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Ephesus Notes

A Catholic Newsletter Dedicated to Our Lady of Ephesus

A free publication designed by Fr. F. Gruber for the needs of the elderly. Prepared with the help of Grok. ©2026 Archives available at www.mothersforpriests.org/ephesus-notes

VOLUME 4 · ISSUE 47 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2026 MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

TODAY'S SAINT

December 3: St. Francis Xavier, Priest.

St. Francis Xavier was born at the castle of Xavier in Navarre, Spain, in 1506. At the University of Paris he became one of the first companions of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Sent to the Indies in 1541, he preached at Goa, in southern India, at Malacca and in the Moluccas, and in 1549 he brought the Gospel to Japan. He died on the island of Sancian, within sight of China, on December 3, 1552. He is patron of the missions.

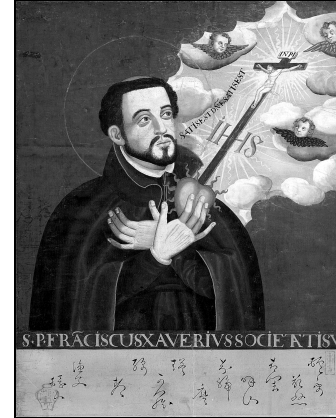


Rough map of St. Francis Xavier's journeys: born at Xavier, preached at Goa and Malacca, reached Japan at Kagoshima, and died on Sancian (+).

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Q: Where is the body of St. Francis Xavier kept today?

A: In the Basilica of Bom Jesus at Old Goa, India.



St. Francis Xavier, Japanese painting (early 17th century), Kobe City Museum

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Many, many people hereabouts are not becoming Christians for one reason only: there is nobody to make them Christians."

—St. Francis Xavier, letter to St. Ignatius

PRAYER TO ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

O God, Who by the preaching and miracles of blessed Francis wast pleased to add to Thy Church the nations of the Indies, mercifully grant that we who venerate his glorious merits may imitate his virtues, through Our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who with Thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end.

(Mothers for Priests brochure FX3)

Mary, Star of the world, Pray for us.

Recommended Prayer Brochure: FX3 Litany of Saint Francis Xavier



Daily Gospel Word Find Puzzle

(Matthew 7:21, 24-27, December 3, 2026)

Find the all-capitalized words in bold print.

A	I	H	L	F	F	O	B	H	O	H	D	P	P	W
G	W	H	G	I	J	F	U	E	N	C	R	E	O	S
F	L	O	O	D	S	A	F	A	R	I	I	O	A	F
F	F	O	R	U	V	T	F	V	R	A	M	D	C	D
Y	W	I	N	D	S	H	E	E	B	U	I	L	T	K
F	J	P	W	I	S	E	T	N	N	V	I	N	S	L
O	S	A	N	D	W	R	E	B	S	T	C	N	D	O
O	U	W	S	O	L	I	D	L	Y	M	E	F	E	R
L	R	A	J	K	K	I	N	G	D	O	M	R	P	D

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘**LORD**, Lord,’ will **ENTER** the **KINGDOM** of **HEAVEN**, but only the one who does the will of my **FATHER** in heaven.

“Everyone who **LISTENS** to these **WORDS** of mine and **ACTS** on them will be like a **WISE** man who **BUILT** his **HOUSE** on **ROCK**.

The **RAIN** fell, the **FLOODS** came, and the **WINDS** blew and **BUFFETED** the house.

But it did not collapse; it had been set **SOLIDLY** on rock.

And everyone who listens to these words of mine but does not act on them will be like a **FOOL** who built his house on **SAND**.

The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. And it collapsed and was completely **RUINED**.”

Gospel text: Lectionary for Mass (USCCB), Thursday of the First Week of Advent.

FROM THE CATECHISM

80. How is the Good News spread?

From the very beginning the first disciples burned with the desire to proclaim Jesus Christ in order to lead all to faith in him. Even today, from the loving knowledge of Christ there springs up in the believer the desire to evangelize and catechize, that is, to reveal in the Person of Christ the entire design of God and to put humanity in communion with him.

Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Q. 80