



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

## SFX UPDATE – December 17, 2021

All are welcome at

### St. Francis Xavier

[SFX YouTube Channel](#) [SFX Facebook Page](#) [SFX Justice & Life Facebook](#)

SFX COVID Policy for Masses will remain in place at least until January 2022.

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

### Christmas Season Mass Schedule

Friday, December 24, 4:00pm & 9:00pm  
We will live stream both Masses

Saturday, December 25, 10:30am only  
(no 4:00pm mass on Dec 25)

Sunday, December 26, 10:30am only  
(no 8:00am mass on Dec 26)

Friday, December 31, 4:00pm  
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God  
(Not a holy day of obligation this year)

Saturday-Sunday, January 1 & 2  
Epiphany  
Regular weekend mass schedule

Pastor's Corner–

Song of the Week: [Song of Mary, Jesse Manibusan](#)

It's the 4<sup>th</sup> Week of Advent! Mary and Elizabeth are front and center preparing the world for the gracious actions of God who fulfills the great promise! I hope you enjoy this rendition of the words of the Annunciation, the Magnificat, and Hail Mary. A beautiful Marian hymn that we will add to our parish repertoire in the future.

If there is a significant life event going on with you or your family, please let us know so our staff can pray for you. Don't forget we also have the [SFX Praying Network](#). We are here for you.

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**Is St. Francis Xavier on Your Christmas list?** We have started our annual "Christmas Stocking" campaign. This year, all donations to the Christmas fund will go to offset the cost to install an upgraded heating and cooling system for our beautiful church. The new system will be much more efficient and environmentally friendly and replaces equipment that is at the end of its useful life. This project is just now getting underway, and you'll hear more about it in 2022. You may donate via our offertory collections (please note "Christmas" in the memo line of your check) or online at [SFX Christmas Stocking 2021](#)

**Our liturgical arts volunteers are venturing towards a more local and sustainable approach to flower, plant and evergreen sourcing for Advent and Christmas this year.** Our evergreen branches, used at the entrance to the narthex and on the altar, have typically been harvested and shipped from Oregon. But it is easy to harvest evergreens from our surrounding landscapes. If you have any of the following trees or shrubs and are willing to share some small branches, our team includes gardeners and landscapers who can discreetly trim branches to be enjoyed in our church, and then properly composted at the end of the season. We're looking for: Spruce (green or blue), Boxwood, Evergreen Magnolia, Pine, Juniper (especially with berries), and others. Crabapple branches with fruit are desired as well. Please contact Jackie Palmer to make arrangements. [Jackiechanmo@yahoo.com](mailto:Jackiechanmo@yahoo.com)/ cell phone: 816-462-3523.

**Annual Catholic Appeal, Message from Ann:** This year the Diocese of Kansas City- St. Joseph plan to raise \$1,900,000 for their Annual Catholic Appeal. As of December 13<sup>th</sup>, they are at 64% of goal, having received 3,586 donations totaling \$1,217,383. The goal this year for St. Francis Xavier parish is \$25,200. As of December 13<sup>th</sup>, we are at 29% of our goal with 34 donations totaling \$7,270. Your donations help support Catholic Charities, the Bright Future Fund for schools, and the Human Rights office along with many other ministries. Funds from the Annual Appeal also help offset the cost of administrative services for Diocesan employees. We receive a tremendous amount of support from the Diocese for things like insurance and payroll administration, help with legal issues, and financial oversight. In 2020, it was the direct intervention of the Legal department at the Diocese that helped us successfully apply for and receive \$64,000 for the Payroll Protection Program. Diocesan lay employees are very good partners to us. For more information about the Appeal and how the

funds are used, go to <https://kcsjatholic.org/office/stewardship-and-development/annual-catholic-appeal/>

**We continue to pray for all Kansas City Metro homicide victims** at our weekend liturgies.

We pray for those killed in the city of Kansas City by name. This weekend we remember:

146. Unknown person on December 6 identified as William Mason, 40

147. Jamell Hornbeck, 32, on December 7

148. Edmon Alexander, 54, on December 8

149. Corey Haley, 34, on December 13

150. Kaleb D. Martin, 17, on December 14

Part of our **Justice & Life Ministry** is to pray for homicide victims (and their families) by name at our weekend Masses. We also post those names in our weekly update. Parishioner **Jennifer Rouyer** keeps a watchful eye on this issue and makes sure we have the names each week. This is what she has to say about this ministry:

