

September

18
2016

God wills everyone
to be saved and to
come to knowledge
of the truth.

1 Timothy 2:4

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Francis Xavier & St. John the Baptist



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 — Dr. Robert Sedlacek (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 Meehan
- Religious Education — Maraline Collins
- School Principal — Sonja Doughty536-6083
- School Secretary — Cindy Gennrich.....536-6083
- Knights of Columbus — Jim Finucan, Grand Knight.....539-3450

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 & 3:00 PM (SFX)
- Tuesday.....5:30 PM (SFX) Wednesday....8:15 AM (SFX)
- 1st Sunday of the month12:30 PM (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)**

We appreciate the advertisers who support our bulletin:

Taylor & Stine Funeral Home
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Come and Join Us

Friends of Jesus Charismatic Prayer Group:

Our next meeting is 9/28/16 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 will meet every Friday at 9:00-10:30 AM when school is in session. You may ring the bell at door#7 for entrance.



THE SANCTUARY LIGHTS at SFX in "The Little Flower" Chapel burn in honor of: **Mary Jane Westberg & Jessica Hartwig**. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord. May the perpetual light shine upon them.

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

September 19, 2016



- Monday:** Prv 3:27-34; Ps 15:2-5; Lk 8:16-18
- Tuesday:** Prv 21:1-6, 10-13;
 Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44; Lk 8:19-21
- Wednesday:** Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-5; Mt 9:9-13
- Thursday:** Eccl 1:2-11; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17bc;
 Lk 9:7-9
- Friday:** Eccl 3:1-11; Ps 144:1b, 2abc, 3-4;
 Lk 9:18-22
- Saturday:** Eccl 11:9 — 12:8; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17;
 Lk 9:43b-45
- Sunday:** Am 6:1a, 4-7; Ps 146:7-10; 1 Tm 6:11-16;
 Lk 16:19-31

Weekly Schedule: September 19-25, 2016

Monday 9/19	Tuesday 9/20	Wednesday 9/21	Thursday 9/22	Friday 9/23	Saturday 9/24	Sunday 9/25
Fr. Chris' Day Off 	5:30 PM SFX Reconciliation 6:00 PM SFX Mass 6:45 PM SFX Family Choir	8:15 AM SFX Reconciliation 9:00 AM SFX Mass 3:15 PM SFX children's choir 5:00 PM MS/HS Choir 6:00 PM SFX religious ed 6:45 PM SFX confirmation	9:00 AM SJB Mass and Social 10:30 AM Pine Crest Mass 6:00 PM RCIA 6:30 PM SFX Bell Choir	8:00 AM SFX Mass NO SCHOOL	9:00 AM SFX Reconciliation 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 SFX CCW Pancake Breakfast 
				SFX=St. Francis Xavier SJB= St. John the Baptist		

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE September 24-25, 2016

Readers:

4:00 PM (SFX) Emily & Elizabeth Weix
7:45 AM (SFX) Tom Huftel & Tim Fischer
9:30 AM (SFX) Evelyn Lee & Mary Ann VDG

Servers:

4:00 PM (SFX) Austin & Aidan White, Volunteer
7:45 AM (SFX) Deb & Bobby Hoff, Isabell Wendt
9:30 AM (SFX) Molly, Anna & Matthew Rydeski, Gaven

Reindl

Greeters/Ushers:

4:00 PM (SFX) Don MacSwain, Lori McAllister,

Volunteers

7:45 AM (SFX) Makyah & Andreou Goetsch, Brett Swan,
& Karen Cournaya
9:30 AM (SFX) Chris Lee, Jordan Reindl, Ava & Keith

Cohrs

SCRIP sellers:

4:00 PM (SFX) Alicia Weix
7:45 AM (SFX) Hannah & Chris Hanson
9:30 AM (SFX) Barb A. Adams & Gayle Maluegge

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

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST at Park Place
September 25, 2016: Dale Palecek

ROSARY LEADER at Pine Crest
September 24, 2016: Karen Cournaya

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER
Week of September 25, 2016: Shirley Gajewski

