

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

408 West Catholic St.

Box 376

Piercetown, IN 46562

Office 574-594-5750

Website: www.sfxpiercetown.org

Facebook: [StFrancisXavierPiercetown](https://www.facebook.com/StFrancisXavierPiercetown)

Father Daniel Chukwuleta, Pastor

Email: father@fxpiercetown.org

Secretary: Dulcie Stevens

Email: office@fxpiercetown.org

Masses: Saturday at 4:00pm

Sunday at 7:30 (Memorial-Labor Day) & 9:00am
Tuesday – Friday 8:00 a.m.

Holy Days: check bulletin, Facebook, or website

Adoration: 1st Friday of the Month Following 8am Mass

Confessions: Saturday 3:00 – 3:30 pm, Other times by request

Parish Office Hours: Tuesdays 11am-4:30pm

Blessing of Homes: please contact the Parish Office.

Homebound: Wishing to receive Communion? Please contact the parish office.

Anointing of the Sick is available anytime, please contact the parish office.

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated as needed.

One parent must be a practicing Catholic. One godparent must be a Catholic at least 15 years of age. Contact the Parish Office for more info and to schedule.

Marriage: Anyone contemplating marriage in the Catholic Church must be a practicing Catholic. Father must be contacted six months prior to the wedding. Prenuptial requirements must be completed prior to the wedding. Contact the Parish Office.

In the Event of a Death: Please notify the parish office

Those interested in being put on a prayer list: Please contact the parish office. There is also a form on the website.

Register w/the Parish: There are registration forms on the bulletin board at the back of church, feel free to fill one out and throw it in the collection basket. Or you may register on our website.

Knights of Columbus: Meet every 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm

Women's Fellowship: Meet every 1st Friday for Mass/adoration, then meet up for breakfast

Parish & Financial Councils: Meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm

For job openings in the diocese visit: <https://diocesefwvb.org/hr/>

For more events in the diocese or to subscribe to Today's Catholic visit: <https://todayscatholic.org/> (digital subscription is free!)

Readings for: 15th Sunday of Ordinary Times, Year A

Reading 1 [Isaiah 55:10-11](#)

Psalms [Psalm 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14](#)

Reading 2 [Romans 8:18-23](#)

Gospel [Matthew 13:1-23](#)

REFLECTIONS... from Father Daniel

Theme of the Sunday: An Abundant Harvest from Difficult Soil. We are accustomed to seeing the effects of advertising. When youngsters see ways of dressing or combing their hair in films or on TV, They imitate them. Why is the gospel so slow entering our hearts? This question is answered by today's readings. The Gospel tells us it depends on the soil. Jesus assures us that even the most barren soil cannot long resist the penetrating force of the seed. The first reading strengthens this idea and compares the word of God to the rain that brings life. The second reading tells us that sowing is always difficult, it is a time of pain, though not the pain of death, merely the beginning of new life.

In Jesus' day, farmers weren't as neat as they are today. They spread seed far and wide to ensure a good harvest. They spread extra-seed. They even wasted some! The seed stands for God's word and Jesus' teachings.

There were lots of reasons why some of the seed did not take root or, if it did, it did not survive. What was different in these cases? Not the seed. It was the same. The difference was in the preparation of the soul to receive the action of the seed. Basically, Jesus is telling us that his word, even though it created problems for some people or was not productive for others, would produce abundantly. His word would have power like the rain and snow. Nothing could prevent God's word from taking hold. The harvest from God's word will be plentiful. We are showered with love and this love is powerful. We will become like the valleys and hills. We will rejoice and shout from joy. We will bear fruit one hundred-and-sixty-and-fold. All we need do is hear the message of Jesus and take it in.

A young college graduate in Public and Environmental Affairs, who got a new job, he called his mother on the phone and said, " Mom, I am now a garbage man." And his mother replied, "Son, be good in what you do."

Last Week's Collection:

Loose: \$261 Envelopes: \$1,450

Local Food Pantry: Item of the week-**Paper Products!**

Please Keep in Your Prayers this Week:

Sue DeLaCruz, Tom & Jena Brovont, Brent Widman, Belia Moran, Kathy Bilz, Donald Gebert, Megan Cruse, Dan Gagnon & Maggie Elpusan.

Ministers Schedule:

Saturday, July 18th, 4:00pm

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Rick Zydek

Lectors: Bill Johnson Sr.

Sunday, July 19th, 9:00am

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Linda Seiss

Lector: Mary Sutton

Mass Intentions for the Week and Activities:

Saturday, July 11th, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 + Linda Dager

Sunday, July 12th, 15th Sunday

7:30 Our Parish

9:00 Agapito DeLaCruz Family

Monday, July 13th, No Mass [Isaiah 1:10-17](#) [Matthew 10:34-11:1](#)

Tuesday, July 14th, 8:00 Mass + Jerry Dager

Wednesday, July 15th, 8am Mass + George McDonald

Thursday, July 16th, 8am Mass + Annie Ryan

Friday, July 17th, 8am Mass + Fr. Charles Herman

5pm Float Building

Saturday, July 18th, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 + Janet Iavagnilio

Sunday, July 19th, 16th Sunday

7:30 Our Parish

9:00 + Thomas Fortman

Upcoming Calendar Events:

Thursday, July 16th, Community Dinner 5pm-out

Friday, July 17th & 18th Piercetons Days Downtown

Friday, July 17th Float Building @ Hall 5pm

Saturday, July 18th Piercetons Days Parade 12pm(lineup@11am)

Saturday, July 25th Hot Dog& Ice Cream Social following Mass

Sunday, August 2nd, Ladies Outing to Notre Dame

Sunday, August 9th, Shoes & Dos 2-4pm

Tuesday, August 11th, Parish/Financial Council 6:30pm

INTRODUCING VIBRANT CATHOLIC

This July, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will launch Vibrant Catholic, a new quarterly magazine that will inspire faith, deepen formation, and highlight the life of the Church throughout our diocese. The magazine will feature stories of Christian witness, catechetical resources, diocesan news, Spanish-language content, and a message from Bishop Rhoades.