*I read these names as a prayer. When I look up the KC Homicide victims each week, I add them to a google doc with all the names I have sent to you. I read the names as a "litany of the saints." I need to say their names. I took home the homicide victims' candle from our Altar of Remembrance and now I burn that while I compile the list and pray the names. This has added to and enhanced my prayer life tremendously. These homicide victims-I don't know their story except for those few lines in the paper about how they died and where they were found dead, but I remember that there is a whole life story that came before their body was "found dead" or "found suffering from a gunshot wound." Along with the names of those who have been murdered, I pray for the first responders and those around who witnessed or found the people who were killed. I pray for the people who killed them. I pray for the victims who survived. I pray for the health care professionals and the medical examiner and all who come in contact with these people-trying to save their lives or caring for their bodies once they have fallen silent. I pray for the families and friends who knew them. I pray for the police who will take reports and investigate. I pray for structures and systems that are broken. I pray for healing in our hearts for those of us who grow indifferent or judgmental about the murder around us. I pray for healing in our community and in our world as I remember that the homicides in Kansas City are just a small representation of the murders in our country and around the world. I know that God never promised us there would not be suffering in the world, but he always promised to be with us. God be With Us. We are God with others.*

**December Prayer Walk** Saturday, December 18, 11:00am at the **Urban Arboretum** of Linda Hall Library. **Note different start time** to accommodate folks who are helping with the Christmas Basket Project. We will meet at the entrance gate, **5109 Cherry Street, KCMO 64110**. For more information about this urban arboretum go to [Arboretum - Linda Hall Library](#).

**CHRISTMAS EVE 4:00 FAMILY MASS** Many thanks to all those **children, teens and adults** who have volunteered to help. Mariann will be contacting you. Volunteers, please arrive at

Church on Friday, Christmas Eve between 3:15-3:30 pm . Our prelude music will begin at 3:40 and we want to be ready to enjoy it! For more information or to volunteer contact [Mariann](#).

**HeART and Soul continues the first Tuesday of the month  
January 4 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. For more information, Zoom link, and supply packet contact Mariann before December 23 (our parish offices are closed December 24-January 2). ([mccormally@sfx-kc.org](mailto:mccormally@sfx-kc.org) 816-381-9163).

**SAVE the DATE: Father James Martin, SJ** will be zooming with us on Thursday, **January 27 at 7:00pm** to talk about his book "Jesus, A Pilgrimage." This is for our book club members AND ALL PARISHIONERS. Registration details will be available after the first of the year. If you have a question for Father Martin, please send it to [Mariann](#).

**Christmas Basket Baggers** – We meet **this Saturday at 9:00 am in Xavier Hall** to bag groceries, produce, and baking bags. We have about 50 people signed up to help, so it should go quickly.

**Christmas Basket Distribution Day Workers** - We would like to provide sustenance to those who have signed up to work on December 21. If you would like to provide a crock pot of soup, a salad, some bread/crackers, a dessert, or snacks, please sign up in the back of church this weekend!

**Christmas Cookie Project** We had 51 bakers sign up and we need all of you!!! We will be preparing Christmas baskets for over 100 families and would like to put one or two dozen cookies in every basket. PLEASE MAKE 3 or 4 DOZEN COOKIES and DELIVER THEM TO SFX THIS WEEKEND, December 18/19. If you are helping bag groceries Saturday morning, you can bring your cookies to Xavier Hall with you Saturday morning. OR you can drop your cookies off in the narthex before Mass or drop them off at Xavier Hall after Mass (Saturday 4, Sunday 8 or 10:30). Xavier Hall will NOT be unlocked before Mass. If you need to drop the cookies off at some other time please let [Mariann](#) know. Our Confirmation kiddos (and others) will help box up the cookies at noon on Sunday. The baskets will be distributed on Tuesday.

**Gospel Nonviolence** - Another group is starting up soon. We will gather on a schedule that works for the participants. Generally, we meet 2 times a month for 2 hours to listen to content from a retreat master, the founder and director of the Program for the Study and Practice of Nonviolence at Notre Dame. Anyone interested in this content on a most pressing contemporary problem in the Church and the world is invited to contact Peg Burns [at pegburns00@gmail.com](mailto:pegburns00@gmail.com).

**Souper Bowl 2022 Challenge** – Beginning in January and continuing through the Super Bowl on February 13, we will be collecting cans of soup for our food pantry. Can we collect 2022 cans? Let the challenge begin!

**EmbRace SFX** (formerly ARC) – This group focuses on racial justice through personal growth, education, and activism and will meet on **Sunday, January 2 at 9:00 am** in Xavier Hall. For more information, contact Sue or come on over to Xavier Hall. We will be finalizing plans for Black History Month. We are planning to see the musical *Memphis* at the Jewish Community Theater in February. Date is yet to be determined. If you are interested in going, please contact Sue.

