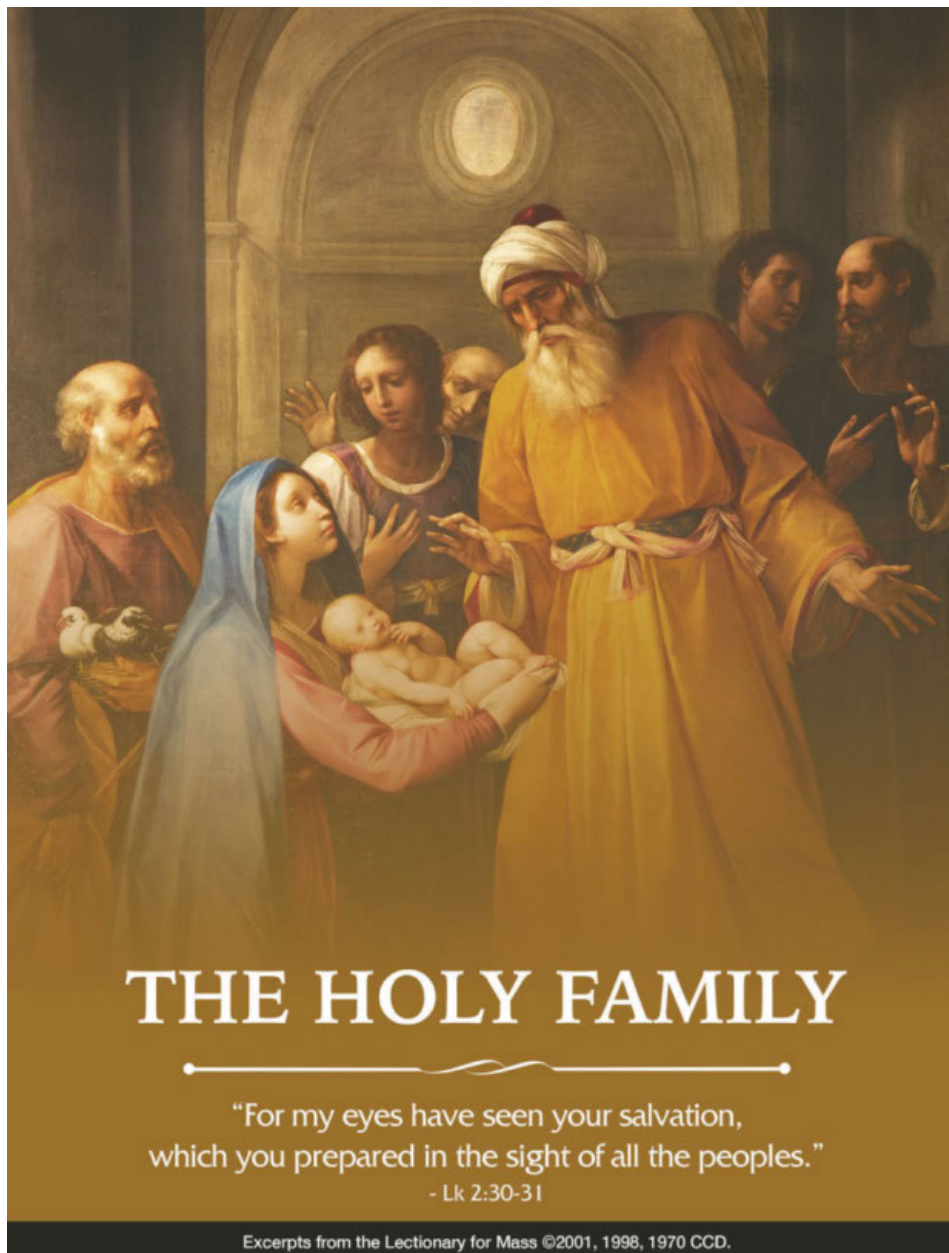




Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier Parish

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 31, 2023



PARISH STAFF

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

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rsryan@ssjfx.org

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Rev. Edward F. Harnett, Retired

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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

For information about Saints JFX School, please visit
www.saintsjfx.org

Saints JFX is on social media!

