Thus says the Lord:
All you who are thirsty, come to the water!
You who have no money,
come, receive grain and eat;
Come, without paying and without cost,
drink wine and milk!

Isaiah 55:1

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 2, 2020

St. Francis Xavier and St. John the Baptist Catholic Churches

Parish Directory

Parish Office.....536-2803
Deacon /Parish Life Coordinator — Deacon Jim Arndt.....536-2803 ext. 218
Sacramental Minister — Fr. Mariadas Vallabhaneni ("Fr. Maria").....536-2803 ext 215
Parish Secretary — Kris Leggett.....536-2803 ext. 202
Finance Clerk — Linda Rautiola .....536-2803 ext. 219
DRE — Joe Velie.....536-2803 ext. 222
Music Director — Mary Ament.....536-2803 ext. 230
Maintenance Supervisor/Cemetery — John Hanson.....536-2803 ext. 221
School Principal — Sonja Doughty 536-6083
School Secretary — Cindy Gennrich.....536-6083

Parish Website: www.stfrancismerrill.org
Staff email addresses are listed on the parish website

Mass Schedule
Monday No Mass
Tuesday 5:00 PM
Wednesday 9:00 AM
Thursday No Mass
Friday 8:00 AM
Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 7:45 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM (SJB)

Reconciliation Schedule
Tuesday 4:30 PM
Wednesday 8:15 AM
Saturday 3:00 PM
Sunday 11:10 AM (SJB)
And by Appointment

Eucharistic Adoration
Monday 3:00-7:00 PM
Tuesday 2:00-5:00 PM
Wednesday 3:00-7:00 PM
Thursday 3:00-7:00 PM

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Jer 28:1-17; Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102; Mt 14:22-36
Tuesday:	Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23; Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
Wednesday:	Jer 31:1-7; Jer 31:10-12ab, 13; Mt 15:21-28
Thursday:	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9
Friday:	Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41; Mt 16:24-28
Saturday:	Hb 1:12 — 2:4; Ps 9:8-13; Mt 17:14-20
Sunday:	1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Ps 85:9-14; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

Summer Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday
8:00 AM-4:00 PM
Friday 9:00-1:00 PM
(closed daily 12-12:30 for lunch)

Low Gluten Eucharist (.01%) are available.
Please see Deacon Jim before Mass.

Parish office email:
kleggett@stfrancismerrill.org
Bulletin deadline is Tuesday at Noon.

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The Parish Communities of : St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church ~ St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Physical & mailing address:1708 East Tenth Street, Merrill, WI 54452 Physical address: N4887 Hwy 17, Bloomville

MASS INTENTIONS-Week of Aug. 3, 2020

Monday-No Mass

Tuesday
5:00 PM (SFX) † David Rice
By: Barb & Rob Hartwig

Wednesday
9:00 AM (SFX) † John & Diane Albinger
By: Jim & Jan Bares

Thursday No Mass

Friday
8:00 AM (SFX) Special Intention of the Custy Family

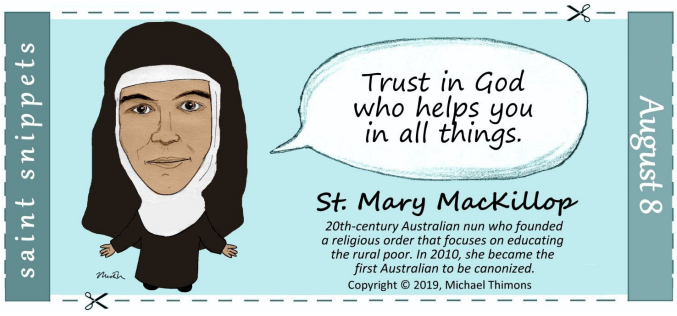
Saturday
4:00 PM (SFX) † Dan Ellenbecker
By: Family

Sunday
7:45 AM (SFX) People of the parishes
9:30 AM (SFX) † Roy Buckett Family
By: Pat & Kaz Buckett
11:30 AM (SJB) † Jeffery Barrett
By: John & Sharon Madden

The 4:00 PM Saturday Mass will be lived streamed on our Facebook Page.

We appreciate the advertisers who support our bulletin:

Dr. Charles A. Sowieja
715-536-7104



SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Please call the parish office to schedule a baptism. You must be a registered and contributing member of the parish to have your child receive this sacrament.

Anointing of the sick: This sacrament is available upon request by calling the parish office. Please do not wait until it becomes an emergency because a priest will not always be immediately available.

Communion to the homebound: At this time communion can only be brought by a priest or Deacon Jim. Please arrange this by calling the parish office.

OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS…..

- Things are continually changing…. Please visit our website: www.stfrancismerrill.org, or our Face Book page, or you may also call the parish office at 715-536-2803 for updates. We encourage you to provide the office with your email address. Deacon Jim sends out frequent emails with important information. This is an easy and inexpensive way to communicate with everyone.
- If you would like to purchase a weekly missal to help you follow along with the readings at Mass, they are available for $3.00 at the parish office. This would be your personal copy, please do not leave it in the church. This will help keep the church sanitized. There are also free apps to download on your smart phone. Try Word Among Us, or the Laudate App.
- We are looking to expand our adoration hours, in an attempt to return to a more normal, and expanded schedule. If you are interested in resuming your adoration hour, or becoming a new adorer, please call Phil/Mary Ziesemer 715-409-0165.