**EmbRace This Opportunity** - If you haven't had the opportunity yet to drive the Dividing Lines Tour through Kansas City you are in luck. The producers have created a video that follows the route of the tour and includes all the commentary of the driving tour. This is a documentary reveals how Kansas City became so divided geographically and racially by focusing on the topics of homeowners' association covenants, red-lining, and blockbusting and how those contributed to the segregation we see yet today. Every Kansas Citian should watch it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mqL4YZJM698>

**RIM** (Refugees, Immigrants, and Migrants) – This ministry meets **Sunday, January 9 at 9:00 am**. We will be discussing plans to go back to the Southern Border October 11-16 to visit the Encuentro Project and continued ways to support the Afghan Refugees. If you are interested in going, please contact Sue or come to our meeting!

**SFX-CDH Awareness Blood Drive** Sunday, January 16th 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM in Xavier Hall! Book your appointment **today** at [savealifenow.org](http://savealifenow.org), enter Group Code: ED8V. All presenting donors receive a Chiefs Kingdom T-shirt! For additional details contact Jen Miller at (913) 961-2343 or [millerjayhawk@gmail.com](mailto:millerjayhawk@gmail.com) or Sue Robb.

**The Education of Corporal John Musgrave** - Several years ago, Ken Burns and PBS did a six-night documentary on the Vietnam War. Ken Burns interviewed John Musgrave, who is from this area, was permanently disabled, and now lives in Baldwin City, KS. His book, [\*The Education of Corporal John Musgrave\*](#), focuses on his journey from war to anti-war activism. While we are grateful for the sacrifices people make to defend democracy and keep peace, Pope Francis has significantly shifted the Church's longstanding Just War teaching. If you are interested in reading and discussing this powerful book and its social justice implications, contact Sue Robb or Kaler Bole.

**Amazon Smile** - If you shop Amazon, please remember to do it via <https://smile.amazon.com> and make St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church (make sure it's our Kansas City church) the cause you support! Thank you!

### **Opportunities from our Apostolates and our Community**

**Ignatian Solidarity Network – Las Posadas** - It's not too late! From December 16-24, join ISN and the Kino Border Initiative in a virtual experience of music, art, prayer, reflection, and action as we journey with the holy family and migrants around the world in search of shelter and protection. [Each day via text or email](#), you'll receive a short video with an opening

Posadas song, prayer, and an invitation to support migrants and take action to end the harmful Title 42 policy. Learn more about the [Posadas 2021](#).

**SLAVES, BE SUBJECT TO YOUR MASTERS (1 PET 2:18) A Narrative of American Religious Institutions and Their Historical Complicity with Slavery and Racism**

Wednesday Evenings, January 5, 12, 19, & 26, 2022 ~ 7-9 PM

Repeated Thursday Mornings, January 6, 13, 20, & 27, 2022 ~ 10am-Noon

These sessions explore the many ways in which American Religious Institutions manifested their complicity in the buying and selling of human beings, along with how they continued their complicity to our present day with racist policies and prejudice. Most major American universities, Protestant Religious institutions, Catholic Religious Orders of both men and women, along with many other religious institutions, all used and abused human beings to support and further their mission and objectives. The sessions conclude by examining the many ways that some of these religious institutions are acknowledging and apologizing for their complicity, and what they are currently doing to make amends or reparations. The sessions will be facilitated via Zoom. To register, call Biagio at 816-979-3153 or e-mail Biagio at [biagio@stsabinaparish.org](mailto:biagio@stsabinaparish.org) St. Sabina Parish, 700 Trevis Avenue, Belton, MO 64012 [www.stsabinaparish.org](http://www.stsabinaparish.org).

**MORE 2 Opportunity** – The Metro Organization for Racial and Economic Equity (MORE2) is an activist group comprised of many churches in the metro. They are organizing a phone bank to poll KC voters on their feelings about acquiring local control of the KCPD. The purpose of the phone bank is to poll KC voters on where they stand on this issue - to get enough support to let our leaders know the people want governance of the PD to be in the hands of local elected officials, not people appointed by the governor.

They need help staffing the phone bank, making these calls, and talking with voters. There will be a training session for Thursday, Jan 6, from 3-5pm to review the script and talking points, go over the technical aspects of the automated calling system, and make a few calls. If, after attending the training you decide it's not for you, you need not continue. If you are interested in helping or have more questions, please contact Doug Kinney at 816-582-9200.

**December Blessings!**

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

**See something that interests you? Contact us:**

**Ann Sheridan, Pastoral Administrator – [asheridan@sfