

October
17
2021

Twenty-Ninth
Sunday in
Ordinary Time

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

Whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant;
whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all.

Mark 10:43-44

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 — Tracy Creel.....536-2803 ext. 219
- Director of Faith Formation —Kay Berg536-2803 ext. 222
- Music Director — Mary Ament.....536-2803 ext. 230
- Maintenance Supervisor — Jim Wilke.....536-2803 ext. 221
- Cemetery Sexton— John Hanson..... 536-2803
- School Principal — Stephanie Van Strydonk/Kate Shimel..... 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 9:00 AM (SJB)
- Friday 8:00 AM
- Saturday 4:00 PM
- Sunday 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM (SJB)

Reconciliation Schedule

- Tuesday 4:30 PM
- Wednesday 8:15 AM
- Saturday 9:00 AM & 3:00 PM
- Sunday 10:40 AM (SJB)
- And by Appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

- Monday 2:00-7:00 PM
- Tuesday 5:00 AM-5:00 PM
- Wednesday 6:00 AM-8:00 PM
- Thursday 12:00 PM-8:00 PM
- Friday 5:00 AM-7:00 AM

READINGS FOR THE WEEK - Oct. 18, 2021

- Monday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18; Lk 10:1-9
- Tuesday: Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21; Ps 40:7-10, 17; Lk 12:35-38
- Wednesday: Rom 6:12-18; Ps 124:1b-8; Lk 12:39-48
- Thursday: Rom 6:19-23; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 12:49-53
- Friday: Rom 7:18-25a; Ps 119:66, 68, 76-77, 93-94; Lk 12:54-59
- Saturday: Rom 8:1-11; Ps 24:1b-4ab, 5-6; Lk 13:1-9
- Sunday: Jer 31:7-9; Ps 126:1-6; Heb 5:1-6; Mk 10:46-52



OFFICE HOURS

Parish Office Hours:

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


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

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

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

<u>Monday</u> <u>10/18</u>	<u>Tuesday</u> 10/19	<u>Wednesday</u> 10/20	<u>Thursday</u> <u>10/21</u>	<u>Friday</u> 10/22	<u>Saturday</u> 10/23	<u>World</u> <u>Mission</u> <u>Sunday</u> 10/24
Fr. Maria & Deacon Jim to clergy Workshop	NO MASS 6:00 PM SFX P/C and F/C 6:15 PM SFX Choir	8:15 AM SFX Reconciliation 9:00 AM SFX Mass <u>Faith Formation</u> K-5 Session 5:30-6:30 PM Edge/Purpose 6:30-7:30PM	9:00 AM SJB Mass 6:30 PM SFX Handbells 	8:00 AM SFX Mass	9:00 AM SFX Reconciliation 3:00 PM SFX Reconciliation 4:00 PM SFX Mass	7:30 AM SFX Mass 9:00 AM SFX Mass 11:00 AM SJB Mass

MASS INTENTIONS-Week of Oct. 18, 2021

Monday-No Mass

Tuesday-No Mass (This week only)

Wednesday

9:00 AM (SFX) † Charles Doffing
By: Barb & Pete McConnell

Thursday

9:00 AM (SJB) † Lawrence Duginski
By: Sally Wiley

Friday

8:00 AM (SFX) † Koss Family
By: Family

Saturday

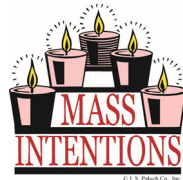
4:00 PM (SFX) † Bob Mussell
By: Family

Sunday

7:30 AM (SFX) † Stanley & Helen Germain
By: Barb Hartwig

9:00AM (SFX) † Duane Rutte
By: Jack & Faye Semling Family

11:00 AM (SJB) People of the parishes



OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS.....

