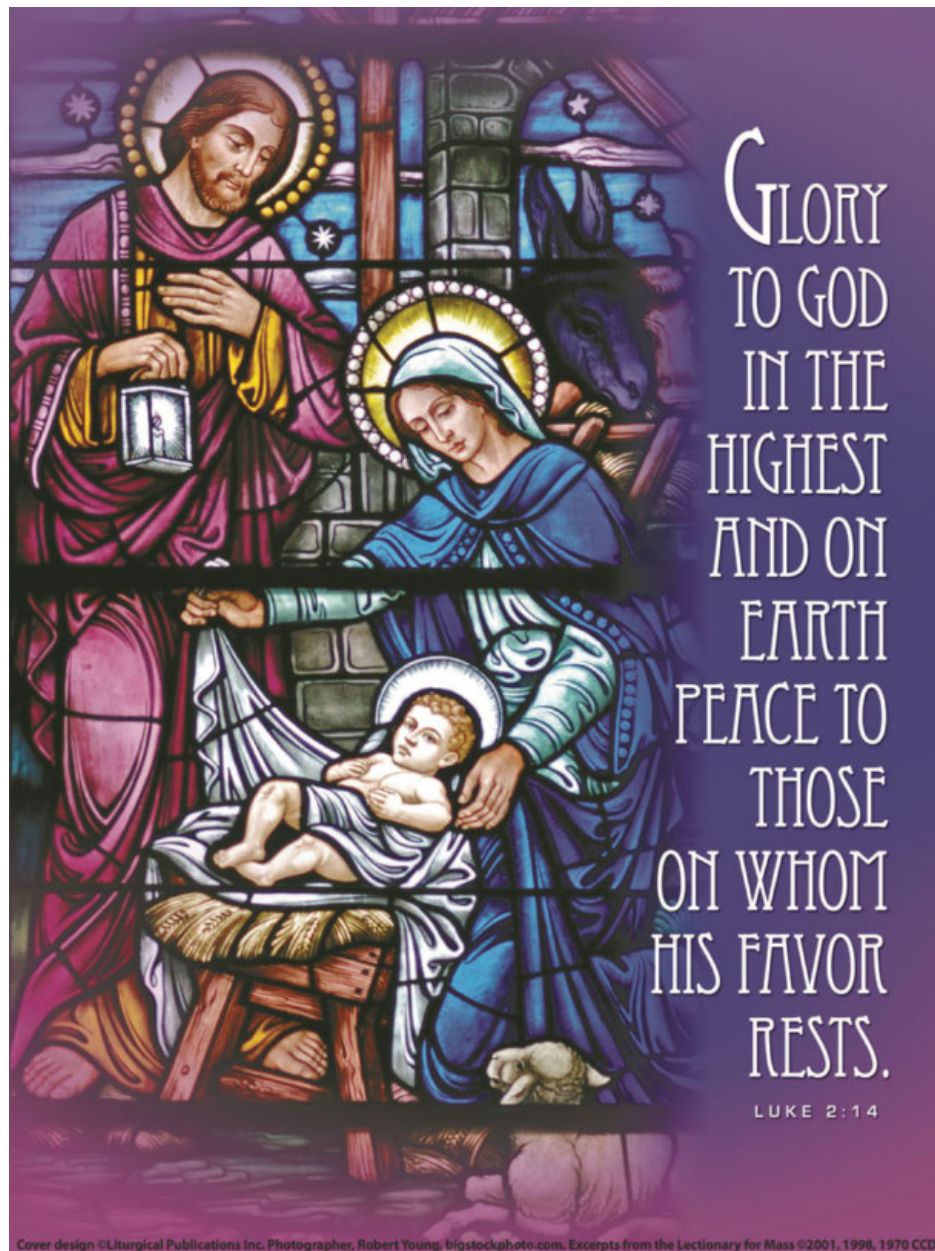




## Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier Parish

### Our Mission:

We honor the traditions of  
our parish and welcome all to  
unite in prayer and the Sacraments.  
Loved by God and guided by the  
Holy Spirit, we share the good news  
of Jesus Christ through joyful  
worship, faithful formation and  
dedicated service.



