

# St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church



## Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 26, 2023

2500 Arbeiter Rd., Joliet, IL 60431

Phone: (815) 609-8077    Email: [office@sfxjoliet.org](mailto:office@sfxjoliet.org)    Website: [sfxjoliet.org](http://sfxjoliet.org)  
Emergency Phone: (815) 669-7752    Pastor: Fr. Karl Langsdorf, [frkarl@sfxjoliet.org](mailto: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 - Church / Broadcasted in the Parking Lot

*Weekend Masses can be viewed on the parish's YouTube channel @SFXjoliet*

*<https://www.youtube.com/@SFXjoliet>*

### 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



## Bishop Hicks' Column

March 2023:  
Journeying 10 years  
with Pope Francis



It is a common practice to give a gift made of silver for a 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and something of gold for a 50<sup>th</sup>. However, I was wondering, what do you give for a 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary? After some research, there seems to be some consensus that either tin or aluminum is meant to commemorate a decade. Perhaps these metals make an appropriate gift since they are known for their strength and resilience.

On March 13, our Holy Father will celebrate his 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as pope. As we have watched our pontiff lead, guide and shepherd the Church, few would argue that he has done so with great strength and resilience. I am truly amazed by his vigor, perseverance and tenacity. Sometimes I wonder if I reach his age, God willing, will I still have that type of energy?

Pope Francis, like his predecessors, is so much more than a CEO of a worldwide organization. He is the apostolic successor to St. Peter, the "rock" upon which the Church is built. Just like the apostle, he has his own personality. Some people focus on his warm smile or infectious laugh, while others notice his ability to listen and engage in conversation. Even the name he chose as pope, Francis after St. Francis of Assisi, is a nod to his humility.

I am a bishop ordained under Pope Francis in 2018 and then installed in 2020 for the Diocese of Joliet. I have tried to emulate his famous advice that a bishop and priest should strive to be a good shepherd with "the smell of the sheep." In other words, the Church is better off with leaders who spend time among the people of God. Pope Francis continues to give us an example of how to be and do just that.

I have a beautifully framed photo of Pope Francis, Cardinal Cupich and myself taken in Rome in December 2019 during an ad limina meeting. I love the photo because we are all laughing out loud. This snapshot was captured when Cardinal Cupich, one by one, was introducing the 26 bishops from Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin to the Holy Father. While introducing the bishop standing in front of me, Cardinal Cupich said to the pope, "He is one of my retired bishops." The pope looked at him and said, "You look much too young to be retired." Then it was my turn. The pope firmly took my

hand to shake it, and Cardinal Cupich said to him, "And this is Bishop Ron Hicks. He is my vicar general." The pope then broke into a big smile, looked at me and said, "You are a vicar general *and* a bishop? You look like you are still in high school!" It was a beautiful moment to share in that laughter and joy, and I am glad it was immortalized in a photo, which I treasure.

No matter how you describe Pope Francis, his 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary gives us a wonderful opportunity to thank him for his faith, leadership and prayers. That's in addition to all of the work he has accomplished, which includes three encyclicals, four synods, countless homilies, extensive travel, innumerable audiences and the canonization of more than 900 new saints, chief among which are Pope John Paul II, Pope John XXIII, Mother Teresa of Kolkata, Pope Paul VI and Oscar Romero, along with the 813 martyrs of Otranto.

He has also given us several exhortations over these 10 years, from which there are many things to learn and ponder. His first such document in 2013 was "Evangelii Gaudium" (The Joy of the Gospel), and I appreciate that he began his pontificate proclaiming, "joy" – namely the joy that comes from an encounter with the risen Lord, Jesus. The joy of the Gospel fills our hearts and lives because of the salvation brought through Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection, which sets us free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness.

