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St. Francis Xavier
8880 Main Street
McKean, PA 16426

814-476-7657

Contact: Debbie

MESSAGES:

Saint Francis Xavier Parish

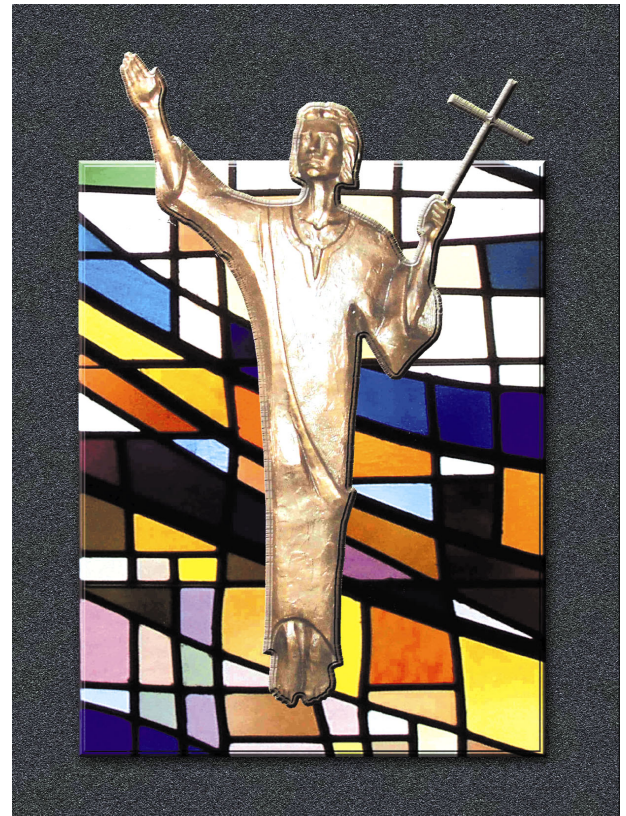
1838 **181 years** 2019
of Catholic service and witness.

P.O. Box 317
8880 Main Street
McKean, Pennsylvania 16426
Phone: (814) 476-7657
Fax: (814) 476-0160
www.stfrancisxaviermckean.org
email: office@stfrancisxaviermckean.org
Erie Diocese: www.eriecd.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)
Parish Office is located on west side of Church

Sister Parish: Saint Peter the Apostle
Chacsinkin, Yucatan, Mexico

All are welcome in the family of Saint Francis Xavier
To be a registered member call the Parish Office



For in truth, no one is really timid and weak who knowingly leans upon the assistance of God.
-St. Francis Xavier

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| Mission Statement: | Saint Francis Xavier Parish, empowered by the Holy Spirit, witnesses to the presence of Jesus Christ and proclaims the Gospel Message through Catholic service to all. |
| Vision Statement: | We want to be a welcoming community where all people can deepen their faith relationship with God and each other through Liturgy and parish gatherings. |

Mass Schedule

Saturday5:00 p.m.
Sunday..... 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Week Days7:30 a.m.
Holy Day Mass..... 7:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

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.

R.C.I.A.

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults and Children is an opportunity for any interested person who desires to become a full member of the Church. For information call the Parish Office.

Parish Staff

| | | |
|---|--|----------|
| Pastor ~ Reverend Jason Feigh | jason.feigh@prep-villa.com | 476-7657 |
| Deacon Assistant ~ Ron Fronzaglia | | 864-6772 |
| Parish Secretary ~ Debbie Murnock..... | | 476-7657 |
| Faith Formation/Religious Education ~ | faithformation@stfrancisxaviermckean.org | 476-7657 |
| Music ~ Marsha Fronzaglia | | 864-6772 |
| Parish Center Reservation / Scheduling ~ Debbie Murnock | | 476-7657 |
| Cemetery Information, Graves, Interments ~ Debbie Murnock..... | | 476-7657 |
| Prayer Chain ~ Margaret Pekelnicky | | 476-7486 |

Mass Intentions

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|--|--|
| Monday 7:30 am 6:00 pm | December 9, 2019 Immaculate Conception For Our Parishioners Living & Deceased Ann Sayers (Margaret Pekelnicky) |
| Tuesday 7:30 am | December 10, 2019 Advent Weekday Larry Brown (Wed. Morning Mass Group) |
| Wednesday 7:30 am | December 11, 2019 St. Damasus I Victims of Abuse |
| Thursday 7:30 am | December 12, 2019 Our Lady of Guadalupe Kuligowski Family (Bill & Joann Chernicky) |
| Friday 7:30 am | December 13, 2019 St. Lucy Andy Olesnanik (Margaret Pekelnicky) |
| Saturday 5:00 pm | December 14, 2019 St. John of the Cross Genevieve Wilkosz (Dan & Becky Passerotti) |
| Sunday 8:00 am 10:30 am | December 15, 2019 3rd Sunday of Advent For Our Parishioners Living & Deceased Dorothy Danylko (M/M Philip Wilkosz) |