December 24, 2023



## PARISH STAFF

**Rev. Wayne F. Watts, Pastor**  
wwatts@ssjfx.org

**Rev. Robert Ryan, Associate Pastor**  
rsryan@ssjfx.org

**Msgr. Dan Mayall, Retired**  
dmayall@ssjfx.org

**Rev. William J. Sheridan, Retired**

**Rev. Edward F. Harnett, Retired**

**Christopher and Binh Keefe, Deacon Couple**  
ckeefe@archchicago.org

**Robert and Karen Kerls, Deacon Couple**  
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**Curt and Sally Robey, Deacon Couple**  
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**Joseph D'Arco, Director of Business Operations**  
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**Christine Elliott, School Principal**  
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**Jonathan Metzinger, Music Director**  
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**Michael Cesario, Director, Evangelization & Ministry**  
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**Dana McKenna, Director, Family of Faith Program**  
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**MaryClare Birmingham, Coordinator,  
Ministries of Care and Bereavement**  
mbirmingham@ssjfx.org

**Noreen Russo, Youth Ministry Coordinator (ACTION)**  
nrusso@ssjfx.org

## Saints JFX Mass Schedule

### Daily Mass

6:30 am (SFX) Monday through Friday

8:30 am (St. Joseph) Monday through Saturday

### Saturday Vigil Mass

5:00 pm (St. Joseph)

5:00 pm (SFX)

### Sunday Mass

8:00 am (St. Joseph)

9:30 am (SFX)

10:30 am (St. Joseph)\*

11:30 am (SFX)

4:45 pm (St. Joseph)

7:30 pm (SFX) Teen ACTION Mass

\*Drive up communion is offered at St. Joseph Church after 10:30 am Mass. Please drive through the lower church parking lot to the Annex door on the south side of the church.

Confession is offered from 9:00 - 10:00 am on Saturday at St. Joseph Church.

## Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier Parish Offices

St. Joseph Campus

1747 Lake Avenue

(847) 251-0771

cadaniel@ssjfx.org

Hours: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday - Friday

St. Francis Xavier Campus

524 Ninth Street

(847) 256-4250

officessjfx@ssjfx.org

Hours: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday - Thursday

For emergencies outside of office hours,  
please call 708-237-6665

For additional parish information, please visit  
**[www.ssjfx.org](http://www.ssjfx.org)**

For information about Saints JFX School, please visit  
**[www.saintsjfx.org](http://www.saintsjfx.org)**

*Saints JFX is on social media!*

*Follow us on Instagram (saintsjfx\_wilmette) and  
Facebook (Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier)*

Dear Friends,

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas! Today we go from the Annunciation to the Nativity of our Lord within about six hours. Even though this means a lot of work and a lot of church for Father Ryan, our priests, the staff, and me this 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> day of December, we couldn't be more excited to celebrate this time with you. WELCOME!

The Angel Gabriel came from God to a town of Nazareth called Galilee. The Angel said, "behold you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus." And this year, just a few hours later, from the Prophet Isaiah, we hear "The people who walked in Darkness have seen a great light; upon those who have dwelt in the land of gloom, a light has shone." We move from the expectation of the Fourth Sunday of Advent to the joy of Christmas, all within hours.

Each time I hear either of those famous lines of scripture, joy fills my heart. The words of the angel and the words of the first reading for the first Christmas Mass epitomize the joy of the season. As we approached Christmas, the nights lengthened, and the days shortened. The sun's strength waned. We donned our jackets and looked for our mittens and scarves. We longed for light and warmth. And on this holy day, we celebrate the real light, the true heart-warming presence of the Child Jesus. The infant comes to bring us joy and hope.

