

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church
www.xavierbrunswick.org, 912-265-3249

April 7, 2024



**DIVINE
MERCY**
SUNDAY

Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3 p.m. in the Church

Divine Mercy Sunday

The **Etymology** of mercy is from *misericordis* which means “**opening one’s heart to wretchedness.**” Jesus told St. Faustina, “**Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy...My heart rejoices in this title of Mercy. Proclaim that mercy is the greatest attribute of God. All the works of my hand are crowned with mercy.**” Let us imagine a blazing hot furnace, with flames leaping out of it. This furnace burns 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This is an apt image for the love of God for you. The heart of God is on fire with love for you. How powerful is God’s love? St. Faustina was told when receiving Communion “Your minor faults will disappear in My love like a piece of straw thrown into a great furnace.” We sometimes have a hard time accepting this. We sometimes focus more on the justice of God than on the mercy of God. Jesus told St. Faustina, “Before I come as the just Judge, I am coming first as the **King of Mercy.**” Pope Francis has said, “**God forgives not with a decree but with a caress.**” “Jesus too goes beyond the law and forgives by caressing the wounds of our sins.” John XXIII said at the beginning of Vatican II, “The Bride of Christ prefers to use the **medicine of mercy** rather than arm herself with the weapons of rigor.” I would like to share a **threefold exhortation** with you today: **Receive Mercy, Share Mercy and live Mercy.**

RECEIVE MERCY

How does our heavenly Father see the world? No doubt He looks down each day and sees our beauty and unique nature, but he also sees our woundedness and brokenness and He has mercy on us. The Father is “**rich in mercy**” (Eph. 2:4). God reveals himself to Moses as “**a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness** (Ex. 34:6). One way God expresses his mercy is in **forgiveness**. Pope Francis is fond of saying, “The Lord **never tires of forgiving**: never! It is we who tire of asking him for forgiveness. We need to ask for the grace not to get tired of asking for forgiveness, because he never gets tired of forgiving.”

SHARE MERCY

Remember the ruthless servant of Matthew 18? The servant owes the King a huge amount –perhaps several years’ worth of wages and he is forgiven all! But when he sees a fellow worker who owes him a small amount, he has him thrown into prison. May we not be like that! We are called to show mercy because mercy has been given to us. How can we receive mercy and fail to share it with others? The **Corporal works of mercy** and the **Spiritual works of mercy** are great ways to share the mercy of God!

LIVE MERCY

When Pope Francis was asked during the Year of Mercy, “What are the **most important things that a believer should do?**” the Pope answered: “He should open up to the Mercy of God, **open up his heart** and himself, and allow Jesus to come toward him by approaching the confessional with faith. And he should try and be merciful with others.” Let us remember that more than anything the Lord **thirsts for our heart** in this year.

Pope Francis has written, “...let us allow God to **surprise us**. He never tires of casting open the doors of his heart and of repeating that he loves us and wants to share his love with us...From the heart of the Trinity, from the depths of the mystery of God, the great river of mercy wells up and overflows unceasingly. It is a spring that will never run dry, no matter how many people draw from it...” Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old” (Psalm 25:6) [*Misericordiae Vultus*, 25].

-Fr. Tim McKeown

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| <p>The Solemnity of the Annunciation is celebrated at noon on Monday April 8th.</p> | <p>The Priests will be gone on their yearly Clergy Retreat from Monday, April 8th after noon Mass until April 11th afternoon.</p> |
| <p>Monday noon Mass</p> <p>Tuesday noon Communion Service</p> | <p>RCIA class on Monday, April 15 in the Narthex at 7 p.m.- The topic is Social Justice.</p> |
| <p>Wednesday 7 p.m. Mass</p> | <p>Our High School Youth Group meets on Wednesdays in the Narthex from 3:30 until 7:30. Please come and join us. Snacks, games and homework starting at 3:30 pm. Group activities at 4:30 pm. Dinner served at 5:15 pm. Spiritual lesson at 6:00 pm. Holy Mass at 7:00 pm in Church.</p> |
| <p>Adult Bible Study Sundays in the St. Anne Room Meets between 9:30 and 10:45 a.m. Please come join us!</p> | <p>Our Young Catholics (18-35, single or married) meet each Friday night. Please contact Rob Sadowski for the schedule. Phone - (912)230-4863 or email robertsadowski@yahoo.com</p> |
| <p>That Man is You! For more information contact Deacon Chris at csadowski@bellsouth.net</p> | |

**ST. VINCENT
de PAUL**

FOOD PANTRY

REQUESTS

Baked Beans,
Cereal, Stove top
stuffing



Confirmation Mass

May 7th at 6 p.m.

