

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 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://diocesetwsh.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: 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Times, Year A

Reading 1 Jeremiah 20:7-9

Psalms Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

Reading 2 Romans 12:1-2

Gospel Matthew 16:21-27

REFLECTIONS... from Father Daniel

Theme of the Sunday: Seduced by Christ. In the first reading, Jeremiah complains that God has seduced him. He was convinced that following God would lead him to success and an easy life; instead he ended up as what seemed a total failure. In the Gospel, we see that Peter thinks like Jeremiah and does not accept a suffering, defeated Messiah. Jesus spells out conditions for those who follow him, so that nobody will be able to say they were seduced with flattery or false promises. The second reading is very close to the theme. It invites us not to go along with the way everybody else thinks. Other people may not find the life of a Christian acceptable.

To be a Christian is difficult. To be a messenger of God means being uncomfortable. This is Jesus' message to his disciples. Peter didn't like the sound of Jesus' message to his disciples. Peter didn't like the sound of Jesus' prediction of his own death. Jesus, though, had a radically different set of values and priorities. What seemed foolish to Peter was part of God's plan.

Aren't there a lot of things about our faith that do not make sense? In Today's Gospel we hear Jesus say: "Whoever wishes to save his life will lose it. Whoever loses his life for my sake will save it." Or we are told we must love our enemies and forgive them, or that when we receive Communion we are eating and drinking the body and blood of Christ. Somehow there is wisdom in the things we do, a wisdom based on the principle that whoever wishes to save his life will lose it and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. Jesus is telling us if we follow him it's going to bring us problems. Problems and crosses are part of everyone's life, whether they believe in Christ or not. Following Christ helps us deal with them more easily. And, the Gospel demands that Christians take a stand. It demands that we stand for a different reality. It demands that we not be conformists but that we learn to Judge God's will and do it. Does this mean that we all become fanatics? No, it does not. For St. John Paul II defined a "fanatic" as one "who looks at a piece of the pie and thinks it's the whole pie." I am convinced God teaches us the way to eternal life through Jesus' teachings, through prayer, scripture and sacraments. Always stand up for what you believe in; even if it means standing alone.

Please Keep in Your Prayers this Week:

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

Mass Intentions for the Week and Activities:

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

Monday, August 31, No Mass 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 Luke 4:16-30

Tuesday, September 1, 8:00 Mass + Annie Ryan

Wednesday, September 2, 8am Mass + Michael Bonahoom

Thursday, September 3, 8am Mass + Kathy Cone

Friday, September 4, 8am Mass + Shirley Wine

Saturday, September 5, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 + Dave & Kay Harter

Sunday, September 6, 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Times

7:30 Our Parish

9:00 + Fr. Charles Herman

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 at 5pm

Saturday, September 26th, Euchre Tournament Following Mass

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

Ministers Schedule:

Saturday, September 5, 4:00pm

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Volunteers

Lectors: Volunteers

Sunday, September 6, 9:00am

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Volunteers

Lector: Volunteers

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-announcement

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Last Week's Collection:

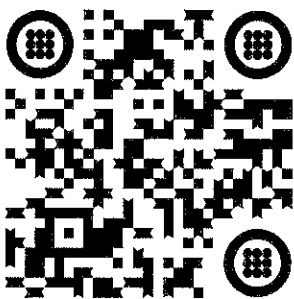
Loose: \$ 542 Envelopes: \$1,875

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@sfxpierceon.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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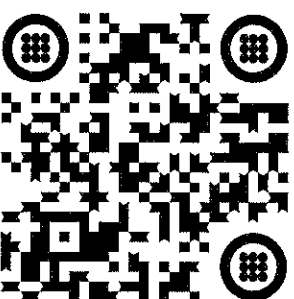
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