

12.02.2018

WELCOME!

Our parish community welcomes you! We are blessed by your active participation in our worship together. Thank you for helping us grow!

"Be faithful in little things."
-Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R

MASS AND CONFESSION SCHEDULE

MASS

Sundays at 8:00 am and 10:30 am

CONFESSION

Sundays in the meeting room
behind the kitchen

7:20 a.m. to 7:50 a.m.

10:00 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.

By appointment: call Fr. Jim

DAILY MASS

Thursdays at 8:30 am at
Women's Health Center

Also, sign up to host a daily Mass online or at the entrance table.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

LAST WEEK'S OFFERING

Collection: \$4,323.25 || Building Fund: \$1,222.00

Thanksgiving Collection for Prodissee Pantry: \$85.00 || Seelos Ornaments : \$775.00

UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

12/2: Building Fund

12/9: Retirement Fund for
Religious

Do you remember the sisters, brothers, or religious order priests who made a positive difference in your life? Today many are elderly and need assistance. Their religious communities struggle to meet retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Your gift to this week's second collection helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious.

ADVENT CANDLE PROCESSION

Families are encouraged to bring forth the Advent candle at the beginning of each Mass. Please go to SignUp Genius under the email of Theresabertagnolliwest@yahoo.com, to sign your family to participate in an Advent Mass.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

"Don't hide your light under a bushel basket."

There's a volunteer list always at the front desk. We especially need ushers for the 10:30 mass, help with coffee socials, and set-up/take down before & after Masses, plus whatever gift you'd like to share!

SEELOS ORNAMENTS

Just in time for Christmas! We are having our first fund raiser for the parish building fund—our very own Christmas Ornament commemorating Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos and our Parish. The cost is \$25.00 and are limited to 200. Please stop by the entrance desk to obtain your keepsake ornament (pictured front and back).



SIGN OF CONTRADICTION

"St. Francis is one of the most beloved saints in the world, but do we really know him?" There will be a screening of the movie about the Life of St. Francis, "Sign of Contradiction" on Wednesday, Dec. 12 at 6:30 at the Daphne AMC Jubilee Square Theater This movie is a production of 4PM Media. Fr. Dave Pivonka will be there to answer questions afterwards. Tickets are \$11 and must be purchased by Dec 5. Visit www.tugg.com/events/sign-of-contradiction to purchase tickets.



UPCOMING EVENTS

TEEN CHRISTMAS PARTY

DEC 7 @ 7-9 PM

Details to the right.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS

DEC 8 @ 9:00 AM

This is a Holy Day of Obligation. See details about this solemnity below.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

DEC 9 @ 9:00 AM

Fr. Cink and a visiting priest will be available to hear confessions at Prodissee Pantry from 9-10:15 am.

PRODISEE SERVICE

DEC 19 @ 6:00 PM

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

DEC 23 @ 9:00 AM

Fr. Cink and a visiting priest will be available to hear confessions at Prodissee Pantry from 9-10:15 am.

TEEN CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Christmas Party for teens is this Friday night 7 to 9pm. Go to SignUp Genius or email directly to Theresabertagnolliwest@yahoo.com. We are having Dirty Santa with a gift range \$10-\$15.

BEST ADVENT EVER

"Best Advent Ever" is a free email program by Dynamic Catholic that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during this busy season. You'll experience Advent in a whole new way—leading to the best Christmas of your life! Sign up online, then starting December 2, you'll receive inspirational videos from Allen Hunt and Matthew Kelly. Videos include practical tips for everyday life and real-life stories to encourage you in your preparation for Christmas. Sign up at www.BestAdventEver.com, or visit the entrance table for more information.

CHRISTMAS GIVING ENVELOPES

Christmas giving envelopes, which defer the cost of Christmas flowers and honor your loved ones, are available. Names of loved ones (written on the envelopes) will be placed on the Altar for all December Masses and published in the 12/23 bulletin.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

"The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin." (CCC 491) "The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a time to celebrate the great joy of God's gift to humanity in Mary, and to recognize with greater clarity, the truth that each and every human being has been created by God to fulfill a particular mission that he and only he can fulfill." (CatholicNewsAgency.com)

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary is a Holy Day of Obligation; see "Upcoming Events" for Mass details.



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: SUNDAY CONNECTION

In today's Gospel, Jesus warns his disciples against the fatigue that can emerge if one becomes consumed by the anxieties of daily life. Many families are too familiar with the kind of fatigue Jesus refers to here. We may be concerned about a family member's health, our job security, our children's education, or any number of other concerns. All these are important matters. Jesus does not promise an end to daily worries and fears, but he does teach his disciples that they will have the strength to withstand anxiety if they stay focused on him, remaining vigilant for his return and praying for strength to endure all tribulations. Through prayer, God helps us stay focused on that which is most important in our lives.

As you gather as a family, recall the tradition of making New Year's resolutions in preparation for the new calendar year. Observe that today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is the beginning of the new Church year. During the season of Advent, our Gospel readings ask us to consider what is most important to us as we prepare for Jesus' coming, at his birth and at the end of time. Read today's Gospel, Luke 21:25-28,34-36. Jesus describes signs that may disturb many people, but he says that these should not to disturb his disciples. Why? (because these signs indicate that redemption is near) What does Jesus say that his disciples should do? (Be vigilant and pray for strength.) At this start of the new Church year, consider as a family what "Advent resolutions" your family might make to help you stay focused so that you will be prepared to receive the salvation we celebrate at Jesus' birth and anticipate at Jesus' second coming. Pray together for God's help in following through on these resolutions. Pray together today's psalm, Psalm 25.

Read more at www.loyolapress.org.



ADVENT PRAYER

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the ways of Your only begotten Son, that we may attain to serve You with purified minds, through His advent. Who with You lives and reigns in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.

DAILY READINGS | DEC 3 – DEC 9

December 3: Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest
IS 2:1-5 / PS 122:1-2, 3-4B, 4CD-5, 6-7, 8-9 / MT 8:5-11

December 4: Tuesday of the First Week of Advent
IS 11:1-10 / PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 / LK 10:21-24

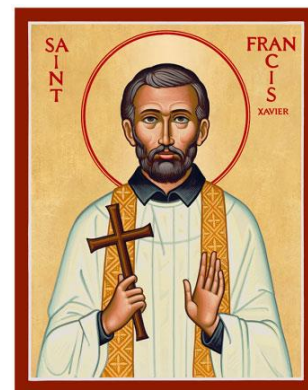
December 5: Wednesday of the First Week of Advent
IS 25:6-10A / PS 23:1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6 / MT 15:29-37

December 6: Thursday of the First Week of Advent
IS 26:1-6 / PS 118:1 AND 8-9, 19-21, 25-27A / MT 7:21, 24-27

December 7: Memorial of Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
IS 29:17-24 / PS 27:1, 4, 13-14 / MT 9:27-31

December 8: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
GN 3:9-15, 20 / PS 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4 / EPH 1:3-6, 11-12 / LK 1:26-38

December 9: Second Sunday of Advent
BAR 5:1-9 / PS 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 / PHIL 1:4-6, 8-11 / LK 3:1-6



*St. Francis Xavier
Good friends with St.
Ignatius of Loyola;
traveled the world
converting communities;
was known for his joy;
patron of missions*

December 2, 2018 | First Sunday of Advent

HOPE

*"Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior, and for you I wait all the day."
-Psalm 25:5*

BL. FRANCIS XAVIER SEELOS CATHOLIC PARISH



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Worship with us weekly at Prodissee Pantry on US Hwy 31 | 9315 Spanish Fort Boulevard | Spanish Fort, AL 36527