

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church



The Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2022

2500 Arbeiter Rd., Joliet, IL 60431

Phone: (815) 609-8077 Email: office@sfxjoliet.org Website: sfxjoliet.org
Emergency Phone: (815) 669-7752 Pastor: Fr. Karl Langsdorf, frkarl@sfxjoliet.org

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil

4:30pm - Church / Live-streamed & Broadcasted in the Parking Lot

Sunday

8:30am - Church / Broadcasted in the Parking Lot

10:00am - Parking Lot, with limited seating in the Narthex

*Weekend Masses can be viewed on the parish's YouTube channel **Ministry SFX**.*

Weekday Masses

Monday: 9:15am Tuesday: 9:15am Wednesday: 6:30pm
Thursday: 9:15am Friday: 9:15am

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday: 6:00-6:30pm Thursday: 9:45-10:15am

Confession

Saturday: 3:30-4:15pm Wednesday: 6:00-6:30pm
After the 9:15am Mass on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday
By Appointment

Office Hours

Monday & Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm

A Message from Our Pastor



This week we are sharing the results of the survey everyone took two weeks ago. Thank you for your time and efforts. The information you shared was valuable and much appreciated. Below you can see all of the details and what we plan to do in the future.



Registered families received a Zoom invite via email.
Questions? Please email Penny at pgiunta@sfxjoliet.org

Remaining FCFF Zoom sessions of the school year:
Jan. 22nd Feb. 19th Mar. 19th Apr. 23rd

Students preparing for Confirmation in the fall of 2023, in-person sessions will be held
from 6:30-8:00pm on the following Sundays:

Dec. 4th Jan. 22nd Feb. 12th Mar. 19th Apr. 16th May 7th June 25th

Any questions can be sent to Confirmation@sfxjoliet.org



Please pray for ~

Lucas Arseneau
Mildred Balogh
Mary Bruce
Mike Cannon
Larry Formella
Pat Gierich
Darlene Janulis
Pamela Mazzone

Tara McDonald
Jim O'Brien
Mike Piwovar
Tom Sagenbrecht
Scott Schwartz
Chester Sobczak
James Talley

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 10th

4:30pm George Benas

Sunday, December 11th

8:30am Jackie White

10:00am SFX Parishioners

Monday, December 12th

9:15am Intention of the Celebrant

Tuesday, December 13th

9:15am Intention of the Celebrant

Wednesday, December 14th

6:30pm Diego Alonso Fernandez

Thursday, December 15th

9:15am Dolores Neumann

Friday, December 16th

9:15am Intention of the Celebrant

Saturday, December 17th

4:30pm Marita Szyszka

Sunday, December 18th

8:30am Mike & Darlene Lavenhagen

10:00am SFX Parishioners

Third Sunday of Advent

Reflection on the Gospel of Matthew 11: 2-11



Reflection Questions:

- What do you imagine Heaven was like before Jesus died?
- How would you describe the disciple of John the Baptist?

Suggestions for Living out this Gospel:

- + Consider visiting someone you have not seen for some time.
Make a plan to get together to catch up.
- + Consider making contact with someone who might be alone and forgotten.

Viral Message

He shouted his message
for all to hear.
They flocked to the desert
from far and near.

Throughout the ages
His message rings true.
He lives through his words.
Believers listened and grew.

His message went viral
because of his passion.
To teach us repentance,
He taught with compassion.

Reflections on the Sunday Readings

Second Sunday of Advent - 11 December 2022

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10. Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10. James 5:7-10. Matthew 11:2-11.

Who Is the Messiah? When even the land sings God's praise, how can we not do the same? When God comes for the blind, deaf, lame, and mute, how can we not care for the same? When we know Christ has both come and is coming yet again, how can we complain about anyone?

- How will the words I speak be filled with what God is up to in this world?
- How will the deeds I do attend to mercy work for blind, deaf, lame, and mute children of God?
- I will stop complaining this week about _____?

Last Weekend to Pre-Order for Christmas!!

**Pre-Order Gift Cards
for Christmas!**

Order by November 27th for pick up on December 3rd/4th.
Order by December 11th for pick up on December 17th/18th.
Pay when you pick up your gift cards!

