

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

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

Volume XXXVII, No. 6

February 8, 2026

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Monsignor James Ferguson, JCL, Rector

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

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, February 9:

12:05 p.m. Linda Cazes

Tuesday, February 10:

12:05 p.m. Theresa Catteruccia (special intentions)

Wednesday, February 11:

12:05 p.m. Lucille Rachal

Thursday, February 12:

12:05 p.m. James Flavin

Friday, February 13:

12:05 p.m. Lucille M. Ducote

Saturday, February 14:

4:00 p.m. Hope Farrar Kramer, Leila Kramer, Dixie Durastanti, (Victoria Young (living), Anglo & Nina Carter D'Angelo, John Christian Upton, Edgar J. Rachal, Robert Eberle, Wallace & Normand Families (living & Deceased), George & Betty Battalora, Edgar & Connie Campo, Esther Hernandez, David Mock, Jr., Mable Titmus, Egidio John DiStefano, Sam & Maggie DiStefano, Fred Brouillette, Rachael Brouillette, Sam Johnson, Sean Linn Perry, Sam & Velma Galardo, Paul & Elizabeth Ceasar, Ellis & Hop LaHood, Colingo & Tamburo Families, Campo Family, Jacob Williamson

Sunday, February 15: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 a.m. Gilchrist & White Families (living & deceased), R.J. Ducote, Lennie Humphreys, John Christian Upton, Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus Council # 3200, Whiddon Family, Selma & Richard Sayer, Jonathan Scalfano (living), Sophia Van Horne (living), Hailee & Michael Yerby (living), Todd Mizell, Joe Betty Sterkx, James E. Radkay, Ellen Mitchell, Jacob Williamson, Bob McBride, Sarah & child (living), Blaine & Lorraine Rabalais, Dr. Alfred Mansour, Allison Ann Tillie, Daphine Fullford Shotton, Fredrick Leonardo Green

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 Merle Vahlkamp, please remember her in your prayers.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

Weekly Budget	\$ 9,500.00
Last Weekend Collection	\$ 8,392.63
Over or (Short)	\$ (1,107.37)
February Online Giving	\$ 11,623.01

Thank you for your generosity!

"SECOND BLESSINGS" THRIFT STORE GRAND OPENING – FEBURARY 10

"Second Blessings" Thrift Store will open its doors for business at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 10. The store will offer clothing and accessories for men, women and kids; furniture, home decor including wall decor, housewares, bedding, toys, jewelry, luggage and more! Regular operating hours afterward will be 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Donations will be accepted only on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m.-12 noon. Or you can place your donations in the plastic covered deck boxes to the right of the building. "Second Blessings" is located at 4409 Coliseum Blvd, Suite A, between and behind the Chevron and the credit union, in the same building as Eagle Hydraulics. If you'd like to volunteer to work, contact Heidi Wampler at hwampler@cccenla.org or call 318-445-6424, ext. 510.

ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING – FEBRUARY 11

The Altar Society will have their monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 11, at 10:00 a.m. in Xavier Hall. Anyone interested in becoming a member is invited to come to the meeting.

DISCALCED CARMELITE MONTHLY MTG - FEB. 14

The Order of the Discalced Carmelites holds its monthly meeting at 9:00 a.m. every second Saturday, at Maryhill Renewal Center. Anyone is invited to attend morning prayer followed by Mass and then the meeting. If you are interested in Carmelite spiritual studies, please contact Mary Jo McCoy at 318-346-6860 or 318-481-9638. **If you plan to attend.....Please call Mary Jo McCoy at the numbers listed above OR Deacon Bill Travis at 318 640-2827 or 318 664-7069 and someone will meet you at the Maryhill gate.

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.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT – FEBRUARY 28

Location: St. Rita Church, Holy Family Center, 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, contact Dcn. Jason Lavergne at dcnjlavergne@diocesealex.org or call 318-445-6424, ext. 207.

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).

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY – ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 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 447-3663 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.

SPECIAL COLLECTION – CHURCH IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE – ASH WEDNESDAY, FEB. 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. #iGiveCatholicTogether also accepts funds for this collection if you prefer to donate online.

NECROLOGY – FEBRUARY 8 – FEBRUARY 14

Msgr. Terrence Joseph Lennon	+Feb. 9, 1976
Rev. Joseph Montalbano	+Feb. 11, 2014
Rev. Edward Deasy	+Feb. 13, 2000

BIRTHDAYS – FEBRUARY 8 - FEBRUARY 14

Elizabeth Battalora, Travis Brown, Kim Craig, Catherine Doyle, Steven Haise, Barbara Hastings, Bennie Hastings, Emily McCullough, Anna Parker, Paul Riddle, Wayne St. Pierre, Gayla Verzwyvelt, Fr. Anthony Dharmaraj, Feb. 8, Dcn. John Whitehead, Feb. 10, Rev. Jacob Thomas, Feb. 13

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, Evan Cree, James Domzalski, II, Christopher Fraser, Brick Hazel, Joe Herrera, Andrew Hill, Kenneth Jeanssone, 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 Catteruccia, Alice Chambers, Brenda Ducote, Christopher Ducote, Joy Gauthier, Sandra Gooden, Carolyn Harger, 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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