Please remember in your prayers..... Artie & Stacey, Marsha A. & daughter, Cassandra Aho, Marsha Badach, Kit & Joe Balinski, Vicky Barcio, Patty Bennett, Rachel Bourne, 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, Esther Craig, 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, Ron & Helen Feldman, Carrie Fiske, Mary Fiscus, Eleanor Fox, Carol Fullom, Denise Fulton, Ben G., Julia G., Linda Gidos, Sally Gradler, Bob Greene, Debbie Grove, Jerry H., The Haynes Family, Larry Hanas, Frank Harrison, Nathan Heath, Nicholas Hendericks, Michelle Hetrick, Kathy Highhouse, Harold Hites, Gloria Hollenbeck, Molly Holmes, Holly, Rich Huddack, Denise Hudson, Cole Huegel, Carrie Jaco, Scott James, Trevor James, Jeremy, Jim, Jim & Linda, Charles Johnson, Luke Johnson, Nancy Johnson, R. Juarez & Family, Kathleen, Kevin K., Craig Kayden, Kelly King, Linda Kloecker, Judy Konkol, Betty Korrel, Thomas Kowalczyk, Carol Kuchinski, Ed Kuligowski, Roberta Laird, Rose Lapenz, Gail Laughner, John Lewis, Margie Loeffler, Janet Lombardo, Robin Macial, Tim Maciulewicz, Lexxi Maloney-Barnes, James Mantsch, Matt & Rachael, Paul Mayer, Patrick McKenrick, 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, Mary Povath, Carrie Powell, Prayer Tent Intentions, Denise Pulson, Audrey & John Reese, Bill Reigleman & Family, Christi Reilly, Lucas Reynolds, McKenna Ritter, Melissa Rindfuss, Joan Robinson, Rocky, Alan Rodgers, Debbie Rose, Bob Rudzenski, Frank Romba, Lindsey Ryan, Jim S., Dave Sarra, Shirley Sayers, Mary Lou Scalzitti, Jim Scully, Joseph Seth, Greg & Rochelle Sharrer, Therese Sauer, Gavin Schulte, Madeline Sienecki, Robin Snyder, Dave & Loren Swanson, Tina, Gregory Thomas, Patricia Vadala, Dan Via, Margaret Wasser, Mark Watts, Dan Weber, Lisa Weber, Robert Weber, Sr., Maureen Wentzel, Caitlin Wentzel, Danny Wadsworth, Joe Wardanski, Lois Whitcomb, Denise Wilson, Keri Youse, A Special Intention, and all the sick and suffering of the parish.

Pray for the men and women in the military: 1st Lt. Nicholas Gdanetz, 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.

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL—The 2019 CSA will close at the end of this month. We thank everyone who so generously gave this past year. Once we reached our goal, the remainder of money stayed in our parish. To date we have pledges of \$53,665 with \$50,385 paid. Our goal was \$41,862. Because of your generous spirit, and if all pledges are met, \$11,803 will remain in the parish.

FOLLOW THE STAR CONCERT TICKETS ARE ON SALE AFTER ALL MASSES. CONCERT IS SET FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, AT 7:00 PM. TICKETS ARE \$15 Adults \$5 students.

HOSPITALITY—We will be having a small Christmas hospitality after all Masses next weekend. If you would like to bring your favorite Christmas cookies to share please call Chris Matheis at 814-602-3998. The more the yummiier!

A BIG THANK YOU—We received a wonderful thank you letter from Catholic Charities in regards to their annual diaper drive. The letter is on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space. Take a minute to read it.

TODAY! - Special collection for Retired Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little or no pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be as generous as you are able.