As I write this, I realize it would take volumes to capture what the pope has done and accomplished over 10 years. And even though his achievements are vast, I cannot help but think of all of the pressure he endures and the burdens he carries daily. Leading the Church amid today's complexities, polarization and challenges is not easy. Therefore, I thank God that our pope wakes up each day and leads with gospel joy, faith and zeal.

Every day at Masses across the globe, we as a Church rightfully unite our voices in the Eucharistic Prayer as we ask God to "be pleased to confirm in faith and charity your pilgrim Church on earth, with your servant, Francis, our Pope." As we celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Holy Father, let us in a special way pray for his continued strength and resilience, as together we wish Pope Francis, "Ad multos Annos!"

## *Please pray for ~*

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



Tara McDonald  
Jim O'Brien  
Mike Piwowar  
Tom Sagenbrecht  
Scott Schwartz  
Chester Sobczak  
James Talley  
Delores Wagner  
Pat Yuretich

## *Mass Intentions*

Saturday, March 25th

4:30pm David Willett

Sunday, March 26th

8:30am Karen Hughes

10:00am SFX Parishioners

Monday, March 27th

9:15am Nettie Kragon

Tuesday, March 28th

9:15am Jim Wright

Wednesday, March 29th

6:30pm Howard Holubetz

Thursday, March 30th

9:15am Marilyn Walega

Friday, March 31st

9:15am Sister Margaret Anne Spagnola

Saturday, April 1st

4:30pm Marita Szyszka

Sunday, April 2nd

8:30am David Willett

10:00am SFX Parishioners

**HOLY WEEK** St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church  
schedule

 <b>Palm Sunday</b> Saturday 4:30pm Sunday 8:30am 10:00am 	 <b>Holy Thursday</b> 7:00pm 	 <b>Good Friday</b> 3:00pm Service 7:00pm Stations of the Cross 	 <b>Holy Saturday</b> 12:00pm Blessing of Easter Baskets 7:30pm (sunset) Vigil 	 <b>Easter Sunday</b> 8:30am 10:30am 
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## *Lent 2023*

We often describe the Season of Lent as ‘a Journey’ and we may travel along with companions to help navigate the joys and challenges we encounter along the way. This Lent, we journey together as a parish community and family of faith.

This Lent, we offer you several resources you may wish to use as you reflect upon in your private prayer and devotion. We will pray with you each week in our bulletin and on the parish website by offering you daily reflections and scriptures to follow, prepared from the booklet entitled, *Lent 2023, MAKE ROOM FOR LENT* by Joe Sica. This booklet is so very well written and gently invites the reader to daily reflect during this season of reflection and spiritual renewal. *(Copies of this booklet are available for you in the narthex...free will donations are greatly appreciated.)*

Travel well, May the Holy Spirit watch over us all during this holy season, let us continue to pray for one another.

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March 26 – Sunday, the Fifth Week of Lent  
 Ezekiel 37:12-14 \* Romans 8:8-11 \* John 11:1-45

*Open Your Heart*

*Jesus wept.*  
**John 11:35**

**Work for the Soul** – Listen to the lyrics of the song “It’s Okay to Cry” by Amanda Wilkinson. They are powerful.

**Words from the Heart** – *Dear God, I often cry with gratitude over the amazing gifts you’ve allowed to come my way. My tears have also helped me express my grief at the loss of those precious to me. Amen.*

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**March 27 – Monday, the Fifth Week of Lent**

**Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 \* John 8:1-11**

## ***Condemn No One***

***“Woman, where are they?  
Has no one condemned you?”***

**John 8:10**

**Work for the Soul** – Every time you find yourself prematurely judging someone, stop and ask yourself, What would Jesus say?

**Words from the Heart** – *Dear God, I’m not going to judge others or expect them to be perfect, until I’m perfect myself. Keep me humble Lord. Amen.*

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**March 28 – Tuesday, the Fifth Week of Lent**

**Numbers 21:4-9 \* John 8:21-30**

## ***You’ve Got a Friend!***

***“But he who sent me is reliable.”***

**John 8:26**

**Work for the Soul** – Choose a day before Easter and make it “Friend Appreciation Day.” Prepare a package that includes: a candle, to thank a friend for shining brightly when life was the darkest; a paper clip, in appreciation for helping you hold it together; and a Hershey’s chocolate kiss, for all the love a friend has shared with us.

