



# St. Francis Xavier High School

## Upcoming Events

- Memorial to the Unborn: April 10th
- Prom: April 20th
- Honor Society Induction: April 23rd
- Garage Sale: April 27th
- Golf Tourney: May 10th
- Baccalaureate Mass & Awards Program: May 31st
- Graduation: June 1st

### *In Memoriam:*

*Deacon Billy Ellis*

*1928-2013*

*We honor the memory of Deacon Ellis, a true disciple of Christ, a patriot, a loving husband, caring father, a role model for young people.*

*"I must go until Heaven returns, give until I drop, preach until all know, and work until He comes. And when He comes to get His own, He will have no problem recognizing me. My colors will be clear."*

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## Mock Trial Team garners high scores

The Mock Trial team, under the guidance of Mrs. Emily Baker and Mr. J Cabot Seth competed in the regional competition on February 23rd. Referencing to "Star Wars" in an opening statement in a court case may seem unusual but that's how they did it here at St. Francis Xavier High School. Our Mock Trial team went to the SC Bar competition this year and returned with the highest scores in all the year's of St. Francis Xavier competing. One of the witnesses, Casey Taylor, even won "overall best witness" in two rounds.



They had an amazing win in the last round of the day when lawyer, Carlos Moore, paralleled the case to "Star Wars" in his opening statement. Mike Rickabaugh then gave a memorable closing statement that sealed the team's victory. *Submitted by Journalism*

## Basketball Team Finale!

Congratulations to the Padre Boys' Basketball team! The team began the season with the championship of the Glenforest Christmas tourney. Our young men placed second in regional standings and made it to the /state play-

offs this year. Kenneth Dozier was named to the All-region and All-tournament teams. KJ is also a member of the "1K Club", scoring 1000 points in only two years. Dalton Foreman was also named to the All-tournament team.



Thanks to Coach Junko Allen and the assistant coaches for their dedication to our boys.

*"Inspiring minds, instilling faith, and illuminating the future of young people committed to a life of faith, justice, compassion, and wisdom in the Catholic tradition."*

## Student Highlights

Frank Heizler, a senior at St. Francis Xavier High School, will attend Embry Riddle University in Daytona Beach, Florida.

Frank's intended major is Mechanical Engineering .

Frank says that being a student at St. Francis Xavier has helped him greatly, providing him with a well rounded knowledge of cul-

ture and how to communicate with people. Also, Frank along with Mr. Wilk installed the new WIFI system at St. Francis giving him the opportunity to keep his technical knowledge up-to-date.

Nicole Burkle, also a senior at St. Francis Xavier High School, plans to attend USC Sumter in the fall and transfer to Lander University later.

Nicole chose to attend USC Sumter because it is close to home, and it's a little less expensive. She plans to major in physical therapy. Nicole said that St. Francis Xavier High School has helped her with her future educational path because all the classes are college preparatory, and the school has given her many scholarship opportunities.

Submitted by Journalism Class

Thank you to all who donated, to and attended our St. Pat's Day Silent Auction! A HUGE thanks to Joanie Flury for all her work to make it a success.

## Golf Tourney

Folks, dust off your clubs, line up your tees, and prepare for a day of fun on the course! It's time for the annual St. Francis Xavier HS Golf Classic. Get your red pen and circle May 10th on your calendars.

It's a shotgun start at 1pm with Captains, Choice at Sunset Country Club. Included in the price for this day of golfing pleasure is Sunset's awesome dinner buffet! For the mere price of \$60/person, a golfer

gets 18 holes of enjoyment, plenty of fellowship, drinks on the course and a delicious meal to cap off the day.

## Kanuga School Retreat!

The arrival of spring and the end of Lent signaled the time for another trip to Camp Kanuga! The last school wide retreat to Kanuga was held three years ago. This year's retreat will take place from Monday, March 25th, through Wednesday March 27th. The students will participate in a variety of outdoor activities while also focusing on the theme of the retreat, "God as our spiritual compass". Claire

Long, one of our alumni will be a retreat leader. The culmination of our visit will be an evening of meditations, reflections, sharing, and fellowship.

## Alumni Highlight

Adriel Dizon, son of Gene and Gena Dizon, was the Valedictorian of the St. Francis Xavier HS graduating class of 2006.

Adriel graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of South Carolina. Currently, he is a second-year medical student at USC School of Medicine. Additionally, he was accepted into the Armed Forces Health Profession Scholarship Program.

In his spare time, he continues to be involved in the arts, including music, theater, and ballroom dancing.



He also enjoys running and placed third in his age group in his most recent race, Runway Run 5k.

## Sharing their Faith

The Diocesan Youth Evangelization Team, a group comprised of high school students from all over South Carolina, meet monthly to serve the youth of the diocese, namely by planning statewide retreats and conferences. The team consists of twenty-seven members. These young people are committed to encouraging other youth in our diocese on their spiritual journey.

After an intensive application and interview process and

prayerful discernment by the adult members of the team, two of our own, Nicholas Doyle and Matthew Mossell were chosen to be a part of the team this past school year.

Matthew was a member of the production team, or “prod-squad” as they called themselves. He helped produce, film, and edit videos. Nicholas was a member of the Prayer Team. Their focus was to pray for the spiritual aspects of each retreat



and for the members of the team along with coordinating the mass. Other St. Francis students will be applying for next year’s team ! *Submitted by Journalism*

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St. Francis Xavier H.S.  
15 School Street  
Sumter, SC 29150

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## Message from the Principal



Catholics around the world followed the resignation of Pope emeritus Benedict XVI and the election of Pope Francis with prayerful concern and hope for the future of our church. The entire student body at St. Francis Xavier HS gathered in the Dining Hall in anticipation of the announcement of the new Pope. These young people waited and watched with excitement as the protocol and tradition of centuries unfolded. There are times when we all become frustrated with the intrusion of technology in our lives, yet this was one of those times when technology and faith meshed seamlessly. Our young people embrace their faith more and more with the use of technology for they are “digital natives”. It is incredible that a church that is centuries old can and does change to meet the needs of this generation! Our faith remains a vibrant and significant voice in our world today. The events that transpired have presented valuable lessons to all of us, not just our students. Change can come unexpectedly, yet a solid foundation, such as what our church provides, can ease the transition. Humility, a virtue in scarce supply these days, remains a hallmark of great leaders. Finally, obedience does not equate to subservience but to the acknowledgement of a greater good. May we keep the “Prayer of St. Francis” near to our hearts as we move ahead in the days and years to come.

*Susan Lavergne*