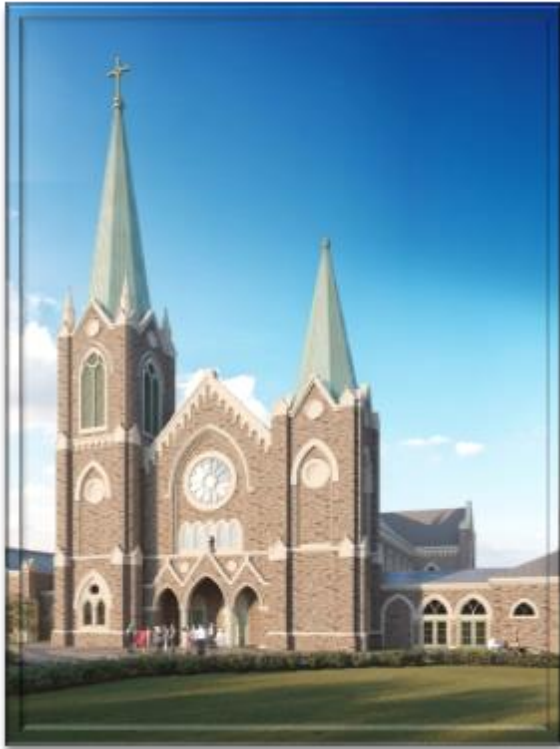


Stillwater Catholic Community

Serving St. Francis Xavier and St. John the Evangelist Parishes
Part of the Diocese of Tulsa and Eastern Oklahoma – Together, Our Faith Goes Further

We seek to spread the word of God and serve our community
and the universal Church through the Pillars of Parish Stewardship:
HOSPITALITY, PRAYER, FORMATION, AND SERVICE.

His Holiness, Pope Francis
Bishop of Tulsa, David Konderla
Fr. Ken Harder, AJV, JCL - St. Francis Pastor
Fr. Emeritus Jim Greiner
Fr. Kerry Wakulich - St. John Pastor
Fr. Lawrence Nwachukwu – Assoc. Pastor
Deacon Bart Brashears
Deacon Glenn Collum
Deacon Paul Govek
Deacon Tom Haan



Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time September 24, 2017

A Prayer for Life

Father and maker of all,
you adorn all creation with splendor and beauty,
and fashion human lives in your image and likeness.
Awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands,
and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain
your precious gift of life. Grant this through our Lord
Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in
the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.
Amen

40 Days for Life † Sept. 27 - Nov. 5

The 40 Days for Life Campaign is firmly rooted on a foundation of prayer and fasting. To help maintain focus on the Lord and stay in tune with his guidance, a series of daily devotionals are available at 40daysforlife.com.

Bulletin submissions should be directed to erin@stfrancisxavierstillwater.org by Wednesday at noon prior to the Sunday publication. Submissions are subject to editing. Graphics are appreciated and used if space permits.

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

601 S. West Street † P.O. Box 909 † Stillwater, OK 74076
Phone: 405-372-6886 † Fax: 405-533-1728
Email: cindy@stfrancisxavierstillwater.org
Website: www.stfrancisxavierstillwater.org

Worship Schedule

Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am & 1:00pm (Spanish)
Daily Mass: Tues., Wed. and Thurs. – 8:00am
Friday – 12:10pm
First Saturday of the Month Mass at 9:00am
Holy Days: 7:00am, 5:30pm & 7:30pm (Spanish)
Adoration: Tues. & Wed. – 8:30am &
1st Friday after 12:10pm Mass
Reconciliation: Wed. 5:30 – 7:00pm & Sat. 3:00 – 4:30pm

Vic Schutte – Director of Formation and Operations
Cindy Beckman – Business Manager
Erin Johnson – Office Assistant, Bulletin
Lori Wieder – Office Assistant, Website
Kevin Larios – Music Ministry (405) 624-2208 † klaros357@earthlink.net

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Student Center

201 N. Knoblock † Stillwater, OK 74075
Phone: 405-372-6408 † Fax: 405-372-6409 † 032176
Email: catholicpokes@gmail.com
Website: www.catholicpokes.com

Worship Schedule

Sunday 9:30am, 11:30am
5:00pm (Student)
Daily Mass: Mon. 12:15pm
Wed. 12:15pm & 9pm (Student)
Tues., Thurs. & Friday – 5:15pm
Holy Days: 12:15pm & 6:30pm
Adoration: Tues. – Friday 8:00 – 9:00am
Wednesday 1:00 – 5:00pm
1st Friday after the Thursday 5:15pm Mass
Reconciliation: Tues. – Friday 8:00 – 9:00am
Sunday 9 – 9:30am, 11 – 11:30am & 3:45 – 4:45pm

Kathleen Walker – Business Manager
Cathy Perry – Campus Ministry Director
Matt Bond – Campus Ministry Development Director
Marilyn Middlebrook – Music Ministry

Brandi Bishop – Parish Nurse † (405) 269-2252 † bmb29@hotmail.com
Sarah Dorman – Religious Education (PreK-5th) † (405) 372-7987 † sarah@stfrancisxavierstillwater.org
Ashleigh Martin – Youth Ministry (6th – 12th) † (405) 269-3786 † Ashleigh@stfrancisxavierstillwater.org

“Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous? Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last.” (Mt 20:13c-16)



Fr. Ken's Reflection: Isaiah reminds any who would seek the Lord to first of all remember that God's ways are high above ours, his thoughts above ours. Sounds easy but a major stumbling block in the faith is to expect God to act in a way we think he ought and subsequently, we are disappointed when he doesn't. In other words, it is a very easy temptation to limit God to our ways of thinking. To do so prevents us from truly seeking God. So we hear a parable today about a landowner who hires workers at different times during the day, yet pays them the same for unequal work. From our human point of view, this parable presents a problem. It is unreasonable in our economy to act as the landowner. If you knew someone who paid like the landowner, then wouldn't you want to wait until later in the day. Of course the landowner would lose

money quickly and be considered rather a fool. That is our way of thinking. My ways are not your ways. These words of the Lord call to look at this parable as Jesus would have us. The landowner has what others do not. He has land and the bounty of the land. First and foremost, the work belongs to the owner and he invites the workers to share in his bounty. The workers respond by putting their energy at the service of the landowner, who will give them a share of his wealth. That is the nature of business and it is actually the nature of our faith as well. The whole notion of faith and good works means that God offers us a share in his richness and for our part, we have to invest ourselves, our energy in his work. The landowner goes out to bring workers. As the day goes on, more workers are brought on, it seems that there is always more work to be done. When the work is done, the workers gather in anticipation for the promised reward. The ones who started late get the usual days wage.

Now, in our human way of thinking, it would seem fair that the workers who put in more time should get more pay, even though they agreed upon the set wage that the latecomers are getting. Something seems unfair in this story, what is it? In our economy, more work equals more pay. If I put more in, shouldn't I get more out? Isn't that just? Yes it is, in our world. But we must remember that in the world Jesus offers, the reward is the life of God himself, it is love, which is the radical equalizer of all people. The workers who began work early in the day considered themselves lucky. They had the hope all day long of receiving pay. The others, who did not get hired, sat in anguish as they wondered how they would support their families. Perhaps the ones who were hired later were less suitable as workers. Perhaps they were weak, or even lazy. The bottom line is that the owner brought all these into his world. My friends, sometimes we may think ourselves more worthy or even less worthy of what God promises because of what we have done, whether good or bad. The reward of living a life of faith is the peace it brings now as well as the full reward later. Let us remember that God calls all of us. The worldly measure of our work is not so important as the willingness to be a part of the work God invites us to share. The reward is nothing less or more than living in God's love. Let us live that now so that our work will be inviting of others to share, for there is no shortage of God's love for all. **-Fr. Ken**

Readings for the Week of September 24, 2017

Sunday: Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a
 Monday: Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-6/Lk 8:16-18
 Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Ps 122:1-5/Lk 8:19-21
 Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2-4befghn, 7-8/Lk 9:1-6
 Thursday: Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b/Lk 9:7-9
 Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1-5/Jn 1:47-51
 Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jr 31:10-12ab, 13/Lk 9:43b-45
 Next Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-9/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32

Parish Contributions

Fiscal Year: 7/1/2017-6/30/2018

	Weekly	To Date
St. Francis – Sept. 17	\$6,723.00	\$85,263.05
St. John – Sept. 17	\$4,028.45	\$76,299.15

Stillwater Catholic Radio (1/1/17-12/31/17)

Annual Goal: \$4,260 Received to date: \$4,436.90

Thank you for your continued generosity!

PRAYER

If you would like to add or remove someone, please contact the Parish Office at (405) 372-6886. Due to space limitations, names are removed from the list after 1 month.

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Elia Adams, Maria y Ricardo Aguilar, Jayden Andrew, Nena Batista, John Belusko, Catherine Cabañeros, Kathryn Campbell, Salomón Cárdenas, Daniel Centeno, Pat Clemente, Dale & Elnora Dennis, Greg Deville, Fred Dick, Jack Dorman, Ed Eick, Paulina Figueroa, Stan Fimple, Eileen Gasche, Jack & Katie Gordy, Essy Gorrittis, Oscar González, Monica Held, Cipriana Hernández, Bob Kargel, Mariela Latchman, Phyllis Lambert, Christopher Leffall, Anissa Magallanes, Gerry & Sally Messbarger, Heath Myers, Deacon Bill & Oleta Moler, Mary Nicholson, Christy Paculan, John & Jacqueline Palumberi, John Penn, Claudia Ramos, Danielle Robinson, Garcia & Reynaldo Roque, James Scerine, Paul Schatz, Lynn Schwartz, Pat Sohrwide, Beth Stroud, Dick and Teddy Taylor, Pat Teller, Robby Tiedt, Joyce Twine, Rosemary Weaver, Paul Westhaus, Keith Willett, John Yother, Anne and Joe Zinn, Marge Zoellner, All our Catechists, those impacted by Hurricane Harvey and those providing and receiving care from Stephen Ministry.

Please remember in your prayers all those currently serving our Country.

Please pray for the repose of all Souls.

Prepare the Way of the Lord – Tell anyone who cannot attend Mass the good news!

The St. Francis 8:00am Mass will be broadcast on 94.3FM and 780AM at 9:30am each Sunday.

Book of Innocents - The Catholic Community provides prayerful support for parishioners experiencing the loss of a child in the womb, at birth, or shortly after birth. The "Book of the Innocents", located in Our Lady of Consolation Chapel at St. Francis, is for composing memories, poems or a few words about your child. It is hoped that this book can facilitate healing by offering peace and wholeness in life's challenging sorrows.



† Mass Intentions †

St. Francis Xavier

September 26	8:00am †Bernie Kopel -Family
September 27	8:00am †Richard Campbell -Family
September 28	8:00am †Doris Gruenbacher Dick
September 29	12:10pm †Maria Rose Sorrentino
September 30	5:00pm For the Poor
October 1	8:00am Pro Populo
	10:00am For Deceased Family members and friends
	1:00pm For the Families of Parishioners

St. John the Evangelist

September 25	12:15pm
September 26	5:15pm
September 27	12:15pm
September 28	5:15pm
September 29	5:15pm
September 30	No Saturday Mass
October 1	9:30am Nan Bokorney - Baker
	11:30am †Floyd & Helen Baldwin - Hammans
	5:00pm Pro Populo

PRAYER CONT'D.

Life Chain Sunday - Join us as we pray for an end to abortion on Sunday Oct. 1, from 2-3. We will meet in front of Chick-Fil-A. For more information contact Mary Kate Tejral, tejral@brightok.net

Pray the Rosary at Boomer Lake: The OSU Student Knights of Columbus Council #11135 invite one and all and especially the children to join us for the 11th annual praying of the Most Holy Rosary commemorating the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima's Miracle of the Sun apparition. This one hour event will take place at Boomer Lake, shelter #3 Saturday October 14th at 11:45 am. Contact Greg Feher, Rally Captain at 405-747-4847 or canuck1999@yahoo.com for more information or transportation assistance.

HOSPITALITY

Join us for Coffee and Donuts, TODAY! At St. Francis after the 8am and 10am Mass.
At St. John after the 9:30am Mass.

Spanish classes for Adults – Please call Luz Flores (405—880-0553) or Dr. Cida Chase (405-377-0671) for more information or to register for a class.

Beginning Class - Tuesdays from 6:15-7:15pm in Rm 5 at St. Francis/St. John School.

Introductory Class – Tuesdays from 6:15-7:15pm in Rm 6 at St. Francis/St. John School.

Intermediate Class – Mondays from 6:15-7:15pm in Rm 6 at St. Francis/St. John School.

Cursillo.... If you have made a Cursillo Weekend, we want to communicate with you about Cursillo news and weekends and to rekindle interest in Payne County to renew involvement in a movement that has changed many lives including Connie's and mine. Please email me your contact information to brashears.bart@gmail.com or call 580-628-0707.

Welcome to all! We welcome seekers, doubters, bleeding hearts and jaded cynics, the lost, the found....and especially YOU! Thank you for celebrating Mass with the Stillwater Catholic Community today! If you would like to register as a new member or you need to make updates to your contact information, please contact the Parish Office at 405-372-6886.

FORMATION

Youth Formation - Religious Education & Youth Ministry

Sarah Dorman, RE Coordinator – crepek-5@brightok.net or 405.372.7987

Ashleigh Martin, Youth Minister – catholicyouth@brightok.net or 405.269.3786

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Pre-K – 5th Grades

Religious Education Classes - Classes have begun and are from 11:15am to 12:30 pm in the St. Francis Center. Enrollment forms are available today and online at stfrancisxavierstillwater.org.