**Words from the Heart** – *Dear God, my friends are kind, honest, sensitive, loyal, understanding, caring, helpful, and always there for me. I want to be the same for them. Amen.*

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**March 29 – Wednesday, the Fifth Week of Lent**

**Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 \* John 8:31-42**

## ***One Small Kindness at a Time!***

***“If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.”***

**John 8:31**

**Works for the Soul** – You don’t have to take on the whole world by yourself. Just do one small kindness at a time. Your action can have far-reaching consequences that you may never know about.

**Words from the Heart** – *Dear God, when I’m kind to someone, I hope they’ll remember and be kind to someone else. And perhaps the ripple effect will spread. Amen.*

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**March 30 – Thursday, the Fifth Week of Lent**

**Genesis 17:3-9 \* John 8:51-59**

## ***Just the Facts, Please***

***“I tell you the truth, if anyone keeps my word,  
they’ll never see death.”***

**John 8:51**

**Work for the Soul** – For the next twenty-four hours, be totally and completely honest, no matter what. Tell the whole truth. Be gentle, yet direct and honest. Say what you mean, and mean what you say.

**Words from the Heart** – *Dear God, help me always to tell the truth about myself and recognize it in other. Amen.*

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**March 31 – Friday, the Fifth Week of Lent**  
**Jeremiah 20: 10-13 \* John 10:31-42**

## ***Be Who You Are***

***“What about the one the Father set apart  
as his very own and sent into the world?”***  
**John 10:36**

**Work for the Soul** – Sit down, close your eyes, and imagine yourself sitting next to you. What are you feeling? Notice how you felt when you looked at yourself. To counter any negative feelings say; “I love myself. I accept myself unconditionally. I believe I’m God’s child.” Then be still, and wait for God to whisper, “I love you.”

**Words from the Heart** – *Dear God, you proclaimed me at my birth as excellent. You know my name! I can now declare, “I am wonderfully made.” Amen.*

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**April 1 - Saturday, the Fifth Week of Lent**  
**Ezekiel 37:21-28 \* John 11:45-56**

## ***Strolling Down Memory Lane***

***“They had seen what he had done and began to believe in him.”***  
**John 11:45**

**Work for the Soul** – Create special memories by spending time together as a family. Start your family rituals today that will always be remembered tomorrow.

**Words from the Heart** – *Dear God, my memories help me hold onto the things I love and the things I never want to lose. Amen.*



# Refuge

MT 11:28

*"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."*

## TEENS! JOIN THE DIOCESE OF JOLIET IN ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA THIS SUMMER FOR THIS LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE!

Steubenville | St. Paul is a weekend conference that evangelizes, equips and empowers 9th-12th grade youth to become radical, joyful disciples. Enjoy keynote speakers, praise and worship, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, and much more. The Diocese of Joliet is forming a diocesan delegation to attend this life-changing conference at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN.

Register: <https://sites.google.com/view/dojsteubie>

*Deadline April 25, limited spots available!*

Ministry team:



Host: Kris Frank



SONAR Worship



Katie Prajean McGrady



Brian Greenfield



Katie Hartfel



Fr. Jonathan McElhone, TOR



📅 July 28-30, 2023

📍 University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN

💰 \$ 349/teen

Questions? Contact [doj.steubie@gmail.com](mailto:doj.steubie@gmail.com)

## Easter Choir

Invitation for Youth to sing with the choir on Easter at 10:30 am Mass

### Rehearsals

- Youth Choir (ages 10 to high school)
- Thursdays beginning March 16 6:30 pm

See Mark Epling, go to [sfxjoliet.org/music](http://sfxjoliet.org/music) or scan for more info!