Gift Card

To Order:

- Go to the Scrip table in the Narthex after the 4:30pm Saturday Mass or 8:30am Sunday Mass.
- Fill out an order form. (Participating RaiseRight retailers list will be available for reference.)
- Pay with cash/checks made payable to "St. Francis Xavier Parish" when picking up the cards.

No purchase fees for gift cards (including Visa gift cards)
when you buy them through the RaiseRight (formerly known as Scrip) program!



TAX-FREE GIFTS TO THE CHURCH



If you are over the age of 70 ½ and receive IRA distributions, do you know you can make donations to St. Francis Xavier from your IRA, and the distributions are tax free to you? It is easy to do. The donation must be received by the parish directly from your financial institution, so contact your IRA trustee or financial advisor to find out about their donation process. The donation is considered a QCD (Qualified Charitable Distribution) and is reported as non-taxable on your tax return. Upon request, the parish will provide you with a statement of your donation. If you are already giving to the parish, donate from your IRA and give yourself the gift of a tax-free distribution.

Survey Results Are In!!!

Parishioner Mass Time Survey Results

Surveys were distributed to adults attending Masses the weekend of November 26 and 27, 2022. Two hundred eighty-seven (287) surveys were returned. The results and action items are summarized below.

Based on the results of the survey:

- All Masses will continue to be broadcast over the radio to the parking lot, with communion also served in the parking lot. All Mass attendees are welcome to remain in the lot. We ask that the portion of the lot reserved for outdoor attendees not be used for people coming inside (it makes it easier for the eucharistic ministers to serve communion).
- Mass will continue to be broadcast online.
- Mass times will not change from current times (4:30 p.m. Saturday, 8:30 a.m. Sunday, 10:00 a.m. Sunday, 6:30 p.m. Holy Day vigil, 9:15 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Holy Days).
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Masses will be inside starting January 1, 2023. The south-most quadrant (the space farthest from the choir) will be reserved for attendees wearing masks.

Respondents were asked to identify which Mass they typically attend.

Regular Mass Time	Number of Responses
Saturday 4:30 p.m.	94
Sunday 8:30 a.m.	86
Sunday 10:00 a.m.	79
More than one time identified	28

Respondents were asked about whether their satisfaction with the current Mass times (including holy days) and if they had suggestions for different times. Some respondents also included comments. Those results are summarized below.

Saturday 4:30 p.m.

Response	Okay with current time	Prefer a new time	No response
Number of Responses (Percentage)	248 (86.4%)	17 (5.9%)	22 (7.7%)
Suggested alternate times: 4 p.m. (7), 5 p.m. (3), 5:30 p.m. (1), 6 p.m. (4), 6:30 p.m. (1)			

Comments:

- Don't usually attend but no later
- If I was to attend later would be better to suit my needs
- Earlier the better

Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Response	Okay with current time	Prefer a new time	No response
Number of Responses (Percentage)	233 (81.2%)	24 (8.4%)	30 (10.4%)
Suggested alternate times: 7:30 a.m. (1), 8 a.m. (6), 9 a.m. (8), 9:30 a.m. (3), 11 a.m. (2)			

Comments:

- Would like without music again
- Need a better sound for music
- Love it
- Limit music at 8:30 to entrance and final song. No singing prayers.

Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Response	Okay with current time	Prefer a new time	No response
Number of Responses (Percentage)	233 (81.2%)	23 (8.0%)	31 (10.8%)
Suggested alternate times: 9 a.m. (1), 9:30 a.m. (1), 10:30 a.m. (3), 11 a.m. (5), 12 p.m. (2)			

Comments:

- Perfect time as a backup
- Needs to be in-person
- Prefer this time but wish it was inside
- The time is OK but I feel the Mass should be brought inside
- Inside Church
- The dispensation is over Come inside!
- Mass should NOT be broadcast to the parking lot - I believe people would get a better feel for the Mass if they could experience it in person
- For the winter (move inside)
- Thank you for outdoor Mass. Much appreciated!
- Keep Fr. Karl warm (move inside)
- Please Thank you (keep outside)
- Until COVID is done (keep outside)
- However would be nice to have Mass a little later I wish tough to get kids up early
- Time is fine please move inside
- Better to celebrate Mass inside traditional gathering
- A parking lot Mass should be available. But I don't think it should be 10 AM. We need to get back in the Church, kids are growing up thinking Mass is something you do in a car, some parents need encouragement to come back inside the church and worship together. But for those who truly are not ready like sick or immune compromised folks, we should support them and keep a car Mass but not at a prime time slot
- Please move inside we miss our community. There is no reason not to be indoor.
- Time is fine but we want it to be inside
- If that is easier that is OK (move inside)
- Attend 10 only because it's the best time for our family. Very sad it's still outdoors.
- Make the time compatible with RE