In Saint John's Gospel, at the Christmas Day Mass, we learn that the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us – literally, he pitched his tent near ours. Jesus, fully God and fully human, came to the world! He came, Prince of Peace, to a world that needed His peace. He came to a world that was uneasy. He came in poverty and simplicity. Jesus comes to us again today, to our uneasy and war-torn world. He comes to us in poverty and simplicity. He comes to pitch his tent among us, in our hearts and in our homes. No matter what situation we find ourselves in, our Lord comes to us. If we are experiencing darkness, the Christ Child brings us light. If we mourn, Jesus brings us comfort and joy. If we wander alienated from each other, the Church, and God, the Baby Jesus brings grace, reconciliation, and peace. That's the real gift of Christmas. Jesus comes to our messy world, to love, heal, change, and bless it with His presence. What a gift!

As you celebrate this season, please keep in the back of your mind the reason we do what we do. We celebrate because, no matter what, God loves us. We wrap presents and sing carols because we know the gift of God's unconditional love. We give of ourselves because He gave


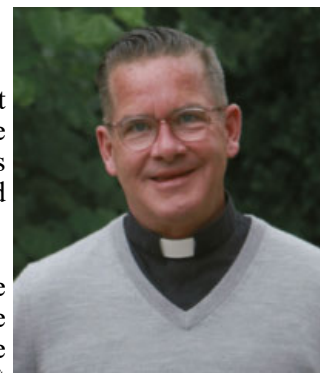
to us. He gave us the greatest gift we could ever want, hope for, or need. God gave us His Son! Imagine the love God must have for us. What a gift!

I invite you today to accept the gift our God offers. Accept the gift of God's love. Accept the gift of the Son. Accept the gift the Son gives us, the gift of the Church. These gifts are ours for the taking. Take them, appreciate them, use them, and love them in return.

I welcome those who are visiting Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier for the first time. Perhaps neighbors or family members invited you to join them at Church this Christmas. Maybe something in your life sparked something inside you and impelled you to come to Church today. ***Whatever the reason that prompted you to come today, please know that you are welcome at Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier! If you are here for the first time, and are looking for a Church home, we would love to have you join us regularly.*** Saint Joseph and Francis Xavier Parish family offers light, hope, warmth, and love. Register here, get involved, and share your gifts. Welcome home!

Wishing God's choicest blessings for this joyful season and for the new year that we be here before we know it, I remain,