*Follow us on Instagram (saintsjfx_wilmette) and
Facebook (Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier)*

Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas! Please continue to celebrate the great season of Christmas. The season, although the retailers would have you think it goes from Halloween until 11:59PM on the twenty fifth of December, just *began* on Monday. So, I will say it again, Merry Christmas! As we are still in the Octave of Christmas, even though the stores have completed their post-Christmas sales, we still are in the Christmas season.

Depending on whom you ask, the feast of Christmas continues until Epiphany (The Twelve Days of Christmas) or the Baptism of the Lord (for the liturgical purists). Some even celebrate Christmas until *Candlemas Day* (the Feast of the presentation of the Lord), which falls on February 2nd. I like to stick with the liturgical purists. Whatever way you look at it, we have many more days to celebrate the birth of Christ and the presence of Jesus in our lives.

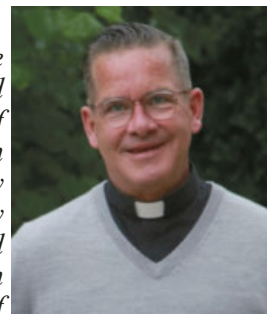
Today the Church universal celebrates the feast of the Holy Family and tomorrow, Monday, January 1, 2024, we mark the Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God. And throughout the world, celebrations of the New Year abound.

As we mark the Solemnity of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, we must thank God for our families and the traditions we have around this great season. Also, we need to remember our own God's call to all families: a call to holiness. Finally, we must permit the Holy Family to model discipleship for us, inspire us, intercede for us and to live with us in our homes. The opening prayer for the Mass today says it well. *"O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards."*

The documents of Vatican II share the Church's great wisdom regarding the importance of family in the life of the church. Just one paragraph from the document on the laity stresses emphatically the role of family in the Church and in the world. It emboldens my invitation to all families to be active, supportive members of this great faith community.

This mission - to be the first and vital cell of society - the family has received from God. It will fulfill this mission if it appears as the domestic sanctuary of the Church by reason of the mutual affection of its members and the prayer that they offer to God in common, if the whole family makes itself a part of the liturgical worship of the

Church, and if it provides active hospitality and promotes justice and other good works for the service of all the brethren in need. Christian families can give effective testimony to Christ before the world by remaining faithful to the Gospel and by providing a model of Christian marriage through their whole way of life.



As we honor Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, let's commit to living these words in the new year. Mutual Affection. Household Prayer. Liturgical Worship (Regular Mass attendance). Active Hospitality. Promoting Justice. Caring for those in need. These words constitute great ingredients for a recipe for holiness in our own families.

As the Advent and Christmas readings illustrate, Mary is a great model for us. Saying yes to the will of God, risking her own life and forever altering her future, showing selflessness in her visitation of Elizabeth, and emanating joy in the birth of her son, Mary exemplifies fidelity and openness to living as a true child of God. On January 1st, the first day of the new year, we honor her not only as God's child but also as God's Mother, and in fact as our Mother.

As we flip the calendar pages (for those of us who still use such things!) to 2024, I thank God for the blessings of 2023 and look forward to many great things to come in the New Year. I applaud all those who worked so hard to make our Christmas Masses beautiful, welcoming, and filled with the joy that the Christ Child offers. Our music directors, John and Jonathan, their choirs and instrumentalists, our amazing staff of priests and dedicated laypeople, and the many volunteers whose hands made the good happen.

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>Monday January 1, 2024 <i>Happy New Year!</i></p> <p>9:00 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Carol Perkins +John & Mimi Ryan (L)Rehbock Family</p>	<p>Wednesday January 3, 2024</p> <p>6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Jack McDonagh +John R & Ruth Smith (L)Jo & Jeph Harrison Family</p>	<p>Saturday January 6, 2024</p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Carol Perkins +Soon Hee</p> <p>9:00 am-10:00 am SJ Confession</p> <p>5:00 pm SJ <i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Peter & Sophia Theobald</p> <p>5:00 pm SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Harnett</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Carol McDonough +Anton & Mary Schneider +Anthony & Elizabeth Schneider</p>	<p>Sunday January 7, 2024</p> <p>8:00 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Tara Fallaw Kelly +Liliana Suciú +Gloria Vian</p> <p>9:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Jean Kuten Kane +Janet Plas +Liliana Suciú</p> <p>10:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Betsy Fox Burke +Maria DiDomizio +Frank & Veronica Merges +Liliana Suciú</p> <p>11:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Ostdiek, SJ</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Dave Crome</p> <p>11:30 am SJ Baptism Bonne Family</p> <p>4:45 pm SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i></p> <p>Intentions: (L)People of the Parish</p> <p>7:30 pm SFX ACTION <i>Presider: Fr. Ryan</i></p>
<p>Tuesday January 2, 2024</p> <p>6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Jun-Gu Lee +Kaup & Pettinger Families +Will Weir</p> <p>9:00 am-10:00 am SJ Eucharistic Adoration</p>	<p>Thursday January 4, 2024</p> <p>6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Harnett</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Bob Jones +Sophia Madden</p> <p>Friday January 5, 2024</p> <p>6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Josephina Cannon +Mika Filkins +Han Sook</p>	<p>Masses are livestreamed on our YouTube channel.</p> <p>Search <i>Saints JFX</i> on www.youtube.com</p>	
<p>+ Deceased / (L) Living SFX - St. Francis Xavier SJ -St. Joseph</p>			

Please pray for the sick and those in need:

Carmen Albino
Laura B.
Lorraine Bixler
Jim Bohlman
Art Devereaux

Paul DiClementi Jr
Peter DiClementi Jr
Sally Griffin
Sheila Groark
Rick Hawkinson

Catherine Horan
Bob Kerrigan
Jordan Lynch
Tiffany McGivern
John McGuiness

Eden McKenna
Pam O'Reilly
Allen Stone
Carla Zaramella

*In prayer
and loving memory of:*

*Shiree Federico
Will Weir*



Please email officessjfx@ssjfx.org to add or remove a name.

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.



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

Sacraments at Saints JFX

Sacrament of Baptism

Request form can be found on our parish website: 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

Parish registration forms can be found on ssjfx.org/join-our-parish.html

Stewardship Report

December 17, 2023

Collected at Church:

Envelopes: \$ 8,087.00

Loose Cash: \$ 2,009.00

Electronic

Contributions: \$21,880.00

Total: \$31,976.00

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

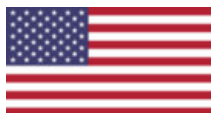
US Navy

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.*



Readings for the week of December 31, 2023

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 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

Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/ Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1: 19-28

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/ Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

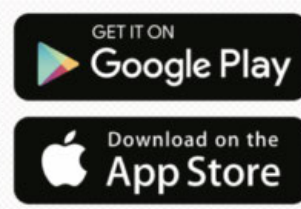
How to listen to the Assisted Listening System with your Smart Phone:

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.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO 

Vicariate I Ministry Commission
An Evening of Education and Advocacy

**SUPPORTING ASYLUM SEEKERS
IN OUR COMMUNITY**

Monday, January 22, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
Holy Family Parish, 2515 Palatine Road, Inverness
Hosted by **WELCOME THE STRANGER Ministry**

 **VIATOR HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY**
HOPE • HEALING • OPPORTUNITY

A Viator House of Hospitality Presentation
Featured Speakers:
Fr. Corey Brost, C.S.V, Br. Michael Gosch, C.S.V. and
Kelly Albinak Kribs, Attorney

Questions? Contact Myra at myrabuettner@outlook.com Register at bit.ly/AsyupdJan24 

Feast of the
MOTHER OF GOD
©LPI

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
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

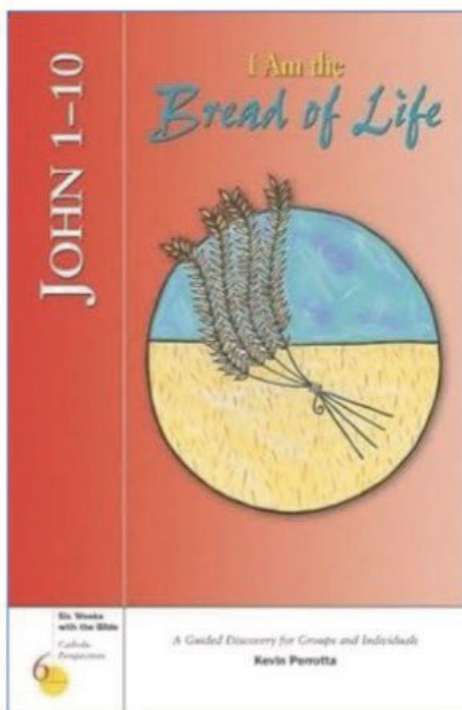
PARISH & SCHOOL ADVISORY

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

*If you would like additional
information, please contact
the parish office at
officessjfx@ssjfx.org*

The **St. Thomas of Canterbury Food Pantry** has expanded its supported ZIP codes to the surrounding neighborhoods and increased frequency to every two weeks. In addition, the Food Pantry will begin to receive weekly (vs. 2x a month) food deliveries starting in February.

As a result, the Food Pantry needs additional volunteers on Wednesdays from 10:00am until 12:00 pm to receive food deliveries, as well as volunteers to work in the food pantry on Thursdays. If you're able to help, or would like additional information, please contact John Ceisel - interim St. Thomas of Canterbury Food Pantry Manager at STCFoodPantry1@gmail.com or (773) 234-3867.



What do we mean when we say the Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ?

Join Pam Coster for a six-week exploration of the early chapters of the Gospel of John, which inform our understanding of Jesus and theology of the Eucharist. Discover the depth and richness of this essential teaching of the Church and what it can mean for your life of faith.

January 10 – February 21
Wednesdays 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
by Zoom videoconference

The *Six Weeks with the Bible* series is designed for people at any level of biblical knowledge. Minimal homework, but a lot to discuss!

In this Year of Eucharistic Revival, enrich your understanding and appreciation of this most beautiful Sacrament.

To register, go to

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4AADAB29ABFA7-46329599-sixweeks>

or use the QR code below.

Participants purchase their own book, available from Loyola Press, Amazon or the bookseller of your choice. The Bible readings are in the book but it would be helpful to have a Bible as well. If you do not own one, Bibles can be borrowed from the Bell Tower library.



Questions? Contact Pam at pcoster@gmail.com.



Cook County
North Suburban

**WEDNESDAYS JANUARY
24-MARCH 13, 2024
6:00-8:30 PM
IN-PERSON AT
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JOSEPH ROOM**



REGISTER



Use the website
address to register
or the QR Code for
the registration form



WEBSITE

<https://namiccns.org/education/family-to-family-of-adults/>



QUESTIONS

Email: admin@namiccns.org
Call: 847-716-2252



FAMILY-TO-FAMILY

The NAMI Family-to-Family Education Program is a FREE 8-week course for families and close friends of adults with mental illness. This course is taught by trained teachers who are also family members and know what it is like to have a loved one living with mental illness, such as major depression, bipolar disorder, anxiety disorders, schizophrenia, and other disorders.

Many family members describe this experience as life changing. Join the thousands of families, just like yours, who have gained information, understanding, and support.

WHAT YOU'LL GAIN

- o Learn about family responses to the trauma of mental illness
- o Receive current information on serious mental illnesses
- o Learn about symptoms, medications, and side effects
- o Practice problem-solving skills and communication techniques
- o Develop strategies for handling crises and relapses
- o Learn about local community resources and supports
- o Focus on self-care and coping with stress



**Blessed are the Peacemakers:
The Christian Call in the Midst of Violence**

Brian Schmisek, PhD

**Provost, University of Saint Mary of the Lake/
Mundelein Seminary**

Our world, both at home and across the globe, seems engulfed by violence. We each have our own fears, hopes and coping mechanisms when confronted with it.

How does our faith inform our response?

What are the teachings of Jesus and the Church?

Join popular speaker Brian Schmisek for an important discussion about the issue of violence and our response as Christians.

You are invited to stay for refreshments and conversation following the presentation.

The event will not be livestreamed but will be recorded. Please register if you would like to receive the link to the recording after the event.

A Tri-Parish Event

Monday, January 15

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**Ss. Faith Hope &
Charity Parish Center
191 Linden St. Winnetka**

To register, go to
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4AADAB29ABFA7-46512245-blessed>
or use the QR code below.



Questions?
Contact Pam Coster at
pcoster@gmail.com

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.

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 25th 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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