

Saint Francis Xavier Parish

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Fax: (613) 432-6663

Email: sfx.parish@on.aibn.com

Website: www.sfxrenfrew.wordpress.com



PASTOR

Fr. Kerry Brennan
sfxpastor@bellnet.ca

DEACON

Don Smith

PARISH SECRETARY

Martha Scott
martha.sfx@on.aibn.com

OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Thurs 9 - 4
Closed Fridays

SEMINARIAN

Anthony Burchat

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR

Nancy Connors

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR

Steve Dregas

CEMETERY BOARD CHAIR

Mike Coulas

CEMETERY CONTACT

Bob Gervais Ext 3

C.W.L. PRESIDENT

Elaine Turner

K OF C GRAND KNIGHT

M.J. Blimkie

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

Sunday @ 10:30 a.m. Mass
Junior Kindergarten to Grade 2

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

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>

**CONFESSIONS DURING ADVENT
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH**

CONFESSIONS

Saturday, December 13th & 20th

3:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Sunday, December 14th

9:45 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

December 21st 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 Noon

December 24th

11 a.m. - 12 Noon at Our Lady of Fatima

1:00 to 2:00 p.m. - St. Francis Xavier

CHRISTMAS MASSES

CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 p.m.

8:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY

10:30 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

4:30 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

10:30 a.m.

LITURGICAL ROLES FOR CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S: If you are able to assist at any of the liturgies please contact the office ASAP so that a schedule may be completed.

**CONFESSIONS DURING ADVENT
OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH**

CONFESSIONS

Heard before all Masses



Sunday, December 21st

From 8:00 a.m. until 8:45 a.m. & immediately following 9:00 a.m. Mass

December 24th

11 a.m. - 12 Noon at Our Lady of Fatima

1:00 to 2:00 p.m. - St. Francis Xavier

CHRISTMAS MASSES

CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY

9:00 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

4:30 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

9:00 a.m.

2015 SUNDAY ENVELOPES: are in the main foyer. If you do not have envelopes and would like some, please write your information on the form on the table or call the office. Automatic Debit forms also on the table.

Turning Pink With Joy on Gaudete Sunday

Why is one candle not like all the others?

Advent and its counterpart, Lent, are seasons of penitence. On the Advent wreath, the three purple candles mark the preparation Christians undergo while awaiting the arrival of Christ on Earth.

But, unlike dour Lent, Advent is usually a happy season, full of food, parties, shopping, music and lights. In the retail world, Christmas begins right after Halloween and then kicks into overdrive on the day after Thanksgiving. Many people mirror this, barely putting away the leftover turkey before putting up every Christmas decoration they own.

While this calendar is fine for secular society, it has nothing to do with the Child at the heart of the season. He won't be here until Christmas Eve, and all the earlybird sales in the world won't speed that up.

That's why [it's traditional](#) (though not required) to refrain from putting the Christ Child into a Catholic church's Nativity scene manger until the appointed moment.

So, why do we need a reminder to rejoice on the [Third Sunday of Advent](#), called [Gaudete Sunday](#) (Latin for "rejoice") – in 2014, on Dec. 14 – by lighting a [rose-coloured candle](#) on our wreaths.

Because the happiness that comes from fun and friends and a full belly is not the same thing as Christian joy. During a [Mass in May](#) at Casa Santa Maria in Rome, Pope Francis talked about the difference between happiness and joy:

"To be happy is good, yet joy is something more. It's another thing, something which does not depend on external motivations, or on passing issues: it is more profound. It is a gift.

"To be 'happy at all moments, at all cost,' can at the end turn into superficiality and shallowness. This leaves us without Christian wisdom, which makes us dumb, naïve, right? All is joy ... no. Joy is something else; it is a gift from the Lord."

If joy is a gift from the Lord, then the Lord Himself is our first and greatest gift, and the only one that will never tarnish or break or fade. Gaudete – said "Gow-DAY-tay" – Sunday reminds us that the gift has not yet arrived, but it's very near.

