



**St. Francis Xavier
& St. John the Baptist
Catholic Churches
May 8, 2016 - Mother's Day**

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— 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 Doughty536-6083
- School Secretary — Cindy Gennrich.....536-6083
- Knights of Columbus — Bill Hanson, Grand Knight.....536-8471

Parish Website: 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
 - Thursday9:00 AM at SJB and 10:30 AM at Pine Crest
 - Friday.....8:00 AM at SFX

Reconciliation Times (and by appointment)

- Saturday.....9:00 AM (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
 Bulletin deadline Tuesday at Noon.

We appreciate the advertisers who support our bulletin:

River Valley Bank
www.rivervalleybank.com



Come and Join Us

Friends of Jesus Charismatic Prayer Group:

Our next meeting is May 11th 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-11 AM

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



THE SANCTUARY LIGHTS at SFX in "The Little

Flower" Chapel burn in honor of: **Lee Deates**

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

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. Thank you.



SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK

May 10, 2016



Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-8; Jn 15:9-17


Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39

Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34;

1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17;

Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

Weekly Schedule: May 9-May 15, 2016

Monday 5/9	Tuesday 5/10	Wednesday 5/11	Thursday 5/12	Friday 5/13	Saturday 5/14	Sunday 5/15
	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 6:00 PM SFX Charismatic Prayer Group	9:30 AM SJB Mass Social follows 10:30 AM Pine Crest Mass 6:30 PM SFX Bell Choir	8:00 AM SFX Mass	8:00 AM SJB Cemetery Clean-Up 3:00 PM SFX Reconciliation 4:00 PM SFX Mass	Pentecost 7:45 AM SFX Mass 9:30 AM SFX Mass 11:30 AM SJB Mass
<p style="color: red; margin: 0;">SFX=St. Francis Xavier SJB= St. John the Baptist</p>						

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE May 14-15, 2016

Readers:

4:00 PM (SFX) Pat Buckett, Maria Grund
 7:45 AM (SFX) Paula Soderberg, Kevin Rell
 9:30 AM (SFX) Barry Morgan, Mary Ann VDG
 11:30 AM (SJB) Angela Monti, Karen Polacek

Servers:

4:00 PM (SFX) Madisyn & Hailey Krueger, L. Karpenske
 7:45 AM (SFX) Isaiah & Rebecca Rell, Cassie Fowler
 9:30 AM (SFX) I. Morgan, M, A, M Rydeski
 11:30 AM (SJB) Volunteers

Greeters/Ushers:

4:00 PM (SFX) D. MacSwain, J. Folta, Volunteers
 7:45 AM (SFX) Soderberg Family
 9:30 AM (SFX) K, A Cohrs, J. Reindl, W. Osterbrink
 11:30 AM (SJB) Joe Zimmerman, Paul Polacek

SCRIP sellers:

4:00 PM (SFX) Karen Grund
 7:45 AM (SFX) Mark & Sharon Zipperer
 9:30 AM (SFX) Betty & Clark Ambrose

Ministry Schedules and sub lists for both parishes are
on our website: www.stfrancismerrill.org

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST at Park Place
May 15, 2016: Dale Palecek

ROSARY LEADER at Pine Crest
May 14, 2016: Mark Bares

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER
Week of May 15, 2016: James Rell

MASS INTENTIONS Week of May 9, 2016

Tuesday

6:00 PM (SFX) Intention: † Roxanne Sladek
By: Kathryn & John Sladek

Wednesday

9:00 AM (SFX) Intention: † Roxanne Sladek
By: Marv & Mary Anderson

Thursday

9:00 AM (SJB) Intention: † Ann Smolich
By: Kris Leggett

 10:30 AM (at Pine Crest) Intention: † Nancy Johnson
By: Ed & Kay Slewitzke

Friday

8:00 AM (SFX) Intention: † Mary Mangold
By: Joe & Barb Carlson

Saturday

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

Sunday

7:45 AM (SFX) Intention: † Edna Rutte
By: Jack & Faye Semling Family

 9:30 AM (SFX) Intention: † Fr. Mike McLain
By: 55+ Potluck Group

 11:30 AM (SJB) Intention: People of the Parishes

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

Here we are at the Ascension of the Lord. In the first reading from Acts of the Apostles, we find out that it is now forty days after Jesus had presented himself alive to the apostles. All during this time, Jesus had been speaking to the apostles about the kingdom of God. However, the apostles do not grasp what Jesus is saying and we are given the gift of being able to notice how the apostles respond. They have not yet been baptized with the Holy Spirit and they do not yet grasp what Jesus has been speaking to them about the kingdom. We can see this in the apostle's response to Jesus about the promised gift from the Father, the Holy Spirit. They also asked Jesus, when he is going to restore the Kingdom of Israel. No wonder why they were left there standing and looking intently at the sky after Jesus had ascended.

