

# St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

626 4<sup>th</sup> Street • Alexandria, Louisiana 71301 • Phone: (318) 445-1451 • [www.sfxcathedral.org](http://www.sfxcathedral.org)

Volume XXXVII, No. 7

February 15, 2026

## THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Monsignor James Ferguson, JCL, Rector

Deacon Richard Mitchell • Deacon Jason Lavergne • [www.sfxcathedral.org](http://www.sfxcathedral.org)

### INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

#### Monday, February 16:

12:05 p.m. Linda Cazes

#### Tuesday, February 17:

12:05 p.m. Helen Collins

#### Wednesday, February 18:

12:05 p.m. Rev. Msgr. James A. Ferguson  
(special intentions)

#### Thursday, February 19:

12:05 p.m. Dale Hebert

#### Friday, February 20:

12:05 p.m. Lucille Cezar Artis

#### Saturday, February 21:

4:00 p.m. Hope Farrar Kramer, Leila Kramer, Dixie Durastanti, George & Betty Battalora, Anglo & Nina Carter D'Angelo, John Christian Upton, Robert Eberle, Wallace & Normand Families (living & Deceased), Esther Hernandez, Edgar & Connie Campo, Mable Titmus, Egidio John DiStefano, Sam & Maggie DiStefano, Galardo & LaCroix Families, Paul & Elizabeth Ceasar, Ellis & Hop LaHood, Fred Brouillette, Rachael Brouillette, Sam Johnson, Richard "Dick" Ducote, Sr., Eric Ducote

#### Sunday, February 22: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 a.m. Gilchrist & White Families (living & deceased), R.J. Ducote, Lennie Humphreys, John Christian Upton, Jonathan Scalfano (living), Sophia Van Horne (living), Hailee & Michael Yerby (living), Todd Mizell, Joe Betty Sterkx, James E. Radkay, Ellen Mitchell, Jacob Williamson, Selma & Richard Sayer, Bob McBride, Marissa & child (living), Poor Souls in Purgatory, Dr. Alfred Mansour, Allison Ann Tillie, Daphine Fullford Shotton, Fredrick Leonardo Green, John Rynolds, Grass & Ferguson Family

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

5:30 p.m. Martha Lee

### SANCTUARY LIGHT

The Sanctuary Light will burn in memory of Edgar & Connie Campo, please remember them in your prayers.

### WEEKEND COLLECTION

Weekly Budget	\$ 9,500.00
Last Weekend Collection	\$ 12,485.00
Over or (Short)	\$ 2,985.00

Thank you for your generosity!

### ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL 2026



This year's theme is "Embracing the Future of Hope" and is an opportunity for us to unite with all Catholics in the Diocese and the universal church to share our blessings and to show our concern for one another. The ADA lets us act together as a family and to support programs and services no single individual or parish can offer alone. Your gift is very important, regardless of size, and is vital to the success of the Appeal. Every registered household in the diocese will receive a letter and brochure from Bishop Marshall. Please take time to prayerfully consider what you are able to give in support of our diocesan Church.

The goal for St. Francis Xavier Cathedral this year is **\$38,234.00.**

### ASH WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 18

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, February 18. 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.**

### 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 60<sup>th</sup> 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).

### KCs FISH FRY – ASH WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18 & FRIDAYS DURING LENT THROUGH MARCH 27

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, February 18 and each Friday through March 27.** 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 729-6280 with a minimum of two orders. **(Please note that the Fish Fry will not be served on Good Friday)**

## THE WAY OF THE CROSS – FRIDAY – FEBRUARY 20

Please join us for the Way of the Cross at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral **Friday, February 20 at 5:30 p.m. and each Friday during this Lenten season.**

## 2025 RITE OF ELECTION - SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 22

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, February 22, 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.

## LENTEN BIBLE STUDY – WHY WE BELIEVE: ANSWERING COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH – BEGINNING FEBRUARY 25

How Did We Get the Bible? From where did the Bible come? Who decided which books got in and which didn't? Why Confess to a Priest? Did Jesus arrange for us to confess our sins to a priest of the new covenant? Do Catholics Worship Mary? What does the Bible teach about her? Purgatory and Prayers for the Dead? Where is Purgatory in the Bible? Why do Catholics pray for the dead?

If you've ever been asked any of these questions but weren't quite sure how to answer, or if you know someone who has left the Church and no longer believes, then this Bible Study is for you. In it, you will discover how just reasonable, biblical, and beautiful the Catholic faith really is. Join Dr. Brant Pitre as he takes up the most commonly asked questions about the Catholic faith and provides clear and compelling answers.

**This Bible Study will begin Wednesday, February 25 at 5:30 PM in Xavier Hall.** There will be four one-hour weekly sessions which include a video presentation along with discussions based on questions in the accompanying handout. We invite everyone to stay for a light meal after our Bible Study.

Msgr. James Ferguson.

**If you plan to attend, please contact the church secretary by phone # 318-445-1451 or at [aryder@parish.diocesealex.org](mailto:aryder@parish.diocesealex.org) by Monday, February 23, so we can get an accurate count.**

## CONFIRMATION RETREAT – FEBRUARY 28

**The Confirmation Retreat has been scheduled for February 28 at the St. Rita Church Holy Family Center in Alexandria.** Presenter for the day will be Dustin Bertrand. Dustin is a dynamic speaker, youth minister, and evangelist from south Louisiana. He has a degree in psychology and criminal justice and a Master's degree in Theology and Christian Ministry from Franciscan University, Steubenville, Ohio and has been evangelizing for the past 12 years through his ministry called God Made Self Driven.

To register your group, contact Dcn. Jason Lavergne at email [dcnijlavergne@diocesealex.org](mailto:dcnijlavergne@diocesealex.org) or at 318-445-6424, ext. 207 or

## SPECIAL COLLECTION – CHURCH IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE – ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

**On February 18 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](http://www.usccb.org/ccee). #GiveCatholicTogether also accepts funds for this collection of you prefer to donate online.

## SPECIAL COLLECTION – BLACK & INDIAN MISSIONS FEBRUARY 22

**The week of February 22, we will be taking up a collection for Black and Indian Missions.** This collection exists to help diocesan communities to build the Church and preach the Gospel of Jesus among the African American, Native American, and Alaska Native people of God. It supports parish life and catechesis, evangelization, Catholic education, and vocations in Black and Indian Missions across the United States. Please give generously.

## NECROLOGY – FEBRUARY 15 – FEBRUARY 21

Msgr. Celestine Mahe +Feb. 19, 1933  
Rev. Leo P. Van Hoorn +Feb. 21, 2006

## BIRTHDAYS – FEBRUARY 15 - FEBRUARY 21

Robert Belgard, Melissa Bradford, Rebecca Dauzat, Amanda Lacombe, Bonnie LeBlanc, Rodney LeBlanc, Chimdalou Madikise, Don Meeker, Richard Paul, Mickie Seeser, Sharon White, Rev. Louis Sklar, Feb. 16, 1967  
Rev. John Cunningham Feb. 21, 1934

## 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](mailto: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, Evan Cree, James Domzalski, II, Christopher Fraser, Brick Hazel, Joe Herrera, Andrew Hill, Kenneth Jeansonne, Jeffrey Kelso, Chance Ryland Lavergne, Chad McCann, Co. G-2-238, William Purdion, Jr., Kaneon Rachal, Daniel Raines, Kevin Raines, Matthew Raines

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Bob Alden, Chella Alden, Johnnie Alston, Brandon Ashley, Raymond Battalora, Bobby & Carol Brossett, Theresa

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Catteruccia, Alice Chambers, Brenda Ducote, Christopher Ducote, Joy Gauthier, Sandra Gooden, Carolyn Harger, Kay Harville, Tish Hull, Logan & Mary Jock, Cody Lachney, Scott Lachney, Chris Littleton, Catherine Medica, Melanie McManara, Michele Pogue, Robert Southren, Joseph Veillon, Vergie Walker, Katina Watson, Maria White, Marilyn Wilbert

**Before someone's name is placed in prayer, be sure to have permission from that person to publicize his or her name in the bulletin.**

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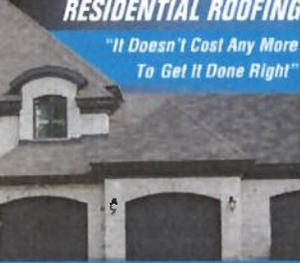


  
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