

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

626 4th Street • Alexandria, Louisiana 71301 • Phone: (318) 445-1451 • www.sfxcathedral.org

Volume XXXVI, No. 9

March 2, 2025

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Monsignor James Ferguson, JCL, Rector

Deacon Richard Mitchell • Deacon Jason Lavergne • www.sfxcathedral.org

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, March 3:

12:05 p.m. Lucille M. Ducote

Tuesday, March 4:

12:05 p.m. Linda Cazes

Wednesday, March 5: Ash Wednesday

12:05 p.m. People of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

5:30 p.m. People of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

Thursday, March 6:

12:05 p.m. Joseph Lacombe

Friday, March 7: First Friday

12:05 p.m. Special Intentions

Saturday, March 8:

4:00 p.m. Hope Farrar Kramer, Leila Kramer, Dixie Durastanti, Edgar Campo, Paul Am Mai, George & Betty Battalora, Sam & Velma Galardo, Mounzer Challah, Robert Eberle, Angelo & Nina Carter D'Angelo, Buddy Falkner, Jr., Marty Vutera, Jr. (living), Rachael Brouillette, Sam Johnson, Fred Brouillette, Bernice Medica, John Christian Upton, Van Mol Family (living), Rev. Msgr. Bruce Miller

Sunday, March 9: First Sunday of Lent

9:00 a.m. Gilchrist & White Families (living & deceased), R. J. Ducote, Joe Betty Sterkx, Todd Mizell, Deceased Members of the Cathedral Choir, Lucille M. Ducote, David & Stacey Elliott, Lou Lintereur, Margaret Henderson, John Christian Upton, Van Mol Family (living), R. Thomas (living), Blaine Rabalais (living), Rev. Msgr. Bruce Miller

11:00 a.m. People of SFX Cathedral Parish

5:30 p.m. Leonard Dale Spurlock

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The Sanctuary Light will burn in memory of Edgar Campo please remember him in your prayers.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

Weekly Budget \$ 9,500.00

Last Weekend's & Christmas \$ 7,523.00

Over or (Short) \$ (1,977.00)

Thank you for your generosity!

REMEMBER A LOVED ONE THROUGH A MEMORIAL GIFT OF EASTER LILIES



Provide the name of the person to be remembered and place it with \$13.00 in an envelope marked "Easter Flower Offering." Envelopes are located on the tables at the entrances of the Church. You can drop the envelope in the Mass collection basket or bring it to the parish office.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND THE CONSOLATION OF THEIR FAMILIES

Bernice Medica

DIOCESE OF ALEXANDRIA MOURNS DEATH OF REV. MSGR. BRUCE MILLER

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Monsignor Bruce Miller, who passed away peacefully Tuesday, February 25, at his home in Covington, LA, and for the comfort and consolation of his family. All are invited to the Funeral Mass, which will be celebrated by Bishop Robert Marshall and the priests of the Diocese of Alexandria, at 12 Noon on Saturday, March 8, at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church on Elliott Street. Visitation will be held at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church from 10 AM until the Funeral Mass. Interment will be at Alexandria Memorial Gardens under the direction of John Kramer and Son Funeral Home. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

CATHEDRAL CHOIR NEWS

Enrico Cannella has announced his resignation as choir director of St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. Thankfully, he will be available as a cantor for the Cathedral and Diocesan liturgies. We wish Enrico all the best on his future endeavors. Thanks to our former choir director, Josh Zona, who will fill in until a new director is named.

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

•**Fasting** is to be observed on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** by all Catholics who are 18 years of age until the beginning of their 60th year. Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to each one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

•**Abstinence from meat** is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years or older on **Ash Wednesday**, **Good Friday** and on **all Fridays of Lent**. And let us remember, it's a day of penance and a time to reflect on Christ's sacrifice. (It is

obvious that abstaining from meat is meaningless for vegetarians, who must choose some other form of abstinence. It is equally obvious that replacing meat with a gourmet seafood dinner is not keeping with the spirit of Lent).

ASH WEDNESDAY – MARCH 5



Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the season of Lent, is a day of fasting and abstinence.

