

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://diocesefwspb.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: \$249 Envelopes: \$1,590

Local Food Pantry: Item of the week-**Cereal/PB&J!**

Readings for: 5th Sunday of Easter

Reading 1 Acts 6:1-7

Psalm Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19

Reading 2 1 Peter 2:4-9

Gospel John 14:1-12

REFLECTIONS:... from Father Daniel

The central theme of today's readings is the "many rooms" present in the house of the Father, that is, the many ways we can help each other. In the Gospel Jesus says that the way to the Father is the service of our brothers and sisters. The second reading uses the image of a new building and the first reading describes how the community of Jerusalem solved a problem. Both readings help us to deepen our understanding of the message.

The "house" of God mentioned in the Gospel refers not only to heaven, but wherever God is. Thus, the "many dwelling places" in God's house are the members of the Church, living stones built into a spiritual temple on the cornerstone Christ, bonded by the Spirit. Jesus repeatedly stressed His unity with the Father: "Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me." But the Apostles did not share Jesus' notions of God, even after they'd been with Him for quite sometime. St. John reminds us that in Jesus we encounter all we know of God. And, only by believing in Christ and fashioning our lives after His own can we become like the Father who is perfect Divine love, mercy and even handed generosity.

In scripture Jesus tells us to serve, and he promises us the reward of joy. Yet the world teaches us to believe that money, power and/or worldly success will bring us joy. My experience serving the disabled persons has brought me to the truth: Joy is not the world's gift to give. Joy is God's gift, and it is given to anyone who serves another with compassion. Or as Henri Nouwen writes, "Joy is the secret gift of compassion." St. Pope John Paul II said, "It is not enough to discover Christ, you must bring Him to others." And, St. Augustine says: "AS children of the same Father walking the same path toward the same embrace of love, we should always discuss differences in the spirit of charity." St. Mother Teresa said, "The world is full of good people. IF you can't find one, be one."

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 9, 4:00pm***Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**Sandy Miner**Lectors:** Chris Lemmon*Sunday, May 10, 9:00am***Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:** Tracy Gaunt**Lector:** Rhonda Jubinville**Mass Intentions for the Week and Activities:**

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 May Crowning

Following May Crowning Reception

Monday, May 4th, No Mass **Acts 14:5-18 John 14:21-26**

Tuesday, May 5th, 8:00 +Fr. Charles Herman

6:30 Knights of Columbus

Wednesday, May 6th, 8:00 +William Lauterbach

Thursday, May 7th, 8:00 + Mark Robinson

Friday, May 8th, 8:00 Paschke & Grubbs Family

Saturday, May 9th, 3:00 Reconciliation

4:00 Living & Deceased Members of the

Landrigan & Weaver Families

Sunday, May 10th, 6th Sunday of Easter

9:00 Our Parish

Upcoming Calendar Events:

Sunday, May 3rd, 1st Communion 9am

Sunday, May 3rd, May Crowning Following Mass

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

Thursday, May 7th, National Day of Prayer

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

Thursday, May 21st, Community Dinner 5pm-till out

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

Sunday, June 7th, Graduation Mass 9am

Saturday, July 4th, 250th Anniversary of Independence

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@sfxpiercetons.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@sfxpiercetons.org.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter:**Give the gift of a happier marriage this Summer!**

Give, and receive, the gift of a more passionate, connected, and loving marriage. Enroll today!

Attend at:

Lindenwood Retreat Center, Plymouth IN**June 26-28th**

Overnight stay Friday and Saturday as well as all meals are included.

There's no group discussion. It's just about the two of you learning to be the best, most loving and thriving couple you can be.

Apply at www.wmme.org, or contact Jeff and Brenda at: application@wmme-ni.org or 260-484-1664.

The History and Meaning of the May Crowning

The May Crowning as a formal ceremony developed in 19th-century Europe, rooted in the much older tradition of dedicating May to Mary. By the late 1800s, Catholic schools and parishes across Europe and America had begun celebrating the crowning of Mary's statue with flowers on May 1st or the first Sunday of May. The theological foundation is rich. When we crown Mary, we are drawing on several layers of meaning:

Mary as Queen of Heaven. The Book of Revelation speaks of a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. The Church has long seen in this image a reflection of Mary, crowned and glorified in heaven.

Mary as the New Eve. Where Eve brought sin and death into the world through her disobedience, Mary brought redemption through her obedience. Crowning her in May is a celebration of that yes — the fiat that changed everything.

Spring and new life. The flowers of the crown are not decorative — they carry meaning. Spring flowers represent new life, resurrection, and the beauty that comes after winter. Crowning Mary with flowers in May connects her to the renewal of the Easter season still unfolding around us.

Pope Pius XII, in his encyclical *Ad Caeli Reginam* (1954), formally instituted the feast of Mary's Queenship and affirmed that honoring her as Queen is inseparable from honoring her Son as King.

Congratulations

to

Oliver Boocher

And

Aaron Stevens

On receiving the
Sacrament of

1st Holy Communion

On Sunday, May 3rd at
gam Mass