Sincerely Yours in Christ,



# Weekly Mass Schedule

4

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p><b>Monday December 25, 2023</b><br/><i>Merry Christmas!</i></p> <p>8:00 am SJ<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+Ben Bishop<br/>+Jerry David<br/>+Kazimiera Kaczorowski</p> <p>9:30 am SFX<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+Ben Bishop<br/>+Jerry David<br/>+Kazimiera Kaczorowski<br/>+Jack McDonagh</p> <p>10:30 am SJ<br/><i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+John &amp; Dee Barbino<br/>+Marie &amp; John Barbino<br/>+Ben Bishop<br/>+Jerry David<br/>+Justin Hill<br/>+Tony Hill<br/>+Bob &amp; Kitty Jones<br/>+Kazimiera Kaczorowski<br/>+Mary Therese Lieb<br/>+Catherine &amp; Emile Rago<br/>+D &amp; C Savignani<br/>(L)Rehbock Family</p> <p>11:30 am SFX<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+Jeff Teske<br/>+Ben Bishop<br/>+Jerry David<br/>+Kazimiera Kaczorowski</p> | <p><b>Tuesday December 26, 2023</b></p> <p>6:30 am SFX<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+Carl &amp; Jane Burkard<br/>+Peter DiClementi<br/>+Cecilia Shin<br/>(L)Rehbock Family</p> <p>9:00 am-10:00 am SJ<br/>Eucharistic Adoration</p> <p><b>Wednesday December 27, 2023</b></p> <p>6:30 am SFX<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>(L)Chris Lee &amp; Family<br/>(L)Rehbock Family</p> <p><b>Thursday December 28, 2023</b></p> <p>6:30 am SFX<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Harnett</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+Brian Avery<br/>+Marcela Perez<br/>Buenaventura<br/>+Nora McKeon<br/>(L)Rehbock Family</p> <p>+ Deceased / ( L ) Living<br/>SFX - St. Francis Xavier<br/>SJ -St. Joseph</p> | <p><b>Friday December 29, 2023</b></p> <p>6:30 am SFX<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ<br/><i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+Veronica Merges<br/>+Arthur &amp; Virginia Roth<br/>+Dennis Roth<br/>+Olivia Sergot<br/>(L)Rehbock Family</p> <p><b>Saturday December 30, 2023</b></p> <p>8:30 am SJ<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+Olivia Sergot<br/>(L)Rehbock Family</p> <p>9:00 am-10:00 am SJ<br/>Confession</p> <p>5:00 pm SJ<br/><i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+John &amp; David Leath<br/>+Olivia Sergot<br/>+Michael Tischler<br/>(L)Rehbock Family</p> <p>5:00 pm SFX<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+ML &amp; Maurice O'Connor</p> <p>Masses are livestreamed<br/>on our YouTube channel.</p> <p>Search <i>Saints JFX</i> on<br/><a href="http://www.youtube.com">www.youtube.com</a></p> | <p><b>Sunday December 31, 2023</b></p> <p>8:00 am SJ<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+Liliana Suci<br/>+Gloria Vian<br/>(L)Rehbock Family</p> <p>9:30 am SFX<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Harnett</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+Colleen &amp; Joseph Brosnan<br/>+William Sullivan</p> <p>10:30 am SJ<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+Stanley &amp; Marianna Feret<br/>+Bob &amp; Kitty Jones<br/>+Z&amp;K Kaczorowski<br/>+Olivia Sergot<br/>(L)Rehbock Family</p> <p>11:30 am SFX<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+Marguerite &amp; Lee Condon<br/>+Joseph &amp; Sarah O'Connor</p> <p>5:00 pm SJ<br/>Vigil, Solemnity of Mary<br/><i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i></p> <p>Intentions:<br/>+James Weir<br/>+Martin &amp; Ann Weir</p> |
|---|--|---|--|

## Please pray for the sick and those in need:

Laura B.  
Lorraine Bixler  
Jim Bohlman  
Paul (PJ) DiClementi, Jr  
Sally Griffin  
Sheila Groark

Rick Hawkinson  
Catherine Horan  
Bob Kerrigan  
Jordan Lynch  
Tiffany McGivern  
John McGuinness

Eden McKenna  
Pam O'Reilly  
Allen Stone  
Carla Zaramella

Please email [officessjfx@ssjfx.org](mailto:officessjfx@ssjfx.org) to add or remove a name.

In prayer  
and loving memory of:

Joan Bolotin  
Sr. Therese Fields, SCC



**The Society of St. Vincent de Paul** is dedicated to helping the poor and others who have fallen upon difficult times.

If you or someone you know is in need of help, please call the parish office at (847) 256-4250 and ask for extension 44. If you are calling outside of business hours, please press 3 to leave a message, and we will return your call as soon as possible. All inquiries are treated in the strictest of confidence.



### Sacraments at Saints JFX

#### Sacrament of Baptism

Request form can be found on our parish website: [ssjfx.org/baptism.html](https://ssjfx.org/baptism.html)

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 9:00 am-10:00 am at St. Joseph Church or by appointment. Please call 847/256-4250

#### Sacrament of Marriage

Request form can be found on our parish website: [ssjfx.org/weddings.html](https://ssjfx.org/weddings.html)

Parish registration forms can be found on [ssjfx.org/join-our-parish.html](https://ssjfx.org/join-our-parish.html)



### Saints JFX Ministry of Care



Experienced Ministers of Care are available to bring communion to our parish sick and homebound, those in senior facilities, and Evanston Hospital.

