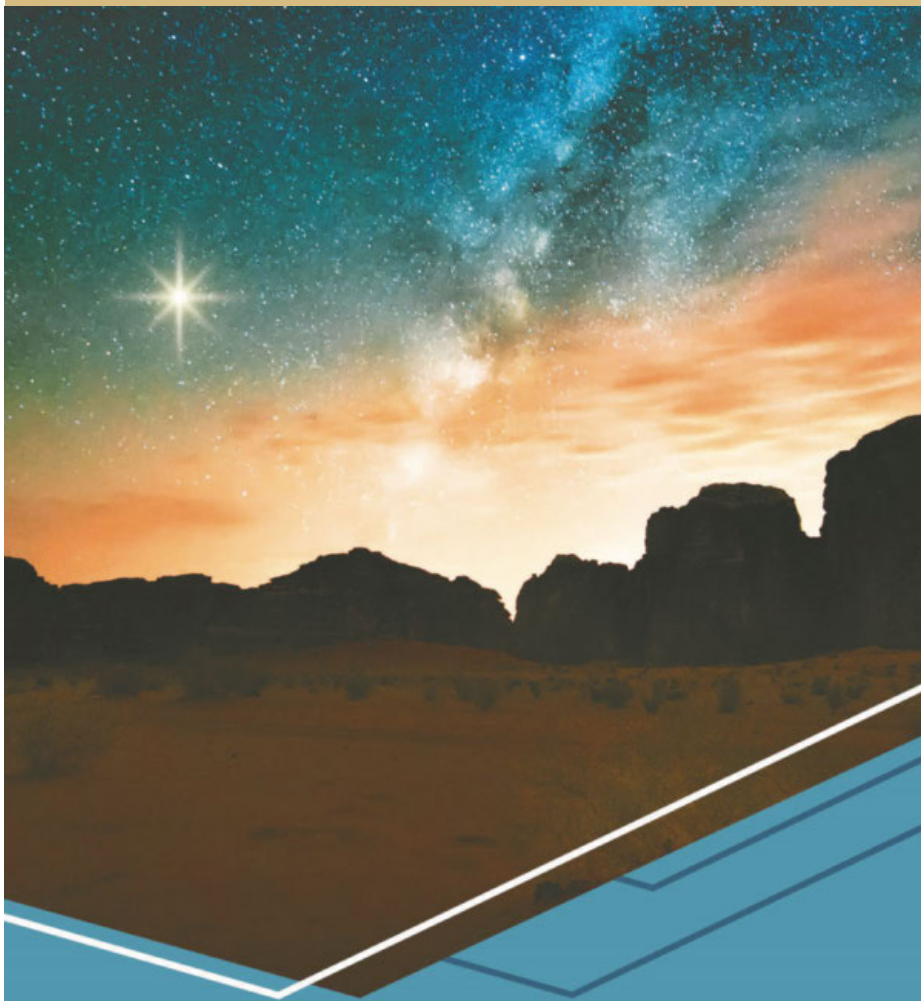




Saint
Francis Xavier
Catholic Church & School

January 2, 2022 A.D.

The Epiphany of the Lord



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Holy Mass Schedule & Intentions

Monday, January 3

No Public Mass

Tuesday, January 4

No Public Mass

Wednesday, January 5

No Public Mass

Thursday, January 6

No Public Mass

Friday, January 7

No Public Mass

Saturday, January 8

4:30 pm † Eleanor Zakowski

Sunday, January 9

8:30 am SFX Parishioners

10:30 am † Mike Eller

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

No Adoration this week

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

Weekly Sanctuary Lamp

In Memory of:

Berdina Padrutt

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

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fr.scott.jablonski@sfxcrossplains.org

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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 Message from Laurie



“We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar...” The rhythm and solemnity of this popular carol take us on a journey not only to ancient Israel but also to the realization of our own salvation. These men of mystery from a far away land follow a bright star to find a baby, bow to him, and give him some of the most unusual of gifts – gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Only Matthew mentions these magi in his Gospel, but their coming is of such great significance that their arrival is celebrated on its own feast day, the Epiphany, January 6, the last day of the Christmas season. An epiphany is a manifestation, or a moment when something is seen in a very clear way. The coming of the magi and the significance of their gifts are a clear indication that the baby they were led to was no less than extraordinary.