Holy Days

Response	Okay with current time	Prefer a new time	No response
Number of Responses (Percentage)	250 (87.1%)	25 (8.7%)	12 (4.2%)
Suggested alternate times: 7 a.m. (1), 9 a.m. (1), 10:30 a.m. (1), 4 p.m. (1), 4:30 p.m. (1), 5 p.m. (2), 5:30 p.m. (8), 7 p.m. (8), 7:30 p.m. (2)			

Comments:

- Christmas eve the earlier the better
- Whatever the majority decides is fine with me

Respondents were asked for their opinion on the location of the Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass. Some respondents made comments that are summarized above.

Response	Keep in the Car Park	Move Inside	No response
Number of Responses (Percentage)	80 (27.9%)	159 (55.4%)	46 (16.0%)

A Note of Thanks from Waterleaf

Thank you to all who participated in the Waterleaf Women's Center baby bottle for life campaign sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. **Your generosity has led to a donation made to Waterleaf in the amount of \$2,955.79.** All support raised will be used to support young men and women who come into Waterleaf every day. Every coin adds up. Each prayer makes a difference. We rejoice to see how graciously God provides. The Board, Director, staff, and many volunteers of Waterleaf Women's Center thank you for your generosity and support. God bless you.

Born in 2020-21




Thank you for supporting Baby Bottles for Life!!!





Thank you for giving the gifts of life, love, and hope in 2022!

Your Donation's Lifetime Impact

6,049
PATIENTS SERVED

5,497
PREGNANCY TESTS

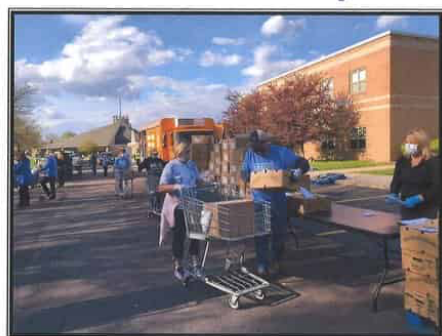
5,569
ULTRASOUNDS

1,575+
BIRTHS & COUNTING

Waterleaf Women's Center is a non-profit 501(c)(3) pregnancy assistance and resource center, providing an array of comprehensive services. To learn more about Waterleaf, please visit us at Waterleaf.org, or visit our donor website at OneChoiceOneLife.com.



Mobile Food Pantry is coming to your community!



Tuesday, December 13, 2022

4:30-6:00pm

St. Mary Immaculate Parish

15629 S. Rte. 59, Plainfield, IL 60544

The Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet, Mobile Food Pantry delivers healthy food (*meat, produce, and non-perishable items*) to people in need. **No identification or information will be required or collected. This event is open to anyone in need of food!**

Mobile Pantries use a 'drive-thru' method to distribute food during the CoVid-19 pandemic. Please clear space in your trunk or backseat so volunteers can load boxes of food directly into your vehicle. **Please help protect our volunteers by wearing your mask during these events.**

Catholic Charities helps people of all faiths and beliefs.



Local Women's Event

The Women's Giving Circle is hosting a Christmas Tea at St. Raphael Parish in Naperville on Tuesday, December 13th from 11-12:30pm. Michelle Mitchell from Thrivent will be presenting on Women, Wealth, and Wisdom. This event will empower women while making financial decisions, including philanthropic decisions like giving to their parish, schools, and causes dear to their hearts. Registration is online and tickets can be purchased by scanning the QR code.



THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of December 11, 2022



I Am Who I Am Lectio: God Episode 1

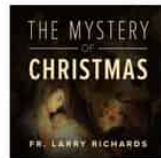
Who is God and what does he mean when he says "I Am Who I Am"? Join Dr. Elizabeth Klein in her latest Lectio series as she begins to unpack the mystery of who God is.