Yet, it is at this point I have to catch myself and remember that it has been 23 years since I have come back into God's graces. How well have I listened and understood everything He has been saying to me? I guess that is part of what's so great about the apostles, they show us how they were a work in progress and yet remained faithful to striving towards what Jesus had taught them, even after His ascension. That is also why I think one of my favorite chapters is from John's Gospel. It is the prayer of Jesus, also known as his priestly prayer from Chapter seventeen. Jesus not only prays for the apostles, but He also prays for each of us, that we may come to know Him and the Father and the Heavenly Kingdom that awaits those whom remain in Him.

-Fr. Chris

Thank you to Les & Jim's for sponsoring our Religious Education fundraiser on Friday, May 6th. Also, thank you to all of those who attended the dinner. Your generosity is appreciated.

BULLETIN PRAYER LIST

Please pray for the following parishioners of both parishes who are in need of your prayers. Also remember the residents in our nursing homes and hospitals. Call Kris at the parish office to put someone on this list.

Rick Loof, Duane Tomajcik, Millie Martin, Elaine Hinke, Sally Wiley, Ed Truckenbrodt, Paula Pleski, Kathy Colclasure, Julieanne Opichka

55+ Potluck News: Our 55+ Potlucks will resume this September. Thank you to everyone who supports our Saturday afternoon gatherings. Watch the bulletin for our September potluck date.

St. Francis Council of Catholic Women (CCW): Have you been wanting to visit the only Vatican approved Marion Apparition site in the United States but just didn't know how to do it? Now you have the chance. Please come join us. We have planned a day trip to the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion, Wisconsin. This trip is sponsored by the SFX CCW but is open to all. We encourage families to come and share this special trip. Also feel free to bring a friend, it is a great way to evangelize! The date is August 18th and will be from 7:30am to 4pm. We will have Mass at the Shrine at 11am and then plenty of time to walk the grounds and say a rosary together. We will be traveling on the Wendorf Deluxe bus with plenty of windows and a restroom. The cost per person is \$25. Please come to our first CCW meeting on May 25th at 6:30 in the cafeteria to hear more details or contact Chris McCarthy at 715-212-1218 or cmccarthy818@gmail.com to reserve your spot. The Blessed Mother is the patron of CCW and we hope to arrange trips to all 3 major Marion Shrines in Wisconsin over the coming year.

Happy Anniversary Fr. Joe! Fr. Joe will be celebrating his 62nd Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on May 8th. Thankfully, Fr. Joe's health has improved. Mass will now resume every Thursday at Pine Crest Nursing Home at 10:30 AM. God Bless you Fr. Joe.

Wedding Banns II: Wade Borchardt and Olivia Zimmerman announce their intention to receive the Sacrament of Matrimony on May 21, 2016. Please keep them in your prayers.

Wedding Banns I: Curt Rollman and Janelle Olund announce their intention to receive the Sacrament of Matrimony on May 27, 2016. Please keep them in your prayers.

Looking Ahead: Fr. Chris will be celebrating Memorial Day with Mass at 9 AM at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Cemetery and a Prayer Service at Noon at St. John the Baptist Catholic Cemetery.

SFX School News

Congratulations to SFX graduates Faith Wheat and Brett Seubert on being elected King and Queen of the Merrill High School Prom 2016.



From the Holy Father's General Audience: May 4, 2016



Dear Brothers and Sisters: In our continuing catechesis for this Holy Year of Mercy, we now turn to Jesus' parable of the Good Shepherd.

The Lord uses the image of the shepherd who leaves his flock to go in search of one lost sheep to express God's closeness to sinners. God does not want even a single person to be lost. In his infinite mercy, he is always ready to meet us wherever we are. The example of the Good Shepherd also challenges us to go out in search of those in particular need of God's mercy, especially those who have gone astray. Jesus teaches us that in his eyes there are no lost sheep, but only sheep needing to be found. The joy which the Good Shepherd feels must also be the joy of the entire flock. For all of us are lost sheep who were found by the Lord's mercy. All of us are called to rejoice in his merciful love, to bring that love to others and thus to join him in gathering into the fold all those whom he wishes to save.

