The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:
1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org for more information.
**From The Pastor**

Feast of the Presentation
On February 1 & 2, we celebrate the feast of the Presentation. This only happens on a Sunday about once every seven years. On this day we bless the candles to be used in religious services and to be used for the blessing of St. Blaise (Monday). Bring from home a candle to be lit and brought up in procession; also bring whatever other candles you want blessed, to put next to you in your pew. At the end of each Mass on that weekend, we will also do the blessing of the throats.

Parish News

St. Francis Xavier Collections
Week of January 13 - January 19, 2020

- Offertory (cash and checks) $8,108.50
- Online offertory (SFX WeShare) $2,664.82
- Combined-All Offertory $10,773.32

- Second collection, Catholic Home Missions $892.00
- Funds Available for Building & Grounds Maintenance Projects $20,450.00

The 2002 Pledge Packets have been mailed! Please return your pledge card by mail or in the offertory collection.

Faith Formation

Sunday School for Ages 2-3-4 During 10:30 Mass Resumes This Sunday

Many thanks to the wonderful women and men who staff our Sunday School.

- Sunday School will be offered the first and third Sunday of the month: February 2, 16, March 1, 15, April 5, 19, May 3, 17.
- Parents and grandparents are always welcome to bring your little ones to the Romero Room before 10:30 Mass, meet our teachers and learn more about our program where the children learn about God’s love, pray together, play and have fun in a safe and creative environment.
- We are looking for more folks (teens and adults) to join the team led by Sara Noreña. All volunteers undergo a screening interview, a criminal background check, read and sign the “Ethics and Integrity in Ministry” Code of Conduct, and must be certified in “Protecting God’s Children,” the diocesan safe environment training program. For more information contact Marriann McCormally (816-523-5115 x 204 OR mccormally@sfx-kc.org).

Justice & Life

Gospel Non-Violence Offerings

Mark your calendars and plan to attend two powerful movies offered by the Gospel Non-Violence committee. On Feb 9, in the Romero Room after the 10:30 Mass, they will show *King in the Wilderness*, an archival portrait highlighting the range of human emotions and difficulties experienced by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in his effort to live in a non-violent way. Then, on March 8, they will sponsor *Of Gods and Men*, a true witness to French monks living among Muslims during the outbreak of war in Algeria. Pizza and drinks will be served at both events.

Upcoming White House Retreats

The 80-acre, Jesuit-run White House Retreat Center, located on Mississippi River in St. Louis, has hosted retreats for 98 years. Separate men’s and women’s White House retreats for SFX parishioners are on the books for May. The men will attend May 14-17; the women, May 28-31. Ten spots are available for the men’s retreat and three remain for the women’s. If you are interested, please contact Sue for the men’s retreat (srobb@sfx-kc.org) or Tom Bradshaw (tombradshaw818@yahoo.com) for the women’s retreat.

SFCollectX

There are new sheets available on the SF ColleX cart in the Narthex. We collect items people may normally throw away or recycle, such as soda/beer can tabs for Ronald McDonald House, clean pill bottles for KC Spay & Neuter, large, clean 2L bottles for Project Uplift which serves KC’s homeless population, and other items throughout the year. You can also place your food and paper bag donations there, as well. Pick up a list and start saving!
RIM Update
The RIM Committee entered a discernment process last November and recently met to set their direction for 2020. They want to focus on the following areas: 1) Expand awareness of the southern border realities through the Encuentro Project, local education, and advocacy. 2) Support the work of the Migrant Farmworkers Project in Lexington, MO by collecting items and volunteering at least once during the apple picking season (August-October); 3) Support AIRR (Advocates for Immigrants Rights & Reconciliation) by attending their meetings, fundraisers, and training to support immigrants 4). Educate and promote Fair Trade practices 5). Gather more information about sponsoring a family seeking asylum. Watch for more information. The RIM Committee meets again March 1 and welcomes all.

Health Ministry
Our health ministry met last week and came up with some wonderful ways to serve our parish community and the community at large. Watch for more information in upcoming bulletins. If you have an idea for any services or programming you’d like to see happen at SFX (like advance directives or aging or heart health) or if you’d like to be a part of the health ministry, please contact Sue at srobb@sfx-kc.org.

Hunger Banquet
Mark your calendars for February 19 and plan to attend the Hunger Banquet sponsored by SFX and Visitation Parish. Fr. Rafael Garcia will be the featured speaker! The Hunger Banquet will take place from 6:00-8:00 in Tighe Hall at Visitation Parish. No reservations are necessary. Come hungry to learn about the needs and the work at the El Paso/Juarez border.

The Ignatian Spirituality Center of Kansas City
Presents Lenten Individual and Group Prayer Retreats
“Even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart.” Joel 2:12
God desires your heart. Pray this Lent with prayer exercises that will help dispose you to turn to the Lord with your whole heart. Give yourself the gift of daily encountering the Lord through prayer. Choose between an individually directed prayer retreat meeting weekly with your Ignatian prayer guide or a group retreat with an Ignatian prayer guide who will facilitate group shared prayer experiences. In each of these retreats you will learn Ignatian prayer methods and grow in your attentiveness to God’s action in your life and prayer. To find out more and to register, please visit www.ignatiancenterkc.org and click on Events & Prayer Programs to see retreat options available. SFX parishioners may receive a 30% discount off of the Lenten individual retreat and the Lenten group retreats hosted at SFX. If you are interested, please email shudson@ignatiancenterkc.org or call us at 816-381-9186.

