

BAA UPDATE: Thank you to those who have generously contributed to this year’s Bishop’s Annual Appeal campaign. We have received \$7,910 towards our goal of \$21,370. There is still time to make your donation to this year’s campaign, if you wish.

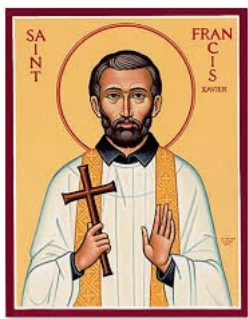
We are collecting **DONATIONS OF FOOD ITEMS** on an ongoing basis for **Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish** who operates a food pantry for the neighbourhood community. Please bring food items to the church and place in the baskets. The food items will be delivered to Our Lady of Guadalupe after the last Sunday of each month. Thank you very much for your support.

ROSARIES REQUESTED FOR PRISON MINISTRY - The diocesan Office of Restorative Ministry is seeking donations of sturdy rosaries (metal chains) for prayer with those who are in prison. Donations can be dropped off / sent to the Catholic Pastoral Centre, 123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon (office hours are 9 am to noon, 1 p.m. to 4:30 pm weekdays). Prison ministry is supported by the Bishop’s Annual Appeal.

DONATIONS OF NEW CHILDREN’S PAJAMAS, CHILDREN’S STORY BOOKS AND BACK PACKS: As part of a project to help fathers in prison improve parenting skills and stay connected to their families, the Office of Restorative Ministry / Prison Ministry in the diocese of Saskatoon will record men at the Saskatoon Correctional Centre reading bedtime stories to send to their children. The diocesan ministry office is seeking donations of short children’s story books, new pajamas sizes 4 to 12, to accompany the recorded bedtime stories, as well as small child backpacks to carry everything for delivery to the children. (*Please note larger sizes of pyjamas – 10-12 are especially needed.) Please drop off any donations at the Catholic Pastoral Centre, 2nd floor of the Cathedral of the Holy Family 123 Nelson Road, Saskatoon, during regular hours of 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays, or contact Dianne Anderson (306) 659-5845 for more information. (Prison ministry is supported by the Bishop’s Annual Appeal.)

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AT ST. JOSEPH PARISH HALL – The San Lorenzo Ruiz Knights of Columbus Council #11429 is hosting a pancake breakfast from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on **Sunday, January 21** at St. Joseph Parish Hall on the corner of Broadway Avenue and 8th Street East in Saskatoon. Adults: \$10; Children 5-15 years: \$5, Family \$35. (**Future dates:** February 18)

	ST FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH	ST JOSEPH’S PARISH
Christmas Eve	9:00pm	N/A
Christmas Day	N/A	11:00am
New Year’s Eve	N/A	N/A
New Year’s Day	9:00am	11:00am
Baptism of the Lord	9:00am	N/A



St Francis Xavier

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Fr. Hoang Nguyen—Pastor
email: hnguyen@rcdos.ca
Ryan Baker—Office Administrator
email: rnbaker@rcdos.ca

MISSION STATEMENT OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH
“A welcoming community, empowered by baptism, committed to the Gospel”

Sacrament of Penance:	30 minutes before Mass or by appointment
Weekday Liturgies:	Wednesdays at 9:00am (except 3rd Wednesday of the month: Adoration and Confession at 5:30pm and Mass at 6:30pm)
Eucharistic Liturgies:	Sundays at 9:00am

1st Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

Ministries for December 10, 2023

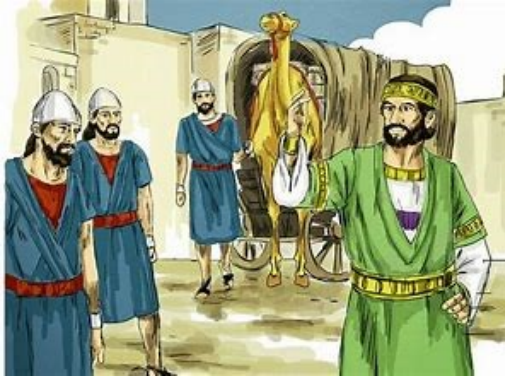
Sacristans	June Furmanic
Proclaimers of the Word	June Furmanic & Jane Isinger
Prayers of the Faithful	Irene LeGatt
Altar Servers	Noah Foster & Anora Couture
Cross Bearer	Lane Foster
Welcomers	Jo-Anne Lund & Guy Belliveau

READINGS FOR THE 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 Go up onto a high mountain, Zion, herald of good news!
2 Peter 3:8-14 The Lord ... is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.
Mark 1:1-8 “Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way.”



