

FEBRUARY 21, 2010 – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

A Tithing Parish

STEWARDSHIP

Tithing: God's Plan for Giving

REPORT FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2010

Envelopes	\$14,992.20
Loose Cash	719.00
Non Member Checks	300.00
Poor Box –Light House	211.58
Monthly EFT Transfer	9,363.00
Envelopes from 2/7/09	7,408.00
Total Receipts	\$32,993.78

YTD July 1 through December 31, 2009

	Actual	Budget
Operating Income	\$523,330	\$562,539
Operating Expense	<u>492,345</u>	<u>506,857</u>
Surplus (Deficit)	30,985	55,682

When are we to give? “When the storehouse is open to receive the tithes and offerings,” says the writer in Malachi 3:8-10. St. Paul makes it even plainer. He says, “Upon the first day of the week...” 1 Corinthians 16:2 (Stewardship February 2010)

POOR BOX

The Poor Box for February will benefit Light House Community. They are setting up 5 shelters to house homeless men in Baltimore. The men are in Recovery and this project is being done by Jobs, Housing & Recovery.

MASS INTENTIONS

Week of February 21

Sunday	8 am	Annie Moro†
	9:30 am	Patricia Hughes†
	11:30 am	For The Community
Monday	12:10 pm	Communion Service
Tuesday	12:10 pm	Molly Fischer†
Wednesday	12:10 pm	Olivia Chatard Norton †
Thursday	12:10 pm	Dave Roeder†
Saturday	5 pm	Pham Pham†
Sunday	8 am	For The Community
	9:30 am	Mary Breede†
	11:30 am	Dolores Santo

†Deceased

PARISH EVENTS

Week of February 21

Today, Sunday, February 21

Room at the Table Food Drive
10:45 am Prayer Meeting
10:45 am Rosary
5 pm Youth Mass

Monday, February 22

9:15 am CSS Leaders Meeting
10:15 am Bible Study
4:45 pm Monday Groups
7 pm Teilhard Discussion Group
7 pm City of God Prayer Group Core Team Meeting

Tuesday, February 23

9:15 am Catholic Scripture Study
7 pm 1st Eucharist Parent Meeting
7 pm Into The Heart
7 pm RCIC

Wednesday, February 24

7 pm 1st Eucharist Parent Meeting
7 pm The Light Is On
7 pm “Decision Making”
7 pm RCIA
7:15 pm AA Meeting
7:30 pm Prayer Meeting

Thursday, February 25

7 pm Catholic Scripture Study
7 pm Choir Practice

Friday, February 26

Parish Office Closed
6 pm Soup & Bread Supper
7 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 27

10 am Confirmation Service Saturday
6 pm Middle School Parent Dinner

Sunday, February 28

10:45 am Prayer Meeting
10:45 am Baptismal Prep
10:45 am Sunday Study
10:45 am Rosary
5 pm Youth Mass/Family Night

AA Meeting – 7:15 pm on Wednesday – Chatard House
<http://222.baltimoreaa.org> or 410-663-1922

CCSFX Prayer Chain – Contact Rick Rider
Rrider82@msn.com

Pastor's Corner –

Dear Parishioners:

Some "Old-Timers" look back fondly at all that used to be a part of Lenten fasting and abstinence. Some felt it provided them with benefits beyond the spiritual renewal intended. They speak about a sense of camaraderie during Lent. It was easy to spot another Catholic eating a cheese sandwich at work or ordering tuna salad at a restaurant. You weren't alone in sacrificing. There was a shared consciousness. Others who were more pragmatic felt that Lent provided them an annual diet, a good way to shed the weight put on in the dead of winter.

The readings this First Sunday of Lent remind us that indeed we are not alone in our faith. Our faith is shared among believers of all backgrounds. It is for all who accept Jesus, according to St. Paul.

While we have simplified the Lenten fast and abstinence regulations, we are still called to use self-denial as an offering of thanksgiving to God and as a way to put into perspective all that we have and all that gives us comfort are not as important as our eternal salvation.