The second verse of the song, “Born a King on Bethlehem’s plain, gold I bring to crown him again...” tells us quite clearly of the significance of the gift of gold. The baby Jesus was King, for precious gold was only fitting for royalty. Remember that King Herod was nervous about this and had all male children under the age of 2 in Judea killed to protect his throne. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph fled to Egypt to evade this massacre. Jesus carried the title King of the Jews all the way to his cross where the sign INRI (Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews) was mockingly nailed above his head. Jesus’ title as King, though, was not of any earthly kingdom, but of Heaven, and he will go to great extremes to make it possible for us to join him there.



Our popular Christmas carol then goes on to tell us that Jesus received frankincense. Frankincense was, and still is, made from a tree resin and, when burned by the priests of the Old Testament, gave off a sweet aroma as the smoke rose to the God on High. It is with this gift that the wise men acknowledge the divinity and priesthood of the baby. The prophet Isaiah tells us in Isaiah 60:3, “Nations will be drawn to your light,” and in Isaiah 60:6, “Great caravans of camels will come...They will come...bringing gold and incense.” In addition to burning frankincense,

the priests of ancient Israel offered the sacrifices to God. Jesus offered the ultimate sacrifice, Himself.

Lastly, the baby Jesus receives myrrh. The carol’s lyrics state, “Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom.” Myrrh, also made from a tree resin, was used to prepare a body for burial. As sobering as these words of the fourth verse of the carol are, and perhaps out of step with most of our more jovial and uplifting Christmas songs, the truth is that Jesus, the only Son of God, took on human flesh so that he could offer back to his Father the most Perfect Sacrifice of Himself for our eternal salvation. It is from this truth that our hope is born because, without Christmas, the world would remain devoid of the Easter Alleluias.

Although the celebration of the visit of the magi brings a close to the Christmas season, the Epiphany should awaken in us the realization that God, the All-Powerful, All-Knowing, Creator of the Universe, in the person of Jesus Christ, came to earth in human flesh to save us from our sins. And the fact that this Truth was recognized by not only Jews, but Gentiles, leads us to the reality that He came for all people of all nations. Let us not leave this Christmas season without bowing down to the King of Kings, acknowledging His humility in taking on human flesh, and thanking Him for His Sacrifice that is our eternal gift.

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

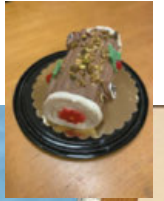
If you or a loved one are in need of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick please contact our Director of Pastoral Care, Cheryl Chamberlain - unless it is an emergency, in which case please contact the parish office and/or Fr. Scott directly.

Cemetery & Burials

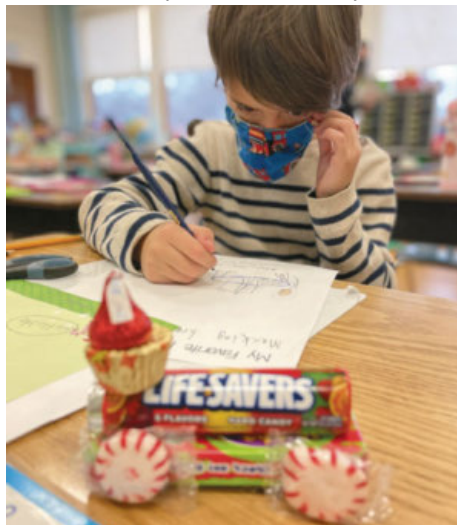
Please contact Denise Adler in the parish office if you are interested in purchasing a cemetery plot or columbarium niche, or if you have any other cemetery related questions.