First Communion Mass

May 11th at
10 a.m.



Keep in touch with us via text!

Mass times, ministry updates, & more delivered to your
phone TO SIGN UP, TEXT **SFX150 TO 84576**

SIGN UP ONLINE AT: stfrancixaviercatholic2.flocknote.com

Knights of Columbus State Charity Raffle: The 2023-2024 Charity Raffle to benefit both statewide and local charities is now being held through the end of April. **Up to 70% of the proceeds from local ticket sales will be used to fund improvements to the parking area between SFX church and the school.** The prizes are: 1st Place \$5,000; 2nd Place \$2,500; 3rd Place \$1,000. Tickets may be obtained from members of the Knights of Columbus – 1 for \$5.00 or 5 for \$20.00. Tickets will be available after most weekend masses. Winners will be drawn on May 18th at the Georgia Knights of Columbus Convention. For tickets or more information, call Don Heinecke at 912-577-8722.

MASS INTENTIONS

April 6 - 14

Saturday, April 6

5:00 p.m. Jim & Susan Layman (int.)

7:00 p.m. Our Parish Family

(at Jekyll United Methodist Church)

Sunday, April 7

8:30 a.m. † Buddy Brumit &
Lamont Shell (int.)

11:00 a.m. † Ricky Coolidge

6:00 p.m. (Spanish) Efrain Lopez (int.)

Monday, April 8

Noon † Glenn Sparks

Tuesday, April 9 (Communion Service)

Noon Fr Jim Holloway (int.)

Wednesday, April 10

7 p.m. † Candida del Mundo

Thursday, April 11

8 a.m. † Jim Morrisette

Friday, April 12

8 a.m. Luv LoBrutto (int.)

Saturday, April 13

5:00 p.m. † John Trinidad

7:00 p.m. † David Glasser

(at Jekyll United Methodist Church)

Sunday, April 14

8:30 a.m. † James Kilmatis

11:00 a.m. † Paul Ferra Jr.

6:00 p.m. (Spanish) † Maria Mendez &
Rafael & Rafael Rojas

Do you pay most of your bills online? You can donate to SFX online through Our Sunday Visitor (OSV) on our website.

Would you prefer to receive your bulletin each week via email? Go to www.DM.CHURCH/4324 or you can scan the code on the back of the bulletin.

2024 Mass Intention book is open. If you are interested in having some Masses said for a loved one, contact Ann in the office. You can call, email or stop by. Suggested donation is \$10 per Mass.

If your baby or toddler is feeling restless, the **Narthex** is open with a **live video and audio feed**. There are about 25 seats available. There is also a room located at the back of the Church you can go to.

ST. FRANCIS
XAVIER CCW

+ SKYLARK 
WITH YOU ON *the* JOURNEY

BABY SHOWER

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024

Let's help women in our community feel the love of God and His people by providing items to support the clients served by Skylark Clinic in Brunswick, GA.

ITEMS MOST NEEDED:

High Chairs • Pack and Plays • New Cribs/Mattresses
Baby Lotion • Baby Shampoo • Bottles
Wipes • Diapers (All Sizes) • Boppy Pillows
Gift Cards (that will be used to purchase cribs)



May 18 starting at 7:30 a.m.
in front of the school

St. Francis Xavier Staff email addresses and exts.

912-265-3249

Fr. Tim, **Pastor**: tmckeown@diosav.org ext. 302

Fr. Esteban, **Associate Pastor**: emallar@diosav.org, ext. 303

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Kathy, **Finance Director**: kwood@sfxcs.org, ext. 401

Deacon Dr. Mermann, **Principal**: tmermann@sfxcs.org, **912-265-9470**