To sacrifice alone as Jesus did in the desert is tough. To realize that we do it together in Lent with other believers gives us the strength and makes our actions not self-serving acts of self-improvement but common acts of faith and reconciliation. They are good not for the body as much as for the soul and spirit. We are in Lent together. That's good!

May this Lenten be a time of great grace for you and your families!

In Christ's love,

Fr. Frank



FAITH FORMATION

Pat Allshouse (pallshouse@ccsfx.net)
Middle School – Joanie Carlson
(carlsonj@notredameprep.com)

FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN

FIRST EUCHARIST PREPARATION-

Session II Parent Meeting – Tuesday, Feb. 23rd and repeated on Wednesday, Feb. 24th from 7 to 9 pm. You must attend ONE.

FIRST RECONCILIATION RETREAT

For those preparing to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time – Saturday, March 6th from 9 to 11:30 am.

MONDAY GROUPS

Remaining sessions – Feb. 22; March 1, 8, 15 & 22nd

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Second Semester Dates:

Feb. 20 – Lambs/Nursery Appreciation Night

Feb. 27 – Parent Night

Mar 13 – Reconciliation

SUMMER CAMP

Make your plans now...our annual Summer Camp for children entering Kindergarten through 7th grade will be held from **August 16-20, 2010**. Registration will be available in the spring. Contact Pat Allshouse (pallshouse@ccsfx.net) for more information.

FAMILY NIGHT LITURGY & DINNER

Please join us for a Family Night celebration hosted by our Youth Core Team. The Youth Team will bring the Mass to life for you and your children! Don't miss this opportunity to join together as a community. We look forward to seeing you!

When: Sunday, February 28th

Time: 5 to 7 pm

Location: Parish Hall

RSVP to Liz Scarbrough (410-472-1141) or essquirrel@yahoo.com no later than Sunday, February 21st. Please provide the number of people attending (adults/children) so we may plan for dinner. Families with last names from A-L are asked to bring a dessert and families M-Z a salad.

SOUP & BREAD SUPPER



Every Friday during Lent (except Good Friday) the Community Activities Committee will be serving a light

Soup & Bread supper. The supper will precede the Stations of the Cross & Benediction, which commence at 7 pm. There is no charge for the supper. Please join us for a brief period of casual fellowship.

THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Contact Deacon Don

deacondon@ccsfx.net or 410-785-0356 x12



Save the Date!

April 23-25, 2010

Life in the Spirit

Weekend Seminar
in the Chapel

Watch the bulletin for more details!

HAITI UPDATE

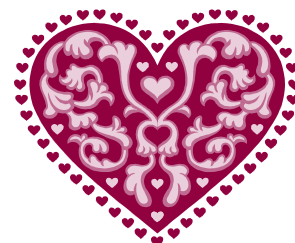
We know you may be asking questions so we want to keep you up to date about Haiti and our role there. Rod Mortel was there for several weeks and met with all the Archdiocesan parish representatives this week. We will discuss how we can best help there, going forward under the new circumstances. We will report back to you, CCSFX, as to what ways, we with a sister parish relationship, can best help. Watch the bulletin and parish email for further information. Of course, please continue to keep all of Haiti in your prayers.

GOSPEL OF LIFE

VALENTINE FOLLOW-UP

How did you do this VALENTINE'S DAY? Was it all it could have been or should have been, to express the LOVE you have for your sweetheart? Give yourself and/or your beloved the **GIFT** of a lifetime! Enhance your relationship and deepen your LOVE **by becoming a sincere GIFT to each other**. God created us male and female so that we could image His LOVE by becoming a sincere GIFT of self to each other. Chocolates last for a moment, roses for a week, give the *GIFT* of a lifetime... We invite you to learn Theology of The Body, here at CCSFX, beginning March 9th, at 7 pm or March 10th at 9:15 am.

Contact: Rob Bart, Jr. (410-963-2001 or rbart46@gmail.com).



