

# The Catholic Communities of St. Francis Xavier & St. John the Baptist February 7, 2016-5th Sunday in Ordinary Time



St. Francis Xavier School celebrated Catholic School's Week January 30-February 5 with many fun activities. Starting at the top left and going clockwise: Our 8th grade class hosted a spaghetti dinner and dance after 4 PM Saturday Mass. The entire school enjoyed pizza made by Fr. Chris (along with parent volunteers). Students had fun dressing up as their favorite animated characters. They also enjoyed celebrating a special Mass on the Feast of St. Blaise, and getting to hang out with their friends. We would like to thank the entire parish for their continued support of our school.

**The Parish Communities of : St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church ~ St. John the Baptist Catholic Church**

Physical & mailing address: 1708 East Tenth Street, Merrill, WI 54452

Physical address: N4887 Hwy 17, Bloomville

**Parish Directory**

Parish Office.....536-2803  
 Pastor — Father Chris Kemp.....536-2803 ext. 218  
 Retired Clergy — Father Joseph Kleinheinz.....536-2803  
 Deacon — Jim Arndt.....536-2803 ext. 215  
 Parish Secretary — Kris Leggett.....536-2803 ext. 202  
 Financial Assistant — Laura Reiter.....536-2803 ext. 219  
 Parish Outreach/Evangelization — Sr. Dolores Lilla.....536-7487  
 DRE — Joe Velie.....536-2803 ext. 222  
 Music Director — Mary Ament.....536-2803 ext. 230  
 Building Maintenance Supervisor — John Hanson.....536-2803 ext. 221  
 Custodian — Wolfgang Lenk.....536-2803 ext. 221  
 Cemetery Sexton — John Hanson  
 Parish Council Chairs — Lisa Hass (SFX), Anne Schoone (SJB)  
 Trustees St. Francis Xavier — Pat Buckett (Pastoral) Jim Brickner (Finance)  
 Trustees St. John the Baptist — Jim St. Mary, Leona Vander Sanden  
 Liturgy Committee — Pete McConnell (SFX), Angela Frick (SJB)  
 School Committee — Kate Shimel, Tracy Creel, Michelle Evans, Scott Nelson, Rick Meehean  
 Religious Education — Maraline Collins  
 School Principal — Sonja Doughty .....536-6083  
 School Secretary — Cindy Gennrich.....536-6083  
 Knights of Columbus — Bill Hanson, Grand Knight.....536-8471

Parish Website: [www.stfrancismerrill.org](http://www.stfrancismerrill.org)  
 Staff email addresses are listed on the parish website

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store.....539-1131  
 St. Vincent de Paul Outreach.....539-2666  
 St. Vincent Free Clinic.....539-9566  
 Merrill Community Food Pantry.....536-4505

**Mass Schedule (SJB-St. John Baptist SFX-St. Francis Xavier)**

**Weekend Mass**

Saturday.....4:00 PM at SFX  
 Sunday.....7:45 AM & 9:30 AM SFX  
 Sunday.....11:30 AM at SJB

**Weekday Mass**

Tuesday.....6:00 PM at SFX  
 Wednesday.....9:00 AM at SFX  
 Thursday ....9:00 AM at SJB and 10:30 AM at Pine Crest  
 (1st & 3rd Thursdays are Mass at Pine Crest, 2nd & 4th are Word & Communion Services)  
 Friday.....8:00 AM at SFX

**Reconciliation Times (and by appointment)**

Saturday.....3:00 PM (SFX) Tuesday.....5:30 PM (SFX)  
 Wednesday....8:15 AM (SFX) Thursday.....9:15 AM (SJB)

**Parish Office Hours: Monday 12:30-4:00 PM  
 Tuesday-Thursday 8:00 AM-4:00 PM  
 Friday 8:00 AM-3:00 PM  
 (closed daily 12-12:30 for lunch)**

Low Gluten Eucharist (.01%) are available.  
 Please see Fr. Chris before Mass.

Parish office email: [kleggett@stfrancismerrill.org](mailto:kleggett@stfrancismerrill.org)  
 Bulletin deadline Tuesday at Noon.

**We appreciate the advertisers who support our bulletin:**

**Brickner's Park City, Merrill**

**Come and Join Us**

**Friends of Jesus Charismatic Prayer Group:**

Our next meeting is Feb. 24th at 6:00 PM.  
 Everyone is welcome to join us.

