion of the sale back to us as a thank you. SCRIP costs you nothing (you get the full value of the purchased gift card) and it helps us tremendously.

Please visit the parish office to purchase your SCRIP gift cards today!



This week's featured vendor is...

## No Mass, Adoration, or Confession the week of January 3-7, 2022

### End of the Year Giving

All donations for 2021 need to be postmarked or into the Parish Office by **Wednesday, December 29th** (*please note the change!*). Need to drop something off after hours? Use the secure, wall mounted drop box located to the left of the parish office doors. You can also make your year-end donation online at [www.sfxcrossplains.org](http://www.sfxcrossplains.org), just click on the donate button! This is a great way to make a contribution to our parish, school or endowment fund.

If sending donations to the Diocese of Madison, please note the Diocese follows postal regulation regarding postmarks. If postmarked by December 31st, the Diocese will credit the parishioner donation for 2021. If postmarked after the 31st, they will post the donation for 2022. The Diocese follow postmarks and not the date of the check so to ensure proper credit for your donations, please mail or drop off these funds promptly.



### Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/  
Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/  
1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/  
Mt 2:1-12

### Parish Office

Please note the Parish Office will be closed Thursday, December 30th and Friday, December 31st to observe New Years with their families.



**CONNECT**

@ ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

### Save the Date

Our next Connect @ St. Francis Xavier Event will be held on Thursday, **January 20th** in the Parish Hall.

We will be hosting a game night with fun games and activities for all ages.

### Retrouvaille Retreat

Are you struggling in your marriage? Retrouvaille is a weekend retreat offered to married couples to help re-establish communication and to gain new insights into themselves as individuals and as a couple. The retreat provides tools to help couples with communication, forgiveness, and trust. It teaches a dialogue process of meaningful communication. The next retreat offered in our area will be January 7-9, 2022. Cost is \$200. There are partial scholarships available from the Diocese of Madison. Registration ends January 3rd. For more information or to register, email: [2035@helpourmarriage.org](mailto:2035@helpourmarriage.org) or call 414-502-7685.



# Coming Back to Church

## Question:

I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church?

## Answer:

If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back. This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be.



## We Wish You All...

A glad and peaceful Christmastide  
 With all its memories sweet;  
 May hope and love and joy be yours  
 With kindly friends to greet;  
 The echo of the angel's song,  
 The star's clear guiding light,  
 The Christ child in your Heart and Home,  
 To make this Christmas bright.

Merry Christmas to you and your families  
 from Fr. Scott and the St. Francis Xavier Parish Staff

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