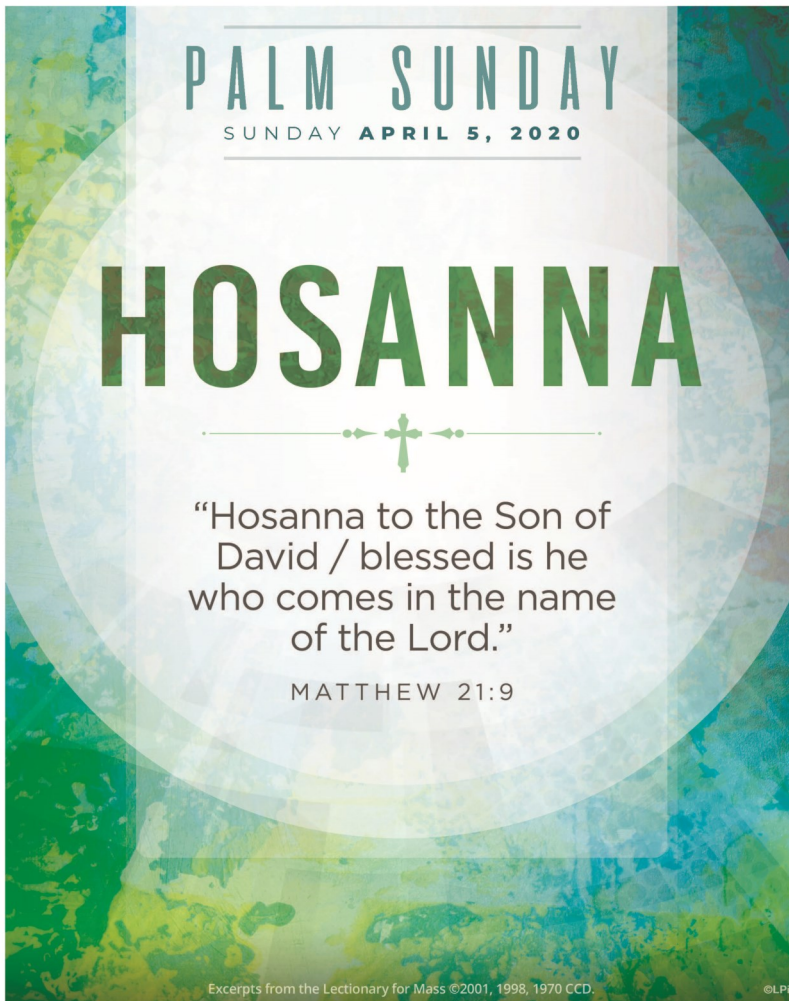


EST. 1838

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

182 YEARS OF CATHOLIC SERVICE AND WITNESS



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FAITH FORMATION/RELIGIOUS ED.:

faithformation@stfrancisxaviermckean.org



OUR SISTER PARISH:

Saint Peter the Apostle
Chacsinkin, Yucatan, Mexico

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass and Weekend Masses are live streamed on Facebook due to the pandemic protocol. Daily is at 7:30. Weekends 5:00 pm Sat., 10:30 am Sun.

CONTACT US

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MORE INFORMATION

Erie Diocese: www.eriecnd.org
myparishapp.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Thursday 9:00 am - 4:30 pm
Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
(closed for lunch Noon - 12:30 pm)

Note: Parish Office is on the west side of the Church

Mass Intentions

- Monday** **April 6 Monday of Holy Week**
Genevieve Dzeskewicz (Dan & Kim Olszeski)
- Tuesday** **April 7 Tuesday of Holy Week**
Mary Keller (Chuck & Penny Keller)
- Wednesday** **April 8 Wednesday of Holy Week**
Christine Rajewski Puissant (Lynn, Joe & Randy)
- Thursday** **April 9 Holy Thursday**
Frances Dzeskewicz (Sally & Sonny Hayes)
- Friday** **April 10 Friday of the Passion of the Lord**
Good Friday Service
- Saturday** **April 11 Holy Saturday**
Our Parishioners Living and Deceased
- Sunday** **April 12 Easter Sunday**
Mager, Lunik, Kalicky & Sestak Families (Joe Mager)
Shawn Ireland (Virginia Nichols)

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available by request only at this time by Diocesan Directive. Please call or email Fr. Jason to set up a time.

