

FACILITY & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

The Facilities & Grounds Committee ensure that our parish plant, one of the most beautiful campuses in the archdiocese, is safe, clean, updated, maintained and improved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee is appointed by the pastor to manage the temporal goods of the parish and is in compliance with Canon Law.

OFFERTORY COUNTING

These volunteers ensure that our parish collections are counted, recorded and handled in a responsible way.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

How do we share the good news of Jesus Christ and of CCSFX? The communications committee prepares materials including video and printed information that needs to be shared with our community as well as the wider community.

MISSION & PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Mission & Planning Committee, along with the Pastor and Pastoral Staff, is responsible for implementing and maintaining the parish vision as defined in our Mission Statement. By providing effective leadership, encouraging active participation, and supporting our community governance, the Mission and Planning Committee fosters a culture of the Christian community.

PASTORAL PLANNING TEAM

The Pastoral Planning Team has provided a process for developing our first pastoral plan. It will continue to serve in an advisory capacity in the short term.

Catholic Community of St. Francis Xavier
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Hands of Christ Ministries

Opportunities for Parishioners to share their Time and Talent



Catholic Community of St. Francis Xavier

Fall 2025

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: Confirmation, First Communion, First Reconciliation

Volunteers help educate children who are seeking to prepare for the Sacraments of Penance, First Communion and First Reconciliation. This preparation prepares young hearts for reception of these sacraments.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: Baptism Prep Class Teachers

Baptismal preparation is an incredible opportunity for parents and sponsors to encounter Jesus Christ and the Church. Parents learn the importance of raising their child in the faith with Christian values and the support of the Christian community. This is an important moment in the lives of people, and a gift for catechists to share in that moment.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: PreCana Sponsor Couple

Sponsor couples share their faith and life experiences with couples who are preparing for marriage. They share the joys and challenges of married life, and help prepare couples for a Christ centered life together.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: OCIA

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is for those who have never been baptized, were baptized Catholic but were never fully initiated, or baptized in another faith tradition and are considering becoming Catholic.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

The celebration of the Liturgy of the Word with children is a liturgical experience that enables children to hear and respond to God's Word in a way that speaks to their hearts and is age appropriate.

FAITH FORMATION: PreK-Grade 5

Adults help children understand more fully what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

YOUTH MINISTRY: Middle School

Middle School young people (grades 6-8) come together to meet and to grow in their understanding of the Catholic faith. Adults assist as catechists, small group leaders, and provide support for social gatherings.

YOUTH MINISTRY: High School

Youth Ministry (grades 9-12) gather and are assisted by adults and peers who have been Confirmed and want to share their love of the Church and Christ Jesus.

OUTREACH & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE: Prayer Shawl/Lap Blanket/Prayer Square

Prayer shawls are a way of reaching out to people who are undergoing medical procedures, or grieving the loss of a loved one or experiencing a personal difficulty. Wearing the shawl becomes a reminder that they are being wrapped in God's love. This is a great ministry for those who knit.

OUTREACH & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE: Blanket Making

For those who do not knit or sew but want to extend comfort to people who are homeless or hospitalized or cold, our blanket ministry takes a small amount of time, but can make a world of difference to people.

OUTREACH & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE: Victims of Violence Ministry

If you are troubled by the tragic loss of life in Baltimore City, and wondering how you can help, please consider volunteering for the Victims of Violence Ministry (also known as the AoB Grief Ministry) to offer support and healing to families in Baltimore City who have lost a loved one to violence. In conjunction with other agencies and nonprofits, the Victims of Violence Ministry invites parish communities to provide assistance, such as prayers, sympathy notes, food, baby items and other support as needed to families. Volunteer training will be provided.

OUTREACH & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE: Sandwich Making

Every second Saturday of the month, we make sandwiches to feed over 400 homeless people who live in the woods around Essex. Volunteers are asked to bring (6) loaves of white bread and, if possible, 1 jar of jam (any flavor, not jelly) and 1 jar of creamy peanut butter. We start at 8:30am. and are usually done by 10:00am. We meet in the lower hall. All are welcome!

OUTREACH & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE: Casseroles for Beans & Bread

Casseroles for Beans & Bread continue to be needed to help feed those who are hungry. Each month, on the 3rd Monday of the month, we need people to deliver a casserole to the church. The recipe for the casseroles along with pans are in the gathering space at church.

OUTREACH & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE: Food Pantry/Room at the Table

Feed the Need: Drop nonperishable food items off the Third Saturday of the month 10:00a.m.-12:00 noon lower parking lot or place item on the tables downstairs before all Masses. Food supports the St. Peter Claver food pantry.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Hospitality (Parish Perk & Saturday 5pm Hospitality)

Parish Perks provides light refreshments after all of our Masses on the weekend. Most of all, they serve a gentle welcome. Always in need of people who are willing to serve and offer hospitality.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Community Events

This group plans many gatherings throughout the year that help to bring our community together over food! Cooks, bakers, people willing to serve, and be hospitable are all good qualities for those wanting to serve others in our parish. Events include Happy Hours, Cook Outs, Breakfast with Santa, etc.)

OUTREACH & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE: Christmas Giving Tree

There is a need in various parishes and social service agencies for specific gift items. It may be diapers for an agency serving homeless mothers, or specific types of food for people who are hungry and need assistance. Organizing and distributing the collections is essential to the service it provides.

OUTREACH & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE: Adopt-A-Family

At Christmas, parishioners take the name of a family, with a description of ages and sizes and buy Christmas gifts for those who cannot afford them. A small team does the work of giants to organize and support this effort!