For more information visit: www.news.va**

Last Call For Cemetery Flowers: This is your last chance to sign up for a flowering basket for the cemetery (or your home). The cost is \$35, and you may also chose a \$30 optional watering service. Please call the parish office Monday, May 9th to place your order.

Religious Education News

RCIA: Do you have questions about Catholicism or are you interested in joining the Catholic Church? Have you been baptized Catholic but have missed Confirmation or First Communion and wish to receive these sacraments? If you do, please contact Joe Velie at 536-2803 ext. 222.

Baccalaureate Mass returns to St. Francis!

We are very excited to announce a special celebration for the 2016 graduates. A Baccalaureate Mass will be celebrated on May 22nd at 9:30 AM at St. Francis Xavier. All graduating seniors who are members of St. Francis Xavier are eligible to participate. Anyone interested in attending please call 536-2803.



Update on Totus Tuus: The Diocese of Superior will have two Totus Tuus teams consisting of 4 members per team. A parishioner of St. Francis Xavier, **Erich Wallace**, is one of the Totus Tuus team members this year. We have made a request that he will be on the team which leads Totus Tuus at St. Francis Xavier this summer.

Jesus waits for us in this Sacrament of Love-Eucharistic Adoration

"In the sacred Host, He is present, the true treasure, always waiting for us. Only by adoring this Presence do we learn how to receive Him properly."

What is Eucharistic Adoration?

Understood simply, Eucharistic Adoration is adoring or honoring the Eucharistic Presence of Christ. In a deeper sense, it involves "the contemplation of the Mystery of Christ truly present before us". During Eucharistic Adoration, we "watch and wait", we remain "silent" in His Presence and open ourselves to His Graces which flow from the Eucharist ... By worshiping the Eucharistic Jesus, we become what God wants us to be! Like a magnet, The Lord draws us to Himself and gently transforms us! (taken from : www.catholic-church.org)

Open Hours: Thursday at 11 AM, Friday at 11 AM and 3 PM. Call Phil/Mary at 715-536-4825 to sign up or with questions. Many other hours need prayer partners as well.





“OK, now tell me how you *really* feel about being put in charge of the SNACK SHACK this year.”

The Lincoln County Fair this summer is July 20-24, 2016. It is very exciting to have the Snack Shack open once again. We have a group of very hard working parishioners with some new ideas for our Snack Shack this year. If you would like to be included, come to our next planning meeting on Wednesday, May 11 at 4:30 PM. Our meetings take only one hour.

Additionally, the committee asks that you keep these 4 days open on your family's calendar: July 20-24. We will be in need of cooks, cashiers, waitresses, for all 5 days of the fair. Watch the bulletin for more information all summer long. Our parish can do great things when we work together!

Diocese of Superior Celebrates Wedding Jubilees



If your 2016 Wedding Anniversary is one of the following*, please join Bishop James Powers and other couples in celebrating.

+65 Years 65 Years 60 years 50 years
40 years 25 years 10 years

*Other years will be considered

When: Saturday, July 23, 2016

Time: 11 AM Mass, 12:30 PM catered lunch

Where: Cathedral of Christ the King, Superior, WI

RSVP: to Kris in the parish office 536-2803

St. Vincent de Paul Free Clinic has a mission to provide basic health care services for people age 18 and older in Lincoln County to those that qualify. You are eligible to be seen if you do not have health insurance, are underinsured, or you have insurance but cannot afford the high deductible. You are not eligible if you have adequate insurance, you have Medicaid or Medicare, or if you receive veteran's medical assistance. No appointment is needed. Arrive between 5:00-6:00 PM on Thursday evenings to register. We are located at 1004 E. Main Street in Merrill between the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store and NAPA. Look for the red door! Questions? Call 715-539-9566 on Thursday nights or 715-539-2666 Monday through Friday.



Today we are reminded that Christ's saving work on earth continues through his disciples... and now through us.

