



**Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church**  
*Kansas City's Jesuit Parish*  
1001 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO 64110

## SFX UPDATE – January 8, 2021

### COVID-19 AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

Please be advised that St. Francis Xavier Parish is aware of a situation in which a volunteer at the 4pm Mass on January 2 received a positive test result for COVID-19 on Thursday, January 7. The volunteer was not serving as a Eucharistic Minister and does not believe the “close contact” threshold was met.

Per CDC guidance

**CLOSE CONTACT:** Any individual who was within 6 feet of the infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period, with or without a face covering; or any individual who had unprotected contact with the infected person's body fluids and/or secretions, (i.e., being coughed or sneezed on, sharing utensils or saliva, or providing care without protective equipment).

Please pray for our fellow parishioner to make a speedy and complete recovery.

**January 6 is a day we will all remember.**

**Please refer to these websites and scholars who work tirelessly for a just society.**

**America Magazine** - [America Magazine | The Jesuit Review](#)

**America Media** - [After the storming of the Capitol: We need accountability, repentance and a reckoning | America Magazine](#)

**Fr. Bryan Massingale** - [Watch: How to make spiritual sense of the attack on the Capitol | America Magazine](#)

**National Catholic Reporter** - ['You reap what you sow': Some bishops decry violence at Capitol | National Catholic Reporter \(ncronline.org\)](#)

**Network** - [Catholic Lobby Responds to the Violent Siege of the U.S. Capitol - NETWORK Lobby](#)

**USCCB** - [U.S. Bishops' President Condemns Violent Protests and Prays for Safety as Chaos Threatens U.S. Capitol | USCCB](#)

**And if you feel so inclined:**

**Contact information for Josh Hawley:** DC Phone Number: (202) 224-6154; **Government Website:**

[hawley.senate.gov](http://hawley.senate.gov); **Contact\Email:** [hawley.senate.gov/contact](mailto:hawley.senate.gov/contact), **YouTube:**

[youtube.com/channel/UCMzt8xq6qQ3XQ\\_DINfJx0-w](https://youtube.com/channel/UCMzt8xq6qQ3XQ_DINfJx0-w), **Facebook:** [facebook.com/SenatorHawley](https://facebook.com/SenatorHawley), **Twitter:** [twitter.com/SenHawleyPress](https://twitter.com/SenHawleyPress)

**Roy Blunt:** DC Phone Number: 202-224-5721; **Government Website:** [blunt.senate.gov](http://blunt.senate.gov);

**Contact\Email:** [blunt.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact-roy](http://blunt.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact-roy)

**In Kansas: Jerry Moran** 202-224-6521; 521 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510

**Roger Marshall** - [Home » Senator Roger Marshall \(senate.gov\)](#)

**Your SFX staff is here for you as we continue to process and discern the events and our Gospel call to respond.**

### Fr. Jim's Song of the Week: [Ray Charles, America the Beautiful](#)

Given the events of this past weeks, I think this version of *America the Beautiful* is most appropriate. He has written his own verse which is sung first.

*O beautiful, for heroes proved  
In liberating strife  
Who more than self, their country loved*

*And mercy more than life  
America, America, may God thy gold refine  
Till all success be nobleness  
And every gain divined*

### **SFX MASS SCHEDULE & SIGN-UP - Saturday, 4:00pm and Sunday, 9:00am**

- [Click here to sign up for Mass through Sunday, Feb 14, 2021](#)
- Go to our homepage for a song sheet that you can download and sing along at home for our Masses.

**Sights and Sounds Inside the Church** - Fr. Jim, the Liturgy Committee, and the Art and Environment team have been working hard during the Advent and Christmas season. Please consider offering your financial help to support their efforts. Your donation will help offset the cost to engage talented musicians, offer a creative and welcoming atmosphere, purchase liturgical supplies, and cover expenses associated with sound, lighting, and live streaming in the church. Thank you for your support of the SFX Liturgy Fund! Click [HERE](#) to donate!

**STEWARDSHIP - DEVELOPMENT** - Would you like to help? Do you know someone else who might? This is such critical work at a Parish, and we want to kick off 2021 by revitalizing our stewardship efforts at St. Francis. If you have any (or all) of Time-Talent-Treasure, we would love for you to join the small group of folks doing this important work. We have had great success in the past with the new windows, the heating/cooling and other small projects. It is a great way to work towards the future at SFX and continue to build our community of faith. Please give this your prayerful consideration or pass it on to someone else you think would be interested. Please contact SFX parishioner, [Christine Rankin](#) or [Ann Sheridan](#) with your interest.