Prayer Request — Artie & Stacey, Marsha A. & daughter, Cassandra Aho, Marsha Badach, Kit & Joe Balinski, Patty Bennett, Rachel Boume, David Boyd, Patty Brown, Randy Brucher, Amanda Bryant, Shelly Buffalari, Sam Burns, Carole C., Tim C., Amy Campoli, Debbie Carrick, Todd Carrier, Abigail Carullo, Doug Chernicky, Christi Claxton, Rod Coburn, Eleanor Collings, Earl Corbin, Colin Cunningham, Dale & family, Trudy DeCarolis, Artie Defoy, Karen Dickson, A. Dodick, Helen Dombkowski, Katie Dombkowski, Ron Dombkowski, Danielle Dorder, Jonathan Ledger Dougherty, Bill Drakes, Dawn Duran, Bill Eberlein, Sr., Ashley English, Lynn English, Luke F., Ron & Helen Feldman, Carrie & Jake Fiske, Mary Fiscus, Eleanor Fox, Carol Fullom, Denise Fulton, Shawn Furman, Ben G., Julia G., Linda Gidos, Sally Gradler, Debbie Grove, Jerry H., The Haynes Family, Larry Hanas, Frank Harrison, Nicholas Hendericks, Michelle Hetrick, Kathy Highhouse, Harold Hites, Gloria Hollenbeck, Molly Holmes, Holly, Rich Hudacky, Denise Hudson, Carrie Jaco, Scott James, Trevor James, Jeremy, Jim, Charles, Luke Johnson, R. Juarez & Family, Kathleen, Kevin K., Craig Kayden, Kelly King, Linda Kloecker, Judy Konkol, Betty Korrel, Thomas Kowalczyk, Carol Kuchcinski, Ed Kuligowski, L.L. & Family, Roberta Laird, Rose Lapenz, Gail Laughner, John Lewis, Margie Loeffler, Janet Lombardo, Robin Macial, Tim Maciulewicz, Jason Mager, Lexxi Maloney-Barnes, James Mantsch, Paul Mayer, Greg Mays, Clara Meyer, Morinelli/Quinn Family, Shawn Morgan, Jr., Bill Muenz, Kathy Murr, Kathy N., Ron and Lynn Nash, Leny Nipper, Tom O., Buddy O'Leary, Bill Oshinski, Rick P., Kayden Painter, Michael Pamula, Patrick, Liz Pauly, Ron, Paige, David Peter, Annmarie Phillips, Kathy Piotroski, Andrew Pitcher, Mike Pitonyck, Nathan Post, Erin Potter, Michael Potter, Carrie Powell, Denise Pulson, Audrey & John Reese, Christi Reilly, Lucas Reynolds, McKenna Ritter, Melissa Rindfuss, Joan Robinson, Rocky, Alan Rodgers, Debbie Rose, Bob Rudzenski, Lindsey Ryan, Jim S., Dave Sarra, Shirley Sayers, Mary Lou Scalzitti, Jim Scully, Joseph Seth, Greg & Rochelle Sharrer, Therese Sauer, Clyde Schulte, Madeline Sienecki, Dave & Loren Swanson, Tina, Patricia Vadala, Dan Via, Debbie Vanucci, Margaret Wasser, Mark Watts, Dan Weber, Lisa Weber, Robert Weber, Sr., Maureen Wentzel, Caitlin Wentzel, Joe Wardanski, Lois Whitcomb, Denise Wilson, A Special Intention, and all the sick.

HOLY WEEK

Sunday, April 5: Mass Livestreamed at 10:30am Only. You will have an Opportunity to pick up Blessed Palms from the MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE CHURCH from Noon-3pm.

Monday, April 6: Mass Livestreamed at 7:30 am.

Tuesday, April 7: Mass Livestreamed.

Wednesday, April 8: Mass (Livestreamed).

Thursday, April 9 (Holy Thursday): Morning Prayer will be Livestreamed.

Mass of the Lords Supper will be livestreamed at 7pm.

Friday, April 10 (Good Friday; Day of Abstinence and Fasting): Morning Prayer will be Livestreamed. Service of the Lord's Passion will be livestreamed at 3pm.

Saturday, April 11 (Holy Saturday): Morning Prayer will be livestreamed.

Blessing of Easter Food: Parking Lot (stay in your Cars as the Blessing will be "Drive-In" Style) at 11am. Easter Vigil will be livestreamed at 9pm.

Sunday, April 12 (Easter Sunday): **BOTH** 8am and 10:30am Masses will be livestreamed.