It takes its name from the first word of the Introit, "*Gaudete in Domino Semper,*" which is Latin for the introduction of Philippians 4:4, "*Rejoice in the Lord always.*"



LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

MON Dec. 15 Mass at OLF - 8:15 a.m.
 TUES. Dec. 16
 9:00 a.m. Margaret Burns - Jan & Roy Leitch
 WED Dec. 17
 8:00 a.m. Dec'd Relatives of Stubinski & Elliott Families
 - Ruth Elliott
 THUR Dec. 18
 8:00 a.m. Kusluski & Brazeau Families - Bob & Tim
 FRI Dec. 19
 8:00 a.m. Maxie & Doug Hisko - Florence Hisko
 SAT Dec. 20
 4:30 p.m. Jean & Ambrose Szola - M/M Robert Cleary
 Harold Johnson - Armand Vincent
 SUN Dec. 21
 10:30 a.m. Intentions of the Parishioners - Fr. Brennan

LITURGICAL ROLES

4th Sunday of Advent - December 21st, 2014

SATURDAY EVENING MASS - 4:30 p.m.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD - N. Saumure; C. Walters
 MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY - L. & G. Curry;
 E. Yantha; T. Lemenchick
 EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - A. Burchat; L. Armstrong;
 D. Mantil; L. Neville; G. Curry
 SERVERS - E. Saumure

SUNDAY MORNING MASS - 10:30 a.m.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD - J. Cuff; R. Russell
 MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY - D. & S. Letts;
 R. Holmes; D. Mahoney
 EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - A. Burchat; A. M. Millar;
 D. Lennox; N. Adam; D. Letts
 SERVERS - A. & D. Lennox
 CANTOR - K or C Slight
 CHILDREN'S LITURGY - C. & D. & H. Holley

CHRISTMAS GIVING & RECEIVING:

Each year we receive requests at this time to assist the needs of families and individuals who experience hardship during this season.

Our Parish must recognize our responsibility to act in charity. To do so we rely on your assistance as well. Your kind donations to the Care Fund through gift cards and monetary gifts are used to outreach these requests. Please consider assisting the needs of the community by donating to the Parish Care Fund clearly marked on your donation envelope.

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

We pray for our loved ones who have died.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-IN

We pray for those who seek God's healing, especially Barbara Helferty, Betty Briscoe, Catherine Kuehl, Luke Holmes, Ron Bennett, Ronald Larmond, Betty Tracey, Georgina Mahusky, Sylvie Lafontaine, Gwen Deslaurier, Leona & Ken Barr, Ed Sulpher, Rose Nighbor, Audrey Tibbles, Ted Kapuschinski, Audrey Hawley, John Nadobny and Joan Prince.

SUNDAY OFFERING: December 7th - \$5,439.85

FR. KEVIN RAND & JOSHUA'S SURGERY: to donate to Father's effort in assisting to cover the costs of Joshua's surgery, please place an envelope marked "Father Rand" in the collection basket. Make cheques payable to St. Francis Xavier Parish so that the donation can be included in your 2014 tax receipt. To date, thanks to your generosity, **\$1,185.00** has been raised to assist Father Rand.

RENFREW KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

will be serving a **FREE CHRISTMAS DINNER** in the Knights of Columbus Hall at 313 Raglan St. rom 11 am to 2 pm on Christmas Day. Free Transportation is provided on request to and from the Hall and free Delivery and Take out of Dinners is also provided. Prior to Christmas Day, call Don Coyne at 613-433-9298 or Brian Long at 613-432-0887 for Dinner requests and info. On Christmas Day only, call the Knights Hall at 613-432-6121.

8th ANNUAL MEN'S RETREAT- 2015

Theme: "Men Called to Living the Father's Love"
 Dates: Friday, January 16, 2015 @ 8 p.m. to Sunday, January 18 @ 2 p.m.

Priest: Father Blaire Bernard and Layman: Mr. Paul Mitchell from Madonna House.

Location: Graphite Bible Camp (between Maynooth and Bancroft): Google it for detailed directions.

Cost: \$135.00 (\$50 deposit requested before Dec. 29)

Participants bring towels, bedding/sleeping bags, pillow

Please send \$50 cheque payable to the order "Holy Canadian Martyrs Parish" to David Douthwright, 92A Annie Mayhew Rd., Combermere, ON K0J 1L0. Mark "Men's Retreat" on cheque.

Questions - David at Daviddouthwright@hotmail.com or call 613-756-9815.

THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

UPCOMING EVENTS AT S.F.X.

* Mon., Dec. 15

Bereavement Group

Rectory Mtg. Rm. #1

7:30 p.m.

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