St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church 408 West Catholic St.

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Facebook: StFrancisXavierPierceton
Father Daniel Chukwuleta, Pastor
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Secretary:Dulcie Stevens

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, Anytime by request Parish Office Hours Tuesdays 10:30-4:30pm

REFLECTIONS:... from Father Daniel

Is our religion one of life, or one of words, rites and devotions. The Gospel of today calls us to ask what kind of religion we profess. The first reading is linked to this theme; it proclaims "religious universality". The religion of life can be exposed by people not visibly part of the community of Jesus' disciples. God has already given pagans the same privilege as his chosen people. To educate us in this religion of life, God sometimes uses methods that are painful. Sometimes, he allows us to be victims of persecution. The second reading teaches this.

Jesus is asked a question in today's Gospel. "Will only a few people be saved?" I guess Jesus figures we can answer the question for ourselves by seeing how people live according to his teachings. If we live by his teachings, we're on our way to eternal happiness; if not, we'll lose out. The image of the closed door that Jesus used was a warning to Jews not to take their position as "chosen people" for granted. Likewise it's a

warning for all of us and the "closed door" reminds all of us that time will run out. We can't take salvation for granted. Life is just so long and none of us know how long it will last. And that is why our Lord wants us to avoid the pitfalls, and to take our faith seriously. The message or request of a little baby who is beginning to work for the first time is: "Take my hand and help me walk: And keep my balance till my legs strengthen. And should I fall, and fall again. Take my hand and help me up. St. Mother Teresa, one of the icons of holiness for our time, said that our call was to do the ordinary with extraordinary love. Because God gives us such a love, we can begin to treat our world and especially the people in it with reverence.

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

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.

Last Week's Collection:

Envelopes:\$995 Poor & needy: \$281

ABA- *Goal \$9,581.85* Current cards returned: 022/168

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Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, Parish Breakfast
Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, Religious Education
Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, Parish Council
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Sunday, October 5th,
                         Sunday, October 5th,
                                                                                         Saturday, October 4th, Kingdom Builders
                                                                                                                     Monday, September 22, RTL Banquet
                                                                                                                                                   Saturday, September 20th, Ladies Shipshie Shop & Lunch
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 Warsaw Life Chain
                                Donuts & Coffee
                                                              (Memorial Coliseum)
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                                                                                                                      6pm(doors open at 5pm)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            Following Mass
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                            Following Mass
 1:45-3:00pm
                                                                                         8:30-5pm
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Ministers Schedule:
Saturday, August 30, 4:00pm
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Sandy Miner Lector: Bill Johnson Sr.

Sunday, August 31, 9:00am

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Fred DeLaCruz

Lector: Penninger Family

Please Keep in Your Prayers this Week:

Sue DeLaCruz, Tom & Jena Brovont, Brent Widman, Niece of Carolyn Perry, Sharon DeLong, William (Liam) Bindley, Wyatt Bridegam, Andre Martinez & Maggie Elpusan.

Parish Announcements:

We are still in need of a few more counters for collections for the 1st & 2nd Sundays of the month. Counting happens after Mass on Sunday. Contact the office for more info. Please turn in your ABA cards at your earliest convenience.

Knights of Columbus:

Even if you missed recruitment night, you can still join to help us reach our recruiting goal for our own council. Contact the office or Nick Walenga to find out how you can help. Knights meet every 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm.

Women's Fellowship Group:

Don't forget to join your fellow women of the parish every 1st Friday for Mass/adoration then meet up for breakfast after at BlueSky Café on SR 13. Save the Date Ladies! Women's group is going "on the road"! Join your fellow ladies of the parish for shopping and lunch in Shipshewana on Saturday, September 20th. More information coming soon!

ABA Bulletin announcement:

The Annual Bishop's Appeal has begun. Donors who prefer 10 or 12 months of payments are encouraged to enter their pledge online, at https://diocesefwsb.org/aba/ any time after July 1st. Credit card payments are also easily processed through the website. Misplaced the card that was mailed to your home in July or didn't receive one? Cards & return envelopes will be in pew starting this weekend.

Kingdom Builders:

Kingdom Builders is seeking a part-time Bookkeeper and a part-time Development Coordinator to support our growing mission! To learn more about these opportunities and view the job description, please email Stephanie Weigert at stephanie.weigert buildingthroughhim.com.

Right Life Banquet:

NCIRL will hold their annual banquet at the OCC on the campus of Grace College on Monday September 22nd. Doors open at 5:00pm with dinner at 6pm. Tickets are \$35 per person and \$20 for students. There are two(2) tables of 8 reserved for parishioners of St. Francis. Please give great consideration as to your attendance at this banquet because it supplies attendees with up to date information relative to LIFE while bolstering the spiritual attitude for LIFE. The funds raised at the banquet go a long way in meeting the continuing expenses of underwriting the many and varied activities of North Central Indiana Right to Life. Contact Bill Landrigan and/or Nick Walenga for tickets. May also contact the Right to Life office at 574-307-7406 Monday-Thursday for tickets.

Warsaw Life Chain:

Right to Life of North Central Indiana is sponsoring the annual Life Chain on Sunday, October 5th from 1:45-3:00pm(rain or shine). Participants will stand along Buffalo Street and Winona Avenue in Warsaw holding non-graphic signs provided at no cost. Those who can't stand are welcome to bring a chair. Signs can be picked up at the corner of Prairie and Buffalo Streets and the corner of Buffalo and Winona Ave beginning at 1:30pm on October 5. For information visit: nci4life.org.

THEOLOGY ON TAP - FORT WAYNE:

Young people in their 20's and 30's are invited to the Summer 2025 Theology on Tap Series titled "Taste of Heaven". The weekly series runs every Tuesday from July

8th - Aug. 5th. Individuals of any faith are encouraged to attend. The event takes place at Charlie's Place. Doors, food, and bar service open at 6:30 p.m. Weekly talks begin at 7:00 p.m. Come for the food and drink, fellowship, explore your faith, and invite a friend. Learn more about the series at: diocesefwsb.org/tot-fw.

Canonization Celebration:

Celebrate the canonization of fifteen year old Saint Carlo Acutis, the first millennial saint and creator of the Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibition. Mass at 1 pm on Sunday, September 7 (date of Carlo's canonization) at Saint Felix Catholic Center, 1280 Hitzfield St, Huntington IN. Fr. Tony Steinacker celebrant. Following is the blessing of a classroom dedicated Saint Carlo and the Eucharistic Miracles. Refreshments, books, medals, prayer cards available.

ANNIVERSARY MASSES – FORT WAYNE AND SOUTH BEND:

All couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 65th or 70th wedding anniversary this year, along with their families, are invited to attend the Jubilee Anniversary Mass with Bishop Rhoades on Sunday, September 14, at 11 a.m. at St. Matthew Cathedral or Sunday, October 5, at 11:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception with a ticketed reception to follow. Anniversary couples will receive a commemorative certificate and two free tickets to the reception. Additional reception tickets for family and friends may be purchased for \$10 each. Children 10 and younger are free. To register, please go to diocesefwsb.org/anniversary-masses.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

