

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church
408 West Catholic St.

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Website: www.sfpiercetown.org

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

Father Daniel Chukwulata, Pastor

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Secretary: Dulcie Stevens

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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

Every once in a while, something happens that we can't quite explain. For some reason, the rules that govern ordinary everyday reality are suspended for a moment and we catch a glimpse of a deeper reality. You've had this experience! it might have been a beautiful sunset, or a baby's eyes, or the face of your spouse or son or daughter. You can tell this has happened because you remember the experience. Your heart was touched.

In today's first reading we hear of Elijah's experience of God. The prophet Elijah was living in Israel at the time when the wicked Queen Jezebel was reigning in Israel. Jezebel was trying to lead God's people into paganism and Elijah was trying to keep them faithful to God. So there was conflict between them. She decided to have Elijah killed, and to save his life he had to get out of Israel. He fled to Mount Sinai. The Lord God was not present in the earth-shaking "theatrical" ways we might expect. Yahweh was present in a whisper. The special effects were not clues of God's presence. The simplicity of a whisper caused Elijah to hide his face.

The disciples in the boat nearly jumped out of their skins seeing Jesus approach. Peter put this apparition to the test and was himself tested: Why did you falter? Why did you not believe? Peter's faith was strong enough for him to begin the walk, but he was frightened. We too begin the walk toward the Lord but falter. It's then that Jesus reaches down and picks us up. The presence of the Lord breaks through the mundane and invites us to a deeper way of seeing. Surprised, we find ourselves appreciating the beauty of our world and knowing God's love for us. We respond to the invitation and begin to love closer to the Lord, only to find our knees weakened. Jesus then reaches out and strengthens us for our journey toward the light. St. Pope John Paul II said, "Apart from

the mercy of God, there is no source of hope for mankind." Like prophet Elijah who defended the faith of the Israelites, Pope Francis said, "Situations can change; people can change. Be first to seek to bring good. Do not grow accustomed to evil, but defeat it with good."

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: \$475

Envelopes: \$1,107

Readings for 19th Sunday of Ordinary Times:

Reading 1 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a

Psalms Ps 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14

Reading 2 Rom 9:1-5

Gospel Mt 14:22-33

Mass Intentions for the Week and Activities:

Saturday, August 12, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 + *Beverly Meinert*

Sunday, August 13, 19th Sunday of Ordinary Times

7:30 *Our Parish Family*

9:00 *Living & Deceased Members of the Tenney Family*

Monday, August 14, 6:00 + Leo Dahm RV 11:19A: 12:1-6A, 10AB

PS 45:10, 11, 12, 16 1 COR 15:20-27 LK 1:39-56

Tuesday, August 15, 8:00 + Beverly Meinert

Wednesday, August 16, 8:00 + Mario Martinez

Thursday, August 17, 8:00 + Mary Price

Friday, August 18, 8:00 + Tiana & Tynan Cain

Saturday, August 19, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 + *Cecil "Butch" Mudrack*

Sunday, August 20, 20th Sunday of Ordinary Times

7:30 *Our Parish Family*

9:00 + *Judy Smyjimas*

Upcoming Events:

Monday, August 14	Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Vigil Mass	6pm
Tuesday, August 15	Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass	8am
Sunday, September 3	Last 7:30 am Mass of Summer Season	7:30am
Sunday, September 10	Religious Education Starts	Following Mass
Sunday, September 17	Parish Brunch Bash	Following Mass
Monday, September 18	Right to Life Banquet	6pm
Thursday, September 21	Drive Thru Community Dinner	5pm-out

Ministers Schedule:

Saturday, August 19, 4:00pm

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:Rick Zydek

Lector: *Angie Burkhart*

Sunday, August 20, 9:00am

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Tracy Gaunt

Lector: Greg Rostochak

Volunteering and ways to get involved:

Religious Education is in need of two volunteers for the younger grades. If interested, contact the office or DRE. Religious Education starts Sunday, September 10th and will run from 10am-11:05 am in the basement of the Church. Sign up will be that Sunday.

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 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. Pat Miller from WOWO will 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.

Central Catholic Reunion Meeting:

Central Catholic Alumni Association All Alumni Reunion & Annual Meeting. Wednesday September 20, 2023 at 11:00 AM with lunch served at 12:00 PM. Cost is \$20 per person. Please register by September 1, 2023.
Call Laura Fleckenstein Stucky at 260-486-1000 or Vickey Avila Linker at 260-341-6209

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