**Moms in Prayer:**

Meetings vary. Call Irene at 536-9430

**Eucharistic Adoration:**

In "The Little Flower Chapel" Sun-Thur, 5AM-12AM  
 Friday 5AM-10PM, Saturday 5AM-1PM

**Evening Prayer:**

Wednesday at 5:45 PM in "The Little Flower Chapel"

**Rosary:**

St. Francis: Tuesday @ 5:30 PM & Friday @ 7:30 AM  
 St. John's :Thursdays @ 8:30 AM  
 and Pine Crest on Saturdays @ 9:30AM

**St. John the Baptist Thursday Social Time:**

Every Thursday following 9:00 AM Mass

**Little Knights Playgroup:**

We meet every Friday that school is in session from 9:00-10:30 AM in the Cafeteria. During Lent we meet on Thursdays instead.



***THE SANCTUARY LIGHTS at SFX*** in "The Little Flower" Chapel burn in honor of: **Betty Burg**

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord. May the perpetual light shine upon her.

**PRAYER CHAIN:** Please call Kris at the Parish Office with your prayer chain requests. You may leave a message if necessary. The messages are checked daily even on weekends.





***SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK***

***February 8, 2016***



Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Ps 132:6-7, 8-10; Mk 6:53-56  
 Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Ps 84:3-5, 10-11; Mk 7:1-13  
 Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 -- 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18  
 Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25  
 Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15  
 Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32  
 Sunday: Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-15; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

## Weekly Schedule: February 8-15, 2016

Monday 2/8	Tuesday 2/9	Ash Wednesday 2/10	Thursday 2/11	Friday 2/12	Saturday 2/13	Sunday 2/14
6:00 PM SFX Consoling the Heart	5:30 PM SFX Reconciliation  6:00 PM SFX Mass  6:45 PM SFX Family Choir  7:00 PM SFX Parish Council	8:15 AM SFX Reconciliation  9:00 AM SFX Mass  3:15 PM SFX children's choir  5:00 PM SFX M.S./H.S music  6:00 PM SFX Mass	9:00 AM SJB Mass/Social  9:00 AM SFX Consoling the Heart  10:30 AM Liturgy at P/C  5:00 PM SFX RCIA  6:30 PM SFX Bell Choir  7:00 PM SFX K of C	8:00 AM SFX Mass   4:30 PM Fish Fry  	12:30 PM 55+ potluck  3:00 PM SFX Reconciliation  4:00 PM SFX Mass  	7:45 AM SFX Mass  9:30 AM SFX Mass  11:30 AM SJB Mass
<p>SFX=St. Francis Xavier SJB= St. John the Baptist</p>						

### LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE February 13-14, 2016

**Readers:**

4:00 PM (SFX) Susan Ryman, Lisa Hass  
7:45 AM (SFX) Kevin Rell, Paula Soderberg  
9:30 AM (SFX) William Osterbrink, Pat Buckett  
11:30 AM (SJB) Gayle Dobson & Karen Polacek

**Servers:**

4:00 PM (SFX) A & A White, C & M Evans  
7:45 AM (SFX) Isaiah & Rebecca Rell, Trevor Schenzel  
9:30 AM (SFX) E. Hanson, M. Leischer, A. Cohrs  
11:30 AM (SJB) Volunteers

**Greeters/Ushers:**

4:00 PM (SFX) C. Lee, L. McAllister, Volunteers  
7:45 AM (SFX) Soderberg Family  
9:30 AM (SFX) S & N Nelson, J & L Ruprecht  
11:30 AM (SJB) Perry Block, Paul Polacek

**SCRIP sellers:**

4:00 PM (SFX) Michelle Evans  
7:45 AM (SFX) Greg Pleski, Sue Riebe  
9:30 AM (SFX) Mary Ann VDG, Gayle Maluegge

Ministry Schedules and sub lists for both parishes are  
on our website: [www.stfrancismerrill.org](http://www.stfrancismerrill.org)

**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST at Park Place**  
February 14, 2016: Deb Koepke

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**ROSARY LEADER at Pine Crest**  
February 13, 2016: Sally Wiley

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**FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER**  
Week of February 14, 2016: Betty Weix

### MASS INTENTIONS- February 8, 2016

Tuesday

6:00 PM (SFX) Intention: Special Intention

Wednesday

9:00 AM (SFX) Intention: † Eugene & Carol Koss  
By: Family & Friends

Wednesday

6:00 PM (SFX) Intention of: Isabell  
By: Fr. Chris

Thursday

9:00 AM (SJB) Intention: † Ellery M. Barrett  
By: Leona Barrett  
10:30 AM (at Pine Crest) Word and Communion