Pregnant, need help? Call the Gabriel Network at 1-800-ANGEL-OK

Suffering Post-Abortion Syndrome? Call Project Rachel (410-354-6900) or visit the website:

www.project-rachel.net

<http://www.sfxforlife.org>

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

Every weekend when we are at Mass, we have nine (9) different ways to be of service to our fellow-parishioners . . . at little or no inconvenience to ourselves. We do not even have to change our routine. Simply be a liturgical minister when we are already at church for Mass.

"What's available for me?" you ask. Here they are: Altar Server, Choir, Childcare, Eucharistic Minister, Greeter, Hospitality (after Mass), Lector, Sunday Scriptures for Children, and Usher. In the Gathering Space, there is a bulletin board on an easel. Sign the MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS sheet. Someone will contact you within the week. Guaranteed! The Catholic Community of St. Francis Xavier needs you.

MEAL BLESSING FOR LENT

God of mercy and compassion, with humility of heart we ask your blessing upon us and upon the meal we are about to receive. During this season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, may we be inspired to share our gifts with the needy. May the sharing of this meal urge us on to work tirelessly to bring your Word to all who seek meaning and direction in their lives. Amen.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

The "challenging" weather of February has interfered greatly with the annual gathering of all Eucharistic Ministers. In the light of that circumstance (and with the cooperation of the elements), there will be a **one hour "absentee" session at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel on Tuesday, March 2.** The three-part agenda for the session includes a review of ministry procedures, a period of prayer, and the Church's annual Commissioning of Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist.

DON'T FORGET THE "AMEN"

When distributing Holy Communion, the Ministers say "The Body of Christ" and "The Blood of Christ." Before accepting the Sacred Host and the Communion Cup, the communicant responds "**Amen.**"

THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK

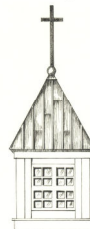
Many parishioners make use of the "Little Black Book" of reflections, prayers, and information throughout the weeks of Lent. For each day, there is seasonal material designed to take just six minutes. Check the table in the Gathering Space for a no-charge copy of this "Little Black Book." Do this as soon as possible before the supply has been exhausted.

CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS

Three times each year, there is the opportunity for "unconfirmed" adults to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Of the three sacraments of Catholic Christian initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist), quite a few adults have missed out on the sacrament of Confirmation often celebrated in the mid to late teenage years.

The next scheduled **Confirmation for Adults will be on Sunday, March 21, 2010, at 2:00 p.m.** The location is the recently restored first Cathedral in the United States, the Basilica of the Assumption in downtown Baltimore. Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien will preside.

For further information, contact Deacon Don here at the Catholic Community of St. Francis Xavier.



HEALING MASS

Sponsored by the
City of God Prayer Group

**Wednesday, March 10th at
7 pm**

Celebrant: Fr. Abel

Theme: "And by his stripes we
are healed."

Come for healing in body, soul, and/or spirit

For yourself or for another.

Healing Ministry Prayers

available after mass.

Call Mary Alice Spadaro at 410-560-7192

City of God Prayer Group, Wednesdays from 7 to 9 pm in the lower level of Church. Contact Mary Alice Spadaro at maryalicespadaro@comcast.net.

IT'S WINTER TIME

Winter is the time of year that brings us snow, sleet and tricky driving conditions. CCSFX will follow the snow policy as decided by Baltimore County for closings. **If Baltimore County schools are closed for the day, evening classes are cancelled or schools close early, all programs at church will be cancelled.** Weekend activities (whether they are cancelled or not) will be posted on the phone system, ext. 42. If you have any doubts, call 410-785-0356, enter extension 42 and listen for your event.



BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome and need your bulletin announcements. However, there are a few guidelines we ask that you follow.

1. Please write the announcement up as you want it to appear.
2. Please do not format the announcement. We may have to adjust it if space becomes an issue.
3. If you have a specific logo/clipart that you want to use, please provide it.
4. Please create the announcement in Word. We are currently using Word 2003 so save your announcements accordingly. If you are using Word 2007, be sure to save it as Word 2003.

GETTING READY

Enclosed with next weekend's bulletin will be *Exploring the Sunday Readings*. This four page insert introduces the three Scripture selections that will be read at Mass on each of the four Sundays of March.

