



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

SFX UPDATE – October 1, 2021

All are welcome at St. Francis Xavier Parish

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.

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](#).

Parish Town Hall, Save the Date! The SFX Pastoral Council is hosting a Town Hall meeting on Sunday, October 10th at 1:00pm via Zoom. We have a lot of great news to share, and most importantly we'd like to hear your feedback and ideas for our parish. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for a fast-paced, informative meeting. See you there!

[Click here to join the SFX Parish Town Hall](#)

Average Mass Attendance

Sept 1 - Oct 1

Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Noon	7:30am	Noon	Noon
3	17	5	2

In late August we started up our weekday masses. As you can see from the data, some masses are better attended than others. We will be reviewing the attendance numbers this month to determine any changes to the current schedule.

Pastor's Corner–

The other week I was feeling like Rosanne Rosanna-Danna when I got the anonymous letter. This week, I am feeling a bit like Andy Rooney who would begin some of his commentaries, "Did you ever wonder why...."

I was talking with my younger sister this morning on the phone and neither of us could believe it was October 1. It felt like an Andy Rooney moment, "Did you ever wonder why we would begin a new month on a Friday? It's so disorienting. Let the first of every month just start on a Saturday. It'd be a great way to start things out. Adjust the days in December for the year and Jan 1 would always be on a Saturday! New months and new years always beginning on a weekend!

Has Fr. Jim lost it? Maybe. Life doesn't follow along easy schedules. Pilgrimages, though perhaps planned a bit, are meant to be open experiences, open to the unknown, the stranger. There are endings and beginnings in life that are not of our choosing. We are thrown curve balls, slow balls.... but lately too many change ups.

Many of us have been hit with unexpected endings new beginning forced upon us. Ready or not, here it comes. We really are never ready for the death of a loved one, a break-up of a marriage, the loss of a friendship, the loss of a job, the loss of good health. These events force new beginnings on us whether or not we are ready.

Whatever the ending or beginning in your life, know that we at SFX are here to walk with you.

I share this poem with you for those who feel life is moving too fast and is confusing.

Lost, David Wagoner

Stand still. The trees ahead and bushes beside you

Are not lost. Wherever you are is called Here,

And you must treat it as a powerful stranger,

Must ask permission to know it and be known.

The forest breathes. Listen. It answers,

I have made this place around you.

If you leave it, you may come back again, saying Here.

No two trees are the same to Raven.

No two branches are the same to Wren.

If what a tree or a bush does is lost on you,

You are surely lost. Stand still. The forest knows

Where you are. You must let it find you.

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:

Diiner after the golf outing. The signups for the golf outing are closed, but come for dinner if you can. - Oct. 5 dinner at BB's Lawnside BBQ at 5:00pm. Contact. Contact Fr. Jim.

Pastor@sfx-kc.org

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.

STRONG BLESSINGS on our children preparing to receive First Reconciliation and First Communion this year: Margaret Brush, Brynn Cheah, Truman Duckworth and Dashiell Wagner. The children and their families will receive a special blessing at the 10:30 Mass this weekend.

OCTOBER PRAYER WALK Saturday, October 2, at Mill Creek Park (Emanuel Cleaver II Blvd and Mill Creek Pkwy). 9:30am. Meet at the Fountain. We'll walk and talk and share faith. Come 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. Contact [Mariann](#) for more information.

OCTOBER is RESPECT LIFE MONTH Each October the Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, and the first Sunday in October is Respect Life Sunday. As Catholics we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are the most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between. Check out this video [Catholic Social Teaching 101](#) on the Life and Dignity of the Human Person. Go to [Respect Life Month](#) to learn more.

Easing Into Contemplative Prayer: Virtual Group Prayer Retreat Thursday mornings, October 14-November 18, 10:00-11:30am. Mariann McCormally and Nancy Seibolt will guide participants through a retreat exploring and experiencing various ways of praying using Father Mark Thibodeaux, SJ, book "Armchair Mystic." Go to [Easing Into Contemplative Prayer: Virtual Group Prayer Retreat — Ignatian Spirituality Center of Kansas City \(ignatiancenterkc.org\)](#) for more information and to register.

Soul Food Tuesday

Tuesdays, 11:00 am – 12:00 noon on Zoom

October 12, 26, November 9, 23, 30, December 14, 21

Join us for this study/prayer group inspired by the work of Franciscan Father Richard Rohr. Soul Food Tuesday has been part of our SFX Adult Faith Formation offerings since 2014. Participation in the group is OPEN. One does not need to commit to attending every week. New members are always welcome. The "content" of each month's sessions will be determined in consultation with the participants. As always, we'll have time for sharing our joys and concerns. Click [HERE](#) for the Zoom link. Contact [Mariann](#) for more information.

HeART and Soul resumes the first Tuesday of the month, November 2!

Tuesday, November 2, 11:00 am -12:30 pm on Zoom

Join SFX Parishioners Nancy Seibolt and Peg Hornsby in using mixed media as a way to express what is on our minds and in our hearts. This is NOT a gathering of artists. It's a kind of *visio divina* or art journaling. No previous experience necessary. No fee. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED by October 28.** Nancy and Peg are graduates of the Ignatian Spirituality Center "Prayer Companions" certificate program. For more information, Zoom link, and supply list contact [Mariann](#).

