

## SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

#### **MASS TIMES:**

Daily Mass: (M-F) 7:30 am Saturday Mass: 8:00 am Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm

Saturday Confession: 2:45 pm-3:45 pm Sunday Mass: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am; 2:00 pm (Polish First Sunday of Month)

4:00 pm (Creole Mass Weekly)

"His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again.'"

- Lk 15:21-22a, 23b-24a

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Father Fritz Ligonde

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Deacon Nicholas Jurosic

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Parish Office: 239-334-2161

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Monday - Friday

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

(Closed 12 - 12:30 p.m.)

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info@stfrancisfm.org

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Saturdays: One half hour before and after the 4pm Mass Sundays: 8:30 to 9:30, 10:30 to 11:30, for half an hour after the 11:30 Mass

The store is closed while Mass is being celebrated.

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Respect Life Ministry	334-2161
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# SACRAMENTS OF OUR FAITH

#### Anointing of the Sick:

The Sacrament is meant for anyone who is suffering from a serious illness — physical, emotional, or spiritual. It may be received at any time during a person's illness, especially before surgery or treatment. Available the first Saturday of the month at the 8:00 A.M. Mass.

#### Confession:

Saturdays from 2:45 to 3:45 p.m.

#### Readings for the week of March 30

**Sunday:** Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (9a)/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 **Scrutiny:** 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-

3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Eph 5:8-14/ Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6,

11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54 Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-

9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-

14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-

22, 23/Jn 5:31-47

**Friday:** Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10,

11-12/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3,

4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11

**Scrutiny:** Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7,

17, 20-27, 33b-45

#### MASS INTENTIONS

March 29, 2025 through April 6, 2025

Deceased
Living

#### Saturday, March 29

8:00 A.M. \* Health of Geahardt Woster 4:00 P.M. + Christine Lawrence Finney

#### Sunday, March 30

7:30 A.M. + Robert Pankow 9:30 A.M. + Adolf Ziebart

11:30 A.M. \* Margaret Tramutola, Happy Birthday

4:00 P.M. + Holy Souls in Purgatory

#### Monday, March 31

7:30 A.M. \* Brian McArdle, Happy Birthday

#### Tuesday, April 1

7:30 A.M. + Andrew & Paul Taylor

#### Wednesday, April 2

7:30 A.M. + Holy Souls in Purgatory

#### Thursday, April 3

7:30 A.M. + Anna Nozewski

#### Friday, April 4

7:30 A.M. \* Carmen Cervantes, Happy Birthday

#### Saturday, April 5

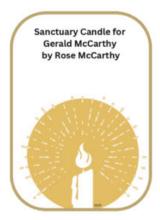
8:00 A.M. \* Victor J. Medore, Special Intention

4:00 P.M. + Tom Federico

#### Sunday, April 6

7:30 A.M. + Connie McGowan 9:30 A.M. + Nethaneel Ford 11:30 A.M. + Jerry Metzger

2:00P.M. + Holy Souls in Purgatory 4:00 P.M. + Holy Souls in Purgatory



#### GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE: Father John Muir

A man looking a bit downtrodden approached me as I filled my car's gas tank. He asked, "May I share with you my testimony about how good God is?" "OK," I skeptically answered. He went on to tell me that he had been an alcoholic and drug addict, and that God had healed him; now he was four years sober. He said, "I didn't deserve it, but now I'm a different person. God is so good! Have a terrific Tuesday!" A few minutes later, as I drove away, I saw him smiling and handing a homeless person some money. I was confronted with a choice: either he was a total fraud or God had changed him. Something had happened to him, and it didn't seem fake. Maybe it was God.

When Jesus heals the man born blind, the man becomes a challenge to everyone who meets him. They must decide. Is he the same blind person who they knew before? Who healed him and how? And what is the status of the one who can heal such infirmities? We shouldn't be surprised at the storm of doubt, hatred and animosity that swirls around the healed man — so it often goes when Jesus heals someone even to this day.