Friday

8:00 AM (SFX) Intention: † Eugene & Carol Koss  
By: Family & Friends

Saturday

4:00 PM (SFX) Intention: † Roy Drew  
By: Family

Sunday

7:45 AM (SFX) Intention: † Dale Bacon  
By: Arndt Family  
9:30 AM (SFX) Intention: People of the parish  
11:30 AM (SJB) Intention: † Dale Roman  
By: Patty Mosser

### SACRAMENTS

**Baptism:** Please call the parish office to schedule a baptism. You must be a registered and contributing member of the parish to have your child receive this sacrament.

**Anointing of the sick:** This sacrament is available upon request by calling the parish office. Please do not wait until it becomes an emergency because a priest will not always be immediately available.

# Parish News



## PASTOR'S CORNER by: Fr. Chris

In the readings for this Sunday, we hear about people who have their ways purged. In reading from Isaiah, we hear how Isaiah has come to understand that he has seen the Angel of the Lord and he thinks that he is doomed. However, an Angel takes and touches his lips with an ember, to have his sins purged. In the Gospel from Luke, we read how a few of the disciples have been out all night and they have caught nothing and Jesus has asked them to put out into the deep. These were fishing partners, and appear to have been in the fishing business together. Andrew and Peter were brothers, as were James and John. As for the boats they used for fishing, one was discovered back in 1986 close to the shore of Galilee measured 26.5 feet long, and 7.5 feet wide, and about 4.5 feet high. It was dated back to the time period of when Jesus lived.

As we read, Peter's boat has made a big catch and has to call over the other boat to help them with it. Peter, all of a sudden recognizes that something special has taken place and he is in the presence of someone special. Peter falls to his knees and asks Jesus to depart from him, "for he is a sinful man." The others were seized with astonishment at the size of the catch. Peter recognized that he was about to be purged from his present way of life, for when they reached the shore they left everything. The two sets of brothers must have been good businessmen to be owners of those boats, yet they left them and their catch at the shore. What would have happened if they would not have left to follow Jesus? We would not be reading of them today! What about us, what is God asking of us today, and what will it cost us? Are we willing, like these sets of brothers, to leave it along the shores of our lives; to seek out what God has planned for us? What will be our stories when they all come to light at the second coming of Jesus? - Fr. Chris

### **Have you noticed....**

#### **The change in the main entrance to church?**

- The pew now in the entryway allows for seating while parishioners await confession.
- Moving this pew out of the body of Church allows for better seating for handicapped parishioners.
- All prayer guides, and devotional materials are now located on a resource table just past the restrooms.
- A new rack of materials to aid in making a good confession is on the wall outside the confessional door.

**Sick List:** Please keep the following people in your prayers: Fr. Joe, Jody Mittlestaedt, Rick Loof, Duane Tomajcik, Kristy (Schnabel) Witt, George Lawrie, Millie Martin, Bernie Ineichen, Helen Marie Ziesemer, Elaine Hinke and John Madden.

**55+ Potluck:** Our next potluck is scheduled for February 13, 2016. We meet in the cafeteria at 12:30 PM for a great lunch, and Bingo and cards. Please bring a dish to pass and a friend.

**Hope Life Center:** Thank you to everyone who took a baby bottle and donated to Hope Life Center. The parish of St. Francis Xavier raised \$1,333.64 for this worthy cause.

**Free Resources available:** Please take a moment to find our new resource table located past the rest rooms by the courtyard. This is the place to find *Living Faith* booklets, 2016 calendars, Matthew Kelley's books: *Rediscovering Catholicism*, and *Rediscovering Jesus*, Mass Journals, materials for the Year of Mercy, and Rice Bowl information. There are also family pages for Lent. Please check back through out lent, and watch the bulletin as we update these resources for you.

**Saturday Morning Confession:** During Lent, Fr. Chris will be adding these additional confession times: Saturday, February 13th 9:00-10:00 AM and Saturday, February 20th from 9:00-10:00 AM.

**World Day of the Sick:** To celebrate the World day of the Sick, Fr. Chris will be celebrating the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick at two Masses: Thursday, February 11th at St. John the Baptist at 9:00 AM and Friday, February 12th at St. Francis Xavier at 8:00 AM.

