

Journey OF Faith

26 december 2010

St. Francis Xavier
Catholic Church

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



CARRACCI, Andrea c. 1605

JESUS OF

Nazareth

In Word & Deed

Some of the most humorous moments on the show, "Everybody Loves Raymond," were those that reminded viewers of their own families. It was easy to laugh at the flaws and antics of the characters because in them we recognized a bit of ourselves. Faced with the same kinds of situations, we know just how everyone would react—with the same silliness, or comic expression, or choice of words. It's always easier to laugh at ourselves when we know that everyone else is just like us.

In the Holy Family we also recognize a bit of ourselves. Our size and circumstances vary, but beyond the superficial differences, we are the same. The virtues of God's chosen ones that St. Paul describes to the Colossians are at

(continued on back)

Father Fields *your questions* by Father Jim Field

Q. *Where did Holy Days of Obligation come from?*

(continued on back)

Scripture Readings

Sunday December 26

Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 / Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 /
Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Monday December 27

1 Jn 1:1-4 / Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday December 28

1 Jn 1:5-2:2 / Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday December 29

1 Jn 2:3-11 / Lk 2:22-35

Thursday December 30

1 Jn 2:12-17 / Lk 2:36-40

Friday December 31

1 Jn 2:18-21 / Jn 1:1-18

Saturday January 1

Nm 6:22-27 / Gal 4:4-7 / Lk 2:16-21

Sunday January 2

Is 60:1-6 / Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Mt 2:1-12

FAMILY LIFE:

TO WALK AS ONE

Did you ever consider your family to be holy? You can stop smiling now! Not many people would consider their own family to be holy. With all the faults and foibles of daily living, holy is not a word most would use. But what does it mean to be holy? Doesn't holiness mean we



share in God's life? Doesn't it mean we do as Jesus did by teaching, forgiving, preaching and healing? Doesn't holiness mean we struggle against the power of evil by doing good, choosing to follow

God's way even if we fail on occasion? Isn't holiness the call of baptism and the goal of sacraments? Aren't we holy when we love one another? Show good example? Help our neighbor? Keep a peaceful home? Share our resources? Care for the weak and the needy? Comfort those who feel a loss or who are lost? Offer a helping hand? Isn't that what holiness is all about?

So, let's repeat the question: did you ever consider your family to be holy? The answer is yes!

-Jim Gaffney
jim@stgeorgepublishing.com

In Word & Deed

(continued from front)

the core of what it means to be a family. Clothed in mercy, kindness and patience, we bear with one another, forgive one another and love one another, so that as one holy family we help each other grow in faith, hope and love.

Family gives us roots, identity, a place to grow up and a place to call home. We find the support and safety and freedom to be ourselves, to develop our strengths and correct our faults. More importantly, we share the incredible gifts of life and grace with each other. We honor those we love and become the people God calls us to be. We learn and practice the miraculous virtues of God's chosen ones, because that is who He calls us to be.

-Jim Gaffney

Father Fields *your questions*

(continued from front)

A. Sunday is the original holy day. Gradually, people began to observe other days as times to gather for liturgy. Soon, these days were also civil holidays: the original long weekend! It didn't take long for these days to multiply: Italy today has twenty-two Holy Days, and nearly all of them are stretched into a long weekend! In the USA, bishops fixed the menu at 6 days in 1885. Before that, English, Spanish, and French communities in North America kept different calendars. When ties with the Diocese of London were severed in 1777, Catholics here were left with 11 holy days of obligation, lasting until the trim-back of 1885. In 1969, our

bishops decided to transfer Epiphany from January 6 to the previous Sunday. A few years ago, our bishops in the American west moved Ascension Day from Thursday to Sunday. Because many American Catholics have to journey long distances for Mass, our bishops have decided to lift the obligation in certain instances when a holy day falls on a Monday or Saturday. The goal is for everyone in the faith community to be able to keep the obligation by gathering for Mass, and for celebration and feasting. When a "Holy Day of Obligation" is announced, our tradition is to assemble at the tables of God's Word and the Eucharist.

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From Father's Desk

In the movie "The Bells of St. Mary", Horace Bogardes is a very successful businessman who has built this brand new building right next to the deteriorating school building from St. Mary's Parish. If you have not seen this movie, this is one that you and your family must see. The nuns who teach at the school are praying that Horace would donate the building to them.