Like we often do, the religious leaders confronting the healed man declare that God is not at work. They ask with mocking superiority and dismissive disdain, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" (John 9:34). And they cast him out. When Jesus clearly works in our lives, in us or around us, we should accept it, and give praise and thanks for this wonderful manifestation of his goodness.

**Lenten challenge**: Think of one way the Lord has healed you. Perhaps he healed a form of selfishness, a physical ailment, or something else. This week, find a person to whom you can share that testimony, and share it. Don't worry if they don't accept it was God who did it.

#### **March Parish Activities**

3/30/2025 - 9:30AM - Passionate Discipleship Bible Study - XHA 3/20/2025 - 10-11:15AM - Faith Formation - XH 3/31/2025 - 10:30-Noon - The Gospel of Life Book Study - MC 3/31/2025 - 6-7:30PM - Bible Study - XHA

XH - Xavier Hall XHA -Xavier Hall Annex CH - Church MC - Ministry Center R - Rectory C - Chapel

#### **April Parish Activities**

4/30/2025 - 9:45-11AM - Bible Study - MC

4/1/2025 - 10-11:30AM - Book Study - The Dolorous Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ - MC 4/1/2025 - 6:30PM - Knights of Columbus Meeting - XH 4/1/2025 - 12:00-2PM - No Greater Love - XHA 4/1/2025 - 5:00-7PM - No Greater Love - XHA 4/2/2025 - 9:45-11AM - Bible Study - MC 4/2/2025 - 11AM - Chosen - Season 2 - XHA 4/2/2025 - 5:00-7PM - 4 Last Things by Jim Gontis - CH 4/3/2025 - 11AM - Fearless Video & Discussion - Xavier HA 4/4/2025 - 12:00-1PM - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - CH 4/4/2025 - 4:00PM - Stations of the Cross - CH 4/4/2025 - 4:30PM - Fish Fry - XH 4/4/2025 - 6:00PM - Bingo - XH 4/5/2025 - 8AM - Mass followed by Anointing Afterwards - C 4/6/2025 - 9-11:15AM - Sacramental Prep - XH 4/6/2025 - 9:30AM - Passionate Discipleship Bible Study - XHA 4/6/2025 - 10-11:15AM - Faith Formation - XH 4/6/2025 - 1:00-2PM - High School Youth Group - MC 4/7/2025 - 10:30-Noon - The Gospel of Life Book Study - MC 4/7/2025 - 6:00-7:30PM - Bible Study - XHA 4/8/2025 - 10-11:30AM - Book Study - The Dolorous Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ - MC 4/8/2025 - 12:00-2PM - No Greater Love - XHA 4/8/2025 - 5:00-7PM - No Greater Love - XHA 4/9/2025 - 9:45-11AM - Bible Study - MC 4/9/2025 - Chosen - Season 2 - XHA 4/10/2025 - Fearless Video & Discussion - XHA 4/11/2025 - 12:00-1PM - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - CH 4/11/2025 - 4:00PM - Stations of the Cross - CH 4/11/2025 - 4:30PM - Fish Fry - XH 4/11/2025 - 4:00-9PM - Confessions - CH 4/12/2025 - 9:00AM-Noon - Confessions - CH 4/13/2025 - 10-11:15AM - Faith Formation - XH 4/14/2025 - 10:30-Noon - The Gospel of Life Book Study - MC 4/14/2025 - 6:00-7:30PM - Bible Study - XHA 4/15/2025 - 10-11:30AM - Book Study - The Dolorous Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ - MC 4/16/2025 - 9:45-11AM - Bible Study - MC 4/16/2025 - Chosen - Season 2 - XHA 4/17/2025 - 7:00PM - Holy Thursday Service - CH 4/18/2025 - NO ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT 4/18/2025 - Good Friday Service - CH 4/19/2025 - 11:00AM - Blessing of Food Baskets - CH 4/19/2025 - 8:30PM - Holy Saturday Service - CH 4/21/2025 - 6:00-7:30PM - Bible Study - XHA 4/22/2025 - 10-11:30AM - Book Study - The Dolorous Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ - MC 4/22/2025 - 1PM - Respect Life Meeting - MC 4/22/2025 - 6:00PM - NAMI Meeting - National Alliance on Mental Illness - MC 4/23/2025 - 6:00-7:30PM - Bible Study - XHA 4/23/2025 - 11AM - Chosen - Season 2 - XHA 4/24/2025 - 10:00-11:30AM - Prayer Blanket Ministry Meeting - MC 4/25/2025 - 12:00-1PM - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - CH 4/27/2025 - 10:00-11:15AM - Faith Formation - XH 4/28/2025 - 6:00-7:30PM - Bible Study - XHA 4/29/2025 - 10-11:30AM - Book Study - The Dolorous Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ - MC



#### LIVE THE LITURGY

The Prodigal Son doesn't dare ask for the honor of being called his Father's son again. All he wants is to be close to his Father, to be cared for. But his Father surprises him with his mercy, as God surprises us. He offers more than just forgiveness. He offers redemption.

# Blessing of Easter Food

Bring your baskets to the church on Saturday, April 19, 2025 at 11AM for Deacon Nicholas to bless them.





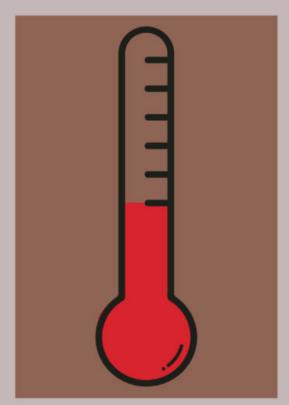
#### A beautiful way to honor a special friend or commemorate a special event

The altar flowers in the sanctuary add to the beauty of our worship service each Sunday. The flowers are always given to the glory of God first and then given in memory or in honor of a person, or other special occasions such a baptism, birthday, anniversary or wedding. The cost of a dedication is \$75. Please make checks payable to St. Francis Xavier with "Altar flowers" put on the memo line. Please specify the date on which you would like your arrangement memorialized.

# Catholic FAITH APPEAL

- Goal: \$155,000.00
- Pledged: \$84,990.15
- Total paid: \$69,970.15
- % of goal: 54.83%

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St. Francis Xavier

# FISH FRY FRIDAY

Fridays during Lent





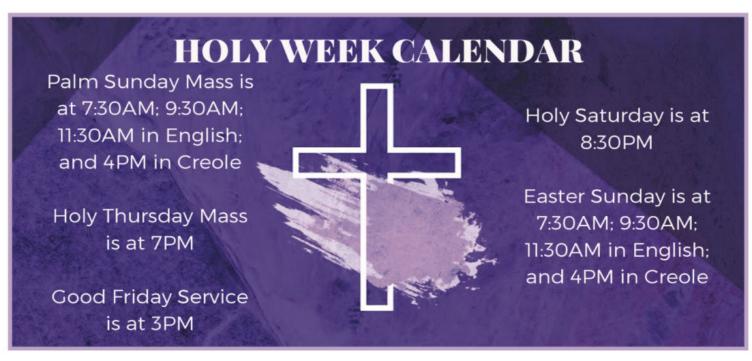
All proceeds will benefit the Initiative for improvements and rehabilitation of the facilities at St. Francis Xavier Parish.

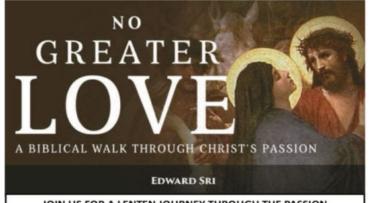
DINE IN / CARRY OUT

• ( \$14 FOR ADULTS

♦ (\$7 CHILDREN UNDER 12







#### JOIN US FOR A LENTEN JOURNEY THROUGH THE PASSION

WHAT: No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion is more than a Bible study. It is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us.