**Thank you!** Thank you to the parishioners of St. Francis and St. John the Baptist for your financial support of the people in the regions of the country that were affected by violent storms and major flooding. Together our parishes raised \$582.98 to provide humanitarian relief and pastoral support for the people of these regions.

**SCRIP:** Going out for dinner for Valentine's Day? Don't forget to buy SCRIP first.



## SFX School News

Russ Iwen representing the VFW recently visited the school and awarded Isabella Laufenberg her certificate for placing 5th in the Patriots Pen Essay contest. He also presented a certificate to Mrs. Doughty, school principal in recognition of the school's participation in the contest. Pictured from left are Isabella Laufenberg, Mr. Iwen and Mrs. Doughty.



### From the Holy Father's General Audience: February 3

Dear Brothers and Sisters: The Sacred Scriptures present God as infinite mercy, but also as perfect justice. When we think of justice, we think of its legal administration, which seeks retribution and exacts a penalty. Such legal justice does not conquer evil, but simply stems its tide. The Bible presents true justice as a process which avoids a tribunal. It foresees the offended person going directly to the guilty party to invite them to conversion, by helping them to see the evil they have done, and by appealing to their conscience. In this way, the guilty person is able to see their wrong and be open to the forgiveness offered. This is how families forgive, how spouses and children show their love. This is not always easy, however; it requires that we be ready to forgive and desire always the salvation of those who offend us. This is God's justice. He does not seek our condemnation, but our salvation. By making us see the wrong we have done, the Father helps us to recognize our need for his mercy revealed in Jesus Christ. God's justice is his mercy. As God's children, may we be open to his divine mercy, and readily and generously share it with our brothers and sisters.

**\*\*For more information visit: [www.news.va](http://www.news.va)\*\***

## Religious Education News

### Wednesday, February 10:

All grades will attend Ash Wednesday Mass at 6:00 PM

**Confirmation Retreat:** The Confirmation retreat for the 10<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation students is Saturday March 5 at St. Francis Xavier. The 10<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation candidates need to be present in the cafeteria at 9:00 AM. Lunch and snacks will be provided. The retreat will conclude with 4 PM Mass. The cost of the retreat is \$35 per student. A Confirmation retreat is required for everyone who is to be confirmed.

**Youth Rally in Medford.** The Diocese of Superior has chosen Holy Rosary Church in Medford as the location for this year's youth rally. The rally is open to all youth between 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades. It will begin at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, February 17 and conclude at 9 pm. The cost is \$15. We have arranged for bus transportation. We will gather at St. Francis Xavier at 4:30 pm. The bus will arrive back in Merrill at approximately 10 pm.

**Extreme Faith Camp** will be held for the second year at Crescent Lake near Rhinelander June 12-17 for those who completed 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Is a week filled with a ton of activities, including swimming, canoeing, crafts, rock climbing, high ropes course, mountain biking, games, speakers, and music. Add in small group sessions, service opportunities, daily Mass, participation in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and you'll find an EXTREME week long camp. The deadline for registering is February 15.

If you are interested in any of these events or have questions, please call Joe Velie at 536-2803, ext. 222.

### What is Eucharistic Adoration?

- It is the adoration of Jesus Christ present in body, blood, soul, and divinity in the Holy Eucharist.
- People come to worship continually throughout an extended period of time in this consistent place before His Presence for prayer, peace, and quiet.

### Why is it important?

- Adoration gives to God what belongs to Him alone. It is a supreme form of reverence, glory, and honor.
- Adoration is creation's attempt to reach out, with the help of God's invitation and grace, to become holy in the presence of God.

We are looking for immediate adorers on: Thursday at 3:00 PM, Friday at 3:00 PM, Wednesday at 11 AM, Tuesday at 2:00 PM, Sunday at 2:00 PM, Monday at 7 AM (temporary for a snow bird), and Saturday at 11 AM.

Call Phil/Mary with questions at 715-536-4825





# St. Francis Xavier Fish Fries

Beginning Friday, February 12th

Serving 4:30-7:30 PM

Dine In—Take Out—Delivery



## Menu Items

Dinners served with potato, cole slaw, and rye bread

- Deep Fried Pollock
  - Baked Cod
- Deep Fried Shrimp
- Combination platters
- Cheese pizza/ Cheese curds
- Home made desserts

### **Fish Fry Volunteer Needs:**

Our fish fries begin next week! Please check the sign-up sheets and fill in where you can. On Friday nights we still need several more waitresses/or waiters, people to deliver meals, bus tables, and we especially need help cleaning up the kitchen, and cleaning the fryers. If you aren't available on Friday there are many prep jobs done during the week. Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions please call Julie Mootz at 715-536-9769.