- † The Candles in the Adoration Chapel burn this week in honor of the Wedding of **Paul Heinzen and Mary Catherin Polesnak**.
- † Please pray for Fr. Maria and Deacon Jim as they join the other clergy in our diocese for a workshop October 17-19. There will not be Tuesday evening Mass on October 19. Deacon Jim will return in time for the joint parish and finance council meeting at 6:00 PM.
- † This year's profit for the SNACK SHACK on Labor Day was: **\$2,191.90**. Thank you to everyone who give up their holiday, to fundraise for our youth. We want to especially thank Sarah Schenzel, Gus and Val Caylor for heading up the Labor Day Stand.
- † **SJB MUSIC NOTES:** Our St. John the Baptist Choir is a friendly "family choir" and all ages are welcome. New members may join at any time! Other ways to share in music ministry are by playing the keyboard, guitar, percussion, flute, or any other instrument. Come, "Sing to the Lord a new song"! If interested please call or text Jeanne (715-218-3595) OR stop by after Mass on Sunday and talk with us about your interest in music ministry.
- † SFX is no longer accepting aluminum cans. Please do not drop them off any longer. We cannot keep up with how many are being dropped off, and they also need to be transported out of town. Thank you for your understanding.

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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: Please contact the parish office if you know of someone who would like to receive communion at home.

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD-THANK YOU!

<u>St. Francis Xavier</u>	<u>Oct. 9-10, 2021</u>	<u>Oct. 10-11, 2020</u>
Adult Envelopes	\$6,761.00	\$11,354.00
Loose	\$253.00	238.24
ACH giving	\$585.00	370.00
Debt Relief	<u>\$470.00</u>	<u>\$418.75</u>
TOTAL	\$8,096.00	\$12,380.99
<u>St. John the Baptist</u>		
Adult Env. & Loose	\$516.00	\$1,330.00

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Old Testament selection, from Isaiah's "Fourth Song of the Suffering Servant of God," describes God's Servant as one who "gives his life as an offering for sin" (Isaiah 53:10) and celebrates the mighty power of that self-offering: "through his suffering, my servant shall justify many, and their guilt he shall bear" (53:11). As always during Ordinary Time, this Old Testament reading prepares us for today's longer form Gospel. Jesus incarnates the redemptive suffering that Isaiah foresaw in the offering of God's Servant, as well as the covenantal restoration that the Servant's sacrifice achieved. The reading from Hebrews confirms our finding peace in continually learning from Jesus, whatever our deepest flaws and trials: for Jesus, our "great high priest" (Hebrews 4:14) is not "unable to sympathize with our weaknesses," for Jesus was "tested in every way" that we are (4:15).

MISUNDERSTANDING JESUS

Throughout this part of Ordinary Time, Mark's Gospel tracks the disciples' progressive misunderstanding about Jesus' mission and the nature of discipleship. We heard Jesus make two predictions about his Passion on Sundays in September, and just before today's Gospel episode, Jesus informed the Twelve: "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and hand him over to the Gentiles who will mock him, spit upon him, scourge him, and put him to death, but after three days he will rise" (Mark 10:33-34). Despite Jesus' three predictions and his definition of "glory" and "power" as serving others in humility, James and John still imagine Jesus as bound for a glorious earthly messiahship. How moving that Jesus, rather than scolding James and John as he had previously rebuked Peter, instead begins teaching them patiently, "You do not know what you are asking" (10:38).

SELF-EXAMINATION

Knowing that Jesus' throne of glory is also a "throne of grace," from which Jesus bestows "mercy and grace for timely help" (Hebrews 4:16), today's Gospel suggests sincere self-examination: How do we approach Jesus and make our requests? What do we ask for: what Jesus wants us to do or, like James and John today, do we demand "whatever we want" from Jesus? Does the world in which we live and work focus our hearts on glory to the right and power on the left? Or does "the cup we drink," "the baptism" we've received inspire us to gladly become servants of all, like the Jesus who has made us his disciples? Do we also avoid imitating the "indignant ten" other Apostles who rebuked James and John? Or are we also quick to see the errors of others and rash in passing judgment on them? How do we live in response to Jesus who gave his life "as a ransom for many"?

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SCHOOL NEWS

Our preschool through 3rd grade enjoyed a beautiful day at Wilke's Pumpkin Patch. Pictured are our 4k students in the corn maze. We continue to thank God for His beautiful creation, and the time He gives us to enjoy it.



SAVE THE DATE: The St. Francis Xavier Christmas Bazaar is scheduled for Saturday, November 13. Lunch, vendors, and our famous basket raffles are being planned. You won't want to miss this great day!

Congratulations to Allison Judith Klement daughter of Matt & Jessica (Cortright) Klement who was baptized last weekend in the name of the Father, Son & the Holy Spirit. Congratulations!



Calling All Singers!

Bishop Powers will be here to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation at St. Francis Xavier Church on Saturday, November 6, at 6:00 p.m.

