



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

## SFX UPDATE – June 18, 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 and subscribe to our channel.

Follow our [St. Francis Xavier Facebook page](#) and [Justice & Life Facebook page](#).

### UPDATE ON SFX COVID POLICY FOR MASSES: A MORE CAUTIOUS RETURN TO “NORMAL”

- We have removed the social distancing requirement for Masses.
- We are still requiring people to wear masks for attending Mass until the end of June. At that time, we will look at the data and determine if we begin to relax the mask policy in July. We appreciate your patience and care for one another.
- The musicians and cantors will still use the shields.

### PASTOR'S CORNER

**I will be out of town visiting family from Wed, June 9 until Saturday June 26.** Like most of you, I haven't been with my family for over 1 ½ years because of COVID. As I come to the close of my first year here as your pastor, I cannot tell you how happy and full of peace I am to be here with you and journey with you. Thank you all for your support and prayers. If anything goes wrong while I am away, you can blame Fr. Steve 😊. He's used to it and can handle it!

On **Sunday, June 20<sup>th</sup>**, **Fr. Matt Ruhl, S.J.** will preside at the 10:30am Mass. I know he looks forward to seeing you.

### 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.)

**STRONG BLESSINGS ON BENJAMIN THOMAS GORDON** (son of Jason and Kelly Martin Gordon) who will be baptized Saturday morning. May he – and all our children – grow up to find God in all things.

**SFX TOWN HALL** On Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup> the SFX Pastoral Council hosted a Town Hall meeting to offer updates about our ministries, Councils and Committees, our buildings and grounds, and finance. Many thanks to Steve Bruns, Larry Skogerson, Vincent Gauthier, Kaler Bole, Sue Robb, and Mariann McCormally for their participation and leadership. The PowerPoint presentation is available here: [Town Hall Presentation, June 13, 2021](#)

**ARCHITECTURAL TOUR 49-63 NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP:** A tour celebrating the historic architecture of St. Francis Xavier Church will be held Saturday, June 26 at 2:00pm. This 45-minute tour of the interior and exterior of the Barry Byrne designed edifice (c. 1951), will showcase the elements crafted by Alfonso and Margaret Iannelli, Emil Frei Studios, and others. It will immediately follow the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the 4963 Neighborhood Coalition on the Rockhurst University Quad from 11:00am-2:00pm, featuring food trucks, live music, and other fun. St. Francis Xavier parishioners played a vital role in establishing 4963 as the city's first neighborhood coalition, and thus working against the injustices of entrenched redlining and blockbusting practices. All are welcome and encouraged to attend both events.

**SURVEY SAYS!!!** Thanks to the **82 people** who took time to fill out our most recent survey. We'll share the results over the coming weeks. Here are a few statistics that came from it:

- Of the 82 people who filled out the survey, **82.5% have returned to Mass.**
- Regarding **Covid protocols** and how safe people feel coming to Mass, we received an average rating **4.9 out of 5**. A few people mentioned that they appreciate that we still have the mask mandate in place, and a few mentioned it was time to let people choose. The staff will be reviewing this at the end of June.
- When asked about our **communication**, we also received an average rating **4.9 out of 5**. Many people have come to rely on the Friday SFX Update, while others appreciate the bulletin and the website.
- Regarding the **Advent and Lenten packets**, we sent out, **61% found them useful** while 27% didn't use them. Many of the 27% stated they weren't parishioners at the time.

Watch next week's update for more survey information. Please know your SFX staff is here for YOU. Let us know what you need! We are here to support you in your faith formation and your call to respond to the injustices in our world.

**XAVIER HALL KITCHEN CREW - WE NEED YOUR HELP:** Now that the mask mandate has lifted, we are planning more events at Xavier Hall, our beautiful parish gathering space. To make this work, we need people who are willing to learn how to run the kitchen equipment (coffee pots, dishwashers, etc.) and are willing to stay for set-up and clean-up at parish sponsored events. We'd love to have a list of people we can tap into. It's fun! If you are interested, please know you will be fully trained and supported. Contact Ann Sheridan, [asheridan@sfx-kc.org](mailto:asheridan@sfx-kc.org) or 816-381-9165. Thank you.

