

**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

**REFLECTIONS... from Father Daniel**

Whoever you are, rich or poor, there are some places you are not welcome, or you are not allowed. We have all been pre-judged at some time in our lives. WE have all been turned away because of our clothes, or our neighborhood, or our family, or our physical characteristics. Just like the Jews at the time of Jesus, in today's first reading, not only did they consider themselves holier than all the rest of the world, but there were strict class distinctions among themselves. We know what the Canaanite woman felt.

There is one place, though, where everyone is welcome. There is one place where age, or sex, or sickness, or clothes doesn't make a bit of difference. What does make a difference is our faith. We are all welcome into the house of the Lord. As the first reading tells us, the house of the Lord is a "house of prayer for all people." Although it is difficult to live this out in individual parishes, it is true. No one is to be turned away because we don't like that person. All faithful people are welcome.

This is good news! There is no other place like that on earth. Today's gospel is a good example of faith and perseverance in prayer. At its best, the place where you worship accommodates the whole spectrum of people. It is a sign of the kingdom. The community you want to join opens its arms to you, and to people around the whole earth. You are welcome with all of your strengths and talents and gifts, and with your weaknesses and limits and sinfulness. The only requirement is that your faith is strong. Even when our faith is tested, God is still with us. He wants us not to lose faith in him under any circumstances, for in the end our faith will always be rewarded. St. John Paul II used these words of Jesus to greet the faithful from the Vatican balcony on the day he was elected Pope: "Behold! Be brave! Be not afraid and mighty forces will come to your

aid." Pope Francis has stressed in the year of Mercy: "God seeks us out tirelessly and, thus, the church is to be a place of mercy and welcome."

**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. Pre-nuptial 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: \$184

Envelopes: \$1,197

**Readings for 20th Sunday of Ordinary Times:**

**Reading 1** Is 56:1, 6-7

**Psalms** Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

**Reading 2** Rom 11:13-15, 29-32

**Gospel** Mt 15:21-28

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

**Saturday, August 19, 3:00 Reconciliation**

**4:00 + Cecil "Butch" Whidack**

**Sunday, August 20, 20th Sunday of Ordinary Times**

**7:30 Our Parish Family**

**9:00 + Judy Smyjuntus**

**Monday, August 21, No Mass Jgs 2:11-19 Mt 19:16-22**

**Tuesday, August 22, 8:00 + Anita Constancio**

**Wednesday, August 23, 8:00 + Tiana & Tynan Cain**

**Thursday, August 24, 8:00 Living & Deceased Members of the Tenney Family**

**Friday, August 25, 8:00 + Bobby Thomas**

**Saturday, August 26, 3:00 Reconciliation**

**4:00 + Beverly Meinert**

**Sunday, August 27, 21st Sunday of Ordinary Times**

**7:30 Our Parish Family**

**9:00 A Special Intention**

**Upcoming Events:**

**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 Branch Bash	Following Mass
Monday, September 18	Right to Life Banquet	6pm
Thursday, September 21	Drive Thru Community Dinner	5pm-out

**Ministers Schedule:**

*Saturday, August 26, 4:00pm*

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Sandy Miner

Lector: *Bill Johnson Sr.*

*Sunday, August 27, 9:00am*

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Fred & Sue De La Cruz

Lector: Rhonda Jubinville

**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](http://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 Vickie Avila Linker at 260-341-6209

**Local Food Pantry:**Item of the week- *Boxed Foods!*