First Communion Information - Copies of Baptismal certificates are due to the RE office not later than November 1, 2017. You must provide a copy of the certificate even if your child was Baptized at one of our local Parishes. Contact the Parish Office where child was Baptized if you cannot find your copy of the certificate.

First Communion Parent Meeting - We will have an information meeting on Sunday, October 15th, during RE class time. The meeting will take place in the St. Francis Parish Hall (basement). Please make plans to attend!

Religious Education Rosary and Potluck - October is the Month of the Holy Rosary. Join us for a Living Rosary and Potluck on Wednesday, October 11th, at 6:00 pm. We will have a "Miracle of the Morning Sun Breakfast" for dinner in honor of the Miracle of the Sun celebrated on October 13th. Watch for more details and a Sign Up Genius!

Love Feast - Love Feast is a community wide effort to feed the hungry in Stillwater. The Religious Education families support this effort the first Tuesday of each month. If your family is interested in helping serve and clean up this meal, please contact Sarah at crepek-5@brightok.net or 372-7987. We would love your help...serving others brings us closer to God!

YOUTH MINISTRY

6th – 12th Grades

September 24

Confirmation:
11:30am to 12:30pm

Edge: 5 to 6:30 pm
Life Teen: 7pm at
CYO House
Bring your friends!!!

September 30

High School Campout
Retreat at the
Albright's

October 1

No Confirmation
No LifeTeen
Edge 5 to 6:30pm

October 8

Confirmation:
11:30am to 12:30pm

Edge: 5 to 6:30 pm
Life Teen: 7pm at
CYO House
Bring your friends!!!

Adult Formation

RCIA –Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. Join us this Wednesday, Sept. 27th in St. Francis Parish Hall from 7pm to 8:45pm for the *The Bible Session*. RCIA is open to all adults interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic Faith. For more information, please contact Deacon Paul Govek at (405)377-7322.

Bible Study

Join us for the continuation of *Matthew: The King and His Kingdom* at St. Francis Xavier Church in the Parish Hall, (basement of the Church) every Tuesday at 1:00pm for the afternoon study, or at 6:30pm for the evening study. We welcome any new members who would like to join our study; we will begin with Chapter 13 of Matthew. For more information or to register for this study, call Terri Schutte at 260-579-6464 or via email: terri.schutte4@gmail.com.

Faith, Froth &

Catholic Stuff You Should Know

Tuesdays – Once a Month at St. John 5:15 Mass, 6:00 Social, 6:30 Talk/Q&A
Oct. 10 – Love is Love? Nope Not Really
Nov. 14 – Candidates for God's Mercy
catholicpokes@gmail.com or
405-372-6408

Word on Fire - Catholicism Series

The Journey of a Lifetime
With Bishop Robert E. Barron is available for check out from St. Francis or St. John Parish Office. (Donated by OSU Knights of Columbus and a Parishioner)

Baptism Preparation Class

If you are a parent or god-parent, Baptism classes are conducted by a Deacon at the St. Francis Center (602 S. West St.) on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. To register, please call the parish office at (405) 372-6886.

SERVICE

UPDATE - New Date for Dedication Mass: Our dedication Mass for the New St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church has been rescheduled for February 4, 2018 at 10:00 AM.

PASSION & PURPOSE with Matthew Kelly on September 30, 2017 from 6pm to 10:30pm at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City. Purchase a Ticket (\$39) at DynamicCatholic.com or call 859-980-7900.

National Day of Prayer for Mental Illness and Understanding – Interfaith Candlelight Vigil. In the not so distant past, mentally ill people were resigned to the same fate as violent felons. Even today when treatments have advanced tenfold, social stigmas follow words like “bi-polar syndrome” or “schizophrenia.” On Tuesday, October 3, 2017, “Embrace” a Wellness Ministry of St. Francis Xavier and the Knights of Columbus 5622 will join with the Stillwater Alpha Kappa Alpha-National Alliance on Mental Illness to help break those negative connotations with a candlelight vigil. The event, known as the National Day of Prayer for Mental Illness Recovery and Understanding Interfaith Candlelight Vigil, is part of a nationwide week devoted to mental illness awareness. Tuesday’s vigil is at 6:30 pm at St. Francis Xavier. Free Pizza will be served!

