

Saint Francis Xavier Parish

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PASTOR

Fr. Kerry Brennan
sfxpastor@bellnet.ca

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Fr. Michael Coyne
mfcoyne73@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARY

Martha Scott
martha.sfx@on.aibn.com

DEACON

Don Smith

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR

Nancy Connors

IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Bill Kenney
frbkenney@gmail.com

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR

Steve Dregas

OFFICE HOURS

Mon to Thurs
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

CEMETERY BOARD CHAIR

Mike Coulas

Friday – Closed

CEMETERY CONTACT

Bob Gervais Ext 3

C.W.L. PRESIDENT

Shirley-Ann Holley

K OF C GRAND KNIGHT

Robert Kingsbury

St. Francis Xavier, a welcoming faith community lovingly sharing the gifts of God.

SUNDAY EUCHARIST

Saturday 4:30 PM
Sunday 10:30 AM

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Cancelled until further notice

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

In the Quiet Room
Saturday 4:00 PM to 4:15 PM
Sunday 10:00 AM to 10:15 AM
First Friday before 8 AM mass
Or by appointment. Call Fr. Brennan Ext 1
or Fr. Coyne Ext 4

COMMUNION TO THE SICK OR SHUT-INS

Contact the parish office to arrange for this Ministry

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please contact Father Brennan at least six months before the proposed celebration as a preparation program is required.

BAPTISM

Please contact Fr. Brennan regarding upcoming preparation

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School
41 Bolger Lane 613-432-3137
<http://stthomas.rccdsb.edu.on.ca>

HIGH SCHOOL

St. Joseph's Catholic High School
835 First Street 613-432-5846
<http://sjchsrenfrew.wordpress.com>

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

We pray for our loved ones who have died, especially Geraldine Stroud, wife of Dan Stroud and sister of Marlene Lavallee.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-IN

We pray for those who seek God's healing, especially Darlene Shields, Annlea O'Rourke, Gail Caillier, Doris Long, Johanna Mathieu, Margarita Kurth, Mary McCann, Betty Sammon, Sylvie Lafontaine, Stella Shalla and Georges and Jeannette Blanchette.

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

MON. Apr. 26

8:00 am Anthony Lorbetskie - Mary Lorbetskie
9:00 am Our Lady of Good Counsel - SFX CWL

TUES. Apr. 27

8:00 am All My Deceased Friends - Monique Perry
9:00 am Don Coyne - Fr. Michael Coyne

WED. Apr. 28

8:00 am Special Intentions - A Parishioner
9:00 am Rosemary Donohue - Lore Coyne

THURS. Apr. 29

8:00 am Fr. Brady McNamara - Mike & Darlene Joyce
9:00 am Margaret Burns - Jan & Roy Leitch

FRI. Apr. 30

8:00 am Linda Hull - Her Siblings
9:00 am Glenn Carr - The Family

SAT. May 1

4:30 pm Carl Warren - Leona & Family
Don & Christine Goulet - The Family
Mary Boudreau - Lawrence Mahusky

SUN. May 2

9:30 am Theresa, Joan & Jack - P. & J. Spilchen
10:30 am Intentions of the Parishioners - Fr. Brennan

Sunday Offering April 11th: \$2,505.00
Envelopes: \$2,105.00 Weekly EFT: \$240.00
Loose: \$160.00 Care Fund: \$165.32

Sunday Offering April 18th: \$2,663.00
Envelopes: \$2,403.00 Weekly EFT: 240.00;
Loose: \$20.00 Care Fund - \$60.00

Lenten Mission & Dev.: \$7,146.00 to date
Easter: \$5,570.00 to date

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

MON. May 3

8:00 am Barton Kurth - Wife, Margarita
9:00 am Anthony Lajoie - Marguerite Power

TUES. May 4

8:00 am Sharon Hoare - Dwaine & Mary Steele
9:00 am Melba Graveline - Noreene & Claude Adam

WED. May 5

8:00 am Harry & Lita Ballard - Daughter, Judy
9:00 am Pat & Bernadette O'Reilly - Bob O'Reilly

THURS. May 6

8:00 am Donna Rousselle - The Carr Family
9:00 am Ray Wojcik - John & Martha Scott

FRI. May 7

8:00 am Repose of the Soul of Maria Abraham
- Debra McDonald
9:00 am Intentions of the McGrath Family
- Art & Marilyn Campbell

SAT. May 8

4:30 pm Intentions of the Parishioners - Fr. Brennan
5:30 pm Donna Enright - Dwaine & Mary Turcotte

SUN. May 9

9:30 am Maureen Prince - The Family
10:30 am Repose of the Soul of Dolly McDonald
- Daughter, Debra
Tom Mercier - Friends

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE 100TH ANNIVERSARY

To celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the St. Francis Xavier CWL, the Council will be presenting an "**Historic Highlight**", a remembrance of each decade, which will appear once a month throughout 2021. This month's "**Highlight**" features the 1950s.