Hurry Up and Wait

Sr Dianne Bergant, CSA



We've all had this experience. We rush to get ready...and then we wait: at the doctor's office, for a train, at a restaurant. For what do we hurry up and wait this Sunday? Some might say we are waiting for the birth of Jesus. But today's readings don't say this.

The first reading describes people waiting for relief from the guilt of their sinfulness. Paul talks about waiting for "the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ" at the end time (1 Corinthians 1:7). The people in the Gospel are waiting for the return of the householder to settle ac-

counts. There's no waiting for Christmas—yet.

What should we wait for if not for Christmas? Isaiah tells us to hurry up and change our lives of pettiness, selfishness, and arrogance, and then to wait for the graciousness of God to "rend the heavens and come down" (Isaiah 63:19). Paul tells us to hurry up and embrace "the grace of God bestowed on [us] in Christ Jesus" (1 Corinthians 1:4), and then to wait for the final revelation of his glory. The Gospel tells us to hurry up, be alert and ready for Christ's return, and then to wait for it to happen.

If we don't prepare ourselves for the coming of God in the reality of our own lives, we might not recognize this salvation when it comes. We're not waiting for an event that happened in the past; we are waiting for the grace of God that is calling us into the future. So, hurry up and wait!

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: For the foreseeable future, Ryan will be in the parish office Fridays. If calling and there is no answer, please email him at rnbaker@rcdos.ca.

E-TRANSFERS: Should you wish to donate to St. Francis Xavier Parish by using E-transfers, please use the following instructions:

1. Send an e-transfer using the following e-mail: sfxsaskatoon@rcdos.ca
2. Use the following question: What is the name of our favorite shrub? The answer is willow.
3. If you wish to use your own questions, please send an email to rnbaker@rcdos.ca with the answer.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Francis Xavier Parish.

FEAST OF ST FRANCIS XAVIER: Today, **December 3**, is the Feast of St Francis Xavier. Please join us after Mass for refreshments and treats to help celebrate our parish feast day.

PENITENTIAL SERVICES: On **Tuesday, December 12**, there will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and reconciliation (no Mass), at 5:30pm held at St. Francis Xavier Parish. St. Joseph's Parish will be hosting a Penitential service on **Friday, December 15** at 7:30pm

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS: This Advent season, we will be collecting donations for Christmas food hampers with all donations going to St. Mary Parish's Hamper Program who is preparing Christmas hampers for the inner-city community. You can put your donation in an envelope marked with your name, address, and Christmas hampers in the collection basket.

DÉCOR AT ST FRANCIS: St. Francis will once again be accepting cash donations to purchase poinsettias in honour of loved ones. The cost of the poinsettias will be \$25.00. Payment can be made by E-transfer, cheque or cash. If using E-transfer or cheque, please note poinsettias in the memo field. If using cash, please mark the envelope for poinsettias. In the envelope, include the name(s) of the person/people for who the poinsettia is purchased for.

MITTEN TREE: The parish will again have a Mitten Tree in the welcoming area as one of our Advent activities. There will be a basket under the tree where you can place donations of socks, mitts, gloves and tuques. All items will be donated to The Bridge, a non-profit, interdenominational Christian faith ministry that works with the inner city community.

St. Francis Xavier has resumed holding **Mass at Sunnyside Care Centre** on St. Henry Avenue on the **second Thursday of every month at 2:00 pm**. The next Mass is scheduled for **December 14, 2023**. We are looking for volunteers to assist with the mass. If you are interested in volunteering or participating, please speak to Fr. Hoang or Jo-Anne Lund for details. All are welcomed to attend.

The **2023-2024 MISSALS** are now available and can be purchased in the welcoming area after mass. The cost is \$5.00.