If you or a family member would like to schedule a visit, please contact the MOC Care line at (847) 256-2273 (CARE) or email [mbirmingham@ssjfx.org](mailto:mbirmingham@ssjfx.org)

### Stewardship Report

December 10, 2023

Collected at Church:

Envelopes: \$ 5,438.00

Loose Cash: \$ 1,810.00

Electronic

Contributions: \$21,880.00

Total: \$29,128.00

If you are able, please consider contributing electronically via PushPay using the QR code.



Thank you for your generosity.

### Pray the Rosary

Please join us to pray the Rosary at 7:30 am daily

To join online:

<https://www.microsoft.com/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting>

Meeting ID: 243 977 469 891

Passcode: MYhkSx

If you prefer to call in:

Dial (872)242-9930;

Conference ID: 267-145-550#

The Rosary is also prayed at 8:00 am, Monday through Saturday at St. Joseph Church, followed by 8:30 am Mass. All are welcome.

## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY, PRAY FOR PEACE

### US Air Force

Ssgt John Wesley Hobbs  
2nd Lt Luke Stenberg

### US Army

Rev Chaplain Maj John Barkemeyer  
LTC Kelly Quinn  
Cpt Christopher Cannon  
Cpt Ryan Cannon  
PFC Richard Carlson  
Sgt Harrison Daniels  
Maj Jason Harlan  
Pvt Ryan Higgins  
SPC Zach Lueken  
Sgt Brenda Lore Mayo  
Sgt David Lore Mayo  
Seth Miller  
Lt Col Anita Scattone  
Lt Ryan Slattery

### US Marine Corps

Pvt Stuart Corboy III  
Sgt Joseph Devroy  
Cpt Peter Dulaney  
Sgt Brandon Galgay  
Sgt Aidan Gobeyn  
Cpt Brad Gustafson  
Ssgt Walter Ramirez  
Cpt William Smith  
Cpl Trevor J. Talbot  
Pvt 1st Class Stevie Williams

### US Navy

Cmdr Kevin Carlson  
PO2 Kevin Morrison  
ENS Hugh Rider  
Lt Cmdr Tom Smith  
Shane Zeman

### US National Guard

Liam Gobeyn  
Sgt Steven Tetzlaff  
Sgt Jackson Knott  
Lt Col Grant Swinger

*If you would like to add or remove a name,  
please contact us at [officessjfx@ssjfx.org](mailto:officessjfx@ssjfx.org).*



## Readings for the week of December 24, 2023

**Sunday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

**Monday:** Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/  
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25  
Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/  
Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/  
Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20  
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

**Tuesday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8/Mt 2: 13-18

**Friday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2: 22-35

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2: 36-40

**Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/P128: 1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40



## Join Us in Celebrating the Coming of the Lord 2023

### December 24 Christmas Eve

3:00 pm St. Joseph  
3:00 pm St. Francis Xavier  
3:15 pm St. Francis Xavier (Gym)  
5:00 pm St. Francis Xavier  
5:30 pm St. Joseph  
10:00 pm Concert St. Joseph  
10:00 pm Concert St. Francis Xavier  
10:30 pm St. Joseph  
10:30 pm St. Francis Xavier

### December 25 Nativity of our Lord

8:00 am St. Joseph  
9:30 am St. Francis Xavier  
10:30 am St. Joseph  
11:30 am St. Francis Xavier

### December 30

Feast of the Holy Family

5:00 pm St. Joseph  
5:00 pm St. Francis Xavier

### December 31

Feast of the Holy Family

8:00 am St. Joseph  
9:30 am St. Francis Xavier  
10:30 am St. Joseph  
11:30 am St. Francis Xavier

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God  
5:00 pm St. Joseph (Vigil)

### January 1

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God  
9:00 am St. Francis Xavier

## Come Join our Ministries - Get Involved in the Great Things Happening at Saints JFX!

Please review the more than 40 ministries listed below and select one or two (or more!) that interest you. Whether you choose to share your time, talent, or treasure (or a combination of your gifts) you will be assisting others while helping yourself to connect with our parish.