Pray for the men and women in the military:

Petty Officer 3rd Class Jack Kaulis, Chief Petty Officer Aurelio Velazquez, Jr., Private Jeff Kinnear, Major Jenny Stewart-Allen, Major Alan Herbol, PFC Jacob Lenhardt, Capt. Natalie Rambish Long



*Sanctuary Candle
burns for Rachel
Marcinko
(Ferrick Family)*

Liturgical life

April 5, 2020 Palm Sunday

www.stfranciscxaviermckean.org



March 29, 2020

Families receiving envelopes 440 Envelopes received 41
Goal: \$5,215.00 Total Collection: \$1,711 Capital Improvements: \$270
We Share Online Giving \$548

A NEW OPPORTUNITY—We are very cognizant of the dire situation within our country at this time. We know that we may not be meeting for some time and that some of you may even be out of work. Please know that you are all in our prayers at this time and we are only a phone call away.

That being stated, we will be offering you the opportunity to still contribute to your parish through electronic funds transfer. Simply go to: stfranciscxaviermckean.weshareonline.org and click on the button, *make a donation* on either Weekly, Capital Improvement or Easter Flowers. You may choose Make a Recurring Donation or One Time Donation. Choose the amount, and how you would like to pay for it, fill in the information, include your contact information and put a checkmark in the *I agree* box and submit your contribution. Anything you are able to contribute at this time is greatly appreciated.

Father Jason wants you to know also, that all major projects have been suspended as well. We will sit tight and hope for a speedy recovery.

THERE IS HELP AVAILABLE WITH ERRANDS, GROCERIES, PICK UP OF MEDICATION, ETC. PLEASE CONTACT MICHELLE CURTZE, IF YOU NEED THAT ASSISTANCE-or-WOULD LIKE TO HELP HER! Her number is: 1-814-476-7438. Also, our Food Pantry is available as well.... please call the Office and we will help you.

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday - 4:00 p.m. and by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Classes are required. Call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

VISITS TO THE HOMEBOUND:

Regular visits are made on the first Friday of the month. Please call the office if you would like a visit.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Call the Parish Office to make arrangements with the Pastor at least 6 months prior.

Readings for the week of April 5, 2020

Sunday: Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14—27:66 or 27:11-54

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14 [1a]/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34 [14c]/Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: *Chrism Mass*: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 [cf. 1 Cor 10:16]/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 [Lk 23:46]/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday: *Vigil*: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 [30] or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 [5b]/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Ex 14:15—15:1/Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 [1b]/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [3]/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 [42:2] or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3] or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 [12a]/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mt 28:1-10

Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10



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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Human beings are united in their suffering. When we find ourselves in a painful moment, our first reaction is “why me?” as if we are the only person on earth who ever encountered this challenge. Going through life with a “why me” attitude only finds us wallowing in the mire of self-pity and never seizing opportunities or graces. We walk in solidarity with every human being in the experience of suffering. Believing that the goal of life is the elimination or avoidance of suffering is simply an illusion that keeps us entrenched in a collective myth. This myth distorts us and limits us.

There are living witnesses among us showing how courage and determination can overcome any degree of hardship, pain, loss, or tragedy. Folks finding the normalcy of their lives suddenly torn asunder are faced with options: opportunity or despair, stay or leave. Jesus stands before us as the prime example of endurance and perseverance. He is the One who showed humility through both the triumphs of life (by learning to be humble) and the tragedies and injustices (by learning how to be obedient). To secular ears, this may be perceived as nonsense. But to those with the eyes of faith, they are pearls of great price.

True humility tempers the temptation we have to become complacent and prevents an excessive relishing of life’s successes and affirmations. Learning obedience keeps us faithful to our relationship with God so that we can find the courage to endure any depth of hardship, disappointment, betrayal, or agony. While we may want our cup of suffering to be taken away, it simply cannot be. Somehow and somewhere in the seemingly opposing experiences life can deal us, God is present with His reassuring, compassionate, empowering, and persevering love. To be true to who we are and who God is, we must take up the cross of suffering, even when it’s the hardest and most apparently senseless thing to do.

Only our soul can understand these things, but our minds cannot, so they continue to run to secular ideas and solutions to pain and hardship. It goes without saying that we need to do all we can to eliminate as much senseless, unjust suffering as possible. Hunger, violence, abuse, exploitation, rejection, prejudice, homelessness, disrespect for life, and a whole host of other sins all result in suffering that is within our control. Then, when we face the uncontrollable kind of suffering or find ourselves the victim of injustice, what do we do?

**ALL CLASSES CANCELLED.
PLEASE SEE FATHER JASON’S LETTER.**

Upcoming events

LENTEN CONFESSIONS SCHEDULE—will continue as scheduled in the Cry Room off the vestibule. The Reconciliation Room is off limits at this time.

Please look to our web page and myparishapp for ongoing changes.

The Parish Office will only be open from 9:00—Noon with the office being closed on Wednesdays. If you have any concerns or needs, you may call and leave a message. Father Jason will be checking messages.