True Reformers

Saint Teresa of Ávila: A Study in Perseverance



Both St. John of the Cross and his dear friend St. Teresa of Ávila lived heroic lives of prayer. In honor of these spiritual masters, enjoy this film depicting the Carmelite way of life and the virtue of perseverance.



The Mystery of Christmas by Fr. Larry Richards

In this talk, Fr. Larry Richards reminds us that in the mystery of Christmas, God gives humanity his greatest gift: his Son.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and  SPEAKERS PRESS

Daybreak Signup

Every fourth Friday of the month St Francis Xavier provides dinner to the Daybreak homeless shelter in Joliet.

The following items are needed:

4 trays of Lasagna or another Italian entree

3 or 4 loafs of French or Italian style bread (cut into slices)

2 large trays of salad & salad dressing

Dessert for 40 people: cookies or some kind of pastries

3 half gallons of juice (Hi-C type juice)

3 gallons of Milk (whole or 2%, please)



There is a signup sheet on the St Francis Xavier website. Here is how to access it...Go to the St Francis Xavier website: www.sfxjoliet.org.

Hit the Navigation drop down menu. Then, select "Getting Involved". Select "Serve at Daybreak".

Then click button saying info and volunteer for Daybreak.

You can scroll down that form and volunteer for whatever food product that is still available.

Please bring your food to the Church parking lot at 5:00 pm.

Thank you and God Bless.



DEVOTED to the works of the

Lord



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are excited to share this closing report for the 2022 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA), which details how your devotion to the works of the Lord is helping to spread the Good News in the Diocese of Joliet.

When we join together each year in support of our annual appeal, we strengthen ministries that affect people every day throughout our communities. Your generosity has been integral to helping men and women discern vocations to the priesthood and religious life, to instilling the faith in children enrolled in Catholic schools and religious education programs, and to offering food and shelter to the most vulnerable among us.

Just as the diocese relies on parishes to help fulfill its mission of bringing Christ to those in need, parishes depend on us to help provide these services. No one parish could accomplish all we do together through the CMAA. By working as a team, we are able to reach our goals and support our important ministries.

Thank you for being so generous with the gifts God has bestowed upon you and entrusting them to us. We, too, promise to be good stewards of these gifts. In the following pages, you can see the impact they are already having, as well as the overall and individual parish results for the 2022 CMAA.

May God bless you and your loved ones, and may you continue to be *devoted to the works of the Lord* through all you do in His name.

Peace,

+ Ronald A. Hicks

Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks
Bishop of Joliet

Brian Schroeder

Brian Schroeder
Chief Financial Officer

Diocese of Joliet
Development and Stewardship Office

16555 Weber Road
Crest Hill, Illinois 60403

(815) 838-8515
jolietdioceseappeal.org

St. Edmund Parish	Watseka	\$11,500	\$13,969	121%	\$1,728
St. Elizabeth Seton Parish	Naperville	\$110,100	\$123,800	113%	\$9,652
St. Francis of Assisi Parish	Bolingbrook	\$79,500	\$106,780	134%	\$19,806
St. Francis Xavier Parish	Joliet	\$34,900	\$37,880	109%	\$2,086
St. George Parish	St. George	\$24,600	\$15,494	63%	\$0
St. Irene Parish	Warrenville	\$59,700	\$63,833	106%	\$2,349



Through our support of the
Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal,
we are devoted to the works of the

Lord

	2020 Results	2021 Results	2022 Results (Projected)
Goal	\$8.2 million	\$8.2 million	\$8.2 million
Total gifts collected	\$7,966,000	\$8,138,000	\$8,300,000
CMAA donors	31,904	26,820	27,800
Parish rebates	\$859,000	\$976,000	\$1,100,000
Parishes receiving rebates	77	84	90



CATHOLIC CHARITIES



66,062 clients
18,608 meals served
44,249 served through the
mobile food pantry

VOCATIONS AND FORMATION

126 active diocesan priests
91 religious order priests
354 religious order
brothers and sisters
232 permanent deacons
26 seminarians



CHRISTIAN FORMATION

25,567 religious education students
5,138 baptisms
120 adults received into full
communion with the Church
6,238 first Communions
6,170 confirmations
964 marriages