### WORSHIP

Altar Servers  
Anna Ministry (Sacred Linens)  
Elijah Cup (Vocations)  
Eucharistic Adoration  
Eucharistic Ministers  
Floral Display  
Lectors  
Liturgical Arts/Environment  
Rosary  
Parish Choir  
Cantor Program  
Sacristan  
Ushers

### FAITH FORMATION/EDUCATION

ACTION (High School Youth Group)  
Childrens Liturgy of the Word  
RCIA  
Saints JFX School  
SPRED (Special Religious Education)  
Family of Faith Program

### HUMAN CONCERNS

Blood Drive  
Family Promise  
LOSS  
Respect Life  
Haiti Sharing Parish  
St. Thomas of Canterbury  
St. Vincent de Paul Society  
Welcoming Committee

### STEWARDSHIP

Annulment Support  
Knitting Ministry  
Ministry of Care  
Bereavement Ministry  
Moms & Tots  
Saints JFX Men's Club  
Saints JFX Women's Club  
Saints JFX Book Club

### PARISH & SCHOOL ADVISORY

Finance Council  
Saints JFX School Board  
Stewardship Council  
Parish Pastoral Council  
Home School Organization

*If you would like additional information about any of our ministries, please contact the parish office at [officessjfx@ssjfx.org](mailto:officessjfx@ssjfx.org)*



Catholic Charities **Clothing Rooms** continue to welcome donations of new or gently used winter clothing and outerwear. Donations can be dropped off in the lobby of each location during business hours. Scan the QR code below for the regional office nearest you.



Volunteers are needed to sort donations. If you would like to help, please visit [ccochoicagovolunteer.com](http://ccochoicagovolunteer.com), or email [volunteer@catholiccharities.net](mailto:volunteer@catholiccharities.net) for details. Thank you!

### **D'Vine Affair**

Sunday, February 4, 2024  
2:00pm-6:00pm  
*Union League Club of Chicago*

Join us at this premier wine-tasting event that supports Catholic Charities programs in the New Near. Registration is open!

Our sincerest thanks to the Glunz Family for their continued sponsorship of this swank affair.

Learn more and sign up to attend by scanning the QR code below.



### **Catholic Charities' Assistance to Asylum Seekers**

Catholic Charities has now assisted 11,000 asylum seekers in their resettlement. This means we have directly supported nearly half of the 25,000 individuals who have arrived in Chicago since August 2022.

- A team of 60+ bilingual staff members is responding each day.
- More than 2,800 migrants have joined loved ones in other cities; Funds and eligibility for these transfers are provided and determined by the State of Illinois.
- We have connected 7,800 migrants to long-term housing in Greater Chicago.
- We are partnering with nearly 30 parishes who want to offer financial support and/or direct accompaniment to asylum seekers for several months as they get settled.
- Asylum seekers are obtaining food, clothing and other basic services through Catholic Charities programs and services already established.

For more information, and to join in our work, contact us at:  
[welcomethestranger@catholiccharities.net](mailto:welcomethestranger@catholiccharities.net).





## *Christmas 2023*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we also celebrate the birth of our hope. When he came among us as one like us in all things but sin, he lifted us up to new and transformed life. In fact, he opened for us the way to share in the very life of God. One of the prayers of the Mass gives us these words: "...may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity."

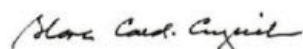
The struggles that we face in our personal lives and in our wounded world do not have the last word. We are meant for more. We are meant for full and eternal life. I pray that our celebration of the Lord's birth will remind us of the glory that will carry us beyond the challenges, sometimes truly significant challenges that mark our lives and our world.

We must also remember that the Lord did not just come among us once and long ago. He continues to walk with us as we walk with each other. Our celebrations of the Eucharist remind of that. And he will never abandon his people. He is now and always Emmanuel, our God with us. Our journey is his journey. And this year, having celebrated the first of two synods of the Church, we are especially aware that he accompanies us as we accompany one another.