Eventually, Horace begins to have a change of heart. In a conversation with Fr. O'Malley, the pastor, Horace says something very interesting. He says, "If I had to live my life over again, there would be a lot of changes made. You know, there's great beauty in this world. If you just have the eyes to see it, isn't it there? Yes, life can be very beautiful."

Fr. O'Malley then passes on these words of wisdom; "I shall pass this way but once. If there's any good I can do for anyone, let me do it now and not put it off, for I shall not pass this way again."

There are two beautiful Christmas messages in this conversation. First, Horace is right that there is great beauty in this world. We are celebrating one of the most beautiful events in history to ever occur. The fact that Jesus would come to this earth in human flesh is mind boggling. Imagine how beautiful and simple it must have been to see the baby Jesus with Joseph and Mary! I truly believe that Horace's message is important for us still today. If we have eyes to see it, life can be very beautiful.

Take a look around. Life is beautiful. Just as Horace said, what we don't want to do at the end of our life is to wish that we could live it over again. Spend some time this Christmas Season to see the beauty in the life around you. Some of you may be experiencing some difficulties in life which makes it harder to see the beauty. I pray that the Jesus will be walking with you. The beauty in this is that Jesus is even closer to you in the midst of your difficulties.

The second Christmas message comes from Fr. O'Malley's challenge. "When there is a chance for us to do good, do it now for we may not get that opportunity again." I know that we are given the opportunity every day to do good. Unless you are a hermit, we encounter people in our lives every day. Whether it is your spouse, children, parents, coworkers or friends, we have a chance to make a difference.

During this season of peace and joy, may we all be a source of that goodness. I have seen and experienced how so many of you have been moved by the grace of Christ to change the lives of so many people. Our Lord wants each one of us to bring His love to those around us.

May the blessings of this Christmas fill your hearts with the amazing love of Christ!

Peace,
Fr. David Hennen

Your School News

"Nurturing Faith; Engaging Minds"

We are on vacation until
January 3rd.
School Office will not be open.



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**St. Francis Xavier Fund Raiser Calendars are  
now available after the Masses and in the  
School and Parish Offices!**

**Only \$20 per calendar...a winner every day!  
\$9,000 will be paid out in 2011!!!**



**Last day to purchase... January 13th.  
Don't miss out**

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**Dear Parishioners,
May the joy and peace of Christmas
be with you today and throughout the New Year.
- The Students and Staff of St. Francis Xavier School**

Faith Formation

There is no Faith Formation on December 29th. For more info regarding anything listed below, contact Director of FF at Brantly.Millegan@stfxb.org or ext. 105.

Faith Formation Volunteers Update:

We are in need of two Volunteers...

- 1st grade Catechist. These classes are only held on the first Wednesday of each month.
- 7th grade Assistant. The main Catechist is sometimes on call for his job and so we need someone who, if he had to leave, would already be there, know the kids, and keep things going. Unlike the classes of younger kids, this class meets **every Wednesday** (with exceptions for holidays). If you can help, please contact Brantly Millegan.

The High School Youth Group:

There will be **no youth group tonight, Dec 26th or Jan 2nd**. We will resume normal youth group on Jan 9th. Youth Group is always 7:00pm - 9:00pm on Sundays in the Youth Room.

Adult Volunteers for High School Youth Group:

We would like to compile a list of adults interested in helping out with the high school youth group, particularly women. There is no commitment at this point; we just want to know who to go to for various things in the future. If interested, go to our church website (www.stfxb.org), click the Faith Formation tab at the top, and then click on 'Volunteer Interest Form' on the left.



**An invitation
to
Non-practicing
Catholics**

For more
information, please
contact Kathy Kuzma
at 612-850-2030



Catholics Returning Home

Renew Your Catholic Faith

**Were you raised Catholic but seldom come to church anymore?
Are you a Catholic who now feels separated from the church?
Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church as it is today?
Would you like to feel at home in the Catholic Church again?**

No matter how long you have been away and no matter the reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Catholic Church. If you know someone who has left the Church, please invite him or her to join us. There are blue brochures located in the back of church and on tables outside Trinity Hall that explain this program in greater detail. No cost or registration necessary.