### **Pie Donations:**

Each week we sell over 200 pieces of pie and 100 bars! That is a lot of dessert! If you are talented at baking homemade goods, we still have a lot of slots open for all the different pies we need each week. However, we know that not everyone has a talent for baking, or the time, so we have another option. We have several parishioners that will volunteer to make delicious home made pies, and all you have to do is donate \$12.00. They will do the baking! There is a sign up sheet for you to use for this purpose as well. You may drop your money off at the parish office or mark it "Fish Fry Pies" and place it in the collection.



The Liturgy Committee would like to teach us about the Saints of the day and special feast days:



- Sunday: World Day for Consecrated Life; Boy Scout Sunday
- Monday: St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita;
- Wednesday: Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence;
- Thursday: Our Lady of Lourdes; World Day of the Sick;
- Friday: Lincoln's Birthday; Abstinence

**Ash Wednesday**

Mass with Ashes

9:00 AM February 10 at SFX  
AND

6:00 PM February 10 at SFX



**Rules of Fasting/Abstinence:** Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 10th with a day of fasting and abstinence. Fasting pertains to those in good health from the ages of 18 up to 60, and means that your main meal of the day cannot be larger than the combined amount of the other two meals of the day. Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all of those in good health 14 years of age and over on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.

**OUR GIFTS TO OUR LORD**

For the weekend of Jan. 23 - Jan. 24, 2016

	Actual	Amt needed	Over (Under) since 7/1/15
<b>St. Francis Xavier</b>			
Adult Envelopes	\$5,683.00	\$7,827.00	(8,593.00)
Loose Collection	\$212.61	\$270.00	2,216.46
Online/ACH giving	\$290.00	\$1,186.54	195.85
Fuel Collection	\$165.00	\$1,500.00	(283.00)
Debt Relief	<u>\$373.00</u>	<u>\$788.46</u>	<u>567.27</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,723.61</b>	<b>\$11,572.00</b>	<b>(5,896.42)</b>
<b>St. John the Baptist</b>			
Adult Env. & Loose	\$850.00	\$1,016.00	(1,387.75)
Fuel Collection	\$25.00	\$310.00	21.00

Amount needed is based on this year's budget

Thank you for your generosity!

The disciples decided to leave everything to follow Jesus. We are also called to follow Jesus, who tells us that "whatever you do to the least of mine, you do for me." *Your gift to the poor can bring the love and peace of Jesus to those who live in fear and doubt, loneliness and dread.*



**St. John the Baptist News**

**Chicken Dinner Carnival—We need your help!**

A date for our summer chicken dinner carnival has been set for August 7, 2016. But in order for this celebration to take place we need people to step forward and chair the following things: chicken cooking, dining room, beer stand, raffles, ice cream trailer, and other activities. If you can help out please contact Dorothy Gennrich (715-873-4683). If we have enough volunteers, a planning meeting will be scheduled. The outcome of our parish carnival depends on you.

**SCRIP—Support our Catholic School**

SCRIP is now on sale at St. John's after Mass each Sunday. Sandy Tank has volunteered to sell SCRIP gift cards and all the proceeds support St. Francis Xavier School. We have County Market, Piggly Wiggly, Wal-Mart, McDonald's, Holiday, Fleet Farm, and Kwik Trip gift cards on hand. If you would like something else, just call Kris at the parish office, and you can pick it up Sunday after mass. Our School not only is able to give out tuition discounts because of our SCRIP program, but uses the profits towards their annual budget. Thank you for your support.

**CRS Rice Bowl:** Join our parish community—and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Please pick up your family's rice bowl this week. They are located on the resource table just past the restrooms. Don't forget to download the CRS Rice Bowl app! Remember, what you give up for Lent changes lives.



**FAT TUESDAY GUMBO SUPPER**

Bell Tower Residence  
Tuesday, February 9th  
4:30-7:00 PM  
Dine in or Carry Out



Sausage Gumbo, Chicken and shrimp gumbo  
Or Shrimp Creole, French bread and dessert  
\$10 all you can eat/\$7 for carryout/\$4 for kids  
Call 715-536-5575 for more information



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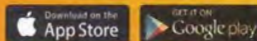
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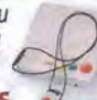
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