



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

SFX UPDATE – October 15, 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 The SFX Pastoral Council hosted a Town Hall meeting on Sunday, October 10th at 1:00pm. While the meeting was very lightly attended, we covered a lot of information and took the opportunity to ask participants about their thoughts on various matters, specifically COVID protocol at SFX and resuming parish events that include eating and drinking.

Fr. Jim's Final Vows: On Sunday, October 31, Fr. Jim will be making his final vows as a Jesuit at the 10:30 Mass. The presider will be Fr. Tom Greene, Provincial of the Central and Southern Jesuit Province. (Note: previously we announced there would be a reception for Fr. Jim in Xavier Hall following Mass. Based on feedback we heard at the Parish Town Hall meeting on Sunday, October 10th, and due to a few break-through cases of Covid-19 in our community the reception has now been cancelled.) We hope to see you at the Mass to pray and celebrate with Fr. Jim.

Pastor's Corner–

What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus? What does it mean to be Christ for one another? This week's readings focus in on who Jesus is as servant to us all. Jesus is whom we follow. Jesus is whom we imitate. This week's song is "[Servant Song](#)" by [Rory Cooney](#) which is in an anthem style. I have put the lyrics below because you will not find them in any current Catholic hymnal.

Who is my servant, where is she? My light to the nations where is he - in prison and palace my gospel who told, and living my gospel became? This is my servant whom I shall uphold. His name is Christ is her name.

Who answers to slander with silence, and vengeance returns not for violence? Who shouts to the darkness in people grown cold a word that shall set them aflame? This is my servant whom I shall uphold. His name is Christ is her name.

Who sing of my love in their living? Whose days are a prayer of thanksgiving? Who seek not the glamor of glory and gold for I am their fortune and fame? This is my servant whom I shall uphold. His name is Christ is her name.

Who stand in the storm like a beacon with hope for the ravaged and weakened? Whose presence is healing for young and for old, to friend and to stranger the same? This is my servant whom I shall uphold. His name is Christ is her name.

Who choosing the way I will show them will trust that I care for chosen? Where is the spouse who is faithful to one and thus to the children proclaim: "This, my beloved, is my daughter, my son. His name is Christ. Christ is her name."

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CONFIRMATION 2022 PREP CLASS meets Sunday, October 17. 10:30 Mass followed by our Walk About. Dismissal at 2:00 pm. For more information, contact [Mariann](#).

OCTOBER is RESPECT LIFE MONTH: Spotlight on Disabilities Each October the Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month. Our US Catholic Bishops teach "Defense of the right to life implies the **defense of all other rights that enable the individual with the disability to achieve the fullest measure of personal development** of which he or she is capable. These include the right to equal opportunity in education, in employment, in housing, and in health care, as well as **the right to free access to public accommodations, facilities, and services.**" Click [HERE](#) to read the Bishops' Statement on "Welcome and Justice for Persons with Disabilities."

Synod of Bishops. At the direction of Pope Francis, the Synod of Bishops in Rome has convoked a synod that will run from 2021 until 2023 entitled "**For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission.**" It officially opened on October 10th in Rome and will open on October 17th in dioceses around the world. To learn more about what a synod is click here [America Magazine: So... what exactly is a synod?](#) And please pray for our Church:

- For an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Church as we undertake this synodal journey.
- That the Holy Spirit would fill the hearts and minds of all the faithful and accompany us on this synodal journey.
- For the Church, gathered in Synod; that by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit this journey would be marked by humble listening, courageous speech, and lively hope.

"Jesus, A Pilgrimage" October meetings will be: **Sunday** October 17 9:00 am Hearth Room, **Tuesday** October 19 11:00 am Zoom, **Wednesday** October 27 7:00 pm Zoom, **Thursday** October 21 7:00 pm Zoom. **Reading assignment: Chapters 4-5-6.** Discussion questions can be found [HERE](#). If you haven't joined one of our book groups, please consider reading the book on your own so we can all grow in faith together. And if you need a copy of

the book, we have a few left (\$15). Contact Mariann (mccormally@sfx-kc.org) to purchase a book.

Soul Food Tuesday

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

October 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.

ALL SOULS CANDLES

The Church sets aside the month of November as a time to honor and remember the men and women who have gone before us. The weekend of November 6/7 we will have our annual **Procession of All Souls Candles**, remembering those who have died this past year (November 1, 2020-October 31, 2021). We will remember (in order of death anniversary): *Jack E Beal, John Tomei, Moritz “Motz” Gapsch, John Conran, Robert Preston, Samuel Philip “Pete” Braud, III, Gary Wood, Denise Gravel, Frank John Benedix, Cynthia Lee Moore, Tim Maggard, Eric Boyd, Alexander Noel, Lois Shinkle, Sheila Ann Minster, Joan Stallbaumer, Paul Daly, Tom Daly, Eilenen Wirtz, Joyce Barber, Walter Taira, Gail Hayes, Nancy Carter, Ernie & Nancy Landwher, Mary Lou Sullivan, S. Mary Angela Buser, BVM, Jinx Ratcliffe, Margie Peltier, Greg Vranicar, Patrick Henry McCormally, Michael McMahon, Dick Enna, Carol Ann Gaynor Hale, Chris Ostrom, Theodore “Ted” Dujakovich, Dorothy “Dottie” King,*

Regina “Gene” Cox, Jose Basterra, Sheri Madden, Lori Beres, Peter Horsley. Please contact [Mariann](#) to add a name to this list.

Justice & Life Committee –The Justice & Life Committee is committed to education and contemplation as we go forth and act on behalf of justice issues that affect our community and our world. Our next meeting is Sunday, October 24 at 9:00 am. Please join us!

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.

ARC Recommends - Join Heather McGhee, author of New York Times best-seller *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together*, Stand Up KC, and MO Poor People's Campaign leaders Terrence Wise and Bridget Hughes for a discussion about how racism hurts us all and our path to an economy that works for everyone!

Date: Monday, November 15th

Time: 6:00 PM CT

Location: Zoom

[Register here! It's free!](#)

Minority owned businesses - ARC, the Anti-Racism Committee, is compiling a directory of minority owned businesses. We hope to have a directory to share with you by the holidays. If you own or patronize a minority owned business, please share the business's name, address, phone number, and website link with [Sue](#). Thank you!

Migrant Farmworkers trip to Lexington is happening October 18 – A few spots opened up for our trip to serve the Migrant Farmworkers on Monday. We leave SFX at 3:00 pm, carpool out to Lexington, MO, and return about 8:00 pm. While there, we bag groceries, repackage rice and beans, and do whatever else is needed. If you'd like to join us, contact [Sue](#). As always, continue to pray for those who work the fields and harvest the foods we eat.

RIM Update on Afghan Refugee Support - The RIM group has unanimously decided to support the work of Jewish Vocational Services (JVS) who has extensive experience and services in place to relocate and acclimate refugees from around the world. JVS has 3 levels of support.

- **Level 1** supporters collect items families may need and make welcome kits. This is similar to what we do for Migrant Farmworkers and SFXers are generous with their support.
- **Level 2** supporters (with the help of JVS) furnish and set up a home, welcome the arriving family at the airport, and provide the family with a culturally appropriate meal. This level of support requires volunteers to make a 2-4 week commitment and go through JVS training and a background check.
- **Level 3** supporters (with the help of JVS) do level 2 but also make a 3-6 month commitment of time to help the family acclimate to KC by teaching them the bus system, helping them with grocery shopping, health needs, school enrollment, including them in social events in and around KC, etc, and financially supporting them for up to 6 months. This level also requires JVS training and a background check.

RIM has initially committed to providing **Level 1 and 2 support**, with the option of moving to Level 3 in the future. If you would like to assist with relocation efforts in any way, contact [Sue](#). As we become trained, we will share more information.

Community Garden Invitation - 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.

A New Item to Save for our Food Pantry! - Thanks to all who save and drop off paper sacks with handles for our food pantry. That saves us hundreds of dollars a year! Now we have another need – *egg cartons*! Periodically, we can get eggs from Harvesters but they come as 15 dozen open flats. Having some egg cartons on hand would allow us to package them for safe transport for our neighbors. Like the paper bags, you can drop them off in the back of church or on the back porch. Many thanks!

Opportunities from our Apostolates and our Community

Revolution of a Heart – The Dorothy Day Story

Tuesday, October 19, 2021 - 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Arrupe Auditorium

Join the Rockhurst and Kansas City communities for the screening of [this 2019 documentary](#) that traces Dorothy Day's journey from a young communist journalist to a Catholic convert, to the co-founder of The Catholic Worker newspaper and the first "houses of hospitality," which sheltered New York City's homeless during the Great Depression. Co-sponsored by Campus Ministry, VOICES for Justice, and Cherith Brook Catholic Worker House. Please register [here](#) for this FREE event.

Catholics, Muslims and Mother Mary

Thursday, October 21, 7:00 at Holy Spirit in Lee's Summit Dr. Sofia Khan and Ms. Teresa Albright will speak on Mary as "an interreligious bridge" for Christians and Muslims. Islam has a long tradition of reverence for Mary, the Mother of Jesus. For more information, contact [Ann Hayles](#).

G.I.F.T.'S BLACK BUSINESS MARKET! Kansas City G.I.F.T is a movement dedicated to cementing a better future for all. Founded in 2020, we have fought for impactful change for families, our communities, and our city. We strive to be an actionable step after all the protests have ended, and to educate and empower others to take action. We work to ensure that we close the racial wealth gap, reduce poverty related crime and reverse the effects of systemic racism in our city.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
OCTOBER 30TH 10AM - 6PM
325 E 31st ST, KCMO 64108

G.I.F.T. is partnering with Black businesses from across the city to bring you one of the strongest collectives of Black business owners in Kansas City. Don't miss this opportunity to support your local Black owned businesses and Buy Black!

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.

Rockhurst University Visiting Scholar Lecture: The Honorable Sly James
Tuesday, Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m.

Arrupe Hall auditorium and virtual online (face masks required for in person events)

"A Passion for Purpose: Building Cities for our Children"

Rockhurst University graduate and former Kansas City, Missouri, Mayor Sly James will present the Alpha Sigma Nu/Rev. Vincent F. Dauess, S.J., lecture on his latest book that explores not only his life, but his political philosophy for local government. To attend this event in person, please click [RSVP Button](#). To register virtually and receive a link to the zoom option, please click [Learn More](#).

October Blessings!

Ann, Becca, Fr. Jim, Fr. Steve, Mariann, Peggy, and Sue

See something that interests you? Contact us:

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

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

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