

SFX UPDATE – July 2, 2021

All are welcome at St. Francis Xavier Parish

The parish offices will close for the Independence Day holiday at noon today, July 2. We will reopen at 9:00 am on Tuesday, July 6.

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](#).

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.)

NEW Update on SFX COVID Policy for Masses:

Beginning July 3, 2021:

- Anyone who is fully vaccinated need not wear a mask.
- We respectfully request that **anyone who is not fully vaccinated remain masked throughout the service.**
- As always, if you wish to wear a mask, please feel free to do so.
- In making these changes we are also making other adjustments:
- **The far-right side pews - the St. Joseph Altar side - will be designated as socially-distanced-mask-required seating.**
 - Every other pew will be blocked off. We are doing this for those who wish to remain masked AND be socially distanced from others.
 - **If you choose not to wear a mask, please do not sit on the St. Joseph Altar side.**
- Children's Liturgy of the Word: Mariann and Sara will be masked with the children.
- The Eucharistic Ministers and priest will be masked when distributing Communion.
- The shields will remain up for cantors and musicians.

The most recent information from the CDC indicates the vaccines are effective against the Delta variant. It is also our belief that 90+% of our congregation is fully vaccinated.

If you typically attend the 10:30 Mass and are concerned about these changes, consider attending the 4:00 pm or 8:00 am Masses. Here are the attendance averages for the three Masses:

4:00 pm - 65 people

8:00 am - 58 people

10:30 am - 170 people

As always, please consult with your doctor/health care professionals about how best to proceed. If you choose not to attend Mass for health reasons, the Mass dispensation still applies (called a Particular Dispensation vs. General Dispensation). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Fr. Jim at pastor@sfx-kc.org.

Pastor's Corner - There are many things to celebrate and recognize this weekend. July 4th, we celebrate our nation's independence. Having lived abroad in many countries, including two communist countries, I hold the freedoms won and the sacrifices of so many over these past 245 years with deep reverence. We are still on a journey to make sure all our citizens have a full share in this freedom. Also, this July 4th, we celebrate the 71st anniversary of the first Mass held in our church. This parish has been home to many people and generations and it is a gift from God. On July 1, Ann and I have our one-year anniversaries as Pastoral Administrator and Pastor. We love this model of parish church and are strong partners together with the staff and parishioners. Thank you for your support and prayers.

“Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone.”
1 Peter 2:16-17

PRAYER REQUEST for Pat Woodrum - Pat, our former Director of Music and Liturgy, is beginning a new clinical trial combination of chemotherapy and radiation to treat Stage 4 Metastatic Breast Cancer (metastasized to the bone). Pat was first diagnosed with MBC in October 2016, took a short leave to recover from surgery, and continued working while undergoing treatment. Shortly before she retired in June 2019, she developed severe pneumonitis and was hospitalized for several weeks. She is grateful for all the prayers offered for her the past five years and asks for a few more! If you'd like to send her a card, please send it c/o St. Francis Xavier Parish 1001 East 52nd Street, KCMO 64110 and we will make sure she receives it.

XAVIER HALL KITCHEN CREW - WE NEED YOUR HELP: Now that the mask mandate has lifted, we are scheduling 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 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.

FIRST SATURDAY PRAYER WALK TOMORROW Saturday, July 3, 9:30-10:30 am at [Arleta Park](#) at 77th and Prospect. We’ll gather near the playground. 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, strollers and wheelchairs. 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](#).

SACRAMENT PREP Plans for Fall? Will your child be in Second Grade in Fall 2021, ready to prepare for First Reconciliation/First Communion? Do you have an older child in need of Baptism, First Reconciliation or First Communion? Do you have a teen entering 9th or 10th Grade ready to prepare for Confirmation? Are you or someone you know interested in joining the Catholic Church through the RCIA? Please contact [Mariann](#) for more information about our sacramental prep programs for 2021-2022.

"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others."
Nelson Mandela

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 Ignatian concepts. Our next meeting will be this coming Wednesday, July 7 at 10:00 am. We will continue to find God in all things and talk about Ignatian concepts of consolation and desolation. If mornings don’t work for you, consider joining our bi-weekly Thursday evening group. Contact [Sue](#) for the Zoom links.