MASS INTENTIONS Week of September 19, 2016

Tuesday

6:00 PM (SFX) Intention: †Helen Marie Ziesemer
By: Family

Wednesday

9:00 AM (SFX) Intention: †David Fischer
By: LeRoy & Connie

Thursday

9:00 AM (SJB) Intention of: People of the Parishes
10:30 AM (at Pine Crest) Intention: †Marvin Kanitz
By: Dorothy Kanitz

Friday

8:00 AM (SFX) Intention: †Grace Oberts
By: Fr. Chris Kemp

Saturday

4:00 PM (SFX) Intention: †Bob Mussell
By: Family

Sunday

7:45 AM (SFX) Intention: †Jim Brannan
By: Sandy Brannan
9:30 AM (SFX) Intention of: People of the Parishes
11:30 AM (SJB) Intention: †Daniel Vignali
By: Perry & Kris Block

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US

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

This Sunday's readings offer us a look at the prophet Amos and the sixteenth chapter from Luke. In the reading from Amos, the prophet is making fun of the people who are not observing the meaning behind law and tradition of the new moon and the Sabbath. The people are anxious to get the days over so they can get back to doing business, and making as much money as they can and at whatever cost.

In our gospel, we have the story of a rich man's steward who has been caught wasting his master's property in foolish ways. Do you ever wonder why the master then praises this steward when he reduces what is owed to the master? In these instances, he is not cheating his master, he is removing what would have been his share for collecting the oil and the wheat. The steward has hurried up and done this before anyone has found out that he is no longer the steward. In other words, the steward is attempting to make himself look good in the eyes of the people he has been collecting from. So the master voices his compliments on steward's actions in dealing with the people. The steward could make himself look good, but he did not make his master look good when he was his steward.

And so now we are to ask, where are we in these stories? How are we dealing with what God has given us? Everything we have is given to us. How are we being stewards of what we have been given in our dealings with others? But what is more important is how we have been with God! How foolish have we been with what is God's? To put it in another way, have we been squandering what belongs to him? I know there is not a one of us who can say, "No I have not been squandering what belongs to God." I can easily say this without much reflection by seeing what is presented to us in the first reading. Oh we may come to Mass on Sundays, but we are accountable to much more than just Mass attendance on Sundays. We need to ask ourselves, how am I keeping the "rest of the Sabbath"? And this "Rest" is meant both ways. Am I hoping that it, the Sabbath, would just get through, or am I even keeping it holy? Do I give what belongs to the Lord, money, time, talent, family, acquaintances, and all of who I am? Am I bringing them all to the Lord? I know it is not easy, but it is what we are called to do. However, we are His sons and daughters and that is the greatest gift of all.

From Deacon Jim Arndt: Continuing on Deacon Jim's article regarding the upcoming fall election, here is another quote from someone responsible for helping form our country in its early stages:

"The Bible is the best of all books, for it is the word of God and teaches us the way to be happy in this world and in the next. Continue therefore to read it and to regulate your life by its precepts." John Jay, Original Chief-Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

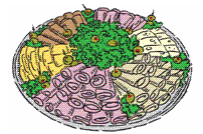
Sick List: Please pray for the following parishioners of both parishes who are in need of your prayers: Rick Loof, Millie Martin, Elaine Hinke, Ed Truckenbrodt, Julieanne Opichka, Phyllis Sheil, Leona Barrett, Jesse Schaetzel, Ginger Lawrie, and Hilde Hantke.

SFX CCW News: Please mark your calendars for the next **CCW Pancake Breakfast/Bake Sale on Sept. 24-25!** After the busy Parish Festival weekend let us make you breakfast and let you bring home dessert. We will be selling baked goods after the Saturday Mass and on Sunday morning we will be having our famous and delicious pancakes and sausage breakfast with yogurt and fruit after both Masses. There will be plenty of bakery to take home with you! All the proceeds will benefit the Music Department, both the Parish choirs and the school programs. We will enjoy the benefits with new music and new instruments! It is a win/win for everyone! And ladies please start baking. Drop off your baked goods Saturday afternoon between 2-4pm in the parish cafeteria. Thank you again for your tremendous support!

CCW Reminder: Our next meeting is Wednesday Sept. 28th at 6:30 pm in the parish cafeteria and Mary Litschauer will be our guest speaker.

Wedding Banns II: Robert Behr and Beth Warren announce their intent to celebrate the sacrament of marriage on October 1, 2016. They ask for your prayers.

Thank you: After serving a funeral lunch for the family of **Andy Fischer** our heartfelt thanks goes out to those who cooked, served, and cleaned up after the meal: Barb *Funeral Luncheon* Schmidt, Ron and Phyllis Presl, Rose Akey, Betty Weix, Nadine Grusnick, John Turner, Betty Miller, Judy Warren, Pat Hopper, Sandy Brannan, Kathy Monnot, Joanne Anderson, Alicia Weix, Barb Carlson, Tammy Cohrs, Joanne Myszka, Sylvia Lemon, Debbie & Cathy Neumeier, Mary Ann VanderGeest, Darlene Beyer, Vivian Schultz



Respect Life Sunday is October 2: "It is a very great poverty to decide that a child must die that you might live as you wish" -Saint Teresa of Calcutta

SFX School News

3rd Grade Scientists



Learning started right away on the first day of school in Mr. K's 3rd grade class. For science class the students were able to wear their lab coats and discover the uses for numerous lab equipment. Students "modeling" their lab coats and safety goggles in the back row middle to right are Max Kuhn and Seth Morgan. Front row from left: Allie Lange, Owen Meehan, Raphael Gerbig, Bobby Hoffman and Theo Johnson.

Today the **2016-17 Catholic Services Appeal** begins in both of our parishes and throughout the Diocese of Superior.

This is a very special year in the Church, the *Year of Mercy*, where we are called by Pope Francis to emulate the mercy of God in our everyday lives. That is why Bishop Powers has chosen *Sharing God's Mercy* as the theme for the Catholic Services Appeal (CSA). Mercy is love and compassion in action, the very cornerstone of Pope Francis' vision for our Church. Your gift is important. Please assist your parish and diocese in providing a wide variety of religious, educational, pastoral and charitable services throughout the fourteen counties of our diocese. This year, the assessment for St. Francis Xavier is \$54,579 and for St. John the Baptist is \$9,300. Please give generously.



Eucharistic Adoration: Consistent Prayer Life Part 3

Last week we introduced the second step to keep a more consistent prayer life... Put it in your schedule! Here is the third step:

3. Stick with it. Like going to the gym, the "muscles" of prayer don't develop overnight. Every new habit takes time to develop, so be disciplined and "Don't despise the day of small beginnings" (Zech 4:10). If it would help you to stay more consistent in prayer, why not ask a peer or more mature believer to keep you accountable to your schedule? They may have other ideas to help you grow in prayer.

God delights in His people and wants us to talk with Him. By using these three steps: Ask God for help, put it in your schedule, and stick with it, you can have a more consistent prayer life. -Mike Bickle

Religious Education News

Religious Education schedule:

Wednesday 9/14 Grades K-8: 6:00-7:00 PM

Wednesday 9/14 Grades 9-10 (Confirmation)

social time 6:00 – 6:45PM, Class 6:45 – 7:45 PM

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):

RCIA is the process by which anyone who wishes to join the Catholic Church or is Catholic but has missed Confirmation and wishes to receive that sacrament. RCIA will be meeting Thursday evenings in the Conference room at 6 PM and will last about one hour.

11th Grade Confirmation Candidates: The signup schedule for the Confirmation interviews for those who are scheduled to be confirmed this November is on the board in the back of church. This is a mandatory interview. Without an interview you cannot be confirmed.

For more information regarding any of the above, please contact Joe Velie at 536-2803 extension 222.