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

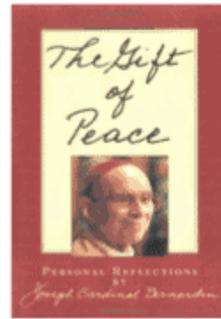


[sfxjoliet.org](http://sfxjoliet.org)

## St. Patrick Fathers Grand Raffle

St. Patrick Fathers are hosting their annual Dinner Dance Sunday, April 23rd; an early bird drawing (Two prizes of \$5000) will be held that evening for the Grand Raffle. The main draw for the Grand Raffle will take place on June 10th. The grand prize is \$10,000; 6 prizes of \$5,000; & 3 prizes of \$1,000. **Grand Raffle Tickets are \$100 this year and available for purchase through Fr. Karl.** If interested, Dinner Dance tickets are also available for \$65.

Please see Fr. Karl after masses or contact the office by phone: (815) 609-8077 / email: office@sfxjoliet.org for more details on purchasing Grand Raffle tickets.



If you're looking for a good book to add to your Lenten prayer and reflection, I'd like to suggest to you the greatest, little book I have ever read. It is *The Gift of Peace* by Joseph Cardinal Bernadin. A Friend gave me a copy of this book during Lent of 1998 and it was on Good Friday of that year, that I read it. Over the years, I have treasured many of inspirational thoughts and reflections offered in writing by Cardinal Bernadin.

It's an easy read and one that you will find difficult to put down. It's personal, reflective, and I found profoundly truthful and honest. I believe that Cardinal Bernadin was a gentle Disciple, a Prophet of the Church, and a faithful follower of Jesus.

You can find this book in limited supply on Amazon and I'm sure on other spiritual websites. If you find it inspirational, please share it with a Friend.

Grateful,  
Sandy

## Knights Corner



# Friday Fish Dinners

**WHEN:** Feb 24  
Mar 3, 24 & 31

**WHERE:** SFX Church Basement

**MENU**

1 piece FRIED Cod Meal - \$9  
2 piece FRIED Cod Meal - \$11  
3 piece FRIED Cod Meal - \$13

1 piece BAKED Cod Meal - \$9  
2 piece BAKED Cod Meal - \$11

Meals include:  
• French Fries or Baked Potato  
• Cole Slaw  
• Roll  
• Tartar Sauce

Dine in or Take-Out

**For Dine in**

In Church Basement between 4:00 pm and 7:30pm 

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**For Take-Out**

Order between 3:30 pm and 7:00 pm by calling 815-609-8077 ext 207 

Pick up between 4:00 pm and 7:30pm 

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Cash and Check accepted  
Make checks payable to:  
**SFX KofC 14283** 

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

- Pancake breakfast 4/2
- Blood Drive 4/16
- Fish Fry Dates: 3/24 & 3/31

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church **BLOOD DRIVE**



**Blood Drive**

Hope springs eternal

**DONATE BLOOD**

**1 PINT can save 3 LIVES**



**SUNDAY APRIL 16**  
8:30am - 1:00pm

St. Francis Xavier Knights of Columbus  
2500 Arbeiter Rd. Joliet  
Church Basement

Schedule by phone at 800-7TO-GIVE

PLEASE SCHEDULE at:  
<http://tiny.cc/SFXBloodDrive> or scan QR Code

Contact Jon Pankhurst for additional info



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

Order by March 12 for pick up on March 18/19.  
Order by March 26 for pick up on April 1/2.

Pay when you pick up your gift cards!

**To Order:**

- Visit the RaiseRight table in the Narthex after the 4:30pm or 8:30am Mass, or before the 10:00am Mass.
- Complete an order form. (Participating RaiseRight retailers list will be available for reference.)
- Pay with cash/checks made payable to "St. Francis Xavier Parish" when you pick up your gift cards.

