

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

A Jesuit Parish | Phoenix, Arizona

MINISTRY & FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS  
JULY 1, 2022 -- JUNE 30, 2023



## September 24, 2023 Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear parishioners and friends,

“It’s about the economy, stupid.” This phrase was coined during the 1992 presidential campaign reflecting the economic concerns of voters at that time. Thirty years later and we are still concerned. Our collective anxiety about our economic future may be even higher. The human economy is competitive. We get what we deserve and what we earn. After all, that is only fair. In today’s gospel from Matthew, the workers who arrived in the vineyard at dawn were not motivated by fairness but by envy. It was not enough that they were paid the wage promised to them – they were outraged that those who arrived last received an equal wage. But God’s sense of fairness defies human logic. God’s economy is generous to a fault – his mercy reckless. The workers failed to see what was really offered to them – the privilege of working in God’s vineyard. Living every moment with an awareness of God’s abundant generosity allows that same generosity to flourish in our own hearts – hearts moved to respond in kind to our sisters and brothers.

We are indeed privileged to work in God’s vineyard in the heart of Phoenix, proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I am thankful for the generosity and commitment of the parishioners and friends of SFX who make this possible. It is the greatest investment we can make as disciples of Jesus. Because of your commitment, 2,000 people come together weekly -- in person and online -- to worship and develop a living relationship with Jesus. Because of your commitment, we offer a firm foundation in faith for our children, youth, and adults. Because of your commitment, students and young adults find a purpose for their lives. Because of your commitment, families find support, and the stranger finds a home.

The following report provides a snapshot of your commitment and generosity for this past fiscal year. I am grateful. Please take some time to review it. If you have any comments or questions, please contact our Stewardship Director, Robin Margraf, at [robin.margraf@sfxphx.org](mailto:robin.margraf@sfxphx.org) or me at [pastor@sfxphx.org](mailto:pastor@sfxphx.org).

Sincerely in Christ,

**Rev. Robert A. Fambrini, SJ**  
Pastor



## WHY WE GIVE

To make disciples -- that is the heart of our mission. Every day at St. Francis Xavier, we endeavor to form disciples using our gifts and relying on God's grace.

Worshipfest



Novena of Grace Planning Team



## HOW WE GIVE

The offertory collection is the primary source of funding for parish ministries. Nearly 50% of offertory gifts are received electronically. Electronic giving is good for the parish. It stabilizes cash flow, allows for more accurate forecasting and reduces administrative costs. It's also good for the giver by providing a secure, convenient, and consistent way to support the mission. Create your online account at [osvhub.com/sfxphx/giving/funds](https://osvhub.com/sfxphx/giving/funds) or scan the code.



Give Online

## Pastoral Ministry Review

Over **1,000** Masses were celebrated

**112** liturgies and events were live-streamed to those unable to participate in person

**90** hours were devoted to Eucharistic adoration

**112** children received their first Eucharist

**111** children made their first Reconciliation

**300** infants and children were baptized

**123** children were sealed with the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of Confirmation

**113** children were enrolled in our faith formation programs

**650** children were enrolled in our parish school

**33** adults were fully initiated in the Church

**72** couples were united in marriage

**243** individuals were anointed with the Sacrament of the Sick

**36** funeral Masses were celebrated

Over **500** visits were made to the sick and homebound

Over **300** individuals served in more than **500** ministry roles

# Ministry Highlights

## Forming Children and Parents

Every August we are so happy to welcome our returning and new families to the IFFF/FFFI program. Enrollment in our Family Faith Formation Program has steadily grown since 2020. We are very happy to see all families return for their children's second year of sacrament preparation (2024 group). Our current 1st year students, who will complete the sacraments in 2025, is our largest class to date. Increasing enrollment creates a "nice" problem – crowded classrooms. We are happy to see parents (mom and dad) growing in faith alongside their children. We are fortunate to have a great team of committed and enthusiastic catechists that make this program possible and put forth their best effort with lots of love. Thank you to all who have entrusted SFX parish and IFFF for their children's sacrament preparation.

## Music and Liturgy

Our music ministry continued to strengthen its partnership with the Diocese of Phoenix's Charismatic Renewal Ministries. In May, SFX hosted the Charismatic Renewal Conference culminating with Worshipfest: A Night of Music and Healing. Musicians and prayer team leaders from across Phoenix came together to worship and to offer opportunities for personal prayer for those in attendance. The music ministry continues to host worship nights, and attendance has continued to grow since its inception in early 2022.