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

50 Catholic elementary
and high schools
15,602 Catholic school
students



Christmas Choir

Invitation for Youth and
Adults to sing with the choir
on Christmas Eve

- Youth Choir to sing at 3:00pm
Mass
- Adult Choir to sing at 10:00pm
Mass

Rehearsals

- Youth Choir (ages 8 to high school)
- Mondays Dec 5 - Dec 19
6:15-7:00pm
- Adult Choir
- Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm

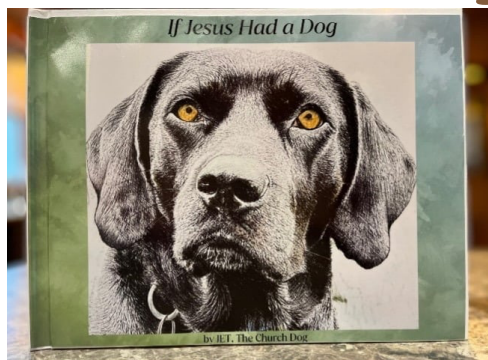
Go to sfxjoli.org/music or scan for more info!



St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

sfxjoli.org

JET would like to let you know,
he has put together a new book entitled,
If Jesus Had a Dog.



We have tried to help tell his story,
through his perspective and by his example.

God guides us to help one another
as we travel on this Journey of Life.

I think we can all agree,
JET is a very special companion.

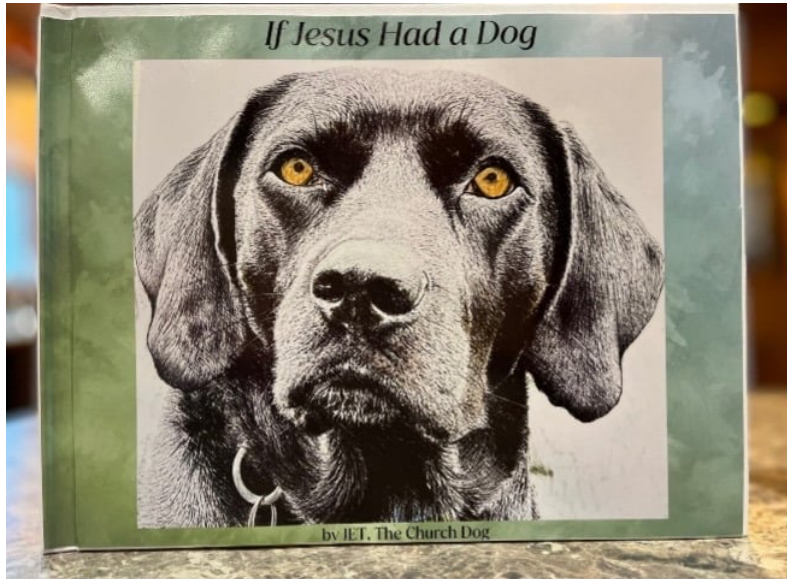
In this book,
JET shares with us his perspective
on how we can all help to make this world
a better place.

We hope you enjoy it!

**VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE
TO PLACE AN ORDER.**

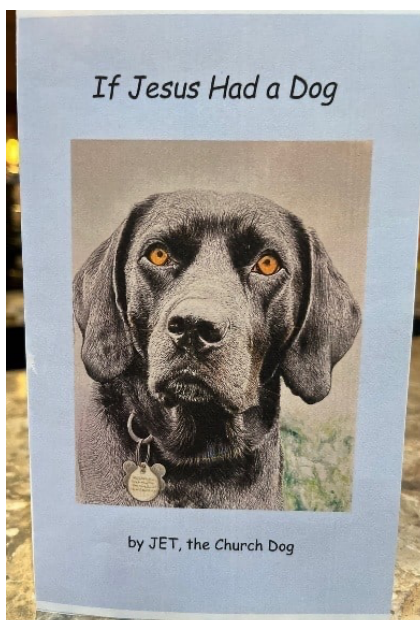
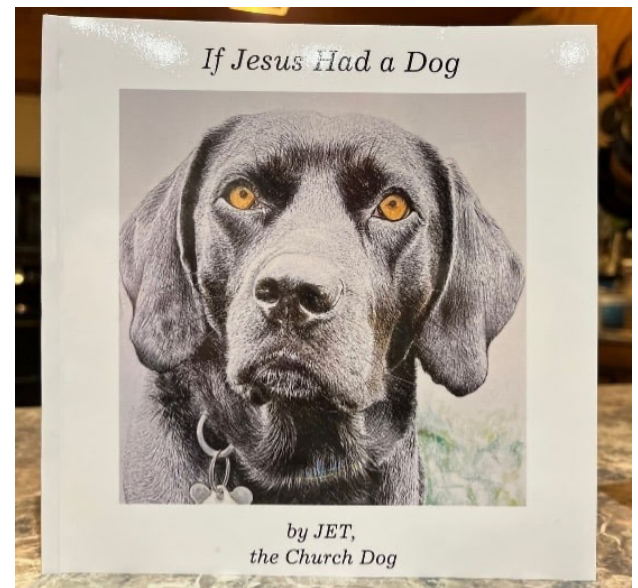