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



# 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](http://sfxjoliet.org)

# 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](http://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.

**Diocese of Joliet**

Office of Divine Worship



Blanchette Catholic Center  
16555 Weber Rd.  
Crest Hill, Illinois 60403  
[www.dioceseofjoliet.org](http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org)

## **FOUNDED IN FAITH, CALLED TO WITNESS, SENT FORTH TO SERVE**

The Diocese of Joliet is preparing to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Announcment of the Establishment of the Diocese. Our Anniversary year will begin on December 11, 2023 and conclude on December 8, 2024. As the people of the Diocese of Joliet-in-Illinois we have much for which to be grateful and we are asking every person in our Diocese to enter into the prayer of this celebration.

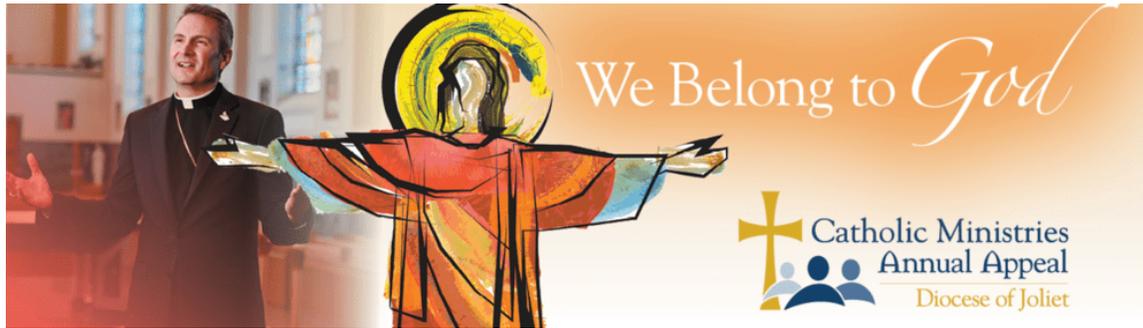
Thus, we are inviting you to draft a prayer asking God's blessings upon our Anniversary Year and the Diocese. As you pray with the theme of this Anniversary "Founded in Faith, Called to Witness, Sent Forth to Serve" write down your reflections, then use them to develop a prayer text that can be easily prayed aloud in a group setting. The Anniversary Prayer will be translated into the languages used for prayer in the Diocese, so write your prayer in your spoken language.

We encourage all people to spend time in prayer developing our Anniversary Prayer—children, teens, young adults, adults of all ages, priests, deacons, religious. Catholic School teachers and Religious Education catechists might make this a class project. Parents might make this a family project. Parish Organizations might also make this a group project.

All prayers should be sent to the Office of Divine Worship via USPS or email by June 1, 2023, and should include name, address, phone number and name of parish or institution. The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Prayer will be created by the Anniversary Committee using the prayers received from the people of the Diocese.

Should you have any questions please contact Sister Sharon Marie Stola, OSB at the Office of Divine Worship and she will respond to your inquiry.

# Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal 2023



If you have already pledged your support to the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA), thank you! If we all participate, we can meet our parish's CMAA goal of \$35,200. Each and every gift, large or small, makes a difference.

If you still need to make your gift, please prayerfully reflect on how you can best support the CMAA this year and ensure all in our diocese know that *we belong to God*. There are many options for giving, from pledging to monthly recurring gifts. Pledge envelopes are still available in the church, or you can return the pledge card you received in the mail from the diocese or make a gift online at [jolietdioceseappeal.org](http://jolietdioceseappeal.org).

Remember, if we raise more than our goal, the diocese will return to us 70 percent of the amount over goal. This is an amazing opportunity for our parish.



