

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church
408 West Catholic St.

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Father Daniel Chukwuleta, Pastor

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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

I suppose that forgiving is the hardest thing we are asked to do. What do we do when someone wrongs us? A cruel teacher. An unfriendly parent. An unfaithful spouse. An unreasonable boss. We experience actual hurt and there is a wound left in our souls. What can be done? How do we respond? Writing to the Romans, St. Paul reminds us that the greatest commandment is to love our neighbors as ourselves. Our response should come out of love. The response outlined in today's Gospel is different from our usual response. Our response of being wronged is often enough to complain to someone else about our hurt feelings(anger, or whatever). The response calls for a certain amount of courage and is motivated by love.

The first reading also touches on the responsibility we have to correct our brothers and sisters or we will be held accountable. Just as Jesus instructs his followers how to help each other stay on the right track. It is not a responsibility to be taken lightly. Because what is at stake is important- the health of the individual and of the community.

What if someone does not respond? The Gospel outlines the steps to take, and the final resort is to treat the person as a Gentle or tax collector/ To the first Christians, coming from Jewish origins, Gentiles and tax collectors were outcasts. But if we look once again to St. Paul's letter, we find that they too should be treated with love. Love does not mean accepting everything a person does. It does mean accepting the person. Recall the last time someone hurt you. What happened? Have you forgiven the person? Pray for him or her. Remember holding onto anger has been likened to taking a sip of poison everyday, not enough to kill, but more than enough to debilitate. Pope Francis said, "It's bad walking alone; it's bad and boring. Walking in community, with

friends, with those who love us, that helps us. It helps us to arrive precisely at that goal that 'there where' we're supposed to arrive." St. Therese of the child Jesus, who entered the Carmelite monastery at the age of 15 said, "I have found a vocation and my vocation is love."

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: \$603

Envelopes: \$710

ABA Goal: \$ 10,492.38

ABA Donations: \$ 4,550

Respondents: 24

Readings for 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Times:

Reading 1 Ez 33:7-9

Psalms Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

Reading 2 Rom 13:8-10

Gospel Mt 18:15-20

Mass Intentions for the Week and Activities:

Saturday, September 9, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 Our Parish

Sunday, September 10, 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Times

9:00 + Leo Dahm

Following Mass Religious Education

Following Mass Donuts & Coffee

Monday, September 11, No Mass Col 1:24-2:3 Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday, September 12, 8:00

Wednesday, September 13, 8:00 + Loretta Dahm

Thursday, September 14, 8:00

Friday, September 15, 8:00 + Joe Smyjunas Sr.

Saturday, September 16, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 + Charles R. Clements

Sunday, September 17, 24th Sunday of Ordinary Times
9:00 Our Parish

Following Mass Religious Education
Following Mass Parish Brunch Bash

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, September 17	Parish Brunch Bash	Following Mass 6pm
Monday, September 18	Right to Life Banquet	
Thursday, September 21	Drive Thru Community Dinner	5pm-out
Sunday, October 1	Donuts & Coffee	Following Mass
Tuesday, October 3	Parish Council	7pm
Saturday, October 7	Kingdom Builders Women's Conference	

Ministers Schedule:

Saturday, September 16, 4:00pm

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Sandy Miner

Lector: Bill Johnson Sr.

Sunday, September 17, 9:00am

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Tracy Gaunt

Lector: Rhonda Jubinville

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 Bracher 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.

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: diocesefwsh.org/aba.

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