With hopes to share this story with all of JET's Friends,
we are providing several options...



**9" x 11" Hardcover
book = \$25.00**

8" x 8" Softcover book = \$20.00



5 ½" x 8 ½" Paper book = \$10.00

(For those not interested in purchasing, but would like to read JET's story,
on-line viewing will be possible from our parish website.)

We also have available,
a very limited number of
Black dog stuffed animals (7" x 7") = \$20.00



All profits will go directly to the parish.

*Please consider helping those
in need in our diocese!*

A festive Christmas-themed graphic with a blue background, white bokeh lights, and various red and silver ornaments. The text "catholic charities Diocese of Joliet" is in the top right, followed by "The Gift of Christmas 2022" in large red script. At the bottom, it says "Bring joy to the clients of Catholic Charities this Christmas and beyond. Visit catholiccharitiesjoliet.org".

**catholic
charities**
Diocese of Joliet

**The Gift of
Christmas
2022**

Bring joy to the clients of
Catholic Charities this
Christmas and beyond.
Visit catholiccharitiesjoliet.org

Fishers of Men

- Mens fellowship group meeting
- We meet to share our experiences, discuss Mass Readings and build friendships
- **Monday nights at 7:00 pm**

Note change from
Wednesdays to Mondays

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

sfxjoliet.org



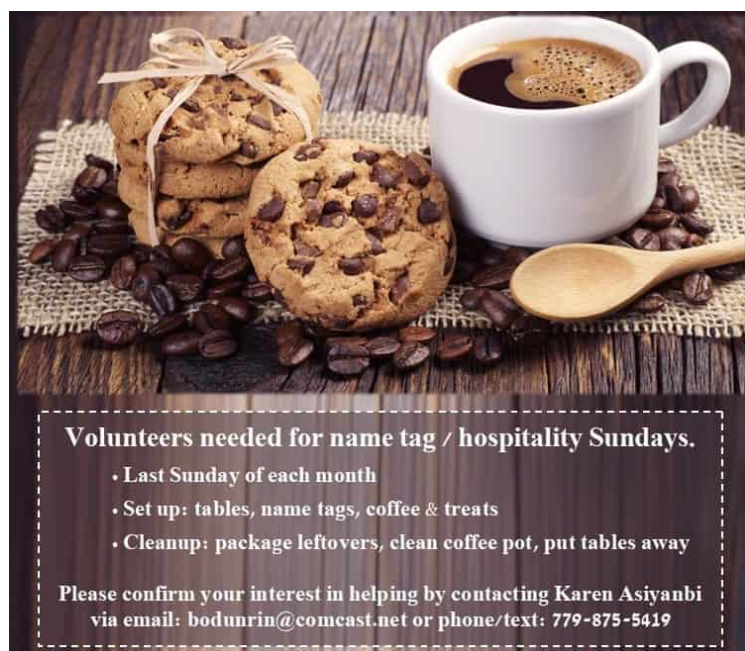
Get the App that makes a difference.

LIVE & Interactive shows.
Popular podcasts.
Putting faith at your fingertips.
Now, that's relevant.

relevant radio
Bringing Christ to the world through the media

Listen on-air, online at relevantradio.com, and on the app. **DOWNLOAD TODAY!**

LISTEN LIVE AT 930AM / 950AM



Volunteers needed for name tag / hospitality Sundays.