**Join us Thursdays at 7:00pm
Beginning January 6, 2011 in the Parish Hall**

Jan. 6 – Welcome/Overview

Jan. 13 – Stories of Faith

Jan. 20 – The Church Today

Jan. 27 – The Mass Explained

Feb. 3 – The Sacraments

Feb. 10 – What Catholics Believe



Want to Regain that Spark in your Marriage? Two Great Opportunities are coming this January!

Covenant of Love

**Friday, January 21, 2011 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm
(childcare available)**

St. Francis Xavier has been offering a program inviting couples to strengthen their marital relationship. During these gatherings, couples have a wonderful time learning more about themselves and each other.

During the private verbal sharing time at the end of each night, couples learn alternative ways of communicating, solving problems, and handling differences. It is our hope that we will help you to allow God to exist at the center of your marriage.

Here are what some of the people said in anonymous evaluations about our Marriage program...

- * "It was really wonderful - supportive, comfortable, and caring experience"
- * "We learned how to put ourselves in the other person's shoes and how to make time together a priority"
- * "You do a fantastic job, Than you so much!"
- * 91% of the couples claimed that this course improved their communication skills and that they now spend more time with each other.

If you would like to take advantage of our childcare, you need to make a reservation by calling Karla at 763-682-1268. No registration is necessary for the event, but if you have any questions, please contact Karen or Bill at 763-682-1113.

Annual Cana Dinner

**Saturday, January 29, 2011 from 6:00pm to
8:30pm (following 5:00 Mass)**

All married and engaged couples are invited to a special Marriage Enrichment Evening at St. Francis Xavier Church. Join us in the Parish Hall for good food and fellowship

6:00 Appetizers and Wine
6:30 Renewal of Marriage Vows
6:45 Dinner
7:30 Speaker: Deacon James Meyer

Deacon James Meyer was ordained in 2003. He and his wife, Chris, have two married daughters. Prior to his ordination he had a career in business for 25 years. He now serves as a deacon and the Parish Life Coordinator at the Cathedral of St. Paul. With his life experiences and involvement with Marriage preparation, he is able to give great insight on the gift of Marriage.

Tickets for the Cana Dinner are available at the Parish Office, during regular office hours. Tickets will also be sold after Masses on January 15-16 and January 22-23. \$30 per couple - make checks payable to St. Francis Xavier Church.

For more information or if you would like to help with this event, please contact Jan Hance at 763-210-8105.

Weekly Calendar

Monday, December 27, 2010

Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, December 28, 2010

6:00pm	Reconciliation	Church
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7:00pm	Mass: Ray Reif+	Church
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Wednesday, December 29, 2010

7:00am	Reconciliation	Church
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7:30am	Mass: Deloris Brant+	Church
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Thursday, December 30, 2010

7:00am	Reconciliation	Church
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7:30am	Mass: Gordon Nieman+	Church
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Friday, December 31, 2010

Parish Office Closed

7:00am	Reconciliation	Church
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7:30am	Mass: Adrian Dupont+	Church
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Saturday, January 1, 2011

10:00am	Mary, Mother of God Mass: Alex Family	Church
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3:30pm	Reconciliation	Church
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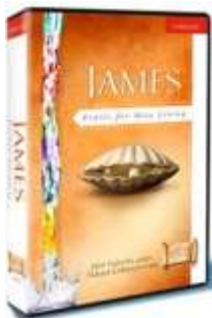
5:00pm	Mass: Gene and Pearl Varner++	Church
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Sunday, January 2, 2011

7:30am	Mass: Parishioners of St. Francis Xavier	Church
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9:00am	Mass: Shirley Hettwer and Mike Demorrett++	Church
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11:00am	Mass: Cindy Munsterteiger+	Trinity Hall
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A Study on the Bible Book of James is Starting in January!

James is one of the most practical books of the Bible. Like the book of Proverbs, it is a book of wisdom, a collection of teachings on issues faced by ordinary Christians in everyday life. These teachings speak loudly to all those who feel torn between the competing demands of this world and their faith.

We have two times available (come to only one):

- Sunday Evenings 7pm-9pm (Starting January 16)
- Thursday Mornings 9am-11am (Starting January 20)

* Cost of Study is \$23.00 for price of materials

Both dates to be held at the Education Center. Participants will meet in a large group for the presentation via DVD, and then in small groups for discussions.

For more information or to sign up please contact:
Debbie Flatla at 763-242-3417 or email at daflatlabuf@aol.com

Eucharistic Adoration

Are you feeling God calling you?