**Adult Faith Formation** - Contact Mariann for information and log-in information about:

- **Dreams are Built Together** – The world, our nation, so many of our brothers and sisters, and the planet itself are suffering but Pope Francis invites us to “dream...as a single human family, as fellow travelers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth, which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or own voice.” Read his latest encyclical **Fratelli Tutti – Brothers and Sisters All** [HERE](#) or purchase your own copy. Sign up for a Zoom study/prayer group:

**Tuesday, 11:00 am-12:00 noon January 19, 26, February 2**

**Wednesday, 7:00-8:00 pm January 20, 27, February 3**

**Thursdays, 7:00-8:00 pm January 21, 28, February 4.**

Click [here](#) to sign up.

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- **Looking for a Spiritual Director?** The Ignatian Spirituality Center can help match you with a spiritual director to help you deepen your prayer life and “find God in all things.” Contact Executive Director Susan Friedrichsen [sfriedrichsen@ignatiancenterkc.org](mailto:sfriedrichsen@ignatiancenterkc.org) to begin the conversation. The Center also offers one-on-one and group guided prayer experiences. Go to [Ignatian Spirituality Center of Kansas City \(ignatiancenterkc.org\)](http://ignatiancenterkc.org) to learn more.
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- **Wednesday 6:00 pm and Saturday 3:30 pm Rosary** Join our Marian Devotion group “Truly Our Mother” via Zoom and pray for the needs of the parish, our nation, and our world. Contact [Gail Fein](#) for Meeting ID and password.
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- **SFXPraying Email Network** - SFXPraying is an email network to request prayers for our family, friends and the world we care about AND to share prayers of gratitude and thanksgiving. If you have a request for prayer, a blessing to share, or wish to receive SFXPraying email messages, contact [SFXPraying](#), THANK YOU for your faithful ministry of prayer!
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**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.
- **Loving Children, Tweens and Teens During Hard Times** The pandemic, Black Lives Matter protests, divisiveness in the body politic leading up to the election, and Wednesday’s attack on the Capitol – it’s a lot for us adults to handle. What about our kiddos? Making the space and time for honest (age-appropriate) conversation and sharing of thoughts and feelings is important for our children and grandchildren. Anger, fear, confusion,

sadness – these feelings are all part of being human. They can be expressed with words, and also with art and music, drama (puppets, anyone?), and purposeful action. Mr. Rogers said “anything human is mentionable...and anything mentionable is manageable.” Morning and evening prayer and prayers before meals, sharing “blessings and concerns,” joining the SFX Community for Mass (either in-person or on YouTube), and doing good for others help reassure children, tweens and teens that God is good and God is here, working in and through us. Here are some resources that might help: [NIMH » Helping Children and Adolescents Cope with Disasters and Other Traumatic Events: What Parents, Rescue Workers, and the Community Can Do \(nih.gov\)](#) and Yale University’s [Managing Emotions in Times of Uncertainty & Stress | Coursera](#)

**Anti-Racism Committee (ARC)** – Virtually join the 2021 Greater Kansas City Interfaith Service this **Sunday, January 10 at 2:00 pm** on Facebook. Check out this and other MLK events happening through the [Sclc | SCLC Greater Kansas City Chapter | Kansas City \(sclcgkc.org\)](#).

**Federal Executions** - Next week, the federal government plans to execute three people from federal death row, Lisa Montgomery (1/12/21), Corey Johnson (1/14/21), and Dustin Higgs (1/15/21). If successful, Donald Trump will have executed thirteen people before leaving office. **Forgive Everyone Co.** has put together this toolkit with information about each person, links to articles, petitions, and other efforts. Learn more about each person facing federal execution: **Lisa Montgomery, Corey Johnson, Dustin Higgs.** Watches, vigils, and protests will be held by various entities online and in-person across the nation between 3 PM-6 PM CST each day of scheduled execution next week. Links to view live streams of vigils and protests can be found via Terre Haute Death Penalty Resistance. To learn more about all events, please visit Death Penalty Action. On January 12th at 1 PM CST, Missourians Against the Death Penalty will join a Virtual Prayer Vigil with Catholic Mobilizing Network (CMN) to hold space for Lisa Montgomery. CMN will be holding Virtual Prayer Vigils over Zoom and live streamed on CMN's Facebook Page. Please visit Catholic Mobilizing Network to sign up for their zoom links.

**Honoring lives lost due to Covid** - President-Elect Biden is calling for a remembrance of lives lost to COVID on the eve and day of his inauguration; He is inviting towns, companies, and individuals to join in by lighting buildings and ringing church bells beginning at **4:30 CT on January 19**. Our carillon bells will ring at 4:30 and we invite you to mark this somber event by lighting a candle and joining in prayer.

**Caste Book Study begins January 25** - We will begin reading and discussing *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson. She examines the different caste systems around the world and details how the American caste system developed 400 years ago when European immigrants came to America. The result is the system of injustice that people of color face today. Order the book and click [here](#) to sign up for the 4-week discussion! Also, mark your calendars and sign up now to [join the author](#) in a virtual talk through KCK Public Library on February 18 at 7:00 pm.

**Hunger Banquet - February 10** - Plan to join us for our virtual Hunger Banquet **Wednesday, February 10 at 7:00 pm**. Our guest speaker will be Rosilyn Temple, founder and director of KC Mothers in Charge. The Hunger Banquet will be a good lead-in to our Soup and Spirituality series.

**CuraCommunities** – Our *CuraCommunities* continue to be a source of joy and connection for parishioners. We meet via Zoom twice a month for about an hour. If you want to check-in with your SFX family on a regular basis please, contact [Sue](#) for the Zoom link. We will meet again Wednesday morning, January 20 at 10:00 am and Thursday evening, January 21 at 7:00 pm. All are welcome!

**Health Committee** – Members of our Health Committee will be reaching out to you in the coming weeks to check in and say hi. As Covid lingers, we want you to know that we are here for you. Please feel free to engage and share how you’re doing. We care.

**Covid Vaccine Information** – If you live in Jackson County, your ability to receive the vaccine could be a click away. Take this [survey](#) to find out when you will be able to receive your vaccine. General testing and vaccine information for Johnson County, Wyandotte, Clay and other counties can be accessed by going to the individual county’s website.

**January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month** - Many myths and misconceptions about human trafficking exist. Recognizing key indicators is the first step in identifying victims and can help save a life. Please pray for the 40 million women, men, and children who are victimized and exploited daily.

**What knots are you carrying into 2021?** At our New Year's Day gathering, we shared this beautiful image for the [Novena to Mary, Undoer of Knots](#). Read about the [history](#) of this Novena and consider praying it, asking Mary to untie the knots in your life and to intercede to Jesus on your behalf.

**A Labor of Love** – We have been lucky this year in avoiding the snow, but the snowiest and harshest months are yet to come. We still need a few more people to help keep our walks clear of snow and ice this winter season prior to the 4 pm and 9 am 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 snowblower 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](#) to help.

**Parish Office Closed** - The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 18 in recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

### **Opportunities from the Jesuit Apostolates and Our Neighbors**

**An Evening with Chris Jehle, Executive Director of Elevate Metro KC.** Presented by St. Elizabeth's EmbRace Justice Ministry Monday, January 11, 2021 7:00pm, via Zoom. Elevate Metro KC places adult mentors in the classroom and has an impressive track record of building relationships, supporting students, increasing school attendance and improving graduation rates. Please email Deacon Mike McLean [mmclean@stekc.org](mailto:mmclean@stekc.org) for more info and Zoom link.

***Wishing you good health, joy and peace in 2021!***

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

See something that interests you? Contact us:

Ann Sheridan – [asheridan@sfx-kc.org](mailto:asheridan@sfx-kc.org)

Becca Jackson – [rjackson@sfx-kc.org](mailto:rjackson@sfx-kc.org)

Fr. Jim Caime, S.J. – [pastor@sfx-kc.org](mailto:pastor@sfx-kc.org)

Fr. Steve Yavorsky, S.J. – [syavorsky@jesuits.org](mailto:syavorsky@jesuits.org)

Mariann McCormally – [mccormally@sfx-kc.org](mailto:mccormally@sfx-kc.org)

Peggy Beaven-Calia – [pbeavencalia@sfx-kc.org](mailto:pbeavencalia@sfx-kc.org)

Sue Robb - [srobb@sfx-kc.org](mailto:srobb@sfx-kc.org)