

**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**

**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**

To be Christian is difficult. To be a messenger of God means being uncomfortable. It may even mean death. This is 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.

Jeremiah, a messenger from God, could find no comfort. He thought that people would be grateful to him for speaking God's word to them. If he spoke the message, he was laughed to scorn. If he tried to hold it in, it became a burning fire in his heart. He agreed to be a prophet and then suffered because of his role.

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. But, what it means is that you are obligated to take up your cross. It means that you will be uncomfortable with injustice. It means that you learn to pray and judge by God's standards, it means that you follow Jesus, through death to resurrection.

Like Jesus or Jeremiah, a messenger from God is always faithful to his calling. Will Rogers told a story you might enjoy that was about two politicians. One said to the other: "I'll stop telling lies about you, if you'll stop telling the truth about me."

Politicians are busy telling us how they are going to solve all our problems if we vote for them. 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. Pope Francis, speaking to 500 youth on a pilgrimage

to Rome in August 2013, he told them : "Make the future with beauty, with goodness and truth... Have courage. Go Forward. Make noise." Also, he said, " Let us also smile even if it was a difficult day, because we see the hope."

**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: \$223.40

Envelopes: \$ 1,452

ABA Goal: \$ 10,492.38

ABA Donations: \$ 4,550

Respondents: 24

**Readings for 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Times:**

**Reading 1** Jer 20:7-9

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

**Reading 2** Rom 12:1-2

**Gospel** Mt 16:21-27

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

**Saturday, September 2, 3:00 Reconciliation**

**4:00 + Tiana & Tynan Cain**

**Sunday, September 3, 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Times**

**7:30 Our Parish Family**

**9:00 + Fr. Charles Herman**

**Monday, September 4, No Mass 1 Thes 4:13-18 Lk 4:16-30**

**Tuesday, September 5, 8:00**

**Wednesday, September 6, 8:00 + Beverly Meiner**

**Thursday, September 7, 8:00**

**Friday, September 8, 8:00 + Wanda Smyjunas**

**Saturday, September 9, 3:00 Reconciliation**

**4:00 Our Parish**

**Sunday, September 10, 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Times**

**9:00 + Leo Dahm**

**Upcoming Events:**

**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, September 9, 4:00pm**

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Rick Zydek

Lector: Angie Burkhart

**Sunday, September 10, 9:00am**

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Wendy Bridegam

Lector: Mary Sutton

#### 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.

#### Parish Brunch Fall Bash:

Pancakes, French Toast, sausage, and drinks will be provided. Parishioners are asked to bring a breakfast casserole of their choosing. There will be a 50-50 raffle. A door prize for adults and one for kids. Also Games for all ages. Feel free to bring cards or your favorite game.

#### 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).

#### Have you made your gift to the Annual Bishop's Appeal?

Thank you to those who have already made a pledge or gift to this year's Annual Bishop's Appeal, which funds roughly half of our diocesan operating budget. If you have not yet responded, there is still time. We hope for 100% participation from our families as we work together to invite those in our diocese to encounter Christ in the church and each other. Learn more and donate online: [diocesefwfb.org/aba](http://diocesefwfb.org/aba).

**Local Food Pantry:**Item of the week-*Soups!*