**PARISHIONERS SUPPORTING PARISHIONERS, SFX Funeral Ministry:** Similar to the request for help in the paragraph above, we'd like to identify people who are willing to help at funeral luncheons. This could include helping set up and serve the luncheon, bringing a casserole or dessert to share, and other acts of kindness towards your fellow parishioners experiencing the loss of a loved one. Many parishes do this very well, and we'd like to get this going at St. Francis Xavier. As "men and women for others" please consider this opportunity to serve. Contact Ann Sheridan at the email address or phone number above.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD for Ages 5-10 on Zoom at 9:45 and In Person during the 10:30 Mass.** Contact [Mariann](#) for more information and Zoom link.

**CENTERING PRAYER GROUP** via Zoom

Monday, June 21, 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](#).

**FIRST SATURDAY PRAYER WALKS** Saturday, July 3, 9:30-10:30 am at [Arleta Park](#) at 77<sup>th</sup> and Prospect. We'll gather near the playground. **Saturday, August 7**, 9:30-10:30 am at Kaufman Memorial Gardens at 4800 Rockhill Road. We'll gather near the entrance. Meet and share faith with parishioners. Discover a new part of

the city. Find God in All Things - east and west of Troost. All ages welcome. Rain or shine. Contact [Mariann](#) for more information.

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION SUMMER BOOK READ: “Love, Loss and Endurance” by Bill Tammeus.** Two decades after the terrorist attacks on 9/11, America still is reeling. Award-winning journalist Bill Tammeus was among those who suffered the personal loss of a relative that day. In this book, Tammeus tells the story of 9/11. He helps us to understand **the many sources of religious extremism -- and what can be done to stop it.** Finally, he invites us to **reclaim core values that can help all of us become peacemakers** in today's tumultuous world. The book is available (in paperback) wherever books are sold. **Save the date: Thursday, September 9, 7:00 pm.** We will gather as a parish community to remember 9/11, discuss the book and pray to become peacemakers. For more information contact [Mariann](#).

**AUSCHWITZ. NOT LONG AGO. NOT FAR AWAY. This event is selling out quickly!** This exhibition is selling out quickly! *Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away.* is the most comprehensive exhibition dedicated to the history of Auschwitz and its role in the Holocaust ever presented in North America, and an unparalleled opportunity to confront the singular face of human evil—one that arose not long ago and not far away. There are **10 tickets** left for our visit on **Tuesday, July 20 at noon.** The cost is \$16.50. If you are interested in going as part of our group, contact [Sue](#). Once you are signed up, you can drop a check by the office or put it in the collection basket and mark it Auschwitz. Don't miss this opportunity!

**JUSTICE & LIFE FALL RETREAT** – It's time to start planning our Fall J & L retreat and I need your help! Please contact [Sue](#) if you'd like to be part of the planning team.

**COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATE** – To date, our dedicated gardeners have harvested over 110 pounds of delicious, nutritious greens! Our neighbors are enjoying lettuce, green onions, mustard greens, beet greens, and turnip greens! Thank you, gardeners!

**REFUGEE SUPPORT** – Our new friends are moving into their temporary home today! If you know of a place they can rent in December, please contact [Jody](#) or [Bill](#). Thank you for your many donations, emails, and words of support for this wonderful family. 100% of any financial donations we receive will be used for the family. If you write a check, please indicate it is for REFUGEE SUPPORT. Check out the [items they still need](#). The generous response has been in typical SFX style! You ROCK!

**Wednesday Morning CuraCommunity** – In this Ignatian 500 year, the Wednesday morning Cura group is exploring Ignatian Spirituality more deeply. Join us every other Wednesday for an hour as we deepen our understanding of finding God in all things, consolation and desolation, magis, the importance of the Examen, and other Ignatian concepts. Our next meeting will be this coming Wednesday, June 23 at 10:00 am. Contact [Sue](#) for the Zoom link.