From the Holy Father's General Audience: 9/14/16

Dear Brothers and Sisters: In our catechesis during this Holy Year of Mercy, we have reflected on the tenderness of Jesus. Today we hear the

Lord calling the discouraged, the poor and the little ones to himself, all who – unable to count on powerful connections – can rely solely on God (Mt 11:28-30). In their powerlessness, they trust in God's mercy; they come to Jesus who is their only help. In this Jubilee Year pilgrims around the world have been crossing the threshold of a Holy Door of mercy as they seek conversion. In approaching the Lord's inexhaustible mercy, we will discover his "easy yoke": Jesus who bears the burdens and needs of humanity shows us the way to salvation. And by participating in his sufferings, we come to know the will of God for us, we find true rest in him, and are able to share in his plan of salvation. Jesus invites us also to learn from his service of the poor and of all who suffer. When we are tired or despondent, let us not be afraid; for our hope in Christ will never be confounded. Let us therefore come to Christ, trust in him, rest in him and joyously serve him.

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

It's football season....Have you been practicing your Hail Mary? Join us for the rosary at these times and places:

Tuesday at St. Francis Xavier 5:30 PM

Thursday at St. John the Baptist 8:30 AM

Friday at St. Francis Xavier 7:30 AM

Saturday at Pine Crest Nursing Home 9:30 AM



**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH
JULY 2016 FINANCIAL REPORT**

Collections	\$30,603.34
Debt Relief/2nd Collection	\$3,323.27
Fund Raising Income	\$22,161.50
School Income	\$7,837.34
Religious Education	\$540.00
Cemetery Income	\$1,700.00
Faith in Our Future Funds	\$0.00
Gifts, Bequests, Memorials	\$0.00
Other Income (Grants/fees/candles,etc.)	<u>\$4,459.16</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$70,624.61</u>

EXPENSE

Wages/Benefits	\$62,828.55
Utilities	\$3,054.14
Insurance (Non-employment)	\$0.00
Office equip/supplies	\$611.56
Upkeep/maintenance	\$610.46
School Expenses	\$1,898.15
Liturgy/Music	\$1,258.20
Fundraising expenses	\$2,791.97
Ministry expenses (Rel. Ed.,Evang., & Outreach)	\$1,795.58
Cemetery Expenses	\$932.35
Faith in Our Future Expenditures	\$0.00
2015-16 CSA expense	\$21,060.00
Interest Expense	\$859.47
Other Expenses	\$132.38
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$97,832.81</u>
NET INCOME (LOSS)	<u>(\$27,208.20)</u>

DEBTS

	<u>07/31/2016</u>	<u>06/30/2016</u>
Lincoln Community Bank	\$103,508.27	\$106,952.47
LCB - Roof Loan	\$82,470.66	\$82,470.66
St. Theresa Parish	\$123,385.28	\$124,407.21
Accounts Payable	<u>\$45,907.02</u>	<u>\$26,001.15</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$355,271.23</u>	<u>\$339,831.49</u>

INVESTMENTS AS OF 7/31/16

Checking Accounts	\$31,407.72
Scrip Checking Account	\$7,468.84
Scrip Inventory	\$37,667.66
Cemetery Funds	\$30,514.41
Heck Investments (Building Fund)	\$210,808.79
Money Market Fund (Savings)	\$5,502.90
Debt Relief Fund*	<u>\$81,293.26</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$404,663.58</u>

*2nd collection is deposited into Debt Relief Fund.

*Payments on St. Theresa loan and Lincoln Community Bank loan are made from this fund each month.

In today's Gospel we see that prudent decisiveness means that we recognize that all our choices in daily living are really choices for eternal life. Admission into heaven is something money cannot buy. The only currency that has any value to secure our entrance is that of love.



As you send your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, know that you are a sign of God's love to those who are suffering.

(Donations to St. Vincent de Paul may always be placed in the wooden drop box in the back of church across from the restrooms.)

2016 Sportsmen's Banquet

Over 1700 items of food were collected at this year's Sportsmen Banquet for the Merrill Community Food Pantry. Pictured collecting the donations are Tim Leischer, Dick Duginski, Tom Huftel, Chester Kwiesielewicz, and Gene Pfantz. 300 ticket holders attended this year's banquet that sold out over 2 weeks before the banquet. Thank you to the St. Francis Xavier Sportsmen's Banquet committee, and all of our faithful supporters. Make sure to save next year's banquet date: September 9, 2017.