When we give to the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace and joy into our hearts, into our lives and into the hearts of those who are in need. God bless you for your prayer support to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

NOTICE: The Catholic Church is working diligently to prevent sexual abuse by parish employees, volunteers, deacons, and priests. If you have been sexually abused by someone associated with the Church and would like to report or discuss the experience, we urge you to contact:



Kathy Drinkwine 715-718-1110

The Diocese of Superior welcomes your call and understands how difficult it may be to reach out in this situation. The phone number provided is confidential and dedicated solely to these calls. Know that your call will be treated with respect, dignity, and compassion.

Courtyard Angels Needed!



Do you like gardening? Would you like to help out our parish at a time that is convenient for you? Day or Night? Week-day or Weekend? We are in need of volunteers to clean up the courtyard this spring, and also to sign up for watering duties for a week at a time this summer. If you only have one hour to spare it can really help. Please call the parish office for more information.

THANK YOU

OUR GIFTS TO OUR LORD

For the weekend of April 23 - 24, 2016

<u>St. Francis Xavier</u>	Actual	Amt needed	Over (Under) since 7/1/15
Adult Envelopes	\$8,840.00	\$7,827.00	(12,454.89)
Loose Collection	\$367.00	\$270.00	2,590.09
ACH giving	\$290.00	\$1,186.54	624.91
Debt Relief	<u>\$531.82</u>	<u>\$788.46</u>	<u>1,133.73</u>
TOTAL	\$10,028.82	\$10,072.00	(8,106.16)
<u>St. John the Baptist</u>			Over (Under) since 7/1/15
Adult Env. & Loose	\$588.00	\$1,016.00	1,405.10

Amount needed is based on this year's budget

Thank you for your generosity!

St. Francis Xavier School Rummage Sale

Wednesday, June 15 3:00-7:00 PM

Thursday, June 16 8:00-4:00 PM

Friday, June 17 8:00-11 AM

Our annual rummage sale is back! So while doing your spring cleaning start saving your gently used household goods, books, clothes and games. Unfortunately we cannot accept large furniture or electronic items. Please do not drop off any items at this time. Just start saving!



SCRIP News...

KFC no longer participates in the SCRIP program. However, we now have \$10 **Taco Bell** gift cards in stock. These gift cards will work at our **Merrill KFC/Taco Bell**, or any **Taco Bell** nation wide. They give 5% to our school with each card.

Red Robbin is now open in Rib Mountain. We have a limited supply of \$25 gift cards in the parish office. If they become a popular item, they will be kept in stock.

Congratulations to **Gloria Kondzela**, this month's winner of \$25 in SCRIP.

Graduations and Weddings! It's summertime! If you need the perfect gift stop in the back of Church after Mass and purchase a gift card.

Thank you to all our local vendors who generously support our school through large rebates from our SCRIP program. We appreciate your support!

St. John the Baptist News

Thank you notes:

- ⇒ Thank you to Susan Bauer for her donation, made in loving memory of John Bauer, towards the purchase of vestments at St. John the Baptist Church.
- ⇒ Thank you to Emily Pankow who purchased the green vestment in loving memory of Igantz Kuhn, and Frank & Marie Kuhn.
- ⇒ Thank you to Patty Mosser and John & Sharon Madden who purchased the white vestment in loving memory of William & Lena Mosser and John & Sophie Modden.
- ⇒ Thank you to everyone who participated in the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, May 1. A total of \$441.00 was raised for our Church.
- ⇒ Jim & Joyce St. Mary would like to thank the parish for their prayers and support during their daughter's illness.

Cemetery Clean-up Day

Meet us at the cemetery on Saturday, May 14th at 8 AM for a clean-up day. Rain date is May 21st. Whether you can pick up sticks or whatever you can do, every little bit helps. We will also be clearing out and marking off where the new parking area will be. So bring your chore gloves and join us. It's a nice way to honor those loved ones who are buried there so it will be looking good for Memorial Day.

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



- L** Sunday: Seventh Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day;
- I** Tuesday: St. Damien de Veuster
- T** Thursday: Ss. Nereus and Achilleus; St. Pancras
- U** Friday: Our Lady of Fatima
- R** Saturday: St. Matthias

G Y The Liturgy Committee is continuing with the next step in their on-going project of updating our worship space. New banners for Ordinary Time have been purchased and will be hung after Pentecost. These colorful banners include biblical verses such as: "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me." If you would like to make a donation to the cost of these banners please call Laura in the finance office.



"An unexpected pregnancy can bring joy, excitement, awe, gratitude, and deeper love than I knew was possible."
From: *10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting*



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