PAROCHIAL VICAR

Fr. Michael Coyne mfcoyne73@gmail.com

IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Bill Kenney frbkenney@gmail.com

Mon to Thurs

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**DEACON**Don Smith

# Saint Francis Xavier Parish

331 Plaunt Street South | P.O. Box 396, Renfrew, Ontario K7V 4A6

Tel: 613-432-5825 Fax: 613-432-6663

**Email:** sfx.parish@on.aibn.com **Website:** www.sfxrenfrew.wordpress.com



#### **PASTOR**

Fr. Kerry Brennan sfxpastor@bellnet.ca

#### PARISH SECRETARY

Martha Scott martha.sfx@on.aibn.com

#### PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR

**Nancy Connors** 

### FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR OFFICE HOURS

Steve Dregas

#### **CEMETERY BOARD CHAIR** Friday – Closed

Mike Coulas

#### **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

## 244

#### PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

We pray for our loved ones who have died, especially Genevieve (Janet) McLaughlin, mother of Betty Coulas, Larry Harper, brother of Gord Harper and Larry Wilson, brother of Shirley O'Driscoll.

#### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-IN

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

**WORD AMONG US:** The Lent edition may be found in the mail box just outside the office door. Payment may be placed in the secure mailbox or in the collection basket duly noted.

Sunday Offering January 31<sup>st</sup>: \$3,159.00 Envelopes: \$2,924.00; Weekly EFT: \$235.00

Sunday Offering February 7<sup>th</sup>: \$6,975.34 Envelopes - \$3,872.00

Monthly EFT - \$2,863.34; Weekly EFT: \$240.00

St. Joseph's Catholic High School - "Shrove Tuesday Take-Out Pancake Supper" on Tues., Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>. Meals must be pre-ordered by Mon., Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. Includes pancakes, sausages, homemade baked beans. Asking for a "Free-Will Offering" with the proceeds to help support families in need in our community. Meals can be picked up at the school from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm Delivery available. To order please call 613-432-5846, ext. 230, and leave a message or email jason.dedo@rccdsb.ca. Please leave name, phone number and desired time of pickup.

FOR REFLECTION DURING LENT: This youtube link is the Holy Spirit Conference held in St. Augustine Florida which may be of interest to you during the Lent which begins Feb. 17th .Tom Edwards-Bedrock Truth — <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lEv0vzB0EGk&authuser=0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lEv0vzB0EGk&authuser=0</a>

#### A SUGGESTION FOR A LENTEN RETREAT

"Journey Into the Wilderness", a retreat offered by the Irish Jesuits – an 8 session audio presentation of 15 minutes each, with time for personal prayer and reflection. Please go to: pathwaystogod.org/resources/wilderness-lentretreat.

**DYNAMIC CATHOLIC** also offers daily Reflections. Just Google Dynamic Catholic to find this resource.

#### LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

MON. Feb. 15

8:00 am Sandy Massine & Mary Griese

- A Parishioner

TUES. Feb. 16

8:00 am Rev. Patrick J. Tait - The Dobec Family

WED. Feb. 17 ASH WEDNESDAY

8:00 am Special Intentions - A Parishioner 7:00 pm Dave Lorente - Angela McAdam

THURS. Feb. 18

8:00 am Janet McLaughlin - Marcella Cybulski

FRI. Feb. 19

8:00 am Michael Culhane - Marguerite Power

SAT. Feb. 20

4:30 pm Chris Warren - Mom & Family

SUN. Feb. 21

10:30 am Intentions of the Parishioners

- Fr. Brennan

#### **LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS**

MON. Feb. 22

6:30 pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS

7:00 pm Repose of the Soul of Dolly McDonald

- Daughter, Debra

TUES. Feb. 23

8:00 am Intentions of a Parishioner

- John & Martha Scott

WED. Feb. 24

8:00 am Jennifer Hardie

- Ed & Marie Vandersterre

THURS. Feb. 25

8:00 am Lon & Jean Parker - P. & J. Spilchen

FRI. Feb. 26

8:00 am Donna Rousselle - The Carr Family

SAT. Feb. 27

4:30 pm Tom Prince - The Family

SUN. Feb. 28

10:30 am Intentions of the Parishioners

- Fr. Brennan

## ASH WEDNESDAY- FEBRUARY 17 MASSES IN OUR AREA:

8:00 am - St. Francis Xavier, Renfrew

8:30 am - Our Lady of Fatima, Renfrew

10:00 am - Most Precious Blood, Calabogie

6:30 pm - Mt. St. Patrick

7:00 pm - St. Francis Xavier, Renfrew

**LENTEN MISSION:** Ralph Martin of Renewal Ministries is giving a Lenten Mission online in February and March If you are interested here is the link: Lenten Mission: The Fulfillment of All Desire (webinarjam.com)

**Teens- be prepared for Lent:** Order the <u>Teen Lent Companion</u> by LIFETEEN and use it to develop a daily prayer life that will last you a lifetime. See other great resources for teens at <u>www.lifeteen.com</u>.

#### MASSES AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

**ASH WEDNESDAY** is upon us, marking the beginning of the liturgical season of Lent. The celebration of Easter, of being reborn in the Risen Lord to a new life, will only have meaning to the degree that we 'die to the old self'. Thus, the Church asks us to live this period of Lent, with Christ in the desert, as a period of forty days devoted to inward renewal through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Let us prayerfully consider before Lent how we might make best use of this time to imitate the Lord in His dedication to the Father so that His resurrection may take deep root in our thoughts, words and actions throughout Lent and forever.

Because Renfrew County has been designated a Green Zone we are once again allowed 30% capacity of our Church for Masses. Therefore we will have Mass with the Blessing and Distribution of Ashes at 8 a.m. Ash Wednesday and 7 p.m. Ash Wednesday. There will be no Ash Wednesday Liturgies of the Word as was previously announced. This year because of the pandemic we will be sprinkling Ashes on of the head of each person. The priest will say the formula: "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return" once, and then proceed to sprinkle ashes on each person's head. During Lent we will have Mass at 7 p.m. on Mondays and at 8 a.m. on Tuesday to Friday. Stations of the Cross will be prayed Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

**CONFESSIONS:** During Lent a priest will be available for confession one half hour before the weekday Masses and ¾ hour before weekend Masses.

ASH WEDNESDAY and GOOD FRIDAY are days of fast (one full meal, and two lighter meals a day with no eating between meals), and abstinence (no eating of meat). The law of abstinence obliges those 14 years of age and older, and the law of fasting obliges all those from ages 18 through 59 years of age. The Church recommends that we observe not only Good Friday, but the other Fridays of Lent as days of abstinence, or that we perform some act of charity as an alternative - the choice is yours. Lenten penance should be external and social, as well as internal and individual.

The highest point in the Church's year of prayer is the **EASTER TRIDUUM** of the dying and rising of the Lord Jesus. We prepare for this three-day period by the season of Lent, and prolong it for the great 50 days of the Easter Season. Arrangements for the celebration of the Easter Triduum will be announced closer to the date according to the Provincial Pandemic Protocols.

#### WHAT IF I HAVE BEEN AWAY FROM CONFESSION FOR MORE THAN A YEAR?

Someone who returns to confession after an extended absence is a source of great joy and celebration: for God and his angels (who know more joy in heaven over one sheep brought back to the fold than for ninety-nine who remained: Lk 15:7); for oneself, for the Church at large – and for the priest privileged to minister God's mercy. Priests do not disclose the content or even that a person went to confession.

Different factors may keep one away: a previous confessor who was more harsh than merciful; a tendency to procrastinate; a lukewarm belief that Jesus really intends confession to be a 'house specialty" on the menu of his mercy; and the fear of being "outed" as someone who is unfamiliar with the sacramental ritual. More grave is the fear that if we submit ourselves to the unconditional love of God offered in radical forgiveness, we might want to let God take possession of our will, our heart, mind, and soul.

Some practical steps to participate fully in the sacrament: technology can be a great asset, for one can readily access apps and websites that review how to go to confessions, how to examine one's conscience, and how to make an act of contrition. To prepare and identify real sins we have committed, one could use Scripture such as the Ten Commandments (Ex 20:1-17), the Beatitudes (Mt. 5:1-12), or a comparison of the works of the flesh versus the fruits of the Spirit (Gal 5:16-23)

Even if we have prepared well, we might still draw a blank when meeting the priest face-to-face. Be not afraid! God's grace has already drawn you to the well of mercy, and the priest will happily supply prompts that will dissolve anxiety and allow the Spirit to counsel us and absolve us of all sin, restoring us to full friendship with Jesus.

Father William M. Joensen

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