OUTREACH & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE: Franciscan Center

Be a CCSFX volunteer at the Franciscan Center. Located at 101 W. 23rd Street in Baltimore City. You will welcome guests and offer conversation, serve meals, assemble desserts, prepare drinks and assist in the cleanup. Often, we carpool down to the center.

OUTREACH & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE: Poor Box

Each month, poor boxes are dedicated to serve the needs of our parish community and our wider community. Poor boxes are dedicated to charities that have been vetted, and are announced to the parish in advance.

OUTREACH & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE: Donation of Items at CCSFX

Throughout the year we collect supplies for schools, health care, and food for people who are in need. We need people willing to help collect and categorize these goods, or help deliver from time to time.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Spiritual, human, intellectual and pastoral development are key to the adult experience in church and ministry. Programs offer book and bible studies.

WOMEN'S GROUP

Christian women are part of a powerful sisterhood. Through the Women's Group, you will find companions on the journey, who study our faith, and share their lives. We offered sessions in both afternoon and evening to fit your schedule!

MEN'S GROUPS

Men's Groups at CCSFX seek to have brothers build brothers up in Christ. They read and discuss Christian books, Church teaching, and sacred scriptures, all for the glory of God.

LITURGY COMMITTEE

The Eucharist is the "source and summit of our faith." The liturgy committee plans, coordinates, and enhances the worship life of our parish, taking great care to provide an engaged worship experience at CCSFX.

LITURGY COMMITTEE: Environment

CCSFX worship space is beautiful and that is in no small part due to the members of the parish who work year-round on art and environment. These dedicated volunteers create an environment that enhances prayer.

MUSIC MINISTRY

We are seeking cantors, choir singers, soloists, and instrumentalists of every kind who are ready to lift their voices and talents in celebration. If you are inspired to "make a joyful noise," we would love to welcome you into our musical community!

AUDIO-VISUAL MINISTRY

Our AV Ministry plays an essential role in connecting our parish community—both near and far. Create a meaningful worship experience by livestreaming Mass, managing sound and video systems across the church, and ensuring every liturgical celebration is clear, reverent, and accessible. Hands-on training provided.

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild lovingly tends to the sanctuary and sacristy—cleaning, polishing, vacuuming, and caring for the sacred linens and vestments. This quiet yet vital ministry helps create a space of reverence and beauty for worship. We're always grateful for helping hands, and we'd love to welcome more volunteers—because when many share the work, the load is light and the joy is great.

MASS GREETERS

Greeters are needed to joyfully greet our guests, distribute song books, be our ministers of hospitality and our directors of first impressions.

MASS SACRISTANS

A sacristan undertakes the overall preparation for liturgical celebrations. They need strong organizational skills to make sure everything is in place.

MASS EMs

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) assist in the distribution of the Eucharist during Mass and to the sick, serving a vital role in the Catholic Church.

MASS READERS

The reader reads from the ambo the readings that precede the Gospel. In the absence of a psalmist, the reader may also proclaim the Responsorial Psalm after the First Reading.

MASS USHERS

Ushers greet people when they arrive at Mass, open doors, offer any assistance someone might need, take up the collections and make sure they are secured and provide a great sense of welcome and hospitality to all who attend.

FUNERAL SACRISTANS

Funeral sacristans ensure that the church is prepared for the liturgy. They arrive 45 minutes early to set up for Mass, ensuring that everything is in its proper place.

WEDDING CEREMONY/MASS COORDINATION/SACRISTAN

(CCSFX DOES NOT CURRENTLY HAVE THIS MINISTRY. Please reach out to the office if you are interested.)

A Wedding Coordinator help navigate the steps leading up to the walk down the aisle, clarifying questions about the ceremony for bride and groom, supporting the priest during the rehearsal, and ensure the couple has a meaningful and joyful experience as they begin their life together.

GOSPEL OF LIFE COMMITTEE

We believe in a consistent ethic of life that extends from conception to natural death. This ministry supports the Catholic understanding of the issues, provides advocacy, and advises parishioners of urgent life issues facing voters or decision makers, and well as providing direct support for people in need.

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE: City of God

The mission and main purpose of the prayer group is to experience the dynamic and transforming relationship with God, as our loving Father, Jesus as our personal Lord and Savior, through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE: Grief Ministry

The Grief Ministry welcomes anyone who has experienced loss and is going through the process of grief. We have a facilitated small group approach whose aim is to accompany one another.

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE: Martha & Mary Group

Martha and Mary Ministry offers comfort and support to our registered parishioners through hospitality. They work closely with the family to provide and serve receptions after the funeral for the family and friends of the deceased.

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE: Funeral Greeters/Hospitality

At CCSFX, our parish ministers embody the spirit of welcome and compassion, especially during funeral Masses. For many guests, this is their first encounter with our community, and our ministers ensure it is one marked by warmth and care. They offer a worship aid, a song book, a needed Kleenex, or directions to the bathroom. Their presence is both pastoral and practical.

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE: Prison Ministry

Volunteers go to the Men's Prison in Towson once a week and lead a Scripture Study.

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE: Visiting Ministry

Parish visitors are the hands of Christ to those who are at home with an illness. The visitors bring the Eucharist to those who are homebound, and spend some time visiting and connecting with parishioners who are not able to worship with us.

PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE: Deacon's Closet

Medical supplies collected and distributed to those in need within our parish and in our local community.

PARISH BOOK CLUB

Group of mostly parishioners (all are welcome) who reach a consensus of what books (secular and religious) will be read and discussed. The only requirement is that you read and participate. The discussions are invigorating!