- Last Sunday of each month
- Set up: tables, name tags, coffee & treats
- Cleanup: package leftovers, clean coffee pot, put tables away

Please confirm your interest in helping by contacting Karen Asiyambi via email: bodunrin@comcast.net or phone/text: 779-875-5419

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

You can shop on Amazon and support our parish at the same time!

Simply log in & place your order at smile.amazon.com and select St. Francis Xavier Parish in Joliet, IL as the charity to receive 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible items. The parish will receive a donation...at no additional cost to you!

As of November 2022, the parish has received **\$1,915.93**.

Please pledge your gift to the CMAA!

Your Gift to the CMAA Makes a Difference! The Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal helps our parish and the Diocese of Joliet to provide countless ministries, programs, and services to support our friends and neighbors in immeasurable ways.

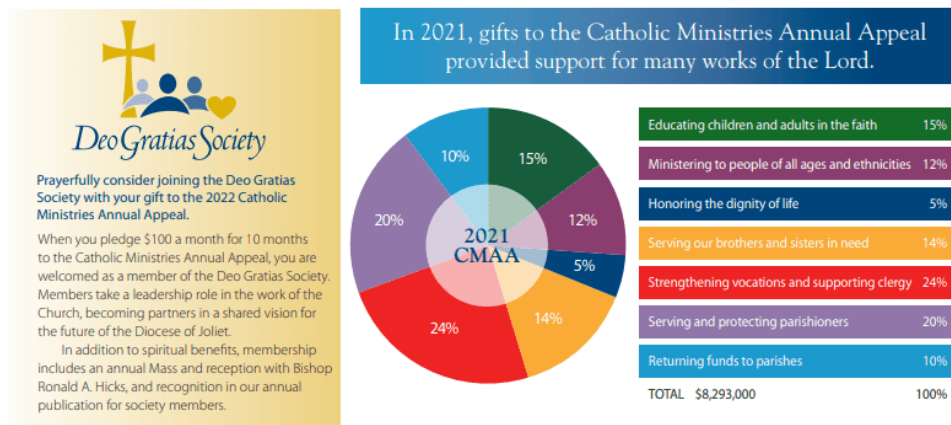
Our parish goal is **\$34,900**, and to date we have received **\$37,365.00**. 70% of gifts received over our goal will be returned to our parish for our use. If you have not had a chance to participate in the CMAA this year, there is still time. Please look for the mailing which will be arriving in homes shortly.

As your pastor, I encourage you to prayerfully reflect on God's gifts to you and to give a gift to the CMAA. Participation is the key to a successful appeal and a chance for our parish to receive a parish rebate, too. Every gift helps!

If you do not receive this mailing and would like to make a gift to the CMAA, please call the Diocese of Joliet Development Office at (815) 838-8515. Or, if you wish to make your gift online, please visit www.jolietdioceseappeal.org.

2021 CMAA Parish Rebate Received: **\$4,245.00**

Thank you for your generosity!



Available Positions Throughout the Diocese

Program Coordinator - Development Office - Diocese of Joliet, Crest Hill
Manager of Development and Systems - Diocese of Joliet, Crest Hill
Part-time Custodian - Ascension of Our Lord Catholic Church, Oakbrook Terrace
Part-time Custodian - St. Mary Immaculate Catholic Parish, Plainfield
Lifelong Lay Formation Lead - Diocese of Joliet, Crest Hill

For additional information, please click on this Diocese of Joliet Employment Opportunities webpage.

Our Sunday Offering

Contributions Received 11/21/22 - 11/27/22

Mass Collection

Sunday Offering	\$4,024.00
Blue Envelope	\$55.00
All Saints' Day	\$13.00
Campaign for Human Development	\$255.00
Seminarian Endowment	\$10.00
Military Services	\$25.00
Immaculate Conception	\$25.00
Christmas Flowers	\$100.00

Online Giving

Sunday Offering	\$2,592.00
Blue Envelope	\$5.00
Christmas Flowers	\$50.00

Thank you for your generosity!

For your heart will always be where your riches are.

Matthew

If you are interested in giving to our parish through our parish online giving website, go to:

<https://osvhub.com/st-francis-xavier/funds>

**Donations to second collections can also be made through
the online giving website.**

If you have any questions about the online giving process, please call the parish office or send an email
to finance@sfxjoliet.org.

RaiseRight Gift Card Program Earnings (7/1/22-11/27/22): \$379.59