Try coming to Eucharistic Adoration. This is quiet time, generally an hour, spent in prayer before Jesus present in the Eucharist. You will deepen your personal relationship with Jesus, helping you grow in faith, hope, and love.



Both Mother Teresa of Calcutta & Pope John Paul II have shown us the importance of Eucharistic Adoration by spending 2-3 hours every day with our Lord in Adoration.

Please consider signing up for one specific hour each week. There are several open times that need to be filled for The table to the below displays all the current information. If you would like to become a scheduled adorer, please contact any of the coordinators listed below for the hour(s) you are interested in covering:

Midnight to 6:00am: Patricia Riley (682-9772);
6:00am to Noon: Joan Schmitz (682-4456);
Noon to 6:00pm: Terri Dick (684-1965);
6:00pm to Midnight: Marilyn Quigley (682-1908).

Time	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
12 am - 1 am			One adorer scheduled			One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled
1 - 2 am	One adorer scheduled				One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled
2 - 3 am	One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled					
3 - 4 am	Adorer needed			One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled		One adorer scheduled
4 - 5 am		One adorer scheduled			One adorer scheduled		One adorer scheduled
5 - 6 am	One adorer scheduled						
6 - 7 am					One adorer scheduled		One adorer scheduled
7 - 8 am	One adorer scheduled						
8 - 9 am							One adorer scheduled
9 - 10 am							
10 - 11 am						One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled
11 - 12 noon				One adorer scheduled			One adorer scheduled
12 - 1 pm	One adorer scheduled				One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled	
1 - 2 pm	One adorer scheduled			One adorer scheduled	Adorer needed		Adorer needed
2 - 3 pm						One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled
3 - 4 pm							One adorer scheduled
4 - 5 pm	One adorer scheduled					One adorer scheduled	
5 - 6 pm	One adorer scheduled						Adorer needed
6 - 7 pm	One adorer scheduled						Adorer needed
7 - 8 pm		One adorer scheduled					
8 - 9 pm		One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled			Adorer needed
9 - 10 pm							One adorer scheduled
10 - 11 pm	One adorer scheduled		One adorer scheduled		One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled	
11 pm - 12 am	One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled		One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled	One adorer scheduled

2 scheduled adorers but more are welcome

Adorer needed

One adorer scheduled
(second adorer appreciated)

Thank you

Thank you to the St. Francis Xavier students and their parents for donating over 900 books for Read to Feed the Mind during our book drive. These gently used picture books and chapter books will be distributed to children through the Buffalo Food Shelf.

Every time a family comes to the Food Shelf, they may take a book for each one of their children. The generosity of the students will help sustain Read to Feed the Mind's outreach through the next months. Also, a big thank you to Mrs. Pat Miller for coordinating this drive.

- Jean Carlson
Read to Feed the Mind, www.READtoFEEDtheMIND.ORG

We want to thank you very much for your generosity to the Kentucky Appalachia Christmas Program. The semi was over 3/4 full and arrived in Kentucky in good shape. They wrote and are so thankful to the Minnesota families that provide for their people. God Bless all of you who donated to this wonderful mission. May the blessings of the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ be with each and every one of you.

- Olive Hupf
Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women Board Member

Remember In Prayer



Lea Jean Banken
Anne Barfknecht
Steven Buschel
Mary Helen Swartzel
Jerry Flynn
Dennis Murray
Thomas Martin Sicora
Jack Hutchinson
Jerry Kelly
Taylor Tenhoff
Terry Uttke

Jerry Niesen
Suzanne Eckerman
Joanne Anderson
Jack & Marion Roehl
Amenan WazWaz
Rena Thiele
Samera Wazwaz
Danielle Triplett
Bill Christiansen
Lucille Kunkel
Sgt. Gordon Sage

In Memoriam



We express our deepest sympathy to the families and friends of Tomas Domka and Joanne Brand (mother of Laura Flynn). We pray that the love of God provides them with comfort, and that they, as amazing children of God, may rest in the eternal peace of Christ.

