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.
Health Care Decisions at End of Life
Join members of our health committee and attorney Chris Morgan in the third in a series of Zoom discussions about preparing for the end of life. He will cover legal documents we should have in place to make the transition easier on our children and loved ones. Join us Monday, October 12 at 7:00pm on Zoom. Click HERE for the link. Chris will provide you with a booklet filled with practical planning tips to save time and money when you become disabled or die. Contact Sue for more information.

Soul Food Tuesday – Morning AND Evening Edition
“Christians and Citizens: Holy Engagement with Politics”
- October 20, 27 Tuesday, 11:00am to 12:00noon and 7:30 to 8:30pm
“Soul Food Tuesday” is a study/prayer group that that meets via Zoom (for the foreseeable future). Participation is OPEN. One does not need to commit to attending every week. For more information and to receive the Zoom link, contact Mariann at mccormally@sfx-kc.org

Public Witness for Racial Equity
Join us Friday, October 23 from 4:30 - 5:40pm as we stand on Troost in support of racial equity. Bring your signs (or borrow one of ours) and continue the call for systemic change. This ongoing event is held on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month.

Parish Clean-up
Sunday, October 25, 10:00-12:00
Bring your family and your yard implements and help spruce up our parish grounds before winter. We have a lot of bushes to trim, leaves to rake, and shrubs to cut back. You will be assigned a “zone” in which to work so social distancing is guaranteed. We will start after the 10:00am Mass and end about noon.

Ignatian Family Teach-in For Justice
Happens October 19-26 - It’s not too late to sign up! Go to https://ignatiansolidarity.net/ftj/ and list St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church – KC as your parish. Our member code is ISNmember20.

White Fragility
There has been increased interest from those who could not attend the first session in reading and discussing this book. If you are interested, please contact Sue for dates and times. We will be starting soon!

SFXcellent Books! September 15-October 15
What are you reading? Parishioners of all ages are invited to submit the title of a book that is important to them for a chance to win a gift card to Rainy Day Books. There are two categories (children/teen and adult). Submit more than one title and increase your odds of winning the drawing. We will publish the book list – making all of us winners! The book can be contemporary or a classic, secular or religious, fiction or non-fiction, serious or fun, something you just finished reading or something you read a long time ago that is still with you. Please send your entry (including your name, your age category, and a one-sentence description of why the book is important to you) to mccormally@sfx-kc.org. The drawing for the gift card will happen on Sunday, October 18.

All Souls Candles
The Church sets aside the month of November as a time to honor and remember those who have gone before us. The weekend of October 31/November 1 our All Souls Candles, remembering those who have died this past year (November 1, 2019-October 31, 2020), will be placed on the altar railing (no procession this year due to COVID 19). We will remember (in order of death anniversary): John “Jack” L. Coakley, Jr., Rusty Williams, Kelly Pinkham, Heidi Schloegel Hynes, Mary Joyce Schloegel, Hermes Lorica, Amalia Salazar-Martinez, Jim Wecker, Mary Rose Beal, Father Luke Byrne, SJ, Father Evan Harkins, Rebecca Ann Cortese, Floyd May, Alfonso Salazar-Martinez, Mike Gunter, Fifi Wiedeman, Ed Kos, Barb House, Tom Whalen, Marvin Francois, Margaret Stigers, Shirley Steppe, Stephen Sattley, Charlene Chatman Lancaster, Birda Jo Ousley, Joe Fein, John Burns, Jack Walsh, Frank Conaghan, John Walker, Thomas Seibolt, Jerry Harms, Janice Supple, Cheryl K. Osborne. Please contact Mariann McCormally mccormally@sfxcatholic.org 816-381-9163 to add a name to this list.

What about Confirmation?
We celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation every-other-year at SFX with young people in Grades 9-10. Our next Confirmation Prep Class will begin in the spring of 2021 for those currently in Grades 8-9. They will be confirmed as freshmen and sophomores in late winter/early spring 2022 (date and place to be determined). In the meantime, let’s pray for our tweens and teens (and all our parish youth).
◆ CURACOMMUNITIES
We have 2 groups (one every other Thursday evening and one every other Wednesday morning) that would welcome new members. Our evening group will meet this Thursday at 7:00pm. As we move through this most unusual year, take time to care for your mind, body and spirit and connect with other SFX parishioners. Contact Sue for the Zoom link to join a group.

◆ SPIRITUAL DIRECTION
Life is so complex now...where is God? The results from our August survey indicated many parishioners feel the need for additional spiritual support and direction through this pandemic. In response to that, Sue Robb, a certified Spiritual Director, is offering parishioners free spiritual direction. Please contact Sue to set up an appointment.