Refugees, Immigrants, and Migrants Committee (RIM) - Our active and dedicated RIM committee is made up of parishioners who feel called to support local and border programs that help the marginalized. We will **meet in Xavier Hall on Sunday, July 11 from 9:00-**

10:15 am (between the Masses). New members are always welcome. For more information, please contact [Sue](#).

Anti-Racism Committee (ARC) - In our summer survey, parishioners overwhelmingly felt SFX should focus our efforts on anti-racism - looking within ourselves, our parish, and our community. The ARC committee will **meet between the Masses from 9:00-10:15 on Sunday, July 18 in Xavier Hall** and we invite you to attend. Bring your ideas on how we can proceed to address this deeply embedded, centuries-old issue. New members are warmly welcome. For more information, please contact [Sue](#).

HEAR WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN GEORGIA IN THE 1940'S---PONDER ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR TODAY - Interested in the problem of racism? And peace, Jesus' Way? If so, you might be interested in gathering to watch this one-hour documentary *Briars in the Cotton Patch* about Clarence Jordan and then spending a few weeks reading and discussing his challenging interpretation of the Sermon on the Mount. Clarence was a Baptist minister with a bachelor's degree in agriculture and a PhD in Greek. He started an interracial farming community in Georgia in the 1940's. He also translated the New Testament into the vernacular of the south. We will gather for the movie on **Thursday evening, July 22 at 6:30 pm**. Let [Sue](#) know if you're interested so we can determine the best location to host the movie. There *WILL* be popcorn and drinks!

IT'S TIME TO HELP MIGRANT FARMWORKERS AGAIN! The donations are coming in! Thank you to all who have picked up items for them. This year, we are collecting the items listed below and have **3 dates** to serve - August 30, September 27, and October 18. ***Additionally, there are opportunities to go out during the week to help with special projects to prepare for their arrival.*** Let [Sue](#) know if you're interested in taking a beautiful drive into rural Missouri and helping on a Monday evening or during the week. Safety protocols will be followed. You may drop off items in the back of church or bring them to the parish during office hours. **We would like all donations by July 18.** 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. *If you work or social group would like to collect these items and make up hygiene kits, it would be a huge help!*
- 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)

Please watch this 8-minute video on the importance of migrant farmworkers. [Down on the farm: A shortage of agricultural labor - CBS News.](#)

Rosary Rally prior to Police Board meeting - Tuesday, July 27, 2021 - Gather with other parishes between 8:30 - 8:45 at the south end of Ilus Davis Park directly across from City Hall. At 8:50 we'll walk down the street (1/2 block) to Police HQ. Once in front of HQ, we'll start the Rosary. After the Rosary concludes, anyone who wants to attend the Police Board meeting may do so. Signs like *Black Lives are Sacred. Black Lives Matter. Local Control. Names of BIPOC people killed by KC police, or other appropriate signage* are encouraged. For more information, contact [Sue](#).

Ignatian Family Teach-in for Justice - *Imagining a Path Forward: Reflection. Reckoning. Kinship* – Join Jesuit colleagues and companions – young and old – in Washington, DC for this annual gathering centered on social justice and solidarity. We will spend a weekend learning, reflecting, praying, networking, and ultimately advocating on Capitol Hill for systemic change. The IFTJ is an event where people are empowered, re-energized, inspired, challenged, and supported by a community that sees faith and justice integrally linked. SFX will pay your registration fees, get you a t-shirt, and give a meal stipend. Attendees will pay for flight and hotel. Speakers include Fr. James Martin, SJ, Fr. Bryan Massingale, Sr. Norma Pimentel, Fr. Greg Boyle, SJ, and more than 30 others. To reserve one of the 4 spots left, contact [Sue](#) asap! Registration closes August 27.

Action Alerts!

For DACA recipients and TPS holders - Creating a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) recipients and TPS (Temporary Protected Status) holders will ensure they are treated with dignity and respect. Please join the Jesuit Conference Office of Justice and Ecology in asking the Senate to provide pathways to citizenship for undocumented immigrants by going to this link: [Action Alert: Tell the Senate to Create a Pathway to Citizenship for Undocumented Immigrants - Jesuits.org](#).

Death Penalty Watch -Recently, the Missouri Supreme Court issued an execution warrant for Ernest Johnson. Johnson is scheduled to be executed on October 5th, 2021 at 6PM. Mr. Johnson meets all the criteria for being intellectually disabled. Please consider signing and sharing Ernest's petition at www.change.org/save-ernest-johnson. Next steps and [actions for Ernest](#) will be coming soon - [in the meantime here are several actions you can do in support](#). For more information and to learn more about Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, go to [Home | Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty \(madppo.org\)](#).

Earth Watch – Make July Plastic-Free! Say no to straws. Reject single use plastic bottles. Discover your “plastic footprint”. Take a quiz to see how knowledgeable you are about plastic production, use, recycling, and contamination at [Earth Day: The Official Site | EARTHDAY.ORG](#).

SFX TOTE BAGS – They are still available for a \$10 donation as we raise funds for our Hearth Room furniture. To get one, contact [Sue](#).

Available Furniture from SFX – Check out the end of this newsletter to see the orphaned items for which we would like find a new home. For more information, contact [Sue](#).

***You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command:
“Love your neighbor as yourself.”
Galatians 5:13-14***

Opportunities from our Apostolates and Others

Pray on Prospect – This SATURDAY, JULY 3 - 6:21 pm-7:21 pm. *We just got notice of this!* Similar to the Pray on Troost event that took place last year, join other parishes and activists to pray together on the East side of Prospect. The prayer chain will begin on Prospect at Lexington and end at 81st Street. Bring a sign to show your support or just spend an hour with others standing in solidarity and praying for peace and justice.

From the Ignatian Spirituality Center of Kansas City

2021 – 2022 Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life

The Ignatian Spirituality Center of Kansas City offers the Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life retreat every year from September to May. This 8 to 9-month long individually directed retreat in everyday life is for persons desiring to know and love Christ more deeply in order to follow Him more closely. This retreat in everyday life means that you will pray daily with specific exercises and then go about your day as usual. It is individually directed in that you will be accompanied weekly by an Ignatian prayer guide who will companion you uniquely for this retreat journey. We are currently taking applications for the 2021 – 2022 season. To find out more, visit us at www.ignatiancenterkc.org and click on Community, then “Make the 8 Month Exercises.” If you have any questions or would like further info, please email Stephanie Hudson at shudson@ignatiancenterkc.org or call (816)381-9168.

Walking and Praying with St. Ignatius: An Ignatian Virtual Pilgrimage

Saturday, July 24 – Friday, July 30, 7:00 PM – 8:15 PM Cost: \$25 - \$50

Be a pilgrim this summer without leaving home! Follow in St. Ignatius footsteps as he learned little by little how to let go of his ego-inspired dream and become attuned to God’s dream for him. Each evening you will receive prayer points and inspiration based on the wisdom of St. Ignatius’ experience. Find God the next day as you walk and pray. Connect and share your experience with other pilgrims in optional small groups beginning on Sunday, July 25 at 6:15 PM. For more information and to register, please visit our events page www.ignatiancenterkc.org/events and look for Ignatian Virtual Pilgrimage.

Rockhurst University Religious Art at The Nelson "Objects of Devotion: Highlights from Rockhurst University's Van Ackeren Collection of Religious Art," will be on view at the Nelson-Atkins Museum through June 17, 2022. The Museum is free of charge and is open to visitors. Click [here](#) for visitor information. Click on [LEARN MORE HERE](#) for information about the exhibition.

***"May we think of freedom not as the right to do as we please,
but as the opportunity to do what is right."***

Peter Marshall

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

Becca Jackson, Facilities – rjackson@sfx-kc.org

Fr. Jim Caime, S.J., Pastor – pastor@sfx-kc.org

Fr. Steve Yavorsky, S.J., Parochial Vicar – syavorsky@jesuits.org

Mariann McCormally, Pastoral Associate, Faith Formation – mccormally@sfx-kc.org

Peggy Beaven-Calia, Administrative Assistant – pbeavencalia@sfx-kc.org

Sue Robb, Pastoral Associate, Justice & Life – srobb@sfx-kc.org