Measure of Our Treasure to the Lord

Collection: Weekend of December 19, 2010	\$17,676.90
Church Preservation Fund	\$299,128.21

Ministry Schedule for January 1-2, 2011

	10:00am Church (Mary, Mother of God)	5:00pm Church	7:30am Church	9:00am Church	11:00am Trinity Hall
Sacristan	Kelly Boyle	Lois Pahl	Joe Borgstrom	Kay Callahan	Debbie Gladitsch
Lector	Doug Nevinski	Claire Solien	Marsha Muntifering	Dave Zumbusch	Teresa Langton
Eucharistic Ministers	Amy Axtmann Edna Knoblauch Janet Middagh Lois Nevinski	Charles Croal Deborah Croal Kathy Kuzma Luvern Solien	Ann Hanson Mary Peters Roger Szarke Muriel Zumbusch	Bill Baker Karen Baker Mary Duerr Rob Nosbush	Jim Bischoff Debbie Gladitsch Michael Jr. Holmstrom Jerry Niesen
Altar Servers	Luke Boyle Maddie Kramber Nathan Kramber	Connor Boster Luke Merz Brett Otten	Ben Kunze Luke Smith	Mitch Bunting Jacob Nosbush Jack Stevens	Taylor McNitt
Ushers	Ellie Bischoff Mike Bischoff Jim Bischoff David Marquette	Please Volunteer Carl Chalupsky Mike Holthaus Alex Pahl	Jane Filek Chris Muntifering Jenna Muntifering Josh Muntifering	Jana Endres Charlotte Lindquist Jon Thielen Ed Thielen	Greg Dickerman Sandy Dickerman Cindy Edlund Michael Sr. Holmstrom
Hospitality			Cich / Pink	Lindquist / Soupir	
CLOW					Shelly Schuetzle
AV					Eldon & Matthew Winter
Lake Ridge				Luke Cain / Mary Ellen Sage	
Park View				Kelly & Terry Boyle	
Sunrise			Andrina Ringquist		

Staff Directory

Staff Emails

firstname.lastname@stfxb.org

Pastor: Fr. David Hennen • Ext. 111

Deacon: **Deacon Sherman Otto** • Ext. 104

Business Administrator: Sarah Seiling • Ext. 102

Bookkeeper: Joe Dzurik • Ext. 103

Parish Secretary: Preston Allex • Ext. 100

Director of Music: Toni Diem • Ext. 109

Director of Faith Formation: **Brantly Millegan** • Ext. 105

Faith Formation Assistant: Katie Eng • Ext. 106

Principal: Kim Zumbusch • Ext. 204

School Administrative Assistant:
Ann Greenhagen • Ext. 201

Education Advisory Committee:
STFXEAC@stfxb.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:30am - 4:30pm

Wednesdays during Youth Faith
Formation Nights: 8:30am - 8:00pm

Office Information

Mailing Address:

223 19th St NW, Buffalo, MN 55313

Phone: (763) 684-0075 **Fax:** (763) 684-4771

Website: www.stfxb.org

Church Location

300 1st Ave NW Buffalo, MN

Trinity Hall Location (Faith & Education Center)

223 19th St NW, Buffalo, MN

Sacraments

Marriage

Call Faith Center at least 6 months
in advance to schedule wedding

Baptismal Classes

Call Faith Center to schedule Baptism

Baptism Celebration

Third Weekend of the Month

Saturday after 5pm Mass or
Sunday 12:30pm in the Church

Trustees

Margery Duffey

Jeremy Berndt

Parish Pastoral Council

Bob Pahl, Chair
pastoralcouncil@stfxb.org

Kelly Boyle Randy Bunting
Val Enter Debbie Gladitsch

Randy Latzig Rita Rasset
Wayne Shamla Pat Whalen

Finance Council

Jerry Borgerding, Chair
financecouncil@stfxb.org

Mary Jo Stubstad, Co-Chair Rock Bobick
Mary Duerr Joe Coolen
Tom Kuzma Judy Weldele

Ministry Chairpersons

Altar Servers	Lectors
Fr. Hennen	TBD
Building and Grounds	Nursery
Fritz Budig	Position Available
Children's Liturgy	Sacristans
TBD	Debbie Gladitsch
Park View & Lake Ridge	Sunrise Communion
Communion Ministers	Ministers
Becky Berndt	Jerry Kelly
Eucharistic Ministers	Ushers
Ron Muntifering	Jane Filek
Hospitality	Liturgy
Ruth Ann Rolfzen	Kathy Peterson

If there is an **EMERGENCY** and you need to reach Fr. David Hennen, Call 763-684-0075 and press option 6