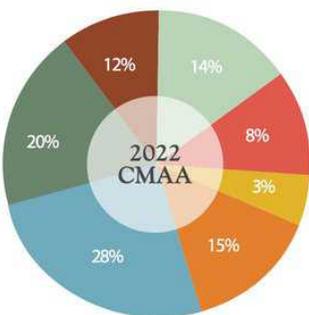
**Deo Gratias Society**

Prayerfully consider joining the *Deo Gratias Society* with your gift to the 2023 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal.

When you pledge \$100 a month for 10 months to the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal, you are welcomed as a member of the *Deo Gratias Society*. Members take a leadership role in the work of the Church, becoming partners in a shared vision for the future of the Diocese of Joliet.

In addition to spiritual benefits, membership includes an annual Mass and reception with Bishop Ronald A. Hicks, and recognition in our annual publication for society members.

**2022 CMAA ALLOCATIONS**  
In 2022, gifts to the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal supported essential ministries in the Diocese of Joliet.



Educating children and adults in the faith through Catholic schools and religious education	14%
Ministering to people of all ages, abilities and ethnicities	8%
Honoring the dignity of life	3%
Serving our brothers and sisters in need through Catholic Charities	15%
Strengthening vocations, educating seminarians and supporting clergy	28%
Serving and protecting children and parishioners	20%
Returning funds to parishes	12%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,228,000 100%</b>

**\*\*Additional Diocesan Events & Information can be found further down in the bulletin.\*\***



**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](mailto:bodunrin@comcast.net) or phone/text: 779-875-5419



# RaiseRight™

The Right way to Fundraise





**Turn everyday shopping into fundraising dollars**



**RaiseRight™**  
Formerly ShopWithScrip

**Purchase gift cards while helping the parish!**

**Stop by the RaiseRight table in the Narthex after Mass to purchase cards or to get additional info!**

***Check out [sfxjoliet.org/raiserright](http://sfxjoliet.org/raiserright) for more info***





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Bringing Christ to the world through the media

# THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of March 26, 2023



## The Hour of Our Death | Eternal Rest | Episode 3

The Anointing of the Sick is one of the seven sacraments of the Church. This session, we discover the role of this sacramental anointing in the spiritual struggle during serious illness, the final stages of our temporal life, and the hour of our death.



## The Paschal Mystery: The Mystery of Jesus' Death

Through Jesus's Death on the Cross, God reveals himself most profoundly as the God who is love. Christ's sacrificial love saves us from sin and shows us the pathway to true human happiness. We are made to live like Christ: in total, self-giving love.



## Living Lent as a Family (Part 4 of 4)

Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Kevin and Lisa Cotter to discuss liturgical living during Lent as a family. They discuss together about a variety of topics, including having a prayer space in the home and decorating the home according to the liturgical season.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.  
Visit [signup.formed.org](http://signup.formed.org) and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and PRACTICAL PRESS