Next Sunday's Readings February 28, 2010

<i>1st Reading</i>	GENESIS 15:5-12, 17-18
<i>2nd Reading</i>	PHILIPPIANS 3:17—4:1
<i>Gospel</i>	LUKE 9:28-36

The readings will be more meaningful and familiar if you take the time to read them before Mass.

LITURGY CORNER

Even a not particularly "religious" Christian knows that Lent is somehow a special time. Older Catholics will remember growing up in a Lent that was mainly a time for doing without, for "giving up" something, some favorite activity or some favorite food. And there was not (and still is not) anything wrong with that. Lent is indeed about being repentant and doing penance.

For quite some time now, we see a restored and expanded approach to Lent. We put doing the right thing alongside not doing the wrong thing. In addition to sorrow for our sins and in addition to self-imposed penance, we likewise focus upon the positive. We look for ways to help others, to share with others, to make a conscious effort to be more Christ-like in the way we live. Looking at the entire Church year, however, the "forty days of Lent, O Lord" are indeed the time when we are called to acknowledge that we are sinful and that Jesus Christ has suffered and died to make up for our failings.

The Church's liturgy, the way we worship, sends some signs about this Lenten change of direction. Mass has hardly started and we are already down on our knees, seeking God's forgiveness, singing *Kyrie, eleison* (Lord, have mercy). Right after that, we usually sing *Glory to God*, but during Lent we back away from this joyous hymn of praise. In fact, all during Lent, we completely put aside yet another joyful shout of praise, the word *Alleluia!*

Liturgy is like that. It sends us messages that do not have to be explained. We know what poinsettias and lilies in church are telling us. And we also know why there are now no flowers at all in that same church. May we all live out the spirit of this Lenten season. And, seven weeks from now, amidst the lilies, *Alleluia!* will be back to permeate all our prayers.

Enjoy this Lent. As a season, it is different. Come Easter, we will be, too!

GET YOUR smiles READY... PRACTICE SAYING cheese...

A photo opportunity IS ON THE WAY!!!

Yes, it is hard to believe but it has been four years since our first photo directory so the time is ripe to do it again. If you've been wanting a new family photo or an updated mug shot, here's your chance. Or maybe you'd like to be able to put a name with a face or a face with a name in our parish community, now you can.

Every person/family joining in the photo directory will receive a free 8x10 Olan Mills portrait in addition to a personal copy of the church photo directory. Several and varied photos will be taken when you come for your photo session and YOU will select the photo of your choice.

Sign Up sheets are in the gathering space so be on the lookout. There are numerous times and dates to accommodate everyone's schedule. But sign up early to secure your spot! Sign up will continue through February 28.

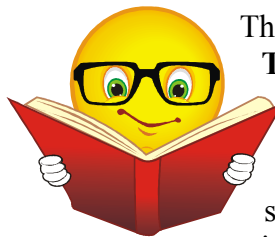
Photo sessions will be held in the lower level of our church. Dates for photo shoots are March 1 through March 6. Photo sessions will take approximately one (1) hour.

It is also possible to go to the Olan Mills website and select a time on March 1, 3, 5 or 6 for your photo session. Simply visit www.signup.olanmills.com and follow the prompts (one question asks for the church phone number which is 410 785 0356).

If you are out of town during the photo dates or you have any difficulty signing up, please contact Betty Contino at 410 456 8228.

Remember all you have to do is sign up, show up for your photo session and SMILE! the rest is up to Olan Mills! Continue to watch for bulletin and email updates! Questions, call Betty Contino 410 456 8228.

BOOK CLUB



The Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, March 9th at 7 pm** in the Chatard House to discuss Annie Dillard's *The Maytrees*. This is a short novel of lifelong love in marriage set in New England. All are welcome. Please join us!

K of C ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

The Knights of Columbus of Notre Dame Council 2901 will present a dinner theatre production of *The Odd Couple* at 201 Homeland Avenue, adjacent to the College of Notre Dame. *Cast includes CCSFX parishioner Joe Kufera*. Presented on Saturdays (1 pm buffet, 3 pm show) and Sundays (5 pm buffet, 7 pm show) from February 13th – March 7th. Tickets are \$25 with 10% discount for 10 or more. To purchase tickets, call 410-668-9335.



How Much Do You Love This Community?

The New Member Welcome Committee is in need of enthusiastic Community members willing to personally contact a single New Member and introduce him or her to the unique charisms of The Catholic Community of St. Francis Xavier. All you need is your love for this Community. The New Member Welcome Committee will provide you materials, brief directions, and the name of someone or a family residing near you who has recently registered. Please help us let all New Members know that we care about their presence among us. Please contact George McCeney at 410-472-2511 or rosines.sons@gmail.com or Frances Zimmerman at 443-275-1636 or F-Zimmerman@comcast.net.

Fellow Community Members,

Below is the parish's Operating Income and Expense Statement for the first half of the current fiscal year, July to December. Please note the following:

- Total Income for the first six months of the year is \$39,000 below what was budgeted for the period. The primary reason for this is a decline of \$40,000 in the December offertory collection in comparison to FY 2009. This was partially attributable to the cancellation of Masses on the weekend of December 19/20, but the Christmas collection was also below the budget estimate and \$9,600 lower than Christmas 2008.
- Expenses are below budget by \$14,000.
- The Net Operating Surplus the parish budgeted for the first half of the year is normal since income in the second half of the year is traditionally less than expenses.

We will continue to provide this information in the bulletin at the end of each quarter. We welcome any questions or suggestions for improving the manner in which the parish's financial operations are reported.

The Finance Committee

CCSFX Income & Expense Summary July to December , 2009 (YTD) of FISCAL YEAR 2010

	YTD	YTD	Bud vs Act	FY 2009	2010 vs 2009
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
OPERATING INCOME					
Total Offertory Collections	\$524,897	\$566,743	-\$41,846	\$556,390	-\$31,493
Less: Project Share Remittances	-13,893	-25,002	11,109	-37,612	23,719
Haiti Collections	39,818	18,000	21,818	21,217	18,601
Less: Haiti Remittances	-29,542	-18,000	-11,542	-21,217	-8,325
Poor Box Income	6,695	12,498	-5,803	9,171	-2,476
Less: Poor Box Remittances	-4,097	-12,498	8,401	-10,438	6,341
Less: Charities Remittances less than Donations	-23,983	0	-23,983	-15,135	-8,848
Archdiocese Collections	6,110	7,000	-890	7,296	-1,186

Less: Archdiocese Remittances	-6,110	-7,000	890	-5,335	-775
Lenten Appeal Rebate	32,293	20,000	12,293	20,481	11,812
Less: Lenten Appeal Remittances	-16,146	-10,000	-6,146	-10,241	-5,905
Donations, Misc & Interest Income	2,989	2,548	441	6,457	-3,468
Pamphlets, Books, Bulletin Income	614	4,250	-3,636	4,423	-3,809
Benefit - golf tournament	3,687	4,000	-313	4,106	-419
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Total Operating Income	523,332	562,539	-39,207	529,563	-6,231
OPERATING EXPENSE					
Salaries	167,038	168,834	-1,796	175,237	-8,199
Employee Benefits	49,669	43,092	6,577	43,370	6,299
Facilities including utilities, repairs, maint, insurance	129,855	134,082	-4,227	104,262	25,593
Administration	22,138	24,916	-2,778	21,738	400
Worship	16,191	15,154	1,037	13,991	2,200
Evangelization, catechesis, committees	31,013	45,610	-14,597	39,245	-8,232
Archdiocese assessment	68,000	70,500	-2,500	46,000	22,000
Catholic Review net of income	8,443	4,669	3,774	8,604	-161
Pamphlets, books, tuition assistance				2,480	-2,480
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Total Operating Expense	492,347	506,857	(14,510)	454,927	37,420
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Net Operating Surplus (Deficit)	30,985	55,682	(24,697)	74,636	(43,651)

Does not include Capital Campaign Income or depreciation.