

St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

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

Volume XXXVII, No. 12

March 22, 2026

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Monsignor James Ferguson, JCL, Rector

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

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, March 23

12:05 p.m. Peggy Trotter

Tuesday, March 24

12:05 p.m. Linda Cazes

Wednesday, March 25:

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

Thursday, March 26:

12:05 p.m. Brenda Brocato

Friday, March 27:

12:05 p.m. Carline LaCaze

Saturday, March 28:

4:00 p.m. Hope Farrar Kramer, Leila Kramer, Dixie Durastanti, Paul Am Mai, Angelo & Nina Carter D'Angelo, Wallace & Normand Families (living & Deceased), George & Betty Battalora, Edgar & Connie Campo, Mable Titmus, Egidio John DiStefano, Sam & Maggie DiStefano, Mr. & Mrs. Audrie Metoyer, Sr., Fred Brouillette, Rachael Brouillette, Sam Johnson, Robert Eberly, Ann Gravel Vanderslice, Lou Ann Monceaux

Sunday, March 29: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

9:00 a.m. Gilchrist & White Families (living & deceased), R.J. Ducote, Todd Mizell, Joe Betty Sterkx, John Reynolds, Grass & Ferguson Family, David Lachney, Stacey Lachney, Chelsea Martin, Brenda Brocato, Poor Souls in Purgatory, Dorothy S. Johnson, Ronnie Wilkins, Lou Ann Monceaux

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

5:30 p.m. Anne Jones

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The Sanctuary Light will burn in memory of Norene Garrett, please remember her in your prayers.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

Weekly Budget	\$ 9,500.00
Last Weekend Collection	\$ 19,323.29
Over or (Short)	\$ 9,823.29

Thank you for your generosity!

COVER STATUES AND CROSSES

The custom of veiling religious images is a way of focusing on the penitential aspect of this liturgical season. It reminds us in a visual way that our faith in all its glory is made possible only through the work of Christ in his suffering and death on the cross. When we cover or remove these holy and sacred images that we are so accustomed to, we are starkly confronted and reminded in a poignant way of all that Christ has won for us.

The tradition is often practiced during the last two weeks before Easter, starting on the Fifth Sunday of Lent and ending on Good Friday. The coverings are removed before the Easter Vigil begins. The joy of the Easter season and the hope of the Resurrection then comes to the forefront.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

Saturday, March 28: Palm Sunday Vigil Mass

- 4:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, March 29: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

- Masses at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 5:30 p.m.

Monday, March 30:

- 12:05 p.m. Mass

Tuesday, March 31: Chrism Mass

- 11:00 a.m. Only (There is no 12:05 p.m. Mass)

Wednesday, April 1:

- 12:05 p.m. Mass

Thursday, April 2: Holy Thursday – “Mass of the Lord’s Supper”

- 5:30 p.m. Only (There is no 12:05 p.m. Mass)

Friday, April 3: Good Friday – “The Passion of the Lord”

- 3:00 p.m. Only (There is no 12:05 p.m. First Friday Mass)

Saturday, April 4: Easter Vigil Mass

- 8:00 p.m. Only (There is no 9:00 a.m. First Saturday Mass & no 4:00 p.m. Mass)

Sunday, April 9: Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

- Masses at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 5:30 p.m.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL - 2026



Just as we are one in the Body of Christ, we must remember that we are one with other parishes in our Diocese. Once a year, each of us is asked to make a commitment to support the work of our Diocesan programs and ministries that provide services that no one parish could provide on its own.

Next weekend, in every parish throughout the Diocese of Alexandria, Catholics who have not done so already, will be asked to support the 2026 Annual Diocesan Appeal. Please experience the joy of giving and join us as we work

to continue God's work of spirituality, formation and education by contributing to the ADA.

The goal for St. Francis Xavier Cathedral this year is \$38,234.00. Pledges to date \$25,766.40

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE - MARCH 25

There will be a Penance Service in the Cathedral on **Wednesday, March 25 beginning at 5:30 p.m.** Several priests will be present to hear confession.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS – FRIDAY – MARCH 27



Please join us for the Way of the Cross at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral **Friday, March 27 at 5:30 p.m. and each Friday during this Lenten season.**

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY – FRIDAY, MAR. 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 Friday, 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 five orders or more, local. **(Please note that the Fish Fry will not be served on Good Friday)**

ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING – APRIL 8

The Altar Society will have their monthly meeting on **Wednesday, April 8, at 10:00 a.m.** in Xavier Hall. Anyone interested in becoming a member is invited to come to the meeting.

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

•**Fasting** is to be observed 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 **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).

SEMINARY COME AND SEE WEEKEND – MARCH 27

Any young man 16 or older who may be interested in becoming a priest is invited to visit St. Joseph Abbey Seminary College near Covington for the weekend to get a glimpse of what seminary life is like. The event is free, and food and housing are provided. To register, please contact Fr. Luke LaFleur at frllafleur@diocesealex.org.

OCIA/OCIC CLASSES – APRIL 12

Out of an extraordinary response of those seeking to join the Catholic Church, St. Francis Xavier Cathedral will host formation for OCIA/OCIC beginning later this Spring. If you, are if you know someone, who is

interested in joining the Catholic faith and would like to participate in the OCIA/OCIC process before its normal start in September, please reach out to Dcn Jason Lavergne @ dcnjlavergne@diocesealex.org for more information. Classes will begin on April 12th.

SAVE THE DATE – FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026

Fr. Chad Partain's 50th Birthday Celebration and St. Frances Cabrini School's Annual Crawfish Boil Fundraiser is on Friday, April 24 from 5:30 – 8:30 PM in the Activities Building. All-You-Can-Eat Dine-In Tickets: \$60.00. 5 lbs. Take-Out Tickets: 30.00. Come join us for a fun night of crawfish, music, door prizes and fellowship!

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.

BIRTHDAYS – MARCH 22 – MARCH 28

John Benjamin, Carla Couvillon, Joanie Credeur, Michael Haise, Alayha Harmson, Yvonne Lagrange, Rosalye McCroskey, Chris Roy, Jeremy Simmons, Connie Stemmann, LeAnn Thomasco, Brandi Ware, Julian Zona

NECROLOGY – MARCH 22 – MARCH 28

Rev. Andrew Andries	+Mar. 23, 1904
Rev. Robert Henry DeVriendt	+Mar. 27, 1951
Rev. Emeric Benedict Scallan	+Mar. 27, 1990
Rev. Daniel Corkery	+Mar. 28, 2024
Msgr. Julius Gerard Walle	+Mar. 28, 2004

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, Delancy 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, Dwayne Bergeron, Wilber Bertrand, Bobby & Carol Brossett, Theresa Catteruccia, Alice Chambers, Brenda Ducote, Christopher Ducote, Joy Gauthier, Sandra Gooden, Carolyn Harger, Kortni Hensen, Jim Hickman, Tish Hull, Logan & Mary Jock, Cody Lachney, Scott Lachney, Chris Littleton, Catherine Medica, Melanie McManara, Michele Pogue, Julie Sober, Robert Southren, Joseph Veillon, Vergie Walker, Katina Watson, Maria White, Marilyn Wilbert

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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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