2023 Lenten Care for Creation Calendar <i>Created by Laudato Si' Ministries of the Diocese of Joliet</i> <b>Follow us on Facebook!</b>						
Sabbath Sunday	Meatless Monday	Trim Trash Tuesday	Waste Not Wednesday	Thankful Thursdays	Fasting Friday	Sustainable Saturday
<p><i>This Lent we are giving you an opportunity to follow the call of Pope Francis to protect our common home. During these 40 days of Lent, let us open our hearts and minds through prayer and action to care for God's creation.</i></p>			<b>Feb 22 Ash Wednesday</b> Americans throw away up to 40% of food (NRDC Study). Reflect on how to prevent this in your own home.	<b>23</b> Appreciate the parks and forest preserves. Take a walk and say a Rosary while walking.	<b>24</b> Not only fast from meat today but also fast from electronics.	<b>25</b> Research how you can create a vegetable garden in your backyard or patio.
<b>26</b> Leave your car at home. Walk or bike to Church. Rest in the Lord.	<b>27</b> Do not eat meat for lunch today.	<b>28</b> Do not use any paper towels. Instead use dishcloths or sponges to clean.	<b>March 1</b> Research how to make a compost bin.	<b>2</b> Say Grace before each meal. Thank God for the all the gifts he has given you.	<b>3</b> Turn your heat down by two degrees.	<b>4</b> Replace the light bulbs in your home with LED bulbs. Remember to recycle the old light bulbs.
<b>5</b> Design a prayer corner outside using secondhand materials.	<b>6</b> Do not eat any meat all day.	<b>7</b> Use reusable containers instead of plastic wrap.	<b>8</b> Check out the SCARCE website to find out all the ways to reuse or recycle items in your home.	<b>9</b> Plant a tree or donate to "One Tree Planted" which focuses on Global Reforestation.	<b>10</b> Take a shorter shower and fewer showers.	<b>11</b> Sign up to attend a Community Solar Information Session.
<b>12</b> Read 5 to 10 pages of a religious book.	<b>13</b> Try a new plant-based recipe. <a href="http://livingthechange.net/">http://livingthechange.net/</a>	<b>14</b> Freeze leftovers instead of throwing away.	<b>15</b> Use the leftovers in your refrigerator to create a meatless meal.	<b>16</b> Begin reading Pope Francis' Encyclical Laudato Si'.	<b>17</b> Look around your home. Decide how you can use less plastic in your daily activities.	<b>18</b> Shop at secondhand stores and go to the library to get a book.
<b>19</b> Make today a family day. Play games and talk about the gifts God has given you.	<b>20</b> Continue to practice meatless Monday and promote this idea to others.	<b>21</b> Research swapping bamboo for paper products at your next large gathering.	<b>22</b> Buy only what you need at the stores, even if the item is on sale.	<b>23</b> Be thankful for the green spaces in the area around you by keeping them clean.	<b>24</b> Reuse instead of recycling. Research how you can practice this more in your home.	<b>25</b> Research bird feeder and house installation. Put out strips of yarn or string for bird nesting materials.
<b>26</b> Get a book on birds at the local library. Go for a nature walk and reflect on the beauty you see.	<b>27</b> Donate to a local food pantry.	<b>28</b> Research the do's and don'ts of recycling in your area. Share this information with others.	<b>29</b> Research and use detergent strips to reduce your plastic.	<b>30</b> Go on a Gratitude Walk. Thank God for all the beauty He has given to us in Creation.	<b>31</b> Fast or abstain for a cause.	<b>April 1</b> Fossil Fools Day: Use Public transportation, carpool or walk to where you need to be.
<b>2 Palm Sunday</b> Take time to pray outside.	<b>3</b> Learn ways you can help be more involved in ways to help the poor.	<b>4</b> Begin only using reusable grocery bags.	<b>5</b> Take your own containers to restaurants to take your leftovers home.	<b>6 Holy Thursday</b> Spend time with someone who is homebound or call a person who is struggling.	<b>7 Good Friday</b> Today is a day of fasting.	<b>8 Holy Saturday</b> Take time to reflect on continuing the changes you've made during Lent.

## *Our Sunday Offering*

### *Contributions Received 3/6/23 - 3/12/23*

#### Mass Collection

Sunday Offering	\$2,631.00
Blue Envelope	\$465.00
Easter Flowers	\$30.00

#### Online Giving

Sunday Offering	\$2,562.00
Blue Envelope	\$50.00
Easter	\$20.00
Easter Flower	\$10.00

*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](mailto:finance@sfxjoliet.org).

**RaiseRight Gift Card Program Earnings (7/1/22-3/12/23): \$1,114.40**

**2023 CMAA Donations Received by the Parish: \$1,455.00**

**2023 CMAA Rebate Received by the Parish: \$0.00**



### Now Enrolling: Primary (ages 3-6) Program for the 2023-24 School Year!

Blessed Family Montessori School is dedicated to fully integrating spiritual formation through the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and is faithful to the teachings of the Catholic Church and the Montessori philosophy. We desire to walk with parents to best allow the totality of the child's God-given potential to unfold.

