



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

SFX UPDATE – September 3, 2021

All are welcome at St. Francis Xavier Parish

**There will be NO Mass on Monday, September 6, due to the Labor Day holiday.
Our parish offices will be closed on Monday, as well.
We will re-open on Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m.**

Let's Stay Cool: Last week we reported that one of the two A/C units that serve the church has an irreparable compressor. Since then, members of the Building Committee, the Finance Council, and SFX staff had a meeting with our HVAC vendor to discuss our options going forward. Options range from installing a new compressor, replacing the single malfunctioning A/C unit, to replacing the entire system. In our discussions, system efficiency and the environmental impact of each option is heavily weighted. Our vendor is working to give us detailed pricing quotes for each option. Meanwhile, we have reached out to get the expert opinion of a mechanical engineer. We will keep you posted.

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.

Pastor's Corner

Song for the week: John Foley, Song of Hope This past week I watched along with many others Hurricane Ida approaching and causing massive destruction. Though New Orleans did not flood this time, it certainly brought back very intense and visceral memories of going through Katrina. Ida flooded New York and places in the Northeast. Our climate is changing and we are seeing the effects of this not only in our country, but all over the world. When we at Loyola University New Orleans gathered again in January 2006, we had our Mass of the Holy Spirit. We sang John Foley's, "Song of Hope." May it bring you to a closer encounter with God.

Ministry of Greeters: We need people who wish to be greeters for all our masses. (You don't even need to be an extrovert!) There have been a faithful 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: Next meeting Sat., Sept. 11 at 10:00am, Xavier Hall. We will also be sponsoring a Golf Outing - Oct. 5 at 12:30pm, Hillcrest Golf Course, followed by dinner at BB's Lawnside BBQ at 5:00pm. Retreat Dec. 9-12, Jesuit White House Retreat, St. Louis. For golf outing contact Dan Bonderer, dlbonder@gmail.com. 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-October.



ROOF PROJECT: OVER HALFWAY THERE!

Work has begun on the west side of the roof we are replacing. While there were a few recent slowdowns due to rainy weather, great progress is being made. The picture is the view outside Ann and Fr. Jim's offices on September 3rd. Pretty exciting!

The FEAST of the NATIVITY of MARY is September 8 (that's right, nine months after the Immaculate Conception!). Celebrate the birthday of Mary, Our Mother, with our children after the 10:30 Mass this Sunday, September 5, by gathering at the Mary Altar to sing the Hail Mary and ask for her prayers for us and our world. There will be treats for people of all ages! Contact Mariann for more information.

IS GOD CALLING YOU to work with children, tweens or teens? The pandemic has been (and continues to be) hard on all of us. We are looking for folks (teens and adults) to help rebuild our ministry with children, tweens, or teens. Do you have creative ideas for how we might gather? All volunteers undergo a screening interview, a criminal background check, read and sign the "Ethics and Integrity in Ministry" Code of Conduct, and must be certified in "Protecting God's Children," the diocesan safe environment training program. For more information contact Mariann McCormally (816-523-5115 x 204 OR mccormally@sfx-kc.org).

SEPTEMBER PRAYER WALK TOMORROW Saturday, September 4, at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Boulevard and Woodland Avenue). **9:30 am**. Meet and share faith with parishioners. Discover (or rediscover) a new part of the city.

Find God in All Things - east and west of Troost. All ages, strollers, and wheelchairs (and dogs on leashes) welcome. Rain or shine. And mark your calendars for October 2 for the next walk. Contact [Mariann](#) for more information.

LOVE, LOSS and ENDURANCE: 9/11 Twentieth Anniversary Prayer Service with Bill Tammeus

St. Francis Xavier Church

Thursday, September 9, 2021, 7:00 pm

This year marks the twentieth anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11. Join us **Thursday evening, September 9, 7:00 pm in the Church** for a time of prayer, reflection, remembrance, and commitment to action. **Bill Tammeus**, author of “Love, Loss and Endurance: A 9/11 Story of Resilience and Hope in an Age of Anxiety” will give the reflection. Bill, former religion columnist for The Kansas Star, has written a powerful book about the personal loss his family suffered on that fateful day (his nephew was killed) and about the dangerous rise of religious extremism in our world. For more information contact Mariann McCormally (mccormally@sfx-kc.org). To purchase a copy of the book contact Bill at wtammeus@gmail.com. To learn more about the 9/11 Memorial and Museum, to view the Tribute Wall, and to leave your own remembrance [CLICK HERE](#). Sponsors by the SFX Adult Faith Formation Committee.

SFXcellent WALKERS and RUNNERS - We have raised over \$2,000 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. This Park. Go to [SFXcellent Walkers and Runners - Outpace Poverty 5k Run / Walk \(runsignup.com\)](https://runsignup.com) to join the team OR to donate.

JESUS, A PILGRIMAGE Parish Book Read - 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 \(sfx-kc.org\)](https://www.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!

Are you familiar with [CATHOLIC WOMEN PREACH?](#) Check out this resource to see and hear preaching by well-qualified and diverse women reflecting on lectionary texts for Sunday and selected weekday masses and possibly other biblical readings.



Migrant Farmworkers - Twelve parishioners carpooled to Lexington last Monday to serve the Migrant Farmworkers. We bagged groceries to both give out that evening and take to the camps. We repackaged rice and beans and made more hygiene kits. We have 2 more trips scheduled. If you would like to donate items, check out the bulletin board in the Narthex. For more information, contact [Sue](#).

Public Witness, Letter Signing, and Rosary – Join us from 4:30-5:50 pm **TODAY Friday, September 3** and again on 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 passersby the chance to sign letters that we will send to Governor Parson asking for justice for these two men. At 5:30 we will pray the Rosary of Modern Sorrows. 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?](#) In the event of rain, we will pray the Rosary.

IRISH FEST! Happening NOW! - September 3, 4 and 5! Stop by our beverage tent at Crown Center this weekend and support our efforts to assist in our mission with our Sister Parish, St. Martin de Porres in Belize City. Your purchases and tips make a difference in hundreds of lives!

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? SFX is interested in continuing our move to be more sustainable. What suggestions do you have for our parish? Send them to [Sue](#). Check out this [great video](#) about how (and why) to recycle correctly.

ARC Recommends – The Anti-Racism committee is hosting a **movie night on Friday, September 24** in Xavier Hall. At 6:00 pm, we will watch *The Best of Enemies* on Netflix, starting with a BYO dinner at 5:30 pm. Don't feel like coming out? Watch the movie on your own and join in our Zoom discussion at about 8:15.

World Suicide Prevention Day: September 10 - Suicide results from many complex factors and is more likely to occur during periods of socioeconomic, family, or individual crisis (e.g. loss of a loved one, unemployment, sexual orientation, or disassociation from one's community or other social/belief group). In the United States, males are four times more likely to die from suicide than are females. However, females are more likely to attempt suicide than are males. If you or someone you know is contemplating suicide, contact 1-800-273-8255. Check out an informational flyer [here](#) or in this week's bulletin and pray for those struggling with mental health issues and thoughts of suicide. Sources: World Health Organization and CDC.gov.

RIM Committee meets 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'll be looking at ways we can 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 discern how to mark the World Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees on September 26. Hope to see you on the 12th! Contact [Sue](#) for more information.

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.

Donations – You always come through when there is a need. Here are the causes and needs we are currently supporting. Thank you for the many ways you generously give!

- **Migrant Farmworkers** – A group of parishioners will be heading back to Lexington on September 27. If you have items to donate (beans, rice, hygiene kits, eyedrops, etc), please bring them to Mass or drop them off during business hours. Thank you for a summer of generous giving. Please continue to pray for the farmworkers working in the heat and elements.
- **Plastic** – Karen Stigers (karen.stigers@gmail.com) is still collecting plastic bags which will be turned in to a park bench. Please contact her directly to manage donations.
- **Eyeglasses** – Donate your old eyeglasses at SFX. Look for the box in the Narthex.
- **Pill bottles** – We support Pet Resource Center of Kansas City (formerly KC Spay & Neuter) by collecting clean pill bottles. The bottles **must** have childproof caps, be non-opaque (they can't use the white ones), and the labels and sticky material must be removed. Check out their [website for other items they collect](#).
- **Can tabs** – Save your soda and beer can tabs and bring them to church. We'll take them to Ronald McDonald House.
- **Paper bags with handles** – Every bag of groceries we give out is double bagged in handled bags. Thank you for asking for paper bags when you shop and then donating them to us.
- **A request from parishioner, Bill Schmidt:** Recently, a gentleman was working on my house and had his truck stolen. He lost \$3,000 to \$4,000 in

tools alone, which is not covered by insurance. I asked him to give me a list of tools that our church community might be able to help him with, so please consider donating any of the following tools: measuring tapes, socket sets, bits and tips, slapper stamper (for roofing), chalk lines, air hoses, garmin, pole saw ext pruner, hand tools (wrenches, pliers, etc.), screw drivers, pitch forks, 20 volt batteries--2 or 5 hour/60volt, rain suit, ratchet straps/tie downs, pry bars, hammer and hatchet, external cords, caulk guns, 3 and 4 ft levels. He is a roofer, carpenter, and all-around handyman. If you can donate or need someone like him to work on your house, please contact [Bill Schmidt](#).

Shredding and Notary Services available – Several parishioners have taken us up on our offer to use our shred bin to safely dispose of important documents. Bring your documents to the parish office during business hours (M-F 9-5). Also, if you live in Missouri and need something notarized, contact [Sue](#).

Thank you! Thanks to all who came out last Thursday to support the American Red Cross bloodmobile. We collected 15 units, all of which will save lives. Our next blood drive will be Wednesday, December 1 in Xavier Hall through the Community Blood Center. Watch for more information as the date draws near.



SFX Swag – Thanks to all who have purchased and promote SFX as we continue to raise funds for our Hearth Room furniture. When you use or wear something with the SFX logo, you are sharing who we are and what we are about with all you meet. Let others know about St. Francis Xavier – both the 16th century saint AND our wonderful parish! Contact [Sue](#) to get yours.

NEW! 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

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.

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](#).

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