"GOD of DAY and GOD of DARKNESS" Directed Women's Retreat – October 28-30

Mariann and Sue are offering a directed retreat experience for the women of the parish. Retreatants and directors will meet on Thursday evening, October 28, IN PERSON at the Church, for an orientation to the retreat and a group prayer experience and then return to their homes for the retreat. Retreatants are encouraged to clear their schedules as much as possible Thursday evening, Friday and Saturday and set aside three 30-minute periods for prayer as well as 30 minutes each day to meet with your director on Zoom to talk about their

prayer. We will meet as a group of all retreatants and directors again on Saturday evening, October 30, IN PERSON at the Church, 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.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS – Thanks to all who have donated food to the pantry recently! It was amazing to see the requested food within 36 hours of our asking. We continue to see a sudden, marked increase in food insecurity from new and established neighbors in need. Typically, we can get healthy food from Harvesters, but we are unable to get the following items and would appreciate any help you can give.

- White Rice (1# or 2# bags) – (50-60 bags)
- Chicken Noodle Soup (50-60 cans)
- Veggie Beef Soup (50-60 cans)
- Peanut Butter (50-60 16 oz jars)
- Ramen Noodles (not the healthiest, but highly requested and appreciated) – 200 individual packets

One or two of these items would be greatly appreciated. You can bring them when you come to Mass or drop them off on the back porch anytime. Thank you in advance.

Anti-Racism Committee (ARC) meets THIS Sunday, October 3 at 9:00am in the Romero Room. We'll discuss the upcoming execution scheduled for October 5 at 6:00 pm and partner with Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty for a watch at 39th and Troost from 5:00-6:00 pm.

Anti-Racism Committee (ARC) Recommends: ARC recommends learning about Julia Greeley. Julia was born into slavery sometime between 1833 and 1848 in Hannibal, MO. She was freed by the Missouri Emancipation ACT in 1865 and eventually moved to Denver. She entered the Catholic Church at Sacred Parish in Denver in 1880. She lived a quiet life of helping the poor until her death in 1918. You can learn more about Julie and the Cause for her Canonization at www.juliagreeley.org.

Rosary for Racial Justice – On Sunday, October 3, after the 10:30 Mass, join members of the Marian group and various Justice & Life groups to pray the Rosary. We will pray specifically for Ernest Johnson who is scheduled to be executed at 6:00pm on October 5 and for Kevin Strickland who has spent 43 years in prison for a crime he didn't commit. His hearing will begin next week.

Execution Watch – An intellectually disabled man is scheduled to die. It's not too late to call Governor Mike Parson's office and encourage him to grant clemency to Ernest Johnson. His

phone number is (573) 751-3222. Please check out the amazingly comprehensive and informative website for [Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty website](#) and read about [Clemency for Ernest Johnson \(madpmo.org\)](#).

The Social Sin of Racism - The Ignatian Solidarity Network is hosting a session for a directed, interactive conversation attempting to break open Catholic Social Teaching on social sin. You'll receive resources for your social justice ministry toolbox and fortify your confidence in talking about how social change for justice is a crucial part of God's vision for a grace-filled world. Register for [A Parish Journey for Racial Justice: Let's Talk about Social Sin](#) on Wednesday, October 27 at 1:00pm.

SFX supports the work of Habitat for Humanity - The House of Abraham the collaborative work of the Jewish, Muslim, and Christian communities through Habitat for Humanity to build houses for families in need. There are some open dates during their "Build Week" when help is needed. If you or your organization would like to volunteer for any of these dates, please contact Stacie Schirk at 816.924.1096 ext. 2007 or at sschirk@habitatkc.org. If you would like to be our SFX liaison to Habitat for Humanity, please contact [Sue](#).

Tuesday, October 5th 8:00am-3:00pm – 4 Open Spots
Wednesday, October 6th 8:00am-3:00pm – 3 Open Spots
Thursday, October 7th 8:00am-3:00pm – 2 Open Spots
Thursday, October 7th 12:00pm-3:00pm – 1 Open Spot
Friday, October 8th 8:00am-12:00pm – 2 Open Spots
Friday, October 8th 12:00pm-3:00pm – 2 Open Spots
Saturday, October 9th – 8:00am-12:00pm – 6 Open Spots
Saturday, October 9th – 12:00pm-3:00pm – 3 Open Spots

Community Garden Update and Invitation! - We have harvested over 700 pounds of fresh produce this season. We have harvested more produce than our Food Pantry has needed so we are sharing the excess produce with Kanbe Markets. Kanbe's Markets is a nonprofit organization providing access to fresh, affordable and healthy foods to people experiencing food insecurity. For more information about Kanbe Markets, go to kanbesmarkets.org

Would you like to help harvest sweet potatoes for our Food Pantry? Come dig for treasures with us! Saturday, October 23 and Saturday, October 30th, weather permitting.
We will begin at 10:30. Bring gloves and a garden fork or a shovel, if you have them.



Would you believe this park bench is made from recycled plastic bags?!?! Thanks to all who donated their plastic so the Lion's Club could have this park bench made and donate it to the Kansas School of the Blind. They are now saving to have a bench made for the Kansas School of the Deaf. Please contact Karen directly at karen.stigers@gmail.com to

donate your plastic. Thank you, SFX and thank you, Karen and the Lion's Club for the good work you do!

Opportunities from our Apostolates and our Community

Dan Schutte live in concert on October 1st at 7:00pm or October 3rd at 2:00pm **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.

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