1950-1959

In the 1950's there was great economic prosperity. New oil supplies coming from Alberta, iron ore from Quebec and uranium from Northern Ontario. Immigration from European countries increased Canada's population by 1.5 million. Some still live in the Renfrew area. Old Age Security – 1952 and Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act 1957 were introduced. During the Holy Year 1950, St. Francis Xavier CWL sold portraits of Pope Pius XII as our Holy Year Project. The Hungarian Civic Committee was formed to supply furniture, linens and dishes. A pilgrimage to St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal was organized. Fr. Barry was ordained. Visiting to the sick and shut-ins was started. Schneider Meats of Kitchener supplied meat (free of charge) for a meal and in return the CWL showed a film about their product. This was held in St. Francis Xavier School Hall which was originally called Renfrew Separate School on Lochiel Street. About 200 in attendance.

Fees were \$0.50 and there were 568 Members. Teas and bazaars were still organized to raise money.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: to all couples of the Parish who celebrated a Wedding Anniversary in April. You and your intentions are remembered at Mass this weekend. May God Bless You All. Among those who celebrated are:

Ivan & Freida Beauregard

(60)

Brian & Shirley Proulx

(39)

APRIL 25, 2021

Finding peace in the midst of new COVID restrictions and confinement

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Since the beginning of the pandemic, we are undergoing a third “Stay at Home Order” under the recommendations of health authorities and the explicit directives of the Ontario government. When I learned last Friday that we would be confined until May 20th with even more restrictions, I let a little wind of discouragement blow through me: “Not again,” I said to myself! I thought of my 93-year-old mother who has not had a visitor for a month and who will have to wait another month before seeing me again, like so many other elderly, vulnerable and lonely people who have been left alone on several occasions since the beginning of the pandemic. I was also thinking of the many merchants and workers who see their income melt away with each lockdown and who struggle to support their families; I was thinking of the many depressions and discouragements that will possibly lead some to take their own lives; I was thinking of all my activities and meetings that will have to be continued by Zoom instead of being done in person; I was pessimistically anticipating the new restrictions that will once again be imposed on the number of faithful present at Mass and at other liturgies....

I was tempted to shout out loud to the government and the health authorities: “Enough! Don’t you see that we are getting tired of all your restrictions and lockdowns? Why do you only report the deaths from COVID every day in the media? Do you not count all the people who die because they cannot be operated on in time? Have the other people who die for all sorts of reasons other than COVID become undocumented, unimportant people? Are you not also seeing all the elderly and abandoned people who have lost the desire to live and who eat less and less every day because of these forced isolations, and which will cause them to die prematurely because of the morbid loneliness that overwhelms them?” Some of the faithful of the diocese have also written to me asking for advice or asking me to undertake with them a crusade of protests to the government, to challenge all the restrictions and lockdowns that are imposed on us, especially those that concern our places of worship.

After several hours of musing, more or less pessimistically, I prayed for peace and to make sense of it all. The next day, I seemed to have a better understanding that this pandemic is allowed by God. Our so-called modern society, which makes almost no reference to God in its morals, in its speeches and ways of behaving, has more or less rejected God as Father and Savior. Our Creator has lost his rightful place in the hearts of many. And because God, by his omnipotent and omnipresent divine nature, can use everything to draw us to himself – and because he is a loving Father who longs for us to return to him wholeheartedly – he uses these lockdowns and restrictions to make us reflect and to bring us to conversion, which alone can give us profound and true peace of mind.

Strengthened by this conviction and trusting in God’s love and merciful justice, I better understood why Christians must view our present reality through the eyes of God. The Christian is a “giver of meaning” who is able to lead people who are looking for meaning in life and to invite them on the road that leads to true freedom, the freedom that only God can give to the one who opens his or her heart wholeheartedly to Him.

I will close by sharing with you a reflection that a Christian woman recently shared on Facebook. Please feel free to share this wise thought with your friends and with the people you meet. They could benefit greatly from this reflection:

“This is a mild setback compared to what faith has survived before. Jews and Christians were in worse situations so many times, when they were under the rule of an alien empire, enslaved, with their temples and houses of prayer burnt down, seized or closed, obliged to worship alien kings as their gods, persecuted, running away to foreign countries, hiding in exile, hiding in catacombs, you name it. Every time this happened, their communal services, prayers and psalms spread underground and they came back more numerous. I have smiled to myself a few times, when I attend online services. Not an underground anymore, now we’re in the Internet cloud.” (Ms. Monica Do Coutto Monni, quoted with her permission)

Sincerely yours in the risen Christ,
+Guy Desrochers, C.Ss.R.
Bishop of Pembroke

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MEETINGS: 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 PM

MEMBERSHIP: Open to Men 18 Yrs. or older who are practicing Catholics in good Standing with the Catholic Church

For more information on joining contact your local Priest or call 613-432-3377

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