



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

## SFX UPDATE – April 16, 2021

### All are welcome at St. Francis Xavier Parish

#### Do you have friends who might enjoy our wonderful parish?

If so, please consider sharing these weekly updates with your friends and family. Also, invite them to:

- Watch our Mass live on our [YouTube](#) channel. Please subscribe to our channel.
- follow our [St. Francis Xavier Facebook](#) page and [Justice & Life Facebook](#) page.

#### PASTOR'S CORNER

##### Are you interested in being a Lector?

- We will be holding a **lector training workshop for current and new lectors, Saturday, April 24, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. in church.**
- If you have not been a lector here before and want to begin working in this ministry, please contact Fr. Jim at [pastor@sfx-kc.org](mailto:pastor@sfx-kc.org) to register for the workshop by Thursday, April 22.
- The workshop will be run by Tara Harris and Steve Bruns.

##### There is no longer any need to sign up for attending Mass!! 😊

- Please sanitize your hands upon entering and exiting.
- The diocese now permits us to use hymnals once again.
- With current guidelines, we no longer need to wipe down surfaces.

##### Current SFX Mass Schedule

- Saturdays: 4:00 p.m.
- Sundays: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. (10:30 a.m. Masses will be live-streamed)
- Wednesdays: 7:30 a.m. (Please enter thru the chapel door in the parking lot.)

**Pledge Drive 2021** The annual SFX Pledge Drive kicks off next week. Your pledge enables us to embody the Society of Jesus' Universal Apostolic Preferences and the life of a vibrant and active parish. It covers the costs for: faith formation programs, liturgies, social justice ministries, youth programs, Ignatian Spirituality programs and a spirituality that infuses all we do, as well the administrative and bricks-and-mortar essentials. Please prayerfully consider your response this year.

**Strong Blessings on Remy Debao Karuppan** (son of Sebastian Karuppan and Qian Sun) who will be baptized on Saturday, April 17 and on **Amelia and Sarah Krueger** (daughters of Jennifer Howe and Todd Krueger) who will receive First Communion with their St. Peter's School classmates at St. Peter's on Sunday, April 18. May the – and all our children – grow up to live lives of love and service.

## Faith Formation

**Children's Liturgy of the Word Zoom? In-Person? BOTH?** Miss Mariann and Miss Sara are vaccinated! We look forward to resuming in-person Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 10:30 Mass as soon as families with children ages 5-10 are ready to return to Mass. Perhaps in May? We plan to meet OUTDOORS (weather permitting). We will continue to offer Children's Liturgy on Zoom (perhaps moving it to 9:45 am?) to accommodate those families who are not able to worship in-person. Please contact [Mariann McCormally](#) with your ideas, suggestions, questions and concerns (AND if you are interested in helping with this important ministry),

**ADULT CONFIRMATION** for practicing Catholics, age 21 and older, who "missed" being confirmed as a teenager, will be celebrated by Bishop Johnston Wednesday, June 9 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Contact [Mariann McCormally](#) for information and to sign up for preparation classes.

**Marian Group "Truly Our Mother" Rosary** via Zoom. Wednesdays at 6:00 pm, Friday at 6:00 pm and Saturdays at 3:30 pm. All are welcome. For Meeting ID and password contact [Gail Fein](#).

**Centering Prayer Group** via Zoom. Monday, April 19 (the third Monday of the month). 7:00-9:00 pm. Contact [Rebecca Thompson](#) for Zoom meeting id and password. For more information about Centering Prayer go to [Contemplative Outreach KC](#).

**Soul Food Tuesday: Poetry and Prayer** April 13, 20, 27, 11:00 am-12:00 noon. Zoom. April is National Poetry Month. We'll be reading, singing and praying poems and psalms – and try our hand at writing them, too. Contact [Mariann McCormally](#) for Meeting ID and Password.

**Directed Pentecost Women's Retreat Opportunity- May 21-23** - Mariann and Sue are offering the women of the parish a directed Pentecost retreat experience. All Retreatants and Directors will meet on Friday morning for an orientation to the Retreat and a group prayer experience. Retreatants are encouraged to clear their schedules as much as possible and set aside three 30-minute periods for prayer as well as 30 minutes to meet with your Director each day to talk about what is stirring inside. We meet as a group of all Retreatants and Directors on Sunday afternoon to review and conclude the Retreat. The group is limited to 12 Retreatants. Please contact [Mariann](#) to sign up. There is no charge for this Retreat, though donations to the parish would be gratefully accepted.

### **Birthright Baby Update!**

"April", an expectant mom with 5 kids, experienced a fire at the beginning of this year and was in the middle of a high-risk pregnancy. You heard of her need and generously stepped in to help her replace and replenish her household belongings. After needing a C-Section several weeks prior to her due date, the baby arrived last week! April and her family are now welcoming a tiny beauty - a five-pound baby girl, born on April 6th. The baby's five older siblings are both delighted and intrigued by the new arrival!

Here at Birthright, we are thrilled that mom and baby are doing fine. We are grateful for and thank every St. Francis Xavier parishioner for your prayers for April, the baby, and family as well as for your outstanding generosity. When really needed, your response was spectacular! May God richly bless each of you. You will be remembered in our prayers.