SCRIP NEWS: Unfortunately, Walgreen's SCRIP is still not available at this time. We were told this is a temporary shortage.

Did you know there is an APP for purchasing SCRIP? Go to the App Store, or Google Play and download the Free RaiseRight App. Look for this logo. Once you open a SCRIP account, or use your existing account, you can purchase SCRIP right on your smart phone. Some "E" gift cards will be available on your phone for you to use immediately. Other physical gift cards can be picked up at the parish office.

Welcome to our newest member!

Noah James VanDerGeest, son of Mike & Sarah (Schooley) VanDerGeest, was baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit on Sunday, August 2nd. Congratulations!

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD-THANK YOU!

St. Francis Xavier	**July 18-19, 2020**	**July 20-21, 2019**
Adult Envelopes	$2,758.00	$6,701.00
Loose	$114.00	$306.00
ACH giving	$3,000.00	$385.00
Debt Relief	$675.00	$1342.00
TOTAL	**$6547.00**	**$8,734.00**
St. John the Baptist		
Adult Env. & Loose	$431.00	$419.00

From the Deacon's Desk:

Now that professional sports are starting up…it's time to bring in a sports analogy. So…let's start with this…Jesus is a team player, and we are on his team. The goal of Christ's team is eternal life and everlasting happiness. To achieve that goal…each of us has three basic responsibilities.

First, we need to keep our eye on the ball…that is keep our eye on Christ. We need to stay close to Him as our team leader, getting to know him better every day, learning to see all things as he sees them. This we do by prayer, by reading and studying Church teaching, and by conversations with other people who know Christ well.

In our Gospel today…after blessing and breaking the bread, he gave it to his apostles and told them to distribute it, and the miracle only occurred when they obeyed him. This is still how Jesus works today. He's a team player, not a solo act. He feeds each one of us with his Word and his sacraments through the Church. And he feeds those outside the Church with his truth through each one of us. At least, he wants to…but it's up to us to let him.

Second, we need to play good defense. Good defense means avoiding unnecessary temptations. We are all vulnerable to temptations that come from our own selfish tendencies, from the devil, and from the self-centered world around us. God gives us enough grace to resist temptations, but we cut ourselves off from that grace when we purposely put ourselves in dangerous situations…like wasting time surfing the Internet…going to parties centered on destructive behavior…distancing ourselves from family relationships and holy healthy friendships…or even just being lazy.

Third, we need to play good offense. Good offense is simply doing God's will. For the most part…God's will is easy to identify. It means following the commandments, obeying our conscience, fulfilling our normal responsibilities, and striving to love our neighbor as ourselves. But sometimes, God's will is hard to see…then we need extra prayer, patience, and the advice of a priest or other holy people.

Jesus is eager for us to discover the joy, satisfaction and peace that comes from being more active members of his team.

If we keep our eye on the ball, play good defense, and play good offense, we won't let him down.
-Deacon Jim

Religious Education News

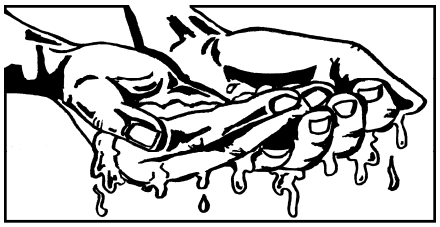
Confirmation will be held on **October 11 at St. Francis** in Merrill. Traditionally we celebrate this sacrament with St. Mary in Tomahawk. We will not be doing so this year. This is due to the attendance limits for the parishes throughout the diocese. The Confirmation Mass will begin at **6 pm**. We realize that this may be an inconvenient time for some but it is the only time available for Bishop Powers. There will most likely be limitations on the amount of people in attendance but it is impossible to say what those limitations will be at this time. Further details will be forthcoming.

Are you not Catholic and are interested to learn more about the Catholic Church or have already decided you'd like to join? Are you Catholic but have not yet been confirmed? If you answered yes to either question and would like more information contact Joe Velie at 715-536-2803, ext. 222

School News

It's that time again…...Time to think about back to school (even though that's all we have thought about since March!). Our plan is to begin instruction on September 1st - face to face, 5 days a week, all grades. A detailed plan is being finalized. We are working in conjunction with MAPS, CDC, Lincoln County Health Dept. and the Diocese of Superior to insure all guidelines are being met.

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 2, 2020
All you who are thirsty,
come to the water!
— Isaiah 55:1a



The **SFX School Cash Raffle** is again underway. We put the Cash Raffle on hold when our fish fries stopped. However, tickets are available once again in the parish office and the back of church. They are $5 each or a book of 5 for $20. Prizes are: 1st place—$1000, 2nd —$500, 3rd—$200, 4th—$100, and 6 prizes of $50 each. You do not need to be present to win. The drawing date will be on August 19. Please return your tickets to the Sunday Collection, the drop box, or the parish office. If you are not able to come to church or the parish office, please mail in your check with your name, address, and phone number, and we will enter you in the raffle and return the ticket stubs to you in the mail.

RAFFLE

Information Page

Church Name: St. Francis Xavier

Bulletin: 233800

Contact: Kris Leggett 715-536-2803 kleggett@stfrancismerrill.org

No. of Pages: 4 **Note change in format...only 4 pages. 4th page should be ad page.**

Transmission: Wednesday 2:00 PM

Software: Publisher 2003, Adobe 10, microsoft XP

Special Instructions: Only print 300 copies
(Limited mass attendance)