

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church
408 West Catholic St.

Box 376

Pierreton, IN 46562

Office 574-594-5750

Website: www.sfpierreton.org

Facebook: St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

Father Daniel Chukwuleta, Pastor

Email: father@sfpierreton.org

Secretary: Dulcie Stevens

Email: sfpierreton@aol.com

Masses: Saturday at 4:00pm & Sunday at 7:30(Memorial -Labor Day)& 9:00am
Tuesday – Friday 8:00 a.m.

Holy Days: check bulletin

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

Confessions: Saturday 3:00 – 3:30 pm, Anytime by request

Parish Office Hours Wed 10:30-4:00 pm

REFLECTIONS...from Father Daniel

Seeds. Plants. Growing things. Jesus was familiar with these things. Many of the images he used to talk about God and the kingdom were taken from the world of plants. He spoke of the vine and the branches, and today he speaks of the sower. We live in a society that likes instant results. We go to the grocery to buy instant meals and we get in the shortest line on the way out. But we can't avoid the reality that some things just take time. People who are highly successful in life didn't get where they're at without patience and effort, whether that's in the arts, sports, business or the academic field. Jesus is telling us in today's gospel that spiritual growth also takes time, patience and perseverance. It requires the preparation of the soul to receive the action of the seed. And our spiritual growth is the most important thing of all, it will endure forever.

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! Jesus' image of the sower is like Isaiah's image of rain. God's word falls like rain - everywhere. it will bear fruit in many different ways. It is plentiful. There is even extra rain! In other words, God's call and his grace are offered to everyone without discrimination.

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 for joy. We will bear fruit one hundred-and-sixty and thirty fold. All we need do is hear the message of Jesus and take it in.

Would you keep trying if you had made 20,000 unsuccessful experiments without finding the answer to a scientific problem? Thomas A. Edison did just that seeking a substitute for lead in the manufacture of storage batteries. A reporter heard that

the inventor had made this staggering number of unsuccessful attempts and was still struggling on. He asked: "Aren't you discouraged by all this waste of effort?" Waste!" exclaimed Edison. "There is nothing wasted. I have discovered 20,000 things that won't work." Rather than give up in advance because of anticipated difficulties, use your God-given courage to keep trying. Today, what kind of "soil" you are. What is it in you that limits God's word bearing fruit in your life? Ask God to give you a hand in dealing with this.

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 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: Can do so on the website or by requesting a form from the parish office.

Last Week's Collection:

Loose: \$221

Envelopes: \$1,615

Readings for 15th Sunday of Ordinary Times:

Reading 1 Is 55:10-11

Psalms Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14

Reading 2 Rom 8:18-23

Gospel Mt 13:1-23

Mass Intentions for the Week and Activities:

Saturday, July 15, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 + Donald Woilas

Sunday, July 16, 15th Sunday of Ordinary Times

7:30 *Our Parish Family*

9:00 + *Anita Constanio*

Monday, July 17, No Mass Ex 1:8-14, 22 Mt 10:34-11:1

Tuesday, July 18, 8:00 + Joe Smyjnas Sr.

Wednesday, July 19, 8:00 + Loretta Dahm

Thursday, July 20, 8:00 + Beverly Meinert

5pm-till out **Community Dinner**

Friday, July 21, 8:00 Living & Deceased Members of The Tenney Family

Saturday, July 22, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 + *Tiana & Tyan Cain*

Sunday, July 23, 16th Sunday of Ordinary Times

7:30 *Our Parish Family*

9:00 + *Beverly Meinert*

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, July 20	Community Dinner	5pm-till out
Friday, July 28th - July 29th	Piercetown Days	
Tuesday, August 1	Parish Council Meeting	7pm
Sunday, August 6	Donuts & coffee	Following Mass

Ministers Schedule:

Saturday, July 22, 4:00pm

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Rick Zydek

Lector: Chris Lennon

Sunday, July 23, 9:00am

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Fred DeLaCruz

Lector: Greg Rostochak

Please Keep in Your Prayers This Week:

Teresa Crockett, Joseph Hemphling, Larry Cobble, Martha Bohn, & Todd Cobble.

Volunteering and ways to get involved:

If you are interested in helping out with funeral dinners, would like to be a eucharistic minister or lector or want to connect with fellow ladies in the parish, please contact the office via email at sf@piercetown@aol.com, through the registration form on the website, or by phone at (574)594-5750. You can also volunteer to bring the gifts up during Mass.

Restoration Project:

The Parish Council has taken steps for the restoration of the stained glass windows in the church. A bid has been solicited from a popular local stained glass professional and the Diocese has approved. Work will begin in the near future. The restoration will require windows to be removed and reloaded. Any cracks or damage will also be repaired and matched as best as possible at that time.

Isaiah 42 Ministry:

Sacred Heart's jail ministry program has an immediate need for pen pals for prison inmates. We have nine men who are waiting to be matched to someone who will write a letter at least once a month and be a positive influence by offering encouragement and hope through friendship, scripture and prayer. Our pen pal program has been in place for over five years and we currently have 10 members on the team. For safety and to protect privacy, mail is always sent and received using our ministry's post office box address. If you are interested in this ministry and would like more information, please call/text Jody Burns at 574-267-6447 or e-mail jodyburns6927@gmail.com

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