By the summer of 2023, the parish completed a longtime plan to upgrade the audio and video technology system in the church sanctuary. Acoustic panels were added throughout to increase intelligibility. Larger video screens were installed to accommodate better sightlines. A new sound board replaced old technology to better accommodate the growing music ministry. Utilizing this new technology, the parish focused on improving its communication vehicles beginning with the introduction video announcements before Mass in the fall of 2022.

## Parish Finance Council

The finance council advises the pastor on matters relating to the stewardship of the parish's financial resources. Members are appointed by the pastor.

### Council Members 2023-2024

Reed Mittelstaedt, Chairperson  
Jason Barraza      Amy Flood      Anne Sanford  
Ann Behring      Jeff Moloznik  
William Brundige      Stuart Rodie



Preparing for Marian Procession



LifeTeen High School Youth Ministry



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Brothers and sisters:

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing.

Phil 2:1-2

# Ministry Highlights

## Leveraging Technology to Reach God's People

In the spring of 2022, St Francis Xavier participated in the worldwide synod. Close to 350 individuals attended listening sessions or completed an online survey. From those responses, we heard a clear need for improved communication. Our community wants to know what is going on and how to connect. In December, we took a significant step to address that need by implementing a new church management system – MinistryPlatform. This new platform provides us with cutting edge technology and tools to help us make meaningful connections as we accompany one another on our Christian journey. The parish is currently utilizing the platform for event and program registration with great success. In the coming months, we will launch a parishioner portal and proprietary parish app making it even easier to strengthen your connection with SFX.

## Celebrating the Gifts of All

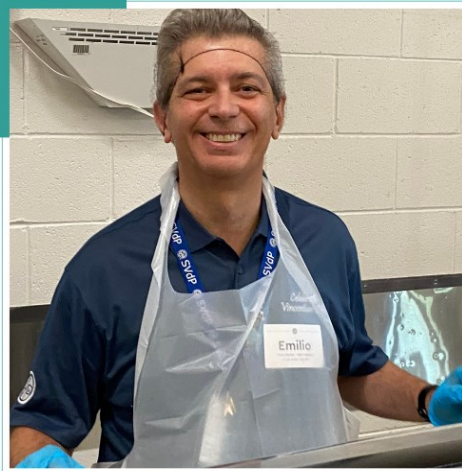
Our Spanish-speaking community delights in expressing its faith through its culture and joyfully sharing that faith with the entire faith community of St. Francis Xavier as brothers and sisters in Christ. Participation in special celebrations such as the Marian Procession in October, the Christmas Posada, and the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe continue to grow. The 2023 Spring Festival was standing room only. The dedication and commitment of the community's time, talent, and treasure make them possible. For all this, we are grateful.



Prayer



Fellowship



Service

## Cash on Hand

As of June 30, 2023

Unrestricted	\$451,550
Restricted*	\$587,829

\*includes endowments and funds restricted for parish ministries and capital projects.

## Long Term Liabilities

As of June 30, 2023

At the close of the fiscal year, the parish had no outstanding long term liabilities.

Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you.

Phil 4:9

Our  
financial  
gifts  
sustain  
the  
work of  
the  
parish,

<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2022 Actual</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Offertory	1,947,370	1,965,370	-18,000
Maintenance	70,689	41,247	29,442
Christmas, Easter, Holy Days	98,906	64,249	34,657
<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS</b>	<b>2,116,964</b>	<b>2,070,865</b>	<b>46,099</b>
Administration	172,350	180,450	-8,100
Ministries & Programs	62,278	64,076	-1,798
Marian (Gift) Shop	57,494	57,875	-380
SFXAA (Athletic Association)	577,254	439,535	137,719
Facility Rental	44,748	29,152	15,596
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>3,031,089</b>	<b>2,841,953</b>	<b>189,136</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Administration	198,436	211,108	-12,672
Clergy	263,842	268,175	-4,333
Diocese Assessment & Insurance	355,659	353,515	2,145
Maintenance	418,555	377,028	41,527
Technology	68,180	89,571	-21,391
Ministries & Program Support	267,856	251,636	16,220
Marian (Gift) Shop	32,412	42,468	-10,056
SFXAA (Athletic Association)	546,593	425,722	120,871
Lay Employee Compensation	1,051,011	1,104,885	-53,874
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,202,544*</b>	<b>3,124,109*</b>	<b>78,435</b>
<b>RESTRICTED SUPPORT</b>			
Diocesan Capital Campaign Proceeds	19,000	216,000	-197,000
Dome Maintenance & Restoration	11,915	100,756	-88,841
Ignatius Chapel Courtyard	5,545	0	5,545
Youth Ministry	1,328	500	828
Music & Liturgy	0	15,545	-15,545
<b>OTHER</b>			
Unrealized gains (losses) on Endowment Funds	34,001	-49,895	83,896
PPP Loan Forgiveness (Grant)	0	899,804	-899,804
<b>Net</b>	<b>-99,666</b>	<b>900,554</b>	<b>-1,005,765</b>

\*excludes non-cash depreciation expense

See p. 7 for Notes & Details

and meet  
the needs  
of others.