Ashes will be distributed at all Masses on **Ash Wednesday, March 5. There will be two Masses; 12:05 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Bishop Robert Marshall will officiate at the 12:05 p.m. Mass. The Mass will also be live-streamed.**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY – ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5 & FRIDAYS DURING LENT THROUGH APRIL 11



Our local Knights of Columbus council 3200 will have their annual Lenten Fish Fry in Xavier Hall **from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Ash Wednesday, March 5 and each Friday through April 11.** Menu includes fried catfish, french fries, hush puppies, and coleslaw and is dine in or take-out. Price is \$12.00 a plate. For take-out delivery call 447-3663 with a minimum of two orders. **(Please note that the Fish Fry will not be served on Good Friday)**

FIRST FRIDAY – MARCH 7

11:00 a.m. Holy Hour
11:00 a.m. First Friday Devotions
11:15 a.m. Confessions
12:05 p.m. Holy Mass

THE WAY OF THE CROSS – FRIDAY – MARCH 7



Please join us for the Way of the Cross at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral **Friday, March 7 at 5:30 p.m. and each Friday during this Lenten season.**

2025 RITE OF ELECTION - SUNDAY – MARCH 9



The Rite of Election of Catechumens and Call to Continuing Conversion for Candidates for Full Communion in the Catholic Church will be celebrated by the parishes of the Diocese of Alexandria on **Sunday, March 9, at 2:30 p.m., at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral.** Parishes from throughout the diocese will send those who will celebrate the sacraments of initiation this Easter, as well as their sponsors, family, and friends. The celebration is one part of a year-long process that is called the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA). It also includes adaptations for those who were baptized in another Christian denomination and seek to become members of the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING – MARCH 12

The Altar Society will have their monthly meeting on **Wednesday, March 12, at 10:00 a.m.** in Xavier Hall. Anyone interested in becoming a member is invited to come to the meeting. We would like to also welcome our new members: Fran Allen, Wendy Bellino & Michele Lacour.

SPECIAL COLLECTION – CHURCH IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE – ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

On March 5 we will take up the annual Ash Wednesday collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries that are still struggling to recover from former communist rule. It also aids communities throughout the region that are affected by the war in Ukraine. Funds support pastoral care, catechesis, renovations, and seminary formation. Your contribution restores the Church and builds the future in this region. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection. You can find more information at www.usccb.org/ccee. #GiveCatholicTogether also accepts funds for this collection if you prefer to donate online.

BIRTHDAYS: March 2 – March 8

Terry Antoon, Debbie Dunlap, Patrick Flavin, Megan Kelso, William Lacombe, Rainesa Mission, M. J. Monsour, Caroline Randall, Linda Stringfield, Tony Suttles, Rev. Adam Travis, Mar. 2, Dcn. Patrick McCusker, Mar. 4, Rev. Peter Kuligowski, Mar. 5, Rev. William Gearheard, Mar. 5, Rev. Thomas Paul, Mar. 7

NECROLOGY: March 2 – March 8

Rev. Jean Baptiste Malassagne +Mar. 4, 1861
Rev. Regis Gimbert +Mar. 5, 1912
Msgr. Leon Roy Aycock +Mar. 6, 1961

FLOCKNOTES AND LIVE-STREAMING

Flocknotes is an email and text message application that allows you to receive news and information from the Cathedral. It is free. You can sign up to receive the weekly bulletin and the Sunday Mass Liturgy Guide, plus receive other notifications from the church.

If you are interested in receiving information via this platform, please go to flocknote.com and search either by City (Alexandria) or the Zip Code (71301) and sign up there. You can unsubscribe anytime. If you any questions or need assistance with getting set up, please send an email to Deacon Richard Mitchell at dcnmitchell@diocesealex.org. Try it out! Stay connected!

Also, we are now live-streaming the 9AM Sunday Masses via Facebook, Youtube and at sfxcathedral.org.

FOR OUR MILITARY

If members of your family have been called to active military duty, or are already on active duty, please let us know, and we will place their names for prayer in the church bulletin. Please call the church secretary at telephone 445-1451, ext. 14, or you may email her at aryder@parish.diocesealex.org.

Known military are: Gerard A. Abair, Jr., Brent Marcus Barbour, Byron P. Barbour, Quincy Bordelon, Ashton Brouillette, Kevin Burnett, Delaney Byard, James Domzalski, II, Christopher Fraser, Brick Hazel, Andrew Hill, Kenneth Jeansonne, Daniel Koury, Jeffrey Kelso, Chance Ryland Lavergne, Chad McCann, Co. G-2-238, William Purdion, Jr., Kaneon Rachal, Daniel Raines, Kevin Raines, Matthew Raines

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

626 4th Street • Alexandria, Louisiana 71301 • Phone: (318) 445-1451 • www.sfxcathedral.org

