

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

408 West Catholic St.

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Piercetown, IN 46562

Office 574-594-5750

Website: www.sfxpiercetown.org

Facebook: StFrancisXavierPiercetown

Father Daniel Chukwuleta, Pastor

Email: father@sfxpiercetown.org

Secretary: Dulcie Stevens

Email: office@sfxpiercetown.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://diocesefwbsb.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: 18th Sunday of Ordinary Times, Year A

Reading 1 Isaiah 55:1-3

Psalms Psalm 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18

Reading 2 Romans 8:35, 37-39

Gospel Matthew 14:13-21

REFLECTIONS:.... from Father Daniel

Theme of this Sunday: Christ Satisfies Our Hunger. The first reading tells us about God's promise that one day he will organize a banquet for all people. The Gospel, through the multiplication of the loaves, shows us the fulfillment of that prophecy; it is Jesus who feeds us. The second reading assures us that no obstacle can stop God's plan of salvation becoming reality.

In the Gospel we hear how Jesus responded to the needs of the people who came to him. He sees them like sheep without a shepherd and begins to feed them. What he offers them fills them with hope and joy. He meets their need for healing. He touches their emptiness. They stay around until evening, far away from any food. St. Matthew describes Jesus feeding the people by telling us: "he took bread, said the blessing, broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples." The connection with the Eucharist is obvious and deliberate. In the Eucharist, Jesus makes his love for the crowd concrete. He has already fed their hearts and now he feeds their bodies. The abundant feast mirrors the feast of Isaiah in the first reading. Free food and drink, and lots of it, come from our covenant with God. Life, life in abundance, springs from Yahweh's love. Jesus fulfills that love and brings life to God's people. As St. Matthew tells us about the miracle of the loaves and fishes, he wants us to be aware of how Jesus feeds us in a miraculous way in the Eucharist. We only need to listen and the Lord will fill us with the same life, life in abundance. St. Augustine said, "A great and noble friendship makes us better persons, and in a Christian context, brings us closer to God." And, Pope Leo XIV said, "Soccer also helps us remember something very important: that life is not a race to be run in solitude; it is something played as a team, and we must learn to run together."

Mass Intentions for the Week and Activities:

Saturday, August 1, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 + Dave & Kay Harter

Sunday, August 2, 18th Sunday of Ordinary Times

7:30 Our Parish

9:00 + Leon & Sally Long

Following Mass Donuts & Coffee

Monday, August 3, No Mass **Jeremiah 28:1-17** **Matthew 14:22-36**

Tuesday, August 4, 8:00 Mass + Andres Martinez

6:30 Knights of Columbus Meeting

Wednesday, August 5, 8am Mass + Fr. Charles Herman

Thursday, August 6, 8am Mass + David Dager

Friday, August 7, 8am Mass +Harold Landrigan

Adoration Following Mass

Saturday, August 8, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 Special Intention

Sunday, August 9, 19th Sunday of Ordinary Times

7:30 Our Parish

9:00 +Joseph Kummer

Upcoming Calendar Events:

Sunday, August 2nd, Donuts & Coffee Following Mass

Sunday, August 2nd, Ladies Outing to Notre Dame

Tuesday, August 4th, Knights of Columbus Meeting 6:30pm

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

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

Sunday, August 30th, RE Registration Following Mass

Sunday, September 6th, Last 7:30 Mass of Season

Monday, September 7th Labor Day

Sunday, September 13th, Annual Breakfast Following Mass

Sunday, September 13th, Religious Education starts

Please Keep in Your Prayers this Week:

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

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

diocesefwsb.org/vibrant-catholic-announcement

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

Last Week's Collection:

Loose: \$ 364 Envelopes: \$1,095

ABA Goal: \$10,170.26 **Current Pledges: \$3,420**

Local Food Pantry: Item of the week-**Soups**

Ministers Schedule:

Saturday, August 8, 4:00pm

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Sharon DeLong
Lectors: Angie Burkhardt

Sunday, August 9, 9:00am

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Greg Rostochak
Lector: Beth Walenga

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@stfxpiercetn.org.

Annual Bishop's Appeal:

The Annual Bishop's Appeal goal this year is: \$10,170.26. You should receive your pledge card in the mail soon, if you haven't already. Please note if you wish to meter your donation out to the full 12 months, it is advised that you go to the website as soon as possible and enter your pledge at: <https://www.osvhub.com/diocesefwsb/giving/funds/bishops-appeal-2026-27/pledge>. You will select St. Francis Xavier as your Organization at the top.

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

United In Mission - Annual Bishop's Appeal:

The Annual Bishop's Appeal invites each of us to participate in the life and mission of the Church across our diocese. Your generosity helps strengthen our parishes and schools, provide formation for seminarians and clergy, and serve those most in need through diocesan ministries and Catholic Charities. As Bishop Rhoades reminds us, we are called to be the "salt of the earth and light of the world." Thank you for your generosity and for helping our diocese continue this mission together. **Learn more and make your gift at diocesefwsb.org/aba**