Eucharistic Adoration is offered 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Thursdays at 8:00 pm.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

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| Monday | 12-09 |
| Tuesday | 12-10 |
| Wednesday | 12-11 |
| Thursday | 12-12 Adoration 8:00 pm |
| Friday | 12-13 |
| Saturday | 12-14 Mass 5:00 pm Angel Tree Gifts Due |
| Sunday | 12-15 Masses 8:00 and 10:30 am |

THE LONG-AWAITED ONE

As the Sundays of Advent unfold the scriptures shift focus from the final coming of the Lord to his historical birth. Today’s scriptures blend the two. Isaiah’s disillusionment with the kings of his own day led him to envision an ideal king who would rule with divine approval and be led by divine wisdom. For centuries the Jewish people anticipated the arrival of that Messiah, who would usher in a blessed age when the whole world would finally dwell in justice and peace.

After centuries of such growing expectation, the preaching of John the Baptist about the imminent arrival of the Messiah could not help but provoke intense interest. The Baptist’s message about preparation for “the one who is coming” (Matthew 3:11) makes clear that Jesus is, in fact, the long-awaited one who is ushering in the new age foretold by Isaiah and all the prophets.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — He shall bring justice for the afflicted; the earth shall overflow with the knowledge of the LORD

(Isaiah 11:1-10).

Psalms — Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — Glorify God by living in harmony with one another, welcoming each other as Christ welcomed you (Romans 15:4-9).

Gospel — Produce good fruit worthy of your baptism; repent, for the reign of God is near (Matthew 3:1-12).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14


Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47,

or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13



**SANCTUARY CANDLE BURNS
FOR SPECIAL INTENTIONS (KEN
GNAGI FAMILY)**

WEEKLY COLLECTION

A Stewardship of Sharing

December 1, 2019

Households receiving envelopes—440 Envelopes used—135
 Goal \$5,215.00
 Total Collection \$3,141.00
 Capital Improvements \$540.00

Bills paid: Grise’ \$800 C.P. Ink \$225

Immaculate Conception—December 9, 2019

7:30 am Ministers: T. Kitcey & Mike Murnock

6:00 pm Cathy Carnes

7:30 am Lector: Pati Flynn

6:00 pm T. Blecki

6:00 pm Servers: N. & V. Naber

Liturgical Ministry Schedule—December 15, 2019

| Masses | 5:00 pm | 8:00 am | 10:30 am |
|------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Ushers | D. Danylko C. & C. Hahlen T. Weber R. Fox | F. Kroto E. Lemock J. Schultz S. Haywood | W. Mientkewic K. Norris M. Buzzard M. Bourke |
| Eucharistic Ministers | C. Matheis E. Matheis | K. Culbertson G. Soltys | C. Gray R. Gray |
| Lectors | N. Sala | A. Campbell | C. Villanueva |
| Altar Servers | G. Borsuk G. McCarthy | H. Salvo C. Salvo | D. Gwinn T. Vavreck |
| Cantors | C. Murnock | M. Dombrowski | B. Neuberger |

SAINT JUAN DIEGO (1474-1548)

December 9

How well Mary’s own words describe Juan Diego: “God has cast down the mighty from their thrones and lifted up the lowly” (Luke 1:52). Through him, for the diverse peoples of the Americas, indigenous and immigrant, the Mother of God became known as their Mother, too. Cuauhtlatzin, his given name, means “One Who Speaks Like an Eagle,” and Juan Diego faithfully delivered the Virgin’s request that a church be built at Tepeyac where she had appeared to him. To the skeptical bishop’s request for a sign, Our Lady showed Juan Diego roses blooming through stony ground, despite winter’s cold. When he unfolded his tilma to present them to the bishop, imprinted there was Mary’s image! Her blue sash and the flower over her womb were traditional Aztec symbols of pregnancy and new life. But her features were those of a mestiza, indicating mixed Aztec-European heritage. Thus to peoples too easily prone to a “clash of cultures,” Our Lady of Guadalupe remains the enduring icon of unity-in-diversity, the fruit of our one baptism into Jesus, her Son.

From the Pastor's Desk

On this Second Weekend of Advent, we hear about two important “J’s” that point toward the most important “J” (Jesus). They are: Jesse and John the Baptist. Many of us might know Jesse because of the tradition of the “Jesse” Tree during Advent. Jesse was the Father of King David, and this Advent Tradition highlights important Scriptural Promises of the Messiah from Creation to his Birth. This Advent Tree is named for Jesse because of what we heard in the first reading this weekend. I remember as a child going to St. Basil’s in Coalport where I grew up and totally missed the point. I looked at the Jesse Tree in the Church as a “Christmas” Tree and was upset that it couldn’t be lit until Christmas. (It was not lit up until the first Mass of Christmas, which was Midnight Mass (at Midnight) and none of the décor was in the Church until Christmas Eve, out of liturgical respect for the Season) However, you could use any branchy tree to accomplish this tradition in your home. But again, the point is to show how, from the beginning, God never destined us to journey alone without him. That is also where John the Baptist comes in. His role as the “forerunner of the Christ”, as to do exactly that. Next to the Blessed Virgin, John’s role was to speak the impossible through his actions because of Faith and Hope given and promised to him. This goes back to what I said last week. Take time to “go further” and know the “story or history” behind what we do and remember. Both Jesse and John not only teach us the importance of Faith in God, but to put it into practice in patient Hope. Take time this week (hopefully everyday) to rediscover the Hope given to you and me through Faith. As our preparation for Christmas continues, take time to soak in the beautiful purpose of this season, as it is to enkindle Hope anew.