◆ CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
From our founding, Catholic Charities has been assisting parents and children who are struggling. Our Children and Family services include supports such as parenting education, assessments of appropriate childhood development and items like car seats and pack and plays that promote physical safety of our little ones. Many of these activities are funded by a generous Alternatives to Abortion grant from the state. To learn more about our family centered programming, please contact Ashley Wohlgemuth, Director of Children and Families at awohlgemuth@ccharities.com or 816-659-8279.

◆ RESPECT LIFE—ALL LIFE
October is Respect Life Month. Respecting all life, most especially the least, the vulnerable and the forgotten, is at the heart of the Christian life. Jesus clearly articulates this in the parable of the Last Judgment in Matthew 25: "Whatsoever you did for the least of my brothers and sisters, you did for me." As we approach Election Day let us embrace “voting as an act of love” and keep mindful of all life issues.

◆ RACHEL’S VINEYARD WEEKEND RETREAT
Are you or a loved one suffering from abortion? Find hope and allow God to heal your heart by attending a Rachel’s Vineyard weekend retreat. The next retreat that will take place in Kansas City will be on October 23-25, 2020. For more information or to register, please call Teresa O’Donnell at (816) 679-4973 or email rvkmco@gmail.com (please note: you might have to check your Spam folder for the guaranteed email reply) or visit www.rachelsvineyardkc.org.

◆ BE THE BRIDGE TO RACIAL UNITY
A four-session discussion about racism and how to be a white ally.
When: Tuesdays Oct. 20 and 27, Nov. 10 and 17
Time: 7-8:30pm
Where: We’ll meet via Zoom
Cost: $10 for a workbook
The calls for racial justice across our country are calling us to wake up to the injustice in which many of us have engaged, even unconsciously.
To meet these challenges, Precious Blood Renewal Center will offer a four-session discussion to examine the roots of racism in our culture and our place in it. These sessions are primarily for white people who want to be allies with people of color.
When one group benefits from the oppression of another, everyone suffers. No one escapes the negative effects of an unjust system. As St. Paul said in his letter to the Corinthians: If one part of the body suffers, every part suffers with it.
We will explore the meaning of: White Identity, White Privilege, White Fragility, and White Supremacy. Our goal is to provide basic onramps to get you started on the bridge-building journey.
After you register, we will contact you with information on how to get your workbook and how to connect via Zoom. We can help you get into Zoom if you need help with that.
Three ways to register
• Online  https://www.pbrenewalcenter.org/events/be-the-bridge-to-racial-unity-2/
• Call: (816) 415-3745 (may have to leave a message)
• Email: info@pbrenewalcenter.org

◆ BEGINNING EXPERIENCE ~ GRIEF SUPPORT WEEKEND
Beginning Experience is offering a healing weekend November 6-8, 2020 at Savior Pastoral Center in Kansas City Kansas. This invitation is open to men and women of all ages who have suffered the loss of a spouse through death, divorce, or separation. It is a time to heal and a time to begin anew. Reservations are required.
For more information visit: www.beginningexperiencekc.org, email: register.bekc@gmail.com or contact Laura 308-530-1873.
The facility is large enough to allow us to social distance and each participant will have a private room. We will also be taking temperatures with a no touch thermometer. Please tell anyone that you know who you feel would benefit from this ministry and that has shown an interest in attending.
PRAYER DURING A HEALTH CRISIS
Compassionate and Loving Father,
In the face of confusion and concern
impart to us the calm of your presence.
In You allow us to find hope and healing.
Be with those who serve the sick and give them Your
caring hands.
Be with those who lead and give them Your Spirit of
wisdom.
Be with those who have fallen ill and give them Your
comforting heart.
Wrap your arms around our world
and hold us in your love.
Allow us at this time of trial to then
serve as instruments of that love to all we meet.
We ask this in Your Name.
Amen.

GOOD NEWS
Do you have any Good News you’d like to share with
the parish? If so, send information and pictures to
Peggy Beaven Calia at pbeavencalia@sfx-kc.org.

CLICK HERE TO JOIN MASS AT SFX, OFFERED EVERY
SUNDAY AT 9:00AM, LIVE-STREAMED ON YOU TUBE.
Sunday Mass at 9:00am will be live streamed on our
SFX You Tube channel “St. Francis Xavier – KC”.
To join the Mass “live” at 9:00am, click the link above.
We welcome your feedback. If you haven’t already,
please take a moment to click the Sunday Mass link
above and “Subscribe” to our SFX You Tube channel.
Thank you!

Voting is an ACT of love
“Love ought to show itself in deeds more than in words.”

These powerful words from St. Ignatius of Loyola reminds us that casting a ballot can be an act of love---a way to live out the greatest commandments, to love and serve God and to love our neighbor.

Gaudete et Exsultate
March 2018
Pope Francis

101. Our defense of the innocent unborn, for example, needs to be clear, firm and passionate for at stake is the dignity of a human life, which is always sacred and demands love for each person, regardless of his or her state of development. Equally sacred, however, are the lives of the poor, those already born.

Gaudete et Exsultate
March 2018
Pope Francis

102. Equally sacred, however, are the lives of the poor, those already born, the destitute, the abandoned and the underprivileged, the vulnerable infirm and elderly exposed to covert euthanasia, the victims of human trafficking, new forms of slavery, and every form of rejection. We cannot uphold an ideal of holiness that would ignore injustice in a world where some revel, spend with abandon and live only for the latest consumer goods, even as others look on from afar, living their entire lives in object poverty.

General Audience June 3, 2020
We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life.

Forming Conscience for Faithful Citizenship
USCCB 11/2019

25. The right to life implies and is linked to other human rights—to the basic goods that every human person needs to live and thrive. All the life issues are connected, for erosion of respect for the life of any individual or group in society necessarily diminishes respect for all life. The moral imperative to respond to the needs of our neighbors—basic needs such as food, shelter, health care, education, and meaningful work—is universally binding on our consciences and may be legitimately fulfilled by a variety of means. Catholics must seek the best ways to respond to these needs.

Forming Conscience for Faithful Citizenship
USCCB 11/2019

16. As the Holy Father also taught in Deus Caritas Est, "The direct duty to work for a just ordering of society is proper to the lay faithful" (no. 29). This duty is more critical than ever in today’s political environment, where Catholics may feel politically disenfranchised, sensing that no party and too few candidates fully share the Church’s comprehensive commitment to the life and dignity of every human being from conception to natural death. Yet this is not a time for retreat.
SACRED PRIORITIES FOR VOTERS TO CONSIDER IN THE 2020 ELECTIONS

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40

In recent years, Pope Francis has provided explicit instruction on the many ways we are called to promote and defend the sacredness of all life. He and our Bishops have stated that the defense of the unborn is a priority. But they have gone on to reiterate that equally sacred and important is all life, from womb to grave, in living out Jesus’ demand that we love others as much as ourselves, as much as we love Him, and that in serving others we are serving Him. Let us prayerfully consider the points below as we decide on who and what to vote for in this year’s election. Evaluate a candidate and their commitment to Gospel values:

Defense of the unborn is clear
- Strives to overturn Roe Vs Wade
- Would increase access to prenatal health care and nutrition
- Addresses maternal mortality especially in Black women
- Addresses housing and support during and after birth of a child

I was hungry and you gave me food,
- Seeks to address the causes of hunger
- Supports adopting a living minimum wage
- Addresses food insecurity availability and affordability
- Supports supplemental programs e.g. SNAP, Food stamps, WIC

I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
- Pursues clean drinking water for everyone
- Protects the environment and natural resources
- Protects those who thirst for justice:
  - Upholds Human Trafficking Victims’ Rights
  - Supports workers’ right to organize
  - Promotes a just tax code
  - Defends LGBTQ+ rights
  - Works to end Racism

I was a stranger and you welcomed me,
- Follows and respects International Asylum laws
- Bases immigration policy on family unity
- Insures humane treatment at the border
- Extends support to immigrant families and treats them with respect.
- Finds a path to citizenship and allows DACA protections

I was naked and you clothed me,
- Supports people with disabilities
- Provide shelter and services for the homeless
- Increases services for veterans
- Opposes predatory lending and financial services
- Open paths for affordable housing and enforces fair housing laws

I was ill and you cared for me,
- Has a plan to make health care affordable and available for everyone
- Opposes cuts to Medicaid
- Opposes cuts to Social Security
- Supports care of the elderly in all aspects
- Works to control Drug Prices
- Opposes euthanasia and assisted suicide

I was in prison and you visited me,
- Supports communities and the police in establishing equitable law enforcement and protection
- Strives to increase prison safety
- Abolishes the death penalty
- Addresses systemic Racism and its confines and seeks cooperation as a nation in ending it.
- Demonstrates "Equal" by actions in relating to Blacks, Latinx, Indigenous People, Women, LGBTQ+ and all people and showing respect and concern for all people.

St. Francis Xavier, Kansas City’s Jesuit Parish
Adult Faith Formation Committee