## Special Collections

\$27,509 was contributed to national and international needs through various annual collections. Additional collections this year included earthquake relief for the people of Syria (\$13,037).

## St. Vincent De Paul

\$62,000 was donated to support the SFX conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, including Fifth Sunday, Poor Box, and memorial donations. An additional \$41,000 in food donations was collected through the church collection boxes and food drives.

The conference provided the following assistance to local households:

- 2,191 food boxes were delivered, benefitting 1,601 individuals
- 73 families received full or partial rental assistance
- 51 families received full or partial utility assistance
- 82 families received vouchers for furniture or household items.
- 400 bus passes were distributed.

## Diocesan Capital Campaign - *Together Let us Go Forth*

The *Together Let Us Go Forth* Campaign is a response to the mission of the church to evangelize and make disciples here in the Diocese of Phoenix. To date, parishioners of St. Francis Xavier have pledged \$2.110 million to this campaign, with \$1.876 million redeemed. A portion is returned to the parish. The parish share received to date totals \$819,000. These funds are allocated as follows:

- Two-thirds for church restoration and maintenance
- The remaining one-third is divided as follows:
  - 2/3 for restoration of the Ignatian Spirituality Center [completed]
  - 1/3 for the parish school endowment fund

The campaign continues through 2023. Learn more at [togethergoforth.org](http://togethergoforth.org)

## Charity & Development Appeal

**2022 participation matches prior year increase of 50%**

Three hundred thirty-one (331) households contributed \$246,486 to the 2022 CDA. The annual appeal supports more than seventy charities, ministries, and apostolates throughout the Diocese of Phoenix. The CDA provides us with a way to support the church's mission beyond our walls. Learn more at [dphx.org/cda/](http://dphx.org/cda/)

## Notes & Details

This report reflects parish (non-school) operations only.

Maintenance Fund – The parish continues to experience rising costs for general facility maintenance and security. The maintenance fund is a vital source of revenue allowing us to care for our iconic church and the other buildings. This collection increased by 71% over the prior year. Parishioners may support this collection by using the envelope in the bi-monthly packet or by giving online at <https://www.osvhub.com/sfxphx/giving/funds/maintenance-fund>.

Administration line items include stole fees for weddings, and funerals, event income and expense, and general donations to the Kino Border Initiative (\$2,500), St. Margaret Parish in Tempe (\$1,000), and the Catholic Community Foundation (\$3,750).

St Francis Xavier Athletic Association (SFXAA) is a volunteer organization founded in 1956 where young athletes may grow in respect and concern for others. It is open to all children in the local community. Association expenses are covered by participation fees and sponsorships. Learn more at [www.sfxaa.com/](http://www.sfxaa.com/)

Bank Change - After extensive due diligence, the parish changed its banking relationship to Notre Dame Federal Credit Union. NDFCU offers a higher rate of return on deposit accounts and lower fees.

Capital expenditures this year included:

• SFXAA Field Improvements	\$ 76,607
• Church Sound Project	\$ 46,106
• ISC Building Improvements	\$ 37,841
• Electrical Improvements	\$ 29,145
• Confessionals	\$ 20,659
• Chiller Improvements	\$ 18,673
• Church Painting	\$ 9,675
• Sacristy Improvements	\$ 4,449

All projects except for electrical and chiller improvements are covered by restricted gifts.

Bishop's (Diocesan) Assessment – Each parish in the diocese contributes a percentage of its ordinary income to support diocesan-wide offices and ministries. Large parishes such as SFX contribute approximately 12% annually.

Lay Employee Compensation - At the close of the fiscal year, the parish employed 14 full-time and one (1) part-time lay staff, a decrease of two (2) full-time positions from the prior year. Health care costs have increased by 9%.

The parish is 'the Church living in the midst of the homes of her sons and daughters.'

--Pope Francis,  
*Evangelii Gaudium*



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### Ignatian Family Faith Formation

