

# St. Francis School Newsletter

St. Francis Xavier School, with family partnership is dedicated to the development of the whole child through the spiritual and academic excellence of Catholic education.

October 25, 2024

## A message from our principal...

Dear SFX families,

An important predictor of student academic success is being present in school and arriving on time. High rates of attendance and punctuality are both important. Research shows that children that miss more days of school become increasingly discouraged, perform lower on achievement tests, and attendance is a major predictor of future graduation rates. There are times when absences from school are unavoidable due to illness or other circumstances. Students should be kept home when they have a fever, have symptoms of nausea and vomiting, a really bad cough, etc. As a school, we appreciate when students are kept home when they are too sick to attend. If a student is sick for an extended number of days, it can be helpful for us to have a doctor's note upon their return.

Within the Diocese of Gaylord Handbook for schools, our attendance policy reflects the policy established at the diocesan level. As we track absences, there is a distinction between excused absences and unexcused absences. In our student information system, we have begun noting absences as excused/unexcused based on the diocesan criteria.

The policy states the following:

"It is the shared responsibility of the school and the home to assist students to develop desirable habits of attendance and punctuality.

The only excused absences are those due to illness of the student, death in the family, a doctor or dentist appointment, or whenever the principal considers that exemption from attendance is in the best interest of the student or the school.



If a student has been absent more than ten days of a report period, the school shall not assign grades for that period unless the work has been satisfactorily made up."

Missing 10 percent or more is considered chronic absenteeism. We understand that on occasion travel will happen, but we hope that these instances are kept to a minimum.

### Counseling funding available

St. Francis Xavier School received funds from the State of Michigan 31aa School Safety Grant that were approved in the Spring 2024. A component of this school safety grant is that our school has funds available for mental health counseling. Students in our school are eligible to receive counseling services at no cost to the family. These services are outsourced outside of the school with licensed counselors. This opportunity may be especially beneficial if your insurance doesn't cover all of the costs. If you are interested in these services for your student with our available funding, please contact principal Adam Dobrowolski.

Yours in Christ,

Adam Dobrowolski, principal

**"Is there a teacher or staff member who deserves a shout-out? We'd love to hear about it."**

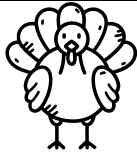
click [here](#) or scan the barcode



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## Turkey Bingo



Win Bingo...Win a turkey!

Nov 8th at 5:30

Scan the QR code if you'd like  
to sponsor some of our bingo  
prizes!

## RAFFLE

Raffle Tickets: If you have not grabbed your raffle tickets or you are in need of more, please stop by the school office!

OR



Scan here to purchase online!

If you are struggling to sell your tickets, please call the school office.

C.S.

Lewis  
monologues



## Woman's Fellowship Group

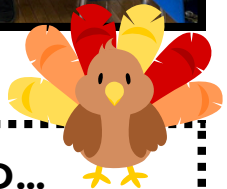
Brought to you by "That Man is You", they are releasing a program designed for the women of St.

Francis Xavier Parish, "She Shall Be Called Woman". Women of SFX are invited to attend an information session, scheduled for Tuesday, October 29th. We will meet downstairs, following the 6pm Mass (approximately 6:45pm) and gauge the level of interest. If it appears that a sufficient level of interest has been generated, then follow-up sessions will be arranged. Please give a strong consideration to this fresh opportunity! More info in this weekends bulletin.

Father Greg came by to bless 148 rosaries that the 4th graders made. They will be donated to the church and our local hospital. #saintsinthemaking



## LOOKING AHEAD...



- 11/1 All Saints Day, NO School. PD for Staff
- 11/3 Daylight savings - set back 1 hour.
- 11/7 MS Sports Photos at Central
- 11/8 Turkey Bingo, 5:30-9:30
- 11/10 2nd Early Bird Drawing & 8th Grade fundraiser - pancake breakfast after Mass!
- 11/11 Veterans Day
- 11/15 1/2 Day, dismissal at 11:40. PD for staff
- 11/22 1st Grade Raffle & All School Non-uniform
- 11/27-29 NO School, Thanksgiving break