MCKEAN AREA GARDEN CLUB—is committed to helping a General McLane High School senior student further their education by awarding a \$1,000 scholarship for the 2020 fall semester. Applicant must be planning to pursue post-secondary education at an accredited institution or pursuing furthering their education in a trade or technical program at an accredited school. Applications are available at General McLane High School Guidance Counselor’s Office and on the school’s scholarship link. Deadline



FOOD PANTRY CONTINUES!!! - Sue and Deb will keep servicing our pantry families during the current crisis. However, they do have an Easter Dinner wish list:

Hams, fruit, gelatin, rolls, butter, frozen pies, no-bake desserts, carrots, eggs, coffee, creamer, Easter candy. If you are able to help, donations can be left in the Gathering Space that will remain open during reduced office hours. Otherwise donations can be left in the vestibule of church.

A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

“Behold, your king comes to you, meek and riding on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.” What odd language that we hear in the First Gospel of This Weekend’s Mass. As you may recall, our Gospels (on most Sundays) are taken from the Gospel of Matthew. He tried to communicate that not only was Jesus the Son of God, but the fulfillment of the Kingdom of God and all the hope and desire of the World. The above words were a fulfillment of a prophesy, meaning that Jesus was foretold long before his coming into our world and time. This Holy Week, we have a unique opportunity, to let Jesus into our lives, our time, our home, our relationships, like never before. We have the opportunity to lay our life on the “beast of Burden” (The Donkey) with Jesus as he rides into Jerusalem. Accompany Jesus on the Road this week, like never before. Take time to claim Him in your life as he claims you, and most importantly, treat this Holy Week like none other, and let him be the fulfillment of all our hope and life, like the Gospel Writer reminds us!

Please see the schedule regarding Holy week. (Remember, that EVERYTHING WILL BE LIVESTREAMED on our FACEBOOK PAGE and WEBSITE). There could be more “additions or modifications” to the Holy Week Schedule, but this is what I am planning to do; so, stay tuned to Facebook, Website, Twitter, and myparishapp. I will also have the most up to date schedule posted on the church doors. Please note; the Sacrament of Reconciliation is by request only, as of Tuesday of this past week.

Speaking of Communication, we were able to launch a Parish Wide email last week. (Thank you also to those who responded to our Email last week). If you have not received an email from myself or the church office in the last week, that means we do not have your current email. Please share your email with us at office@stfrancisxaviermckean.org so we can update our records as it is another way I am communicating with and praying for our Parish Family.

Also, if you cannot make the time that our Masses/Events are livestreamed, remember that they are archived on the Website (click on the “Mass Online” Banner at the top of the Page) and our Facebook Page (St. Francis Xavier, McKean, Pa).

As you know, the Local, State, and Federal Government extended the Stay-At-Home Order until April 30. This means that our Parish Operations for the past two weeks are still in effect, meaning there are NO ACTIVITIES in the Parish Center, No Religious Ed. (Parents, please check your email for an update from me via your child’s teacher), or Mass. You can access the Church (24 hours/day) for Personal Prayer and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If you come to church, please remember to sign in and out. Thank you for your patience.

I also encourage you to take part in “24 hours for the Lord at Home” initiative that we are doing this weekend and next weekend. All you do is sign up for an hour that you are committing to pray in whatever way you can, so that we have 24 hours of non-stop prayer. Our next opportunity is Holy Saturday 6pm to Easter Sunday 6pm, and the sign-up sheet is in the Church and online at our Website. You can sign up at either place.

I want to thank you for your continued prayers and support. They mean the world to me! I know that you may not be able to contribute at this time, but please know there is a Box in the Church every Sunday for your envelope, or you can give online. There are instructions for Electronic Funds Transfer under the “Latest News” on our Website. You can also mail your offering. I also encourage you to see the video posted on our website explaining how we are trying to be fiscally responsible. Again, I know this is not an easy time for you, and you are prayed for and appreciated.

Finally, please check the website under “Latest News” for a list of Resources and Holy Week Schedule to help you enter this beautiful time. There are also April Editions of the “Magnificat” Magazine for Free in the Church.....please stop by for one! Know of my continued prayers, support, and please contact me if you need anything, and enjoy Holy Week! Remember, it is the week that changed the world, let it change you for the better! See you on the Livestream!

Father Jason

“Sooner or later comes a crisis in our affairs, and how we meet it determines our future happiness and success.”

—Robert Collier

“Crises and deadlocks when they occur have at least this advantage, that they force us to think.”

— Jawaharlal Nehru

“Man is not imprisoned by habit. Great changes in him can be wrought by crisis — once that crisis can be recognized and understood.”

— Norman Cousins