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Ansley Bellino, Kathy Blackman, Janet Bordelon, Patrick Braquet, Carol & Bob Brossett, Janice Brossett, John Broussard, Ann Marie Bruner, Daisy Bynog, John Cain, Cheyenne Carmack, Willis Coco, Barbara Cole, Alfred Cook III, Alfred Cook, Jr., April Cook, Teresa B. Coutee, Sara Dacdac, Jeramie Davidson, Jim Domzalski Sr., Elray Dubois, Brenda Ducote, Cecile Ducote, Harold Ducote, Norris Ducote, Chester Durr, Clyde Ray Eli, Caleah Fontenot, Carolyn Fontenot, Cathy Grant, Rosemary Gremillion, Celia Halbert, Richard Hall, Carolyn Harger, Scott Hallinan, Linc Harris, Melisa Henry, Anna Hooper, Tish Hull, Jesse Johnson, Tiffany Johnson, Patrick Jones, Cody & Scott Lachney, James Lachney, Steve Lawrence, Tracey Lawrence, Jimmy Lachney, Carla Lee, Lloyd Lee, Mark Leviner, Pam Lloyd, Audrey Luczak, Melissa McGlothlin, Peggy McNeely, Sam Medica, Tiffany Metrejeun, Fran Monk, Matt Owen, Clyde Peterson, Britney Rousseau, Diane Rabalais, Thomas E. Richards, Benny Russo, Jimmie Sanchez, Antonio Sandoval, Kemal Sanli, Ursula Schramek, Trudy Schuurmans, Faith Scharz, Karen Smith, Marianne Julie Sober, Stephanie Simmons, Sam Terracina, Gary Wagers, Sharon Walker, Stephen V. Waters, Katina Watson, Brendan Weidner Morgan White, Marilyn Wilbert, Dee & Bailey Wilson, Kitty Wilson, Lee Arthur Wilson, Leonard Wilson, Tony Wilson, William Joel Wood

ADVERTISER FOR THE WEEK



1947 Monroe Hwy.
Pineville, LA 71360
318-321-2688
southernairnow.com

We appreciate our advertisers and encourage your patronage.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

FRANKIE'S **RUUD** • Sales • Service
AIR CONDITIONING — Manitowoc • Installation
Serving Rapides Parish Over 60 Years **(318) 473-8811**
 Serving ALL Major Brands of Central Units
 Commercial Refrigeration • Marine A/C & Refrigeration

FREE AD DESIGN
 with purchase of this space
CALL 800-950-9952

Concessions Catering
OUTLAW'S LOUISIANA'S MOST WANTED **B•B•Q**
LOUISIANA KITCHEN
POPEYES
ANTOON HOSPITALITY GROUP, LLC ALEXANDRIA/PINEVILLE

IF YOU LIVE ALONE
MDMedAlert!™ **STARTING AT \$19.95/mo.**
 ✓ Ambulance ✓ Police/Fire
 ✓ Family/Friends ✓ GPS & Fall Alert
CALL NOW! 800.809.3570 md-medalert.com

SouthernAIR
 HEATING, COOLING & PLUMBING
Fixed right or it's free!
 1974 Monroe Hwy.
 Pineville, LA 71360
318-321-2688
 southernairnow.com

DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?
 Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.
 Visit lpicommunities.com

OUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
 Scan to contact us!

B.K. ROOFING, LLC
CALL THE PRO'S RESIDENTIAL ROOFING EXPERTS
"It Doesn't Cost Any More To Get It Done Right"
BRIAN MADDOX
 13 Years Experience
 References Available
 Licensed & Insured, St Lic#559246
 Emergency Service Available
318-201-9065
 17 Glade St., Pineville, LA 71360
www.BKRoofingLLC.com
 FREE ESTIMATES Most Estimates In 2 Days
 Experienced in Dealing With Insurance Companies Let Us Handle the Details

NEVER MISS OUR BULLETIN!
SUBSCRIBE
 Have our bulletin emailed to you every week.
 Visit www.parishesonline.com

Rapides Regional Medical Center
rapidesregional.com



THOMAS B. WAHLDER
 ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW
 • Personal Injury Law •
 1740 Jackson St.
(318) 442-9417

Protecting Seniors Nationwide
24SEEN
 Medical Alert System

SMART MEDICINE HEALING GRACE
CHRISTUS. ST. FRANCES CABRINI Hospital

\$29.95/MO. billed quarterly
 • One Free Month
 • No Long-Term Contract
 • Price Guarantee
 • Easy Self Installation
Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608

ADT-Monitored Home Security
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust
 • Burglary • Flood Detection
 • Fire Safety • Carbon Monoxide
833-287-3502

318-445-4521
Southern

www.southernchevrolet.com
 Alexandria, LA

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS
 Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!
CONTACT ME Angela Haschka
ahaschka@4LPi.com
 (800) 477-4574 x6106

SHORT STAFFED?
 Place an ad here to find new local talent for your business.
CALL 800-950-9952