Sincerely,

*Catherine Martin*

Volunteer, Birthright



### Red Cross Bloodmobile at St. Francis Xavier

Thanks to Jen Miller and Ann Sheridan for organizing this blood drive. A special thanks to all who were able to donate the gift of life. All appointments were filled well in advance and the Red Cross collected 20 units, with the potential to save 60 lives. Mark your calendar: August 26 will be our next blood drive!

Virtual Ramadan  
Iftar 2021

Hosted by  
St. Francis Xavier  
Catholic Church

Thurs, May 6  
7:30 - 8:45pm (CT)

*presented by*

DIALOGUE  
INSTITUTE  
KANSAS CITY

LIVE on YouTube  
[youtu.be/cHYyC8\\_4y-w](https://youtu.be/cHYyC8_4y-w)

The poster is split into two main sections. The left section features a stylized illustration of a Ramadan Iftar table with a glowing lantern, a bowl of dates, and a mug, set against a light, textured background with the text "Virtual Ramadan Iftar 2021". The right section is a solid blue background with white and yellow text providing event details: "Hosted by St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church", "Thurs, May 6 7:30 - 8:45pm (CT)", "presented by DIALOGUE INSTITUTE KANSAS CITY", and "LIVE on YouTube" with the link "youtu.be/cHYyC8\_4y-w".

**Virtual Iftar** - We are partnering with the Dialogue Institute of Kansas City for a Virtual Ramadan Iftar on May 6 from 7:30-8:45 pm. Plan to log on to hear speakers from around the country and world. We will also engage with Muslim families in Belgium, Costa Rica, Germany, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, the Netherlands, the U.K., the U.S., and many more! Mark your calendars and invite family members outside Kansas City to join us as we share a virtual meal and learn from our Muslim sisters and brothers.



**How does your garden grow?** Our Community Garden grows beautifully thanks to our faithful SFX and Visitation volunteers! Each year, we provide fresh produce for our neighbors in need. Last Sunday, volunteers planted beds of cabbage, collards, lettuce, mustard greens, and carrots. Thanks to all who came out to plant!

**Earth Day is April 22!** We had hoped to have an outdoor gathering at SFX, but the weather doesn't look like it will cooperate. We encourage everyone to do SOMETHING that day to help our planet. Pledge to use less energy and water, pledge *not* to drive that day, take a walk and pick up trash...every positive action really does make a difference! Here are a few other ideas:

- Since Earth Day is EVERY day, join SFX parishioners, staff, and others around the world April 23-May 16 and enter into the [Ignatian Solidarity Network's 21-day Environmental Justice Challenge](#). Sign up now to learn more deeply about the impact our actions have on our world, especially our less fortunate brothers and sisters.
- Before you go out and buy new clothes or buy that next catchy meme T-shirt, watch this short video: [The Life Cycle of a T-shirt](#).
- Order and read Bill Gates' new book *How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need*. He describes it, simply, as "a plan for eliminating greenhouse gas emissions" which are deemed the greatest threat to our earth by many scientists. Interested in reading and discussing it as a group? Let [Sue](#) know.
- Bring your important documents that need to be shredded to SFX NEXT weekend, April 24-25. We'll have our secure, locked shredding bin available in the Narthex for you.

**Ignatian Family Teach-in for Justice** – High school and college students and parents: Are you interested in going to the IFTJ November 6-8 in Washington, DC? If you *think* you might be, contact [Sue](#) asap. Registration opens May 5 and fills quickly. SFX will cover your conference fees and give a stipend for food. Keynote speakers include Fr. James Massingale and Fr. Greg Boyle.

### **Opportunities from our Apostolates and Others**

**Ignatian Spirituality Center** We are an Easter people! Moving from Lent to Easter is not as easy as one might think. Sometimes we rush by the Easter joy offered by Christ, our Savior. Join the Ignatian

Spirituality Center of Kansas City for a short retreat to pause and notice Easter joy offered by our Risen Lord. Friday, April 16 – Saturday, April 17. You will be given input for prayer, Friday at 7:00 pm, Saturday at 9:00 am and 11:00 am, and a guided meditation and sharing on Saturday evening at 7:00 pm. To learn more, please visit [www.ignatiancenterkc.org/events](http://www.ignatiancenterkc.org/events)

**Advance Care Directives Webinar** - The Center for Practical Bioethics is offering free opportunities to learn about - or update - your advance care directives. You will have access to forms for documenting wishes, values, and preferences for your healthcare. You will learn ways to encourage friends and family members who may be reluctant to talk about these things and you'll have the knowledge and resources to help you and your family improve their healthcare experience by having caring conversations *before* a health crisis happens. For more information or to sign up, visit the [Center for Practical Bioethics](http://www.CenterforPracticalBioethics.org).

*Together on the Easter journey!*

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

See something that interests you? Contact us:

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

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

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

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

Mariann McCormally, Pastoral Associate, Faith Formation – [mccormally@sfx-kc.org](mailto:mccormally@sfx-kc.org)

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