The Family Choir will be providing music for Mass and is looking for singers. (If you like to sing but don't want to commit to the entire choir season, please consider joining us for Confirmation.) There will be 3 rehearsals on Tuesday evenings (Oct. 19 and 26 and Nov. 2) from 6:15 - 7:30. The music is not difficult and recordings will be provided upon request.

If you are interested, please contact Mary Ament to get a packet of music: mament@stfrancismerrill.org
Thank-you!

FOLLOWING JESUS



Our students who will be Confirmed on November 6th at 6:00PM went on retreat this past Sunday to St. Anthony's Spirituality Center.



Please continue to pray for them as they begin their final preparations for this very important Sacrament. Holy Spirit descend upon them!

BAKERS NEEDED: we would like to have a dessert reception for Confirmation on November 6th – if you are able to bake a dessert for the reception please call Kris in the parish office! Thank you!!!!



CINNAMON ROLL SALE

We will have our awesome cinnamon rolls for sale next weekend after all the Masses! Stop by the entrance to the courtyard – coffee will be available as well! All proceeds will go to our youth trips

Wednesday October 20th—

5:30PM Grade K–5 Student Session
6:30PM— Grade 6–9 Edge
6:30PM—Grade 10—Purpose

Wednesday October 27th—

ALL GRADES OFF

Wednesday November 3rd—

5:30PM Grade K–5 Family Session
6:30PM—Grade 6–9 Edge
6:30PM—Grade 10—Purpose
7:30PM—Grade 11— Confirmation Practice

Kay Berg, Director of Faith Formation kberg@stfrancismerrill.org

(715)536-2803 ext. 222

(715)966-0877 Cell



October 17, 2021

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 53:10-11 | Heb 4:14-16 | Mk 10:35-45 or 10:42-45

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

What do we do best? Some of us might be math whizzes, others can send a golf ball exactly where we intend. How do we get there? Practice, natural talent, and a good coach or teacher. Following Jesus, though, is another matter entirely. As today's readings remind us, we grow as Christians not by building ourselves up but by giving ourselves away. In Isaiah, we hear about the suffering servant who "did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many." That suffering servant is Jesus, who admonishes the Apostles as they jostle for position as his right-hand man. Ultimately, the greatest among them will be "a slave of all," Jesus reminds them. His words challenge us to put as much energy and prayer into finding ways to better serve others as we do other areas of our lives. We can look to Jesus, Mary, St. Joseph, and all the saints as role models.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I bet most of us can think of a friend who seems like a natural "giver." He shovels the neighbor's walk without being asked. She sends flowers or a meal during a difficult time. Serving others can take so many forms, from a simple hug or phone call to volunteering at a soup kitchen. In today's readings, Jesus invites us to bear witness to his sacrifice through humble service. It may not come naturally for all of us all the time, but that's where God's grace and the Holy Spirit come in. We can ask for the strength, creativity, flexibility - whatever we may lack - to recognize the needs around us and respond. Before we know it, our generosity will overflow and encourage others as they, too, seek to grow in Christian service.

ACTION Watching the news or even scrolling through your social-media feed can be overwhelming at times. Instead of tuning out, find a small way to help - through prayer, a donation to a Catholic organization, or a phone call or card to a friend going through a difficult time.

World Mission Sunday: October 24, 2021

Pope Francis' message for World Mission Sunday reflects on the theme: "We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20). The Holy Father shares his zeal, reminding us that, "As Christians, we cannot keep the Lord to ourselves"... He invites us to speak of our faith!

World Mission Sunday provides us with that very opportunity. We can speak about our faith and respond to our missionary call-through prayer, participation in the Eucharist, and giving generously to the collection for the Society of the Propagation of the Faith next weekend. Your gifts support and sustain priests, religious and lay pastor leaders in more than 1,100 mission dioceses in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe as they proclaim the Gospel, build the Church, serve the poor—and speak of our shared faith in all corners of the world.

I invite all of us in this diocese to respond in the most generous way you are able. As you do, I offer my sincere personal gratitude for your kind missionary heart, reaching out in love throughout Mission Month.

Gratefully in the Lord,
Most Rev. James P. Powers
Bishop of Superior

St. John the Baptist Christmas Bazaar November 28, 2021

- Soup and chili lunch
 - Bake sale
 - Basket raffles
- sweepstakes raffle
- 50/50 drawing.