**IT'S TIME TO HELP MIGRANT FARMWORKERS AGAIN!** Each year, hundreds of migrant farmworkers and their families arrive in Lexington, MO in July to pick apples. For 3 years, we have supported them both by collecting items and going to Lexington to serve. This year, we are collecting the items listed below and have **3 dates** - August 30, September 27, and October 18 - to serve. Mark your calendar and let [Sue](#) know if you're interested in taking a beautiful drive and helping on a Monday evening. *Additionally, this month there are opportunities to go out during the day to help with special projects to prepare for their arrival.* Let Sue know if you're interested in that, as well. Below is a list of what we are collecting. You may drop off items in the back of church or bring them to the parish during office hours. Also, as you eat fresh produce this summer, please remember and pray for those farmworkers who tended and harvested it. Thank you for your generosity.

- t-shirts - medium & large
- men's jeans - medium and large sizes - slightly worn is fine

- baseball caps
- men's lightweight long-sleeved shirts Medium & large - the pickers wear these when they're up on ladders in the trees.
- tube socks - white or gray - 9-11 size, knee high
- hygiene kits - gallon Ziplock bags, zipped tightly **w/ full size items** - deodorant, shampoo, bar of soap, washcloth, toothbrush, and toothpaste.
- Zaditor or Alloway eyedrops, or the CVS, Walgreens, or Walmart equivalent. Small bottles are best. The pickers are out in the heat looking up toward the sun, so these drops help moisten and protect their eyes.
- Dry pinto beans
- Dry white rice (not instant)

**SFX SUPPORTS PRIDE MONTH** – At St. Francis Xavier we welcome all. This month we strive to educate ourselves about LGBTQ+ issues that our brothers and sisters face, so we can better support those who struggle for equal rights and acceptance. Here are a few ways to do that:

- Read or re-read Fr. James Martin's [Building a Bridge](#) or check out these other LGBTQ+ [books](#).
- [Pray](#) with and for our LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters.
- [Educate](#) yourself on LGBTQ+ issues with articles and findings from the Pew Research Center.

**IT PASSED! JUNETEENTH IS NOW A FEDERAL HOLIDAY** – June 19, 1865 marks the date that Union soldiers reached Galveston, TX with the news that the war had ended and that the enslaved were now free, 2 ½ years after the Emancipation Proclamation officially freed all slaves. Check out these Juneteenth events happening in and around Kansas City:

[HOME | Juneteenth | Kansas City's Official African American Heritage Event \(juneteenth-kc.com\)](#)  
[Kansas City Juneteenth – Remembering Our History \(kcjuneteenth.org\)](#)  
[Festival – Kansas City Juneteenth \(kcjuneteenth.org\)](#)  
[Second Annual Advocacy and Peace March Rally](#) - Overland Park, KS

*It was the beautiful presence of authoritative Black bodies that made [the Emancipation Proclamation] real. These Black soldiers, like Christ, gave flesh to the emancipating spoken words.” - Jayne Marie Smith*

**SFX TOTE BAGS** – We still have a few tote bags left! Don't miss this opportunity to get one. They are available for a \$10 donation as we raise funds for our Hearth Room furniture. To get one, contact [Sue](#).

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

**MISSOURIANS FOR ALTERNATIVES TO THE DEATH PENALTY VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING – June 26, 2021 12:30-3:00** – Register for their [virtual annual meeting](#) and join other activists from around the state who advocate and work tirelessly for alternatives to the death penalty. So much work needs to be done on behalf of those sentenced to die and your voice is needed!

**Summer Blessings!**

*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)

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

Sue Robb, Pastoral Associate, Justice & Life - [srobb@sfx-kc.org](mailto:srobb@sfx-kc.org)