As the diocese transitions from the Today's Catholic weekly print newspaper to a more mission-focused communications model, Vibrant Catholic will help strengthen unity and support evangelization across our local Church.

The magazine will be mailed free of charge to households that support the Annual Bishop's Appeal. If you have not yet made a gift and would like to receive Vibrant Catholic, please consider participating in the Appeal. Every gift supports our shared mission!

To learn more, visit

diocesetwfb.org/vibrant-catholic-announcement

JOIN THE DIOCESAN SOCCER TOURNAMENT!

Middle and high school students entering grades 8–12 are invited to participate in a parish team Soccer Tournament on Saturday, July 25, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the West Noble High School Soccer Fields in Ligonier. Gather a team from your parish, youth ministry, or group of friends for a day of faith, fellowship, and friendly competition. The cost is \$25 per player, which includes a custom team shirt. To register a team or learn more, contact Seminarian Michael Hickey at mhickey@saintmeinrad.edu by July 3.

Congratulations:

The parish would like to extend its congratulation to long time parishioner, Sharon DeLong on the occasion of her retirement from Zimmer Biomet after 19yrs. Happy Retirement!

Happy Anniversary:

The parish wishes a Happy Anniversary! To the Carpenters, the Landrigans, the McKees and the Stevens all celebrating Wedding Anniversaries this month. We also wish Fr. Daniel & Bishop Rhoades a happy anniversary on the occasion of the anniversaries of their ordinations. We wish all celebrating anniversaries this month many more happy years in their sacraments of service.

Parish Volunteers Wanted:

Looking for a way to volunteer or participate more in the parish? We are still in need of a few more counter volunteers for collections for the 1st & 2nd Sundays of the month. Counting happens after Mass on Sunday. Contact the office for more info. The Parish Council would love to welcome more Saturday Mass parishioners to the council. We are always looking for more usher/greeters, gift bearers, lectors and Eucharistic ministers or choir members. So we invite you to share your gifts with the Lord. If you would like to volunteer to help at Mass please contact the office at office@sfxpierceton.org.

Special Collection this Weekend:

There will be a special collection this weekend for the Devastating Earthquakes that took place in Venezuela recently. CRS (Catholic Relief Services) is working with Caritas Venezuela and local churches to assist with the needs. The funds will be used for critical relief efforts, like shelter, food and other humanitarian aid.

Piercetown Days:

The Parish Council is looking for volunteers to help construct our float for the Piercetown Day parade Saturday, July 18th at 12pm. Construction happens Friday, July 17th at 5pm at Parish Hall. We also need volunteers to walk or ride in the parade(line up will happen at 11am on July 18th). There is also a bin in the vestibule for candy donations. Theme is : Stars, Stripes, & 250 candles. Please contact the office or a parish council member. Don't forget to wear your parish shirt to walk in the parade.

Auction/GiveAway Items Wanted:

The parish council would like to offer some raffle prizes during the Hot Dogs and Ice Cream Social in July. They are looking for items to give away. Did you order two of something and can't return it? Do you own a business and would like to put together a gift basket? Or offer a gift certificate for services? Contact the parish office or parish council member before July 19th to get your item(s) on the list.

FAITH FORWARD: CONNECTING OUR GRADUATING SENIORS:

Parishes around the diocese are participating in Newman Connection's Faith Forward movement — a national initiative helping graduating high school seniors stay connected to their Catholic faith as they move on to college, the military, or the workforce. By sharing their post-graduation plans, seniors can be

personally connected to a Catholic campus ministry, military chaplain, or young adult parish near their next destination. If you are a graduating senior — or the parent or grandparent of one — please learn more sign up today at signupnc.newmanministry.com

Your Used Stamps and Postcards can Help Spread the Light of Christ:

On average, 50 used commemorative stamps can generate enough money to provide a healthy lunch at schools run by the Sisters of the Holy Cross around the world. That's the impact you can make when you save the canceled commemorative or unusual stamps and postcards from your mail and send them to the Sisters of the Holy Cross Stamp Ministry. If you have a stamp or postcard collection you'd be willing to donate, it can do even more! Money raised through the sale of these items supports our Ministry With the Poor, where small projects have life-changing impact. Leave at least 1/4 inch on each side of the stamp when cutting it from the envelope.

Mail to:

Sisters of the Holy Cross, Stamp Ministry
200 Rosary Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556.

Questions?

Call 574-284-5675 or www.cscsisters.org/stamp-ministry

ST. AUGUSTINE MEN'S GROUP:

If you struggle with addiction to pornography or sexual struggles, you are invited to be made new. With groups meeting in Fort Wayne and South Bend, the lives of men have been transformed because of their willingness to change, to be honest, and to seek connection not only with God but with their fellow brothers through the Saint Augustine Men's Group. Meetings focus on the positive and what we can do to overcome our daily struggles. Discover a path to true freedom by visiting diocesefwsb.org/augustine or e-mailing staugustinefwsb@gmail.com