Yes, I know I just spoke of preparation and Advent, but let the following serve as a reminder as you plan your Christmas Festivities: Masses for Christmas (HOLIDAY OF OBLIGATION) will be celebrated on Tuesday, December 24 at 5pm (Vigil of Christmas), and Wednesday, December 25 at MIDNIGHT (my favorite Mass ☐) and 10:30am. If you have never attended a traditional Midnight Mass, I hope you are able to join us! If you are afraid of falling asleep, don’t worry, I slept through the first ten I attended as a child. Also, continue to bring your Ornament in for the Family Christmas Tree in the Gathering Space. They will be returned to you at the conclusion of the Christmas Season. Linus placed a dog bone on the tree as his contribution.

As we journey further into this season, also remember to take time to make things right with the Lord in the Confessional. I go once a month (at least), and I promise you, there is no better way to Prepare His Way. Please take advantage of the many extra opportunities to meet you in your busy schedules. Continue to pay attention to our Website, myParishApp, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for the latest updates.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Religious Education Town Hall on the weekend before Thanksgiving. It was very hopeful and productive as we build the job description to fill the Faith Formation Director Position. Again, please thank our Religious Ed Teachers for all they are doing to help us this year.

Thank you to Msgr. Ed for celebrating 5pm and 8am this weekend as I have Box Village at Prep this weekend. I continue to be amazed at how our community and parish staff, and Msgr. Ed as they always step up and am grateful to be part of this community. Again, I know this is still different to have a Pastor and a Teacher doing two jobs but thank you for being willing to “re-think” how we do things. Continue to “Advent” well and as I saw on Facebook: “You can’t spell adventure, without advent”. Enjoy the week and Prepare HIS Way!

Religious Education Faith Formation



BABYSITTING—Our Mission Trip students will be providing babysitting in the Parish Center on **December 22, from Noon—4:00 pm**. This is a great opportunity for you to finish last mi-

nute shopping, wrapping or just relaxing for a few hours. There will be crafts, games, movies and a light snack. A sign up sheet will be in the Gathering Space next week. We just need to know how many for which to prepare. We ask for a monetary donation as well as a non perishable food item. All money collected will help our Mission Trip. Questions? Call Gail Carrier 392-7520.

NEXT SUNDAY—December 15, our 6th grade Faith Formation Students will be hosting the 10:30 Mass.

ANGEL TREE—As the gifts come in...please leave gifts unwrapped so if we need to add to a child's gifts we will know what to provide. Please make sure the angel tag is securely fastened to whatever bag the gifts are in when you return them. **Please return by December 14/15**. Wrapping paper donations, ribbon, tape and a few more elves to help Cindy Gray would be greatly appreciated. Many hands make for light work.

Food Pantry



FRUIT, JELLO, CEREAL, LUNCH MEAT (HAM, BOLOGNA, SALALMI) HAMBURGER, CHICKEN AND VEGGIES ARE NEEDED, LAUNDRY DETERGENT, TOMATO SOUP, CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP, VEGETABLE SOUP AND CRACKERS. . Meat can

be put in the refrigerator/freezer in the Gathering Space.

Planning for Christmas. Cake mixes, frosting, cookie dough mixes, rolls, canned yams, veggies frozen or canned.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| Greg Soltys | 734-4957 | Kathy Orlando | 450-2411 |
| George Wilkosz | 474-3131 | Kevin Campbell | 392-3151 |
| Dale Oesterling | 476-1550 | Ted Hoover | 833-8695 |
| Barb Davies | 476-7267 | Chris Matheis | 572-6411 |

FINANCE COUNCIL

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| Andrea Campbell | 392-6833 | Lori Skladanowski | 431-0797 |
| Deacon Ron Fronzaglia | 864-6772 | Ray Seth | 474-1245 |