St. John the Baptist—Bloomville, WI

Parish Support—September 4, 2016

Actual Amount of envelopes & loose:	\$1165.00
Amount Needed for the budget:	\$1069.23
Over (Under) Since 7/1/15:	(\$1237.30)

Who's Who:

Trustees: Jim St. Mary, Leona Vander Sanden
 Parish Council: Anne Schoone (Chair), Paul Polacek
 Joe Zimmerman, Kris Block, and Bernie Ineichen

Liturgical Ministries— September 25, 2016

Readers: Gayle Dobson, Joe Zimmerman
 Greeters/Ushers: Louie Leder, Jim Feuerstein
 Servers: Volunteers



Eucharistic Ministers may volunteer by taking a necklace before Mass begins.

Parish News:

- ⇒ Save the date for our next Pancake Breakfast: October 23rd. We will be serving a delicious breakfast from 9 AM-1PM. Watch the bulletin for more information.
- ⇒ Make sure to join our celebration on Sunday, September 25th. The St. Francis Xavier Middle School Choir will be celebrating 11:30 AM Mass with us.
- ⇒ Thank you to Pat Buckett for leading us in a Word & Communion service while Fr. Chris is at the Priest Retreat last week.

Cemetery News:

- ⇒ Please take the time to visit the St. John the Baptist Catholic Cemetery. The new drive way is now complete. It loops around to the jointly used drive with the neighboring farm. Thanks to a donation from Sandy Tank, we now have a beautiful area to park when we are visiting or attending a burial out there. The donation was made in loving memory of Larry Tank, who always wanted a new driveway put in the cemetery.
- ⇒ Cemetery plots are available for sale at the parish office. The cost of each lot is \$250.00. You may purchase lots as part of your pre-planning at any time. Only one full burial is allowed in each lot. However you may place two cremains in one lot, or a full burial and cremains. Please call the parish office if you have any questions.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDED JULY 31, 2016

INCOME	July 2016
Collections	\$3,899.00
Fund Raising Income	695.00
Faith in Our Future Funds	0.00
Cemetery Income	0.00
Candles, Flowers, Gifts, etc.	46.51
Other Income (Fees, Interest, etc)	98.55
TOTAL INCOME	\$4,739.06

EXPENSES	
Wages/Benefits	\$3,609.01
Office expenses	10.50
Utilities	2,775.60
Insurance	0.00
Upkeep/maintenance	35.95
Fundraising expenses	47.00
Ministry expenses	105.54
Cemetery Expenses	65.00
2015-2016 CSA	6,000.00
Other expenses	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$12,648.60
NET INCOME (LOSS)	(\$7,909.54)

INVESTMENTS	07/31/2016
Checking Account	\$4,278.29
Cemetery Funds	14,941.36
Covantage Credit Union	215,132.52
TOTAL	\$234,352.17

OUR GIFTS TO OUR LORD

For the weekend of Sept. 3 - Sept. 4, 2016

St. Francis Xavier	Actual	Amt needed	Over (Under) since 7/1/16
Adult Envelopes	\$6,443.00	\$7,834.62	(13,935.03)
Loose Collection	\$274.00	\$282.69	(310.30)
ACH giving	\$330.00	\$1,192.31	423.90
Debt Relief	<u>\$677.00</u>	<u>\$826.92</u>	<u>272.04</u>
TOTAL	\$7,724.00	\$10,136.54	(13,549.39)

THANK YOU

A big **THANK-YOU** goes out to Marlene Hinz from the St. Francis Xavier School music program. She recently donated a flute, flute stand, and music stand to our music program. Thanks again, and may God bless you, Marlene!

SCRIP News... Fundraising while you shop!

Special Orders: Hundreds of stores participate in SCRIP. We cannot keep them all on hand of course, but you can place a special order by calling the parish office. Orders are placed Monday morning and usually arrive on Wednesday. Visit www.shopwithscrip.com for a full list of stores.

Fall means Football: Whether you support the Blue Jays, the Badgers or the Packers (or all three) you will want to dress in your team colors! We have SCRIP for Kohl's, Wal-Mart, Fleet Farm, and Shopko. We can even special order from Dick's Sporting Goods, Nike, and Under Armour.



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