In this holy season, I invite you to pray. Take time, create a quiet space, look on the creche, read the gospels, and allow yourself to know that he is near and that he walks with you. If you do so, I can assure you that you will know his peace. Then, take what you learn from him to your family, to your workplace, to your community, and to entire world. The gift of Jesus, the Incarnate Word of God, is not something we can hold for ourselves. We are called and destined to share it with others.

As I celebrate the Eucharist, I will remember you and pray that you will have a living sense of the Lord among us, the one who walks with us and draws us forward into the fullness of his life.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Archbishop of Chicago

*Saints JFX is in process of transitioning to a new Assisted Listening System. Please see the instructions below for setting up the system on your Smart Phone.*

## How to listen to the Assisted Listening System with your Smart Phone:

**Step 1.** Connect your Smartphone to the Saints JFX Church WiFi for the church Assisted Listening System (if you're not familiar with connecting to a new WiFi, scan this code):



**Step 2.** If you already have the Listen Everywhere app installed on your phone, simply open the app and connect to Church Audio—make sure you're wearing earbuds or have your Smartphone connected to your hearing aids and set the volume to a comfortable level.

**If you DO NOT already have the Listen Everywhere app—** scan this code to download it onto your Smartphone:



Once you'd downloaded the app, you'll only need to connect to the Saints JFX Church WiFi with your smartphone and open the app from now on!

That's it! We hope you enjoy using the Listen Everywhere app to hear the sound at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church.

**INTEGRITY SYSTEMS**  
Audio Video Design Integration

*If you have difficulty or questions, you may call our help line—weekdays from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM and on Sundays from 7:00 AM until 1:00 PM at 855-446-8344; press Option 2.*

## MEN'S SILENT RETREAT

The Saints JFX Men's silent retreat is scheduled for January 19-21, 2024 at Bellarmine Hall, located at 175 W. County Line Road, Barrington, Illinois

All men of the parish are encouraged to come for a weekend of spiritual guidance and introspection. Reservations are limited and fill up fast. First come first served basis. Please contact Phillip A. Couri at 847.323.8605; or [pac@courilaw.com](mailto:pac@courilaw.com) to make your reservation and/or for more details. Father Chris Manahan, S.J. will be leading the retreat. Father Manahan's bio is below.

Father Chris Manahan entered the Society of Jesus in 1993 at the age of 37 after a 15-year career as a news paper reporter and editor in Minnesota and Iowa. After ordination in 2003 he served two years as a parish priest on the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota; spent a year working with Jesuits in the Philippines and northeast India; served eight years on the staff of the Jesuit Novitiate where men discern whether to profess vows; and, for seven years was director of the Jesuit Retreat House on Lake Winnebago at Oshkosh, WI. Father Manahan currently assists the provincial in caring for Jesuits in the Midwest Province awaiting final vows and for the province's senior Jesuits who are 70 years and older. He currently lives in the Taylor Street Jesuit Community in Chicago.

## Medjugorje Presentation - January 11, 2024



Guild 4 of the Saints JFX Women's Club is hosting a talk on Medjugorje on January 11, 2024 to be given by Fr. Ryan. This talk is open to the entire parish and will take place in the Community Room at the St. Joseph campus at 7pm. A brief reception will follow. A Signum Genius will be included in future communications for those who wish to attend.

Medjugorje is a small village in Bosnia and Herzegovina, an ex-Yugoslav country. Since 1981, it has been reported that the Virgin Mary (a white form with a child in her arms) began appearing to a group of six local teenagers (visionaries). The area has become a place of pilgrimage for millions of people. Currently, three of the visionaries still receive daily apparitions and one of these is given a message from Our Lady for the world on the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. The remaining visionaries have yearly apparitions. The Church has determined that the events at Medjugorje require further study to determine whether a supernatural character is present.

Fr. Ryan has conducted two pilgrimages to Medjugorje and will share his experiences with us. We hope you will join us.



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