WHEN: Tuesdays, March 11th - April 8th

12:00 - 2:30 pm OR

5:00 - 7:00 pm (pick either the afternoon or evening sessions)

WHERE: Xavier Hall (Annex)

COST: \$15 for course materials (covers partial materials cost).

Pre-registration is required. We cannot accommodate walk-ins without pre-registration. To register, please call the parish office at 239-334-2161.

No Greater Love is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. You will be guided through the last hours of Christ's life. You will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Every step of the way, Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death.

#### Easter Gift Baskets: Wrapped Candy Needed for the "Little Ones"

In lieu of the Annual Easter Egg Hunt, we will be having Easter Gift Bags given to the children at the end of the 9:30 and 11:30 Masses. We can use your help bringing wrapped candies or chocolate to the parish office... no easter eggs are necessary. We also appreciate financial assistance so we can purchase the gift bags for the candies.

You can bring the wrapped candies to the parish office, Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:00pm. For more information, please call the parish office at 239-334-2161.

Fearless Lenten Journey WHAT:

WHEN:

WHERE:

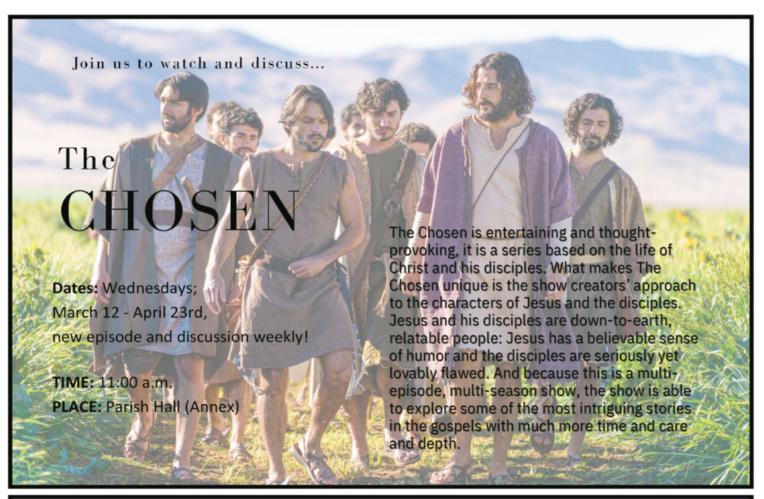
Thursdays, March 6 - April 10

11:00 - 11:45 am

St. Francis Xavier Hall (Annex)

# fearles

Fearless is a 6 video series which will accompany you on your Lenten journey. Time and again, the people of God are called to 'be courageous' and 'be not afraid.' Yet, we live in a time where fear seems to guide our very existence. Don't miss this exciting series with a special guest each week as we seek to follow Jesus into the wilderness this Lent.



#### **OUR MOTHER'S HOME**

# MATERIAL GOODS COLLECTION

OMH provides a safe, nurturing environment for young, single moms (age 11-21) and their babies. The mothers are referred from the foster care and human trafficking systems. This unique home is the only one of its kind in Southwest Florida, located only 4 miles from St. Francis Xavier church. Our collaboration with them is a natural fit!

Bring one of the following paper goods to Mass during the weekends of March 29/30, April 5/6

diapers
(all sizes)
baby wipes
toilet paper
paper towels
paper plates and cups
garbage bags
paper napkins
tissues
Ziploc bags
aluminum foil





WHAT: One Night Parish Lenten Presentation

WHEN: Wednesday, April 2, 2025

5:00 - 7:00pm

WHERE: St. Francis Xavier Church

Presented by Jim Gontis (Director, Department of Evangelization for the Diocese of Venice)

No Cost to attend. Invite your family, friends and neighbors

This presentation will be focused on what are traditionally referred to as The Four Last Things... the most important things...Death, Judgment (Particular and General), Heaven, and Hell.





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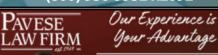


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