Experiencing Christmas Celebrations Around the World

Mrs. Hedges French students enjoyed authentic French holiday dishes including a Buche de Noel, an authentic French soufflé, French onion soup, baguettes, cheese puff pastry and croissants. Two of our 8th grade students even made macarons from scratch!



Mrs. Julius' first graders have traveled around the world and back just in time for Christmas! They packed their bags and had their passports stamped along the way! They learned about Christmas traditions each place they visited and got to recreate many of them as they went.



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...



Parish and Other Community News and Events

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

Mass Intentions and Memorial Candle Offerings

Mass Intentions for 2022 are readily available. Please contact the parish office to schedule. **Mass Intentions are \$10.00** and if paying by check, please make check payable to *St. Francis Xavier*.



Sanctuary Lamp: \$20.00

If you wish to have the Sanctuary Lamp burn in memory of a loved one, to honor a special occasion or a special intention please contact the parish office. The Sanctuary Lamp candle burns from Sunday through Saturday.

Also, both 3-Day and 6-Day candles can be found in the Chapel.

3-Day Candle: \$3.00 6-Day Candle: \$5.00

Readings for the week of January 2, 2022

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
 Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52
 Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30
 Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



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.

Marriage Help

Are you struggling in your marriage? Retrouvaille is a program offered to married couples to help re-establish communication

and gain new insights into themselves as individuals and as a couple. The program provides tools to help couples with communication, forgiveness, and trust.



Upcoming programs in our area start with a weekend retreat Jan. 7-9 (Racine/Milwaukee, 414-502-7685), and Jan 28-30 (Madison/Green Lake, 608-249-2377). For additional information, please visit: www.HelpOurMarriage.org



Make 2022 Your Year!



Saint Michael Prayer

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Saint Francis Xavier Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, We thank you for your Servant Francis Xavier, whom you called to preach the Gospel to the peoples of Asia. Raise up, we pray, in this and every land heralds and evangelists of your kingdom, that your Church may proclaim the unsearchable riches of our Savior Jesus Christ; Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SFX Football Craze

Week 14 Results: 12/22/21

First Highest Score
96 points • \$125.00 each
Mark A. Laufenburg, Waunakee
Laura Ballweg, Middleton
Andrew Gleiter, Madison
Renee Rauls, Cross Plains

Second Highest Score
95 points • \$40.00 each
Mike Schutz, Cross Plains
Claire Murphy Sleaper, Prairie du Sac
Joe Pertzborn, Cross Plains
Steve Helt, Cross Plains
Tim Ripp, Lodi

Third Highest Score
94 points • \$50.00 each
Dustin Ketelboeter, Cross Plains
Rick Pertzborn, Windsor

Fourth Highest Score
93 points • \$15.00 each
Sr. Elmerine Acker, Milwaukee
Coaches of St. Francis
Dennis & Jeanne Conohan, Cross Plains
Melissa Dorshorst, Lodi
Fred Wolf, Mazomanie

Fifth Highest Score
92 points • \$5.00 each
Jim Ryan, Verona
Brian Buechner, Cross Plains
Beau White, Spring Green
Taylor Endres, Mt. Horeb
Christine Saeman, Cross Plains
Teri Kern, Dane
Travis Quame, Lodi
Scott McIntyre, Lodi
Melissa Waller, Poynette
Madsion Schwartz, Janesville
Mark Ballweg, Verona
Katie Schauer, Fitchburg
Fred Hankel, Arena



First Lowest Score
16 points • \$50.00
Cathy Patterson, Cross Plains

Second Lowest Score
18 points • \$25.00
Randy Fleishman, Lodi

Third Lowest Score
19 points • \$5.00 each
Darla Marshman, Waunakee
Paul C. Brunner, Cross Plains
Tom Zander, Sun Prairie

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