

**St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church**  
**408 West Catholic St.**

**Box 376**  
**Piercetown, IN 46562**  
**Office 574-594-5750**

**Website:** [www.sfxpiercetown.org](http://www.sfxpiercetown.org)

**Facebook:** [St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church](https://www.facebook.com/St.FrancisXavierCatholicChurch)

**Father Daniel Chukwuleta, Pastor**

**Email:** [father@sfxpiercetown.org](mailto:father@sfxpiercetown.org)

**Secretary:** Dulcie Stevens

**Email:** [sfxpiercetown@aol.com](mailto:sfxpiercetown@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

**RELECTIONS...from Father Daniel**

How do you find something you're not looking for? You don't. The man in today's Gospel found the treasure because he was looking for it. The merchant found the fine pearl because he was looking for it. Both men found something they were looking for and did what they had to do to buy it.

The emphasis in both parables is on how the lucky finders responded to what they found. They knew the value of their find was greater than all their other possessions. Jesus is telling us that the kingdom of God and living in God's good grace is of the highest value to us, or is worth more than all we possess. Everything we possess has an expiration date stamped on it. God's kingdom, however, will last forever. And, in order to find it, we must be looking for it. We must know what it looks like. We must learn to recognize it. We must, like Solomon, ask the Lord to give us discerning hearts. Those who possess it know its value and are filled with joy when they find it.

Then, when we find evidence of the kingdom, we must do whatever we have to do to make it our own. The kingdom of God doesn't come automatically. We have to invest in it to really possess it. We may have to change some of our usual ways of doing things. We may have to let go of patterns in our lives that blind us to God's love and chain us to our pasts. Once we begin looking for the reign of God, we find it, and once we find it, it demands that we change. Our first step on the Journey is the same as Solomon's- asking God to give us wisdom. Pope Francis said, "Wisdom is what the Holy Spirit does within us so that we can see everything with God's eyes." That when this life is over, we will have to leave behind most of our treasures. But we will take with us our good works and our love for God and others; these will be our joy for all eternity. A life of holiness and goodness is a treasure that will not fail.

**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: \$211

Envelopes: \$1,067

**Readings for 17th Sunday of Ordinary Times:**

**Reading 1** 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12

**Psalms** Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130

**Reading 2** Rom 8:28-30

**Gospel** Mt 13:44-52

**Mass Intentions for the Week and Activities:**

**Saturday, July 29, 3:00** Reconciliation

**4:00** +Dennis Lennon

**Sunday, July 30, 17th Sunday of Ordinary Times**

**7:30** *Our Parish Family*

**9:00** + *Wanda Smyjunas*

**Monday, July 31, No Mass Ex 32:15-24, 30-34 Mt 13:31-35**

**Tuesday, August 1, 8:00** +*Special Intentions*

**7:00** *Parish Council Meeting*

**Wednesday, August 2 8:00** + *Living & Deceased of the List, Lauterbach,*

*Hoffman Family*

**Thursday, August 3, 8:00** + *Beverly Meinert*

**Friday, August 4, 8:00** + *Special Intention*

**8:30** *Adoration*

**Saturday, August 5, 3:00** Reconciliation

**4:00** +Fr. Charles Hernan

**Following Mass** K of C Cook Out

**Sunday, August 6, 18th Sunday of Ordinary Times**

**7:30** *Our Parish Family*

**9:00** + *Robert Matczak*

*Following Mass Donuts & coffee*

**Upcoming Events:**

**Tuesday, August 1** Parish Council Meeting 7pm

**Friday, August 4** Adoration 8:30am

Saturday, August 5	K of C Cook out	Following Mass
Sunday, August 6	Donuts & coffee	Following Mass

**Ministers Schedule:**

***Saturday, August 5, 4:00pm***

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:** Sandy Miner

**Lector:** *Bill Johnson Sr*

***Sunday, August 6, 9:00am***

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:** Wendy Bridgegam

**Lector:** Mary Sutton

**Please Keep in Your Prayers This Week:**

Teresa Crockett, Joseph Hemphing, 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 [stxpiercetown@aol.com](mailto:stxpiercetown@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:**

Our stained glass windows are being restored. We pray for the hands of the craftsmen doing the work. Work will be completed in the near future.

**Right to Life Banquet Monday September 18th:**

The Right to Life of Northern Indiana Banquet is fast approaching. It will be held on September 18, 2023 at the MOCC building at Grace College in Winona Lake at 6pm. Ashley Bratcher will be the keynote speaker and she is recognized as the star in the pro life film, Unplanned, the inspiring story that chronicles the transformation of a Planned Parenthood clinic director to pro life advocate. She has her own personal story of abortion and life. Pat Miller from WOWO will be the Emcee. Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased from Pat/Bill Landrigan, by calling (574)306-7406(RTL office), or by going to [www.prolifebanquet.com](http://www.prolifebanquet.com).

**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](mailto:jodyburns6927@gmail.com)  
**Local Food Pantry:** Item of the week- *Clean out the Cupboard!*