

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

408 West Catholic St.

Box 376

Piercetown, IN 46562

Office 574-594-5750

Website: www.sfxpiercetown.org

Facebook: StFrancisXavierPiercetown

Father Daniel Chukwulata, 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://diocesefwsb.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: 21st Sunday of Ordinary Times, Year A

Reading 1 Isaiah 22:19-23

Psalms Psalm 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8

Reading 2 Romans 11:33-36

Gospel Matthew 16:13-20

REFLECTIONS.... from Father Daniel

Theme of this Sunday: Faith in Christ, the Rock On which the Church is Founded. We find the theme of this Sunday in the Gospel: faith in Christ, Son of the living God, is the foundation of the Church. The first reading is but a comment and explains the symbolism of the keys and clarifies how authority should be understood. The second reading can be seen in the light of this theme because it presents the mysterious ways God intervenes in the history of humanity, the way he uses to lead us to discover the identity of Jesus of Nazareth.

In today's Gospel, Jesus asks the disciples a key question: "Who do you say that I am?" He wasn't asking for assurance as to who he was. He knew who he was. Peter, as always showing great leadership potential, gave Jesus the right answer: "You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God." It is a question and answer that affects all of us in what we do and how we live. Actually, how we answer this question affects every person in how they should live. With what authority does Jesus speak then? He then tells Peter that he will be the "rock of the Church" and gives him authority to bind and loose sins. The symbolic key which Jesus gave Peter would be passed along to the next person and so on. Whoever would have the key would have the authority and power to "open and one shall close or to close and none shall open." ie., to rule with authority. It is told later in Matthew's Gospel that this power would be shared with all the Apostles (Mt 18:18). Peter's authority comes from God. The Church's authority comes from God as well. What gives the whole thing a different slant is Jesus' preaching on authority. Authority is for service. To be a christian means to be a servant in God's kingdom. Pope Leo XIV said, "Our faith is authentic when it embraces our whole life, when it becomes a criterion for our decisions, when it makes us women and men committed to doing what is right and who take risks out of love, even as Jesus did." St. Augustine said, "Having experience of God brings you in relationship with others." And, Pope Leo XIV said, "In Cana, Jesus' disciples become his family and the faith of the church is born. All of us are invited to that wedding feast so that the new wine will no longer run short."

Right to Life Banquet:

Annual Right to Life Banquet will be Monday, September 21, 2026 at the Grace College MOCC. Doors open at 5pm, dinner will be served at 6pm. The speaker this year is George Dennehy, born without arms, he plays music from his heart with his feet. When just 18 months old, he was adopted from a grim Romanian orphanage that was in dire circumstances. Tickets are \$40 per person and are available from Bill Landrigan 574-551-3860.

VIBRANT CATHOLIC:

In July, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend launched Vibrant Catholic, a new quarterly magazine that will inspire faith, deepen formation, and highlight the life of the Church throughout our diocese. The magazine features 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-announcementen

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Last Week's Collection:

Loose: \$ 542 Envelopes: \$1,875

ABA Goal: \$10,170.26 **Current Pledges: \$8,120**

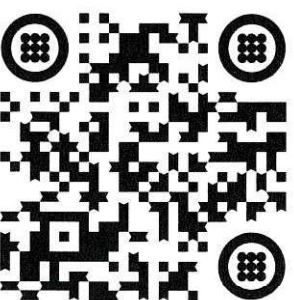
Local Food Pantry: Item of the week-**Boxed Foods!**

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@sfxpiercetn.org or join us after Mass August 29/30.

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**



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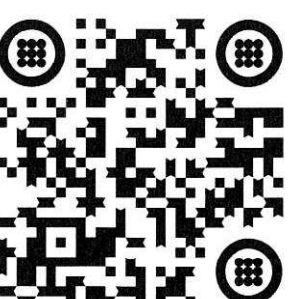
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Please Keep in Your Prayers this Week:

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

Mass Intentions for the Week and Activities:

Saturday, August 22, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 +Kameron Brown

Sunday, August 23, 21st Sunday of Ordinary Times

7:30 Our Parish

9:00 + Al Gilson

Monday, August 24, No Mass *Revelation 21:9b-14* John 1:45-51

Tuesday, August 25, 8:00 Mass Those Newly Diagnosed w/Cancer

Wednesday, August 26, 8am Mass +LeRoy Busing

Thursday, August 27, 8am Mass Living & Deceased Members

of the Lauterbach & List Families

Friday, August 28, 8am Mass + Tom Fortman

Saturday, August 29, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 Living & Deceased of the Daeger Family

Sunday, August 30, 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Times

7:30 Our Parish

9:00 + Ronald Barnhart

Upcoming Calendar Events:

Sat Aug 29th/Sunday Aug 30th Mass Help Following Mass

Sunday, August 30th, RE Registration Following Mass

Tuesday, September 1, Knights of Columbus Meeting 6:30pm

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

Monday, September 7th, Labor Day

Tuesday, September 8th, Parish Council 6:30pm

Sunday, September 13th, Annual Breakfast Following Mass

Sunday, September 13th, Religious Education starts

Monday, September 21st, Right to Life Banquet Door open @ 5pm

Saturday, September 26th, Euchre Tournament Following Mass

Sunday, October 4th, Annual Life Chain 1:45pm-3pm

Ministers Schedule:

Saturday, August 29, 4:00pm

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Rick Zydek

Lectors: Bill Johnson Sr.

Sunday, August 30, 9:00am

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Linda Seiss

Lector: Greg Rostochak