SFX UPDATE – Friday, December 6, 2020

Did you receive your Advent packet? If not, contact Peggy.

Click HERE read this week’s bulletin or visit https://www.sfx-kc.org/ to check out our website and donate.

Fr. Jim’s Song of the Week: Waiting in Silence
A haunting melody as the night grows longer. SFX Advent song at Preparation of Gifts

SFX MASS SCHEDULE & SIGN-UP - Saturday, 4:00pm and Sunday, 9:00am
- The Advent and Christmas sign-ups are on Eventbrite. Please help us plan ahead by SIGNING UP as soon as possible if you plan to attend.
- To sign up for all Mass, please click here.
- Go to our homepage to for a song sheet that you can download and sing along at home for our masses.

Blue Christmas Prayer Service – Saturday, December 19, 9:00 am. This year has been filled with tremendous loss. Acknowledging it is a way to allow God to enter in, heal the hurt, and fill your heart with hope. Whether you have lost a loved one, lost precious time doing what you love, are grieving over the events of this year, or feeling alone, join Fr. Jim, Mariann, Sue, and your SFX faith community for a virtual Blue Christmas prayer service. Watch for the link and more details in next week’s Constant Contact.

Adult Faith Formation - Contact Mariann for information and log-in information about:
- Soul Food Tuesday: Christmas for Grown-ups Morning AND Evening Edition via Zoom. Tuesdays, December 8 and 15. 11:00 am – 12:00 noon and 7:30-8:30 pm. This will be a Christmas like no other. Join us for a contemplative look at the Christmas Scriptures and deepen your understanding of this holy feast.

Advent Resources from the Adult Faith Formation Committee
Watch your email inbox for a packet of resources from the AFFC each Saturday of Advent (December 5, 12, 19). We encourage all parishioners to pray with these “Art & Faith” resources from IgnatianSpirituality.com, watch the recorded witness talk by an SFX parishioner, read the Sunday Readings before attending or watching Mass online, and take part in the suggested activities. Don’t see the email? Check your junk/spam folder or contact Mariann.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception is next Tuesday, December 8. The obligation to attend Mass on this holy day is suspended, but parishioners are encouraged to pray with the Scriptures readings for the day HERE. You might also appreciate this article from the archives at America Magazine by Scripture scholar John W. Martens.
Pope Francis: A Crisis Reveals What is in Our Hearts Did you read Pope Francis in The New York Times on Thanksgiving? Read it HERE. He writes of solidarity and says the only way to come out of this pandemic better than we went in, is to be touched by others’ pain.

Youth - Contact Mariann for information and log-in information about:
Children’s Liturgy of the Word for children ages 5-10 continues to be offered Sundays at 10:30.
Feast of St. Nicholas, Patron Saint of Children is Sunday, December 6. Look at this image of St. Nicholas by Father Ed Hays and pray this prayer he wrote.
“St. Nicholas, holy patron of children, saintly and generous bishop, inspire us to give gifts of ourselves and our time. Give us your blessing so that we might fill with sincerity each greeting we speak and send. Smiling saint of sweets and toys, help us stay youthful and mirthful, playful and joyful so that we can celebrate every day as Christmas. Patron Saint of generosity, arouse us to an evergreen extravagance in living and in giving gifts to those we love and to the poor. Patron of the un-thanked, who always slips away before you can be thanked, incite us to be like you.”

Anti-Racism Committee Update – Our newly-forming Anti-Racism Committee (SFX-ARC) met for the first time this week to discern how to continue our journey toward racial justice. We identified three areas of focus:
1) identify racism within ourselves
2) strengthen SFX identity as anti-racist
3) network with other community efforts, seeking opportunities for meaningful action
Our next virtual meeting is Monday, December 21 at 5:00 PM. Contact Sue for more information and the Zoom link. All are welcome.

Christmas Baskets Update – We have 90 people signed up to receive a Christmas basket! Thanks to all who have dropped off food and gift cards and sent in money!
• Dry food donations are due by December 13. Food items may be dropped off when you come to Mass or anytime during the week.
• Turkeys are due December 17-18 between 6-9am. Please click HERE to sign up and contact Sue with questions.
• Now you can donate online to the Christmas basket fund!
  • Your donation will be used if to purchase dry goods, turkeys, and $25 Aldi cards if we don’t get enough. Thank you for your generosity!

Saver’s Fundraiser – We have several parish projects and expenses that are above and beyond what has been budgeted. A fun, easy way to support your parish, care for the environment, and lighten your load and carbon footprint is to participate in a Saver’s Fundraiser! Start going through your closets and setting aside any unwanted, old or worn clothes, towels and bedding. To motivate you, watch these videos about the environmental impact clothes have on our planet. We’ll collect clothes after the new year. To help with this fundraiser, contact Sue.

Let it snow, help us blow, and save some dough! Please consider volunteering your time and strength to keep our walks clear of snow and ice this winter season. We need 6 able bodies to
shovel and salt the walks and patios prior to the 4pm and 9am Masses. We will gather in the parking lot 1 hour before services (or when it stops snowing) and clear all venues into the Church. We have a snow blower for the walks and shovels for the patios. We also have an older parishioner who has requested help clearing his driveway when it snows. Contact Becca Jackson (rjackson@sfx-kc.org) to help.

Thanks to those who continue to help SFX through your Amazon purchases – As the holidays approach, please consider making St. Francis Xavier your designated charity. Go to smile.amazon.com and below the search bar, type in St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. We will receive a percentage of your purchase. Thank you.

FROM OUR APOSTOLATES and NEIGHBORS:
   Living a Simple, Abundant Life It’s not too late to sign up for the Ignatian Solidarity Network’s Advent Simplicity Challenge. Sign up HERE to receive daily emails or texts.

   Thanks for reading!
   If there is a way we can make your Advent more meaningful,
   please contact us!

Ann, Becca, Fr. Jim, Fr. Steve, Mariann, Peggy, and Sue

See something that interests you? Contact us:
Ann Sheridan – asheridan@sfx-kc.org
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