Stillwater Catholic Men’s Retreat Oct. 7th 5-9PM. Come join us for an evening of Christian fellowship, prayerful reflection, and food in a casual outdoor setting. Our guest speaker, Bishop David Konderla will speak about: “Building the Domestic Church, The Family Fully Alive” The retreat will be held at McMullen’s Homestead on the NE corner of Country Club and McElroy. The retreat is hosted by the Knights of Columbus Council #5266. Please RSVP if possible to Nick Bidelspach (580) 370-5061 or at STJEPC@gmail.com.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting - The next meeting is October 12th at 7pm at St. Francis Center in Rm. 5.

Stewardship Committee Meeting – The next meeting is September 19th at 7pm at St. Francis Center in Rm. 5. Meetings are open to parishioners.

OSU SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE OCT. 27

Stillwater Catholic Women and the St. John Knights of Columbus Council #11135 are offering four \$1000 scholarships for the OSU Spring 2018 semester. The scholarships are in honor of Fr. Bob Schlitt, Fr. Clement Pribil, Professor Emeritus Horatio Mottola and Deacon Bill Dunbar.

The scholarships are available to OSU undergraduate students who attend mass, have a GPA of 2.8 or higher, have completed at least 30 but no more than 115 credit hours, and if a transfer student, have completed at least 12 credit hours at OSU. Traditional and non-traditional students are encouraged to apply. The application form is available on-line at www.catholicpokes.com and at St. John’s Parish Office. **Application deadline is: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2017 at St. John’s Parish Office.** If you have questions, contact Kathy Bidelspach 405-620-3253.



“Twas the Night before Christmas” Bazaar Saturday, December 2, 9:00-3:00

Each year parish members are given the opportunity to share their creative talents through NEEDLEWORK, SEWING, WOODCRAFTING, CARPENTRY, BASKET WEAVING, DECORATING, COOKING, BAKING, CANDY MAKING!

SAVE THE DATE: After a short business meeting on Monday, October 16, 6:30, we will begin making crafts for the Bazaar. You are invited to join the FUN!

Health and Wellness Ministry

Brandi Bishop, RN 405-269-2252

Pregnancy Loss & Early Infant Death Prayer Service to be held on the Feast of the Guardian Angels October 2nd 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at St. Francis

We remember the infants who have died as a result of miscarriage, stillbirth or early in infancy. We remember all mothers and fathers whose hearts are aching, who never had a chance to love or hold their babies. We remember all brothers, sisters, and grandparents who never had the chance to know and love this precious little one. Please join us in this remembrance. You are welcome no matter the denomination or how long ago the loss occurred.

You see, the child lives. Instead of the wind he hears the sound of angels singing before My throne. Instead of the beauty that passes he sees everlasting Beauty – he sees My face. He was created and lived a short time so that the image of his parents imprinted on his face may stand before Me as their personal intercessor. He knows secrets of heaven unknown to men on earth. He laughs with a special joy that only the innocent possess. My ways are not the ways of man. I create for My Kingdom and each creature fills a place in that Kingdom that could not be filled by another. He was created for My joy and his parents’ merits. He has never seen pain or sin. He has never felt hunger or pain. I breathed a soul into a seed, made it grow and called it forth.” -Mother M. Angelica.

Flu shots available after Mass:

October 7th -St. Francis 5 pm
October 8th -St. Francis 8 am & 10 am
October 8th -St. John 9:30 & 11:30 am

Everyday Stewardship

As everyday stewards, I hope that each of us try to live daily lives of generosity for the glory of God. I hope that we are all working to cultivate characteristics of a good everyday steward so that we can grow in maturity of faith and draw closer to Christ. But if we could accurately see on a magical computer spreadsheet how everyone else around us was living life would it impact how we lived out our stewardship way of life? If we found out that others weren’t trying as hard as we were or they were not nearly as generous would it give us reason to pause?

In the workplace, school, and general life, people can easily look around and choose to adapt what they are doing to match more closely what others are doing. Why give work more hours if no one else is willing? Why give a 20% tip to a waiter if you suspect everyone else is only giving 15%? Why spend hours studying for a test when no one else is taking it that seriously?

Our lives of stewardship should never be measured against that of others. Even though we are all called to give all we are and all we have to God, each one of us is unique in our response to that call. Instead of any type of comparison that may temper our generosity, we should hold to the truth that the more we give of ourselves the more fulfilled we will feel. Also, as we grow in our relationship with God, the more we will want to glorify him. Stewardship is not a competition. It is a call to serve God without counting the cost.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS - © Liturgical Publications Inc

Birthingright of Stillwater is a crisis pregnancy center that focuses on love. We believe it is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth, and the right of every child to be born. If you would like to be a part of this wonderful ministry, please contact Lori Wieder at 377-5683!

Mother Teresa Ministry provides food and gas to those in need throughout Stillwater and the surrounding area. If you know of someone that might need assistance, please have them call (405) 372-7673.