Enrollment for the 2023-24 School Year has begun with openings in both the Primary (ages 3-6) and Elementary (ages 6-12) Programs.

Current openings are available for families interested in immediate placement in the Elementary Program.

Interested? Please contact the school:

**Email:** [admin@blessedfamilymontessori.org](mailto:admin@blessedfamilymontessori.org)

**Call:** (708) 480-2036

**Visit:** [www.blessedfamilymontessori.org](http://www.blessedfamilymontessori.org)

Come visit us during our Open House on April 1st, 3-5pm or join us on a school tour on April 21st. We are located in the Lithuanian World Center at 14911 127th Street, Room Number 121, Lemont, IL 60439.

We are excited about the possibility of growing together in holiness with you and your family.



Schedule for  
DIOCESAN THREE-DAY LENTEN MISSION  
with National Eucharistic Preacher  
Reverend Luke Spannagel  
in Celebration of  
the National Eucharistic Revival

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 23

- 10am St. Ann, Channahon  
*This is My Body Given for You*  
How the Mass brings Jesus to us . . . and us to Jesus.
- 1pm Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus, Joliet  
Priests Presentation
- 7pm St. Paul, Joliet  
*That All May Be One*  
How Holy Communion draws us into deeper union with God and one another and propels us to action and ministry out in the world.

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 24

- 10am Immaculate Conception, Gilman  
*This is My Body Given for You*  
How the Mass brings Jesus to us . . . and us to Jesus.
- 1pm St. Joseph, Bradley  
*That All May Be One*  
How Holy Communion draws us into deeper union with God and one another and propels us to action and ministry out in the world.
- 7pm St. Jude, New Lenox  
*Lord I Want to See*  
Blessed Carlo Acutis and how miracles show what our faith says is always true.

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 25

- 10am St. Matthew, Glendale Heights  
*Only Say the Word and I Shall be Healed*  
Finding the healing hand of Jesus through the Eucharist
- 1pm Christ the King, Lombard  
*This is My Body Given for You*  
How the Mass brings Jesus to us . . . and us to Jesus.
- 6pm St. Joan of Arc, Lisle  
*That All May Be One*  
How Holy Communion draws us into deeper union with God and one another and propels us to action and ministry out in the world.

Watch Father Luke's invitation to these days of our DIOCESAN LENTEN MISSION in celebration of the National Eucharistic Revival on your parish website and on diocesan social media.





## Need help? We are nearby!

### **Aging and Disability Resource Network**

Aging and Disability Resource Network through Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet are on-site throughout Will County to be more accessible to those over 60 and 18-59 with a disability.

We provide services such as information and assistance on programs/resources throughout Will county, assist with Benefit Access, Food Stamps, Medicaid, and Medicare Savings Program applications, provide referrals for in-home services, home delivered meals, and other programs, conduct options counseling for those interested in setting long term goals for their care and possible financial assistance.

Our team visits the following locations:

- Blanchette Catholic Center, Crest Hill
- Crete Township Building, Crete
- Washington Township Building, Beecher
- St. Elizabeth Residences, Channahon
- Senior Services of Will County, Joliet
- DuPage Township Building, Bolingbrook
- Lockport Township, Lockport

To make an appointment, please contact us at 815-523-9918 or [ccu@cc-doj.org](mailto:ccu@cc-doj.org)

Please note: our days and hours at these locations may be outside of regular business hours or every week. Please contact us to determine the hours and days we are present at a specific site.

**We are a faith-based organization providing service to people in need and calling others of good will to do the same.**



## *Available Positions Throughout the Diocese*

[2023 Summer Internship - Diocese of Joliet, Crest Hill](#)  
[Full-time Manager of Donor Engagement - Diocese of Joliet, Crest Hill](#)

[For additional information, please click on this Diocese of Joliet Employment Opportunities webpage.](#)