The Annual St. Therese Little Flower Parish Mardi Gras Celebration
Will be held on Friday, February 21, 2020, 5:30 pm to 10:30 pm at Hillcrest Country Club, 8200 Hillcrest Road, Kansas City, MO 64138. Tickets may be purchased for $15 in advance, $20 at the door or tables for 10 may be purchased for $250 which includes great food, non-alcoholic beverages, great entertainment, silent auction, and more. Wine and beer will also be available. You don’t want to miss this “Party With a Purpose”. Additional information is available at www.stfkc.org including online purchase of tickets and tables. Questions may be directed to Estelle Tunley at etunley@stfkc.org or 816-444-5406.

Seedtime Mass at Conception Abbey
Celebrating a Diocesan Day of Prayer, Date: February 4, 2020 Following the 11:45 am Mass at Conception Abbey, lunch will be available for those wishing to stay. You can make your reservations by calling or emailing Guest Services 1-660-944-2809 guests@conception.edu. Lunch is $8 and payment can be made upon arrival at the dining hall. Further information may be found on our diocesan website https://kcsjcatholic.org/office/divine-worship/.

Keeler Women’s Center, a ministry of the Benedictine Sisters is located at 2220 Central Ave., KCK. All programs are free. Donations are welcome. Call 913.689.9375 or register on-line at www.keelerwomenscenter.org.
Affirmations & Living Free Growth Group for Women, Mondays, noon – 1:30 pm. This group helps women change the way they think about themselves and their lives.
Drawing Portraits, Facilitated by Mary Donovan, Monday, February 3 and 10, 10:00 – 11:30 am. Please bring along a photo to work from. All other supplies provided.
Creation Health Class, by Ann Sullentrop, Mondays, February 3, 10, 17, 24 and March 9, 16, 23. Learn ways to keep you informed and on track in maintaining your total health.
Healthy Relationships: Domestic Violence Education and Support Facilitated by Jaime Peterson, Tuesdays, 10:00 – 11:00
Gospel Non-Violence Facilitated by Peg Burns Kerbawy, Study Group, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 11:30-1:30 pm. Meet with others who seek to live as Jesus lives; experience the message of non-violence, preached by Jesus
Caregivers Support group for (men and women) Facilitator by Jackie Tigges, MSW, LCSW, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 1:30-3:00 pm. Caring for a loved one is very difficult and support helps.
Parenting Support Group: A program of education and support Presented by Marqueia Watson, MSW, Tuesdays, 6:00 – 7:30
Knitting and Crocheting Group – Learn a new skill or work on current projects, Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00
Understanding and Coping With Grief by Maria Ortiz-Towner, Tuesdays, 6:00 – 7:30 pm, January 14 – February 18.

Lent With Catholic Charities
Thinking about what to do for Lent this year? Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the cornerstones of this season of prayer. Watch for our Lenten program in your email or via our social media and spend some time with Catholic Charities as part of your Lenten observance. We will have stories, reflections and ways to express your faith through serving others. Contact Nancy Butters, Development Manager at 816-659-8266 or nbutters@cccharities.com to assure that you are on our email list!
### Calendar

**Monday, January 27**
- 10:00am Sam Beckett Organ Practice

**Tuesday, January 28**
- 4:00pm One City Café
- 6:00pm Building Committee Group 2020 (RR)
- 7:00pm ReMembering Church (library)

**Wednesday, January 29**
- 5:30pm Social Committee Meeting (RR)
- 6:30pm First Communion Prep gathering Class & Parents (BVM)
- 7:30pm Choir Practice (HR)

**Thursday, January 30**
- 10:30am Fr. Bob Bible Study (RR)
- 12:30pm Adoration (chapel)
- 7:00pm RCIA (Library)

**Friday, January 31**
- No Activities

**Saturday, February 1**
- All Day Family & Friends Weekend (church)
- 3:00pm Spiritual Direction (RR)

**Sunday, February 2**
- All Day Family & Friends Weekend (church)
- 10:30am Children’s Liturgy of the Word (chapel)
- 6:00pm RU Student Mass (church)

### Mass Intentions

- **Sat 1/25 4:00pm** That All Christians Be Freed of Divisions
- **Sun 1/26 8:00am** That All Faiths & Nations Be Freed of Divisions
- **Sun 1/26 10:30am** SFX Parishioners
- **Tues 1/28 7:00am** For All Theologians
- **Tues 1/28 12:00pm** -For Jennifer Spangler’s deceased father, David Schmidt † & her living mother, Jane Schmidt
- **Wed 1/29 7:00am** All of SFX Volunteers
- **Wed 1/29 12:00pm** For All God’s Creations
- **Thurs 1/30 7:00am** Conversion of North Korea
- **Thurs 1/30 12:00pm** Conversion of the Middle East
- **Fri 1/31 7:00am** Protection of the U.S.
- **Fri 1/31 12:00pm** SFX Staff
- **Sat 2/1 4:00pm** -Pierre “Pete” Guignon †
- **Sun 2/2 8:00am** For Vulnerability To God
- **Sun 2/2 10:30am** To See Christ In the Poor

### Winter Weather Cancellations/Announcements

Winter is here! You can get information on cancellations or other announcements in two ways.

*Check the home page of our website: www.sfx-kc.org, where they will be listed in red.*

*Call our parish office number: 816-523-5115. As soon as the welcome message begins, enter pound (#) then extension 250. You do not need to wait through the welcome message or for any prompts.

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**“Mental pain is less dramatic than physical pain, but it is more common and also more hard to bear. The frequent attempt to conceal mental pain increases the burden: it is easier to say “My tooth is aching” than to say “My heart is broken.””**

― **C.S. Lewis, The Problem of Pain**