Watch your mail for the sweepstakes drawing letter and tickets coming at the end of October! Tickets will also be available at the parish office in Merrill, and the back of St. John the Baptist Church. This year's prizes:

\$150 Kwik Trip Card, \$150 County Market Card, 4—\$100 CAS# Prizes, and 2—\$50 Prairie Pines gift certificates.

Can you help sell tickets, set up or clean up, or work in the kitchen that day? Call Karla at: 715-219-6070 or Sharon at 715-351-0089. Thank you.

SEND A KID TO CAMP

The SFX Middle School students have a wonderful opportunity to participate in an outdoor educational retreat, by the Northern Lakes Impact Center, at Crescent Lake Bible Camp, near Rhinelander. The Diocese of Superior hosts Extreme Faith Camp there every summer. Check out the facilities at www.clbc.net if you are interested in finding out more.

The price for 3 days/2 nights in October, including meals, lodging, and programming is about \$95/person, which is a total cost of over \$2000 for the students and chaperones. We'll study the environment to become good stewards of God's creation, learn leadership and team building skills, build community, and make amazing memories to share.

St. Francis Middle School teachers will be there as chaperones. Fr. Maria and Deacon Jim will provide Mass on Thursday evening.

Please consider sponsoring our trip!
Any amount, large or small, is greatly appreciated!
Please make checks payable to:
St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

Spark \$25 Gets us started.
Flame \$50 Now we're cookin'.
Fire \$75 It's getting hotter.
Blaze \$100 Sends one kid to camp!
Bonfire \$500 We are stoked!!!

Thank you for your prayers and support.



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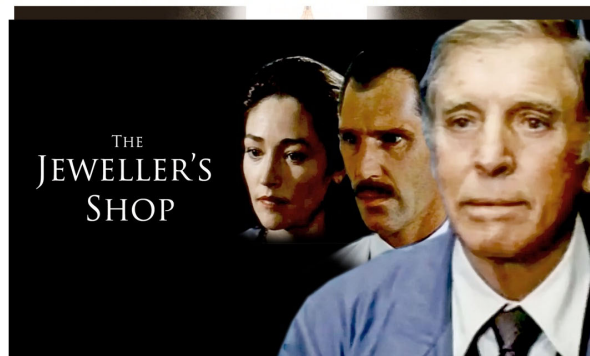
PICK OF THE WEEK

Oct 17, 2021

WATCH

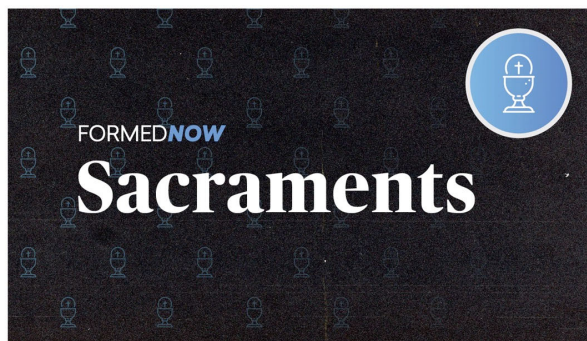
THE JEWELER'S SHOP: A MODERN MYSTERY BY POPE JOHN PAUL II

Based on Pope John Paul II's best-selling book, this film tells of the struggles and triumphs in the marriages of three couples. A mysterious Jeweller (Burt Lancaster) acts as a mystical advisor to the couples, encouraging them to keep love at the center of their lives. Beautifully filmed with an outstanding cast that includes Olivia Hussey and Ben Cross. John Paul II called it "the best possible film based on my play."



LEARN

FORMED NOW: ST. LUKE AND THE EUCHARIST



Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn as they dive into the joy of the Eucharist found in the Gospel of St. Luke the Evangelist.

LISTEN

SAINT JOHN PAUL THE GREAT BY JASON EVERT

Discover the five great loves of Pope Saint John Paul II as Jason Evert, renowned Catholic speaker and author, shares remarkable stories about this saint's life from those who knew him, including bishops, students whom he taught, and Swiss Guards who interacted with him daily. Jason presents a wealth of insights about this holy man who promoted devotion to Divine Mercy and Marian consecration, helped defeat communism in Europe, wrote the Theology of the Body, and embraced young people like no other.



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