

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

408 West Catholic St.

Box 376

Pierceton, IN 46562

Office 574-594-5750.

Website: www.sfxpierceton.org

Facebook: StFrancisXavierPierceton

Father Daniel Chukwuleta, Pastor

Email: father@sfxpierceton.org

Secretary: Dulcie Stevens

Email: office@sfxpierceton.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!)

Last Week's Collection:

Loose: \$302 Envelopes: \$1,432

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

Readings for: 4th Sunday of Easter

Reading 1 Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalm Psalm 23: 1-3a, 3b4, 5, 6

Reading 2 1 Peter 2:20b-25

Gospel John 10:1-10

REFLECTIONS:... from Father Daniel

Today is often referred to as Good Shepherd Sunday. A shepherd is a guide and a leader and so the fourth Sunday after Easter is called Vocation Sunday: a day of special prayer for those who are “shepherds” in the Church. There is only one “Shepherd” and that is Jesus. We are his flock. Those who belong to his flock recognize his voice. Jesus is also the gate. Those who need to contact his sheep must go through him, must, that is, mold their way of thinking and acting on his. The first and second readings are linked to this theme and show us what Jesus did, which we must imitate.

Notice that Jesus called himself the gate twice. When he said he was the gate, he was saying he would protect us and care for us and he would provide for us. The best remembered and loved psalm of all 150 psalms is Psalm 23: “The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.” It symbolizes God’s protection and care and guidance. But there are two sides to that coin. If he is to be our shepherd and protector, he expects that we will follow him. We will hear his voice. We all want to get to heaven in the next life and if we are to be saved, it is through Jesus. We hear His voice especially in Prayer. Pope Leo XIV said, “Time spent in prayer is the most fruitful investment of one’s life, because it is there that the Lord shapes our feelings, purifies our desires and strengthens our vocation.”

The two teenagers, returning from a football game, decided to take a shortcut home over the railway. They were so busy chatting that they didn’t hear the oncoming train until it was a short distance from them. Quickly sensing the danger, the older boy immediately thought of his friend and pushed him to safety. Meanwhile his own foot got caught in the tracks. Moments later he was struck by the train. His final words before he died were to ask if his friend is safe. He sacrificed his own life to save his friend. He dies to save a friend. Just as Jesus, the only good Shepherd died on the cross to save the world.

Please Keep in Your Prayers this Week:

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

Your Used Stamps and Postcards can

Help Spread the Light of Christ:

On average, 50 used commemorative stamps can generate enough money to provide a healthy lunch at schools run by the Sisters of the Holy Cross around the world. That's the impact you can make when you save the canceled commemorative or unusual stamps and postcards from your mail and send them to the Sisters of the

Holy Cross Stamp Ministry. If you have a stamp or postcard collection you'd be willing to donate, it can do even more! Money raised through the sale of these items supports our Ministry With the Poor, where small projects have life-changing impact. Leave at least 1/4 inch on each side of the stamp when cutting it from the envelope.

Mail to:

Sisters of the Holy Cross, Stamp Ministry

200 Rosary Hall

Notre Dame, IN 46556.

Questions?

Call 574-284-5675 or

www.cscsisters.org/stamp-ministry/

FAITH FORWARD: CONNECTING OUR GRADUATING

SENIORS:

Parishes around the diocese are participating in Newman Connection's Faith Forward movement — a national initiative helping graduating high school seniors stay connected to their Catholic faith as they move on to college, the military, or the workforce. By sharing their post-graduation plans, seniors can be personally connected to a Catholic campus ministry, military chaplain, or young adult parish near their next destination. If you are a graduating senior — or the parent or grandparent of one — please learn more sign up today at signupnc.newmanministry.com.

ST. AUGUSTINE MEN'S GROUP:

If you struggle with addiction to pornography or sexual struggles, you are invited to be made new. With groups meeting in Fort Wayne and South Bend, the lives of men have been transformed because of their willingness to change, to be honest, and to seek connection not only with God but with their fellow brothers through the Saint Augustine Men's Group. Meetings focus on the positive and what we can do to overcome our daily struggles. Discover a path to true freedom by visiting diocesefwsb.org/augustine or e-mailing staugustinefwsb@gmail.com

Ministers Schedule:

Saturday, May 2, 4:00pm

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Rick Zydek

Lectors: Bill Johnson Sr.

Sunday, May 3, 9:00am

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Sharon DeLong

Lector: Dulcie Stevens

Mass Intentions for the Week and Activities:

Saturday, April 25, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 Living & Deceased Members of the

Landrigan and Weaver Families

Sunday, April 26, 4th Sunday of Easter

9:00 Our Parish

Following Mass Religious Education

Monday, April 27, No Mass **Acts 11:1-18 John 10:11-18**

Tuesday, April 28, 8:00 + Robert Wontorski

Wednesday, April 29, 8:00 + Gladys Rienks

Thursday, April 30, 8:00 + Robert Hoffman

Friday, May 1, 8:00 Healing for Rachel Pecoraro

Following Mass Adoration

Following Adoration Women's Meet-up

Saturday, May 2, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 Our Parish

Sunday, May 3, 5th Sunday of Easter

9:00 St. Francis Xavier Community

Following Mass

Upcoming Calendar Events:

Sunday, April 26th, *Last Religious Education Class* Following Mass

Friday, May 1st, Adoration Following Mass

Friday, May 1st, Women's Fellowship Meet-up Following Adoration

Sunday, May 3rd, 1st Communion 9am

Sunday, May 3rd, May Crowning Following Mass

Tuesday, May 5th, Knights of Columbus Meeting 6:30pm

Tuesday, May 12th, Parish Council Meeting 6:30pm

Tuesday, June 2nd, Knights of Columbus Meeting 6:30pm

Sunday, June 7th, Graduation Mass 9am

Friday, July 17th & 18th Piercetons Days

Saturday, July 18th Piercetons Days Parade 12pm

Ministers Schedule:

Saturday, May 2, 4:00pm

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Rick Zydek

Lectors: Bill Johnson Sr.

Sunday, May 3, 9:00am

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Sharon DeLong

Lector: Dulcie Stevens

Mass Intentions for the Week and Activities:

Saturday, April 25, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 Living & Deceased Members of the

Landrigan and Weaver Families

Sunday, April 26, 4th Sunday of Easter

9:00 Our Parish

Following Mass Religious Education

Monday, April 27, No Mass **Acts 11:1-18 John 10:11-18**

Tuesday, April 28, 8:00 + Robert Wontorski

Wednesday, April 29, 8:00 + Gladys Rienks

Thursday, April 30, 8:00 + Robert Hoffman

Friday, May 1, 8:00 Healing for Rachel Pecoraro

Following Mass Adoration

Following Adoration Women's Meet-up

Saturday, May 2, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 Our Parish

Sunday, May 3, 5th Sunday of Easter

9:00 St. Francis Xavier Community

Following Mass

Upcoming Calendar Events:

Sunday, April 26th, *Last Religious Education Class* Following Mass

Friday, May 1st, Adoration Following Mass

Friday, May 1st, Women's Fellowship Meet-up Following Adoration

Sunday, May 3rd, 1st Communion 9am

Sunday, May 3rd, May Crowning Following Mass

Tuesday, May 5th, Knights of Columbus Meeting 6:30pm

Tuesday, May 12th, Parish Council Meeting 6:30pm

Tuesday, June 2nd, Knights of Columbus Meeting 6:30pm

Sunday, June 7th, Graduation Mass 9am

Friday, July 17th & 18th Piercetons Days

Saturday, July 18th Piercetons Days Parade 12pm

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 add 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.

1st Communicants and Graduates:

Our First Communion Mass will be May 3rd at 9am and our Mass for Graduates will be June 7th at 9am. If you would like to offer cards of congratulations for our Communicants Oliver Booher & Aaron Stevens or Graduates Hannah Landrigan & Hunter Rostochak please feel free to throw your cards of congratulations into the collection basket. There will also be a box for cards at their respective Masses. If you are a new registration to the parish and have a graduate that would like to be included in the graduation Mass, please contact our DRE Sharon DeLong or the office at office@sfxpiercetn.org.

Donation Drive: LAST WEEKEND

For the Month of April in honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month the Parish Council is hosting a donation drive for Safe Harbor-Kosciusko County Child Advocacy Center.

Safe Harbor is where kids, families and people in child abuse investigations come together. Safe Harbor is a center that provides a unique approach to the investigation of cases of abuse and neglect of children.

They are in need of some items:

- Small toys- matchbox cars, stickers, beanie babies, stuffed toys
- Boys & girls deodorant
- Small bottles of shampoo
- Small bottles of conditioner
- Small hairbrushes
- Decks of cards
- Journals
- Crayons
- Small tubes of toothpaste

*Any monetary donations will be put towards the supplies they need

There will be bin in the back of church for you to put items

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 add 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.

1st Communicants and Graduates:

Our First Communion Mass will be May 3rd at 9am and our Mass for Graduates will be June 7th at 9am. If you would like to offer cards of congratulations for our Communicants Oliver Booher & Aaron Stevens or Graduates Hannah Landrigan & Hunter Rostochak please feel free to throw your cards of congratulations into the collection basket. There will also be a box for cards at their respective Masses. If you are a new registration to the parish and have a graduate that would like to be included in the graduation Mass, please contact our DRE Sharon DeLong or the office at office@sfxpiercetn.org.

Donation Drive: LAST WEEKEND

For the Month of April in honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month the Parish Council is hosting a donation drive for Safe Harbor-Kosciusko County Child Advocacy Center.

Safe Harbor is where kids, families and people in child abuse investigations come together. Safe Harbor is a center that provides a unique approach to the investigation of cases of abuse and neglect of children.

They are in need of some items:

- Small toys- matchbox cars, stickers, beanie babies, stuffed toys
- Boys & girls deodorant
- Small bottles of shampoo
- Small bottles of conditioner
- Small hairbrushes
- Decks of cards
- Journals
- Crayons
- Small tubes of toothpaste

*Any monetary donations will be put towards the supplies they need

There will be bin in the back of church for you to put items