



SFX UPDATE – September 10, 2021

All are welcome at St. Francis Xavier Parish

We are still down one air conditioning unit. Temperatures are slated to be in the 90's this weekend, so dress accordingly when you come to Mass!

This Tuesday, Sept 14, Rockhurst University will be having its **Mass of the Holy Spirit at 10:45am** in the church. All are welcome to attend. There will be no Noon Mass that day.

SFX COVID Policy for Masses

- Masks are required for everyone attending Mass.
- If you come to the office for an appointment, masks are required as well.

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, a Particular Dispensation applies, granted by the pastor, Fr. Jim.

We have opened all the pews so please space yourselves accordingly to give one another some distance. When pews were roped off, it unintentionally forced people into a more crowded situation. Please be mindful of others. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Fr. Jim at pastor@sfx-kc.org.

Do you know someone 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](#).

Pastor's Corner–

Song for the week: Do Not Fear to Hope, by Rory Cooney There is a beautiful video, sung by Theresa Donohoo, with lyrics for this week's song. If you watch the news, talk to friends, speak with medical professionals, it seems harder and harder to hold onto hope. The other day I was feeling really down—nonstop spread of COVID, people refusing to be vaccinated and care for their neighbor, tens of thousands fleeing Afghanistan, a forgotten civil war in Syria, destruction and death due to climate change, the continued violence and death on our streets in Kansas City, the addict who still has not hit rock bottom and won't seek help, all these man-made. I suppose the list is endless. But what I failed to do was to see the response of people to all these situations. Nations taking in refugees, agencies mobilizing to respond to refugees and climate crisis, police risking their lives to keep us safe, doctors and nurses working tirelessly to save those who have succumbed to COVID, the generosity of people donating supplies and money to alleviate suffering. It's a long "race." It's so easy to destroy and tear down, but long hard work to build and create. "The race shall not be to the swift, the fight not to the strong." Let the tears flow and pray to God for strength and hope and continue to respond in love. The Resurrection is the final Word.

Ministry of Greeters: A special outreach to the people who attend 4pm Mass. We need you!! We also need more folks for our 8am and 10:30am Masses. (You don't even need to be an extrovert!) There have been a faithful **few, and I mean very few**, who have been part of this ministry. We truly need more people to volunteer for this ministry. If you are interested, please contact Joan McMahon, joankmcmahon@gmail.com.

Music Ministry: We are looking for people who might wish to be cantors for our weekend masses. If you are interested, please email Laura Worms at r.worms@sbcglobal.net. All potential cantors must audition.

SFX Men's Group:

We are sponsoring a **Golf Outing** - Oct. 5 at 12:30pm, Hillcrest Golf Course, followed by dinner at BB's Lawnside BBQ at 5:00pm. Contact Dan Bonderer, dlbonder@gmail.com, to register or more info.

Retreat Dec. 9-12, Jesuit White House Retreat, St. Louis. For retreat or to get on our email list contact Tom Bradshaw, tbradshaw2111@gmail.com. We have been assigned 18 slots for the retreat with 7 men registered to date. Deadline for registering is mid Oct.

THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY of the terrorist attacks of 9/11 is tomorrow. Check out the wisdom in this [column from Bill Tammeus](#) as he reflects on extremism, past and present. Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation Mariann McCormally was scheduled to preach that weekend of September 15-16, 2001 for Catechetical Sunday. You can read the reflection she gave [HERE](#).

NO CONFIRMATION CLASS Sunday, September 12. The lunch and walk-about we had planned is postponed due to one of our leaders, Maddie Shriver, being exposed to COVID-19. She will be tested on Saturday. Please pray for Maddie, for all who are dealing with repeated exposures to and testing for COVID-19, all the sick and all health care workers.

SFXcellent WALKERS and RUNNERS – Outpace Poverty is NEXT SATURDAY! We have raised over \$2600 for Catholic Charities. WOW! Many thanks to all who have joined the team and made a donation for the Outpace Poverty Walk/Run. It's not too late to be part of the fun! Saturday, September 18. Theis Park. 8:00 am. Go to [SFXcellent Walkers and Runners - Outpace Poverty 5k Run / Walk \(runsignup.com\)](#) to join the team OR to donate.

JESUS, A PILGRIMAGE Parish Book Read – ONE MORE WEEKEND TO SIGN UP! This year, September – April, we will be reading James Martin, SJ book “Jesus, A Pilgrimage.” And Father Martin will zoom in with us about half-way through! **Go to [Book Groups - St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church \(sfx-kc.org\)](#) to sign up and to find the reading assignments and discussion questions OR contact [Mariann](#).** Groups will meet monthly: Third Thursdays at 7:00 pm on Zoom starting **September 16**, Third Sundays at 9:00 am in person at SFX starting **September 19**, Third Tuesdays at 11:00 am on Zoom starting **September 21**, and Fourth Wednesdays at 7:00 pm on Zoom starting **September 22**. Each group size is limited to 12. We will open up more groups if there is enough interest. Books on sale for \$15 this weekend (cash or check). If you buy online, please consider purchasing the book from an independent bookseller. Go to <https://bookshop.org> for more

information. If you chose to buy from amazon.com, don't forget to use your SFX Amazon Smile account!

First Reconciliation/First Communion SACRAMENTS KICK OFF for Children and Parents

Wednesday, September 22 6:30-7:45 pm SFX Chapel

Do you have a child who is in second grade or older ready for First Reconciliation and First Communion and/or Baptism? Please contact Mariann McCormally (816-381-9163 or mccormally@sfx-kc.org) NOW and join us on September 22.

Are you, or someone you know, interested in learning more about the Catholic Church or becoming Catholic? Weekly RCIA/Catechumenate classes will begin on Sunday, September 19. If you are interested in serving as a sponsor, or if you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the Catholic Church or joining the Catholic Church, please contact Mariann McCormally (816-381-9163 or mccormally@sfx-kc.org).

RIM Committee meets THIS SUNDAY, September 12 at 9:00 am in the Romero Room –

Join this active group who works and advocates for the rights of refugees, immigrants, and migrants. We will discuss ways to support agencies accepting Afghan refugees, educate ourselves and others on the importance of Fair Trade, support our refugee family and those at the border waiting for asylum, and discuss how to mark the World Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees on September 26. *Join us!*

Season of Creation – September 1-October 4 – Pope Francis created this sacred season as a way for us to re-evaluate our activities and reduce our impact on our fragile earth. What can you do to reduce your impact on the planet? Watch this video to learn about this year's theme - [Oikos](#).

SFX is committed to our sustainability journey. What suggestions do you have for our parish? Send them to [Sue](#).

Public Witness, Letter Signing, and Prayer Service – Join us from 4:30-5:50 pm **Friday, September 17** as we raise awareness of the upcoming execution of Ernest Johnson and the unjust incarceration of Kevin Strickland. We will stand on Troost from 4:30-5:30 with signs and offer people the chance to sign letters that we will send to Governor Parson asking for justice for these two men. At 5:30 we will have a brief prayer service. To find out more about the particular cases of these men, visit [Clemency for Ernest Johnson \(madpmo.org\)](#) and [Why is Kevin Strickland still in jail?](#)

ARC Recommends – The Anti-Racism Committee recommends the book *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson. It is a true story of a civil rights attorney working to free a wrongly-convicted man from death row. Just Mercy is also a movie starring Michael B. Jordan and is available on Hulu and Amazon Prime. You can learn more about the organization Mr. Stevenson founded, *The Equal Justice Initiative*, at www.eji.org.

IRISH FEST THANK YOU! Thank you to all of the volunteers for your support of our Sister Parish, St. Martin de Porres, by helping at the Beverage Tent during the KC Irish Fest. In 2019, the last time we participated in the Irish Fest, SFX raised \$4,950. This money was

sent to the Jesuits US Central and Southern Province for the building of additional classrooms at the St. Martin de Porres School, in Belize City. We hope to raise a similar amount this year. Through your efforts we continue to assist St. Martin De Porres with projects for the children. This would not be possible without your help and support. You are very much appreciated for the time and effort you put into making the KC Irish Fest a success.

A note from parishioner Peg Burns - Covid, natural and human-made disasters bringing you down? Need more peace in your life? Consider this to restore hope and energy: Over the past 20 years parishioner Peg Burns has developed curriculum materials on Jesus' Way of Peace which she would like to share with parishioners. Typically, small groups of children (must be healthy and able to read) meet in her home for 2-hour sessions, usually one time a week. All Diocesan Virtus protocols for safe environment are followed. Groupings are by age or families can explore together. **Adult level content is available.** There is no cost. If you are hesitant to gather, consider borrowing materials. Contact Peg at pegburns00@gmail.com.



SFX Swag – Thanks to all who have purchased items and who promote our wonderful parish in the community. Contact Sue to get any items below.

Ball caps - \$20 (only 2 left!)
T-shirt - \$10 Small and Medium sizes only (navy blue - *Unity in Diversity*)
Thermal Tumblers - \$20 (silver)
Tote Bags - \$10 each

Opportunities from our Apostolates and our Community

ROCKHURST UNIVERSITY MASS of the HOLY SPIRIT Tuesday, September 14, 10:45 am SFX Church. This Mass is one of Jesuit education's oldest traditions and is celebrated at Jesuit colleges and universities around the country to begin the new academic year. All are welcome! *There will be no 12:00 daily Mass at SFX that day.*

ROCKHURST UNIVERSITY cordially invites you to participate in the 12th annual Hopkins 5K Skip & Run. The 5K honors Nelson Hopkins Jr, a young man who lived in the Kansas City, MO community. In December of 2009, his dream to go to college was cut short when he was shot and killed in a drive-by shooting. In the fall of 2010, he would have been a freshman in college. Shortly after Nelson's death, a scholarship fund was started in his name. This virtual 5K event will raise money for the local non-profit, Operation Promise Land, in its endeavor to provide college scholarships to graduates of Alta Vista Charter High School. In previous years, the event was held in-person on the Rockhurst University campus and through the Troost neighborhoods. The event this year however, will be held virtually with runners encouraged to submit their 5K times to the race directors. Race registration is

now open and will be open until September 17, 2021. For more information, please check out INSTAGRAM - @HOPKINS5K_RU or FACEBOOK - @HOPKINS5K.

Dan Schutte live in concert on October 1st at 7:00 PM or October 3rd at 2:00 PM **at the Harper Center Auditorium at Creighton**. Dan Schutte, the composer of songs such as “Here I am, Lord” and “Table of Plenty,” will offer a gathering of song, stories, and reflection. To learn more and purchase tickets, please visit www.ivcusa.org/Omaha. If you have questions, please contact Anne Mollner at amollner@ivcusa.org. Presented by Ignatian Volunteer Corps of Omaha.

**Ignatian Spirituality Center of Kansas City
Fall Ignatian Prayer Retreats
October 2021**

“I believe I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.” Psalm 27

Do you desire to see the goodness of God more in your prayer and your life? Are you looking to go deeper in your relationship with God? This October, the Ignatian Spirituality Center of Kansas City is offering group and individual prayer retreats to help seekers to relate more easily and see more readily God’s action in their lives. These retreats run from 6 to 7 weeks long. Our group prayer retreats, Easing into Contemplative Prayer, are 6 weeks long and fill up quickly! For more information visit www.ignatiancenterkc.org/events or call Stephanie Hudson at 816-381-9168.

Suicide Awareness Survivor Support Walk - September 12th, 2021

Loose Park - 51st & Wornall, KCMO Registration: 8:00am - Walk Starts: 9:00am

For those who have lost someone to a traumatic death by suicide, homicide, fire, accident, etc. For more information, contact Bonnie Swade at bonnie@sass-mokan.com. All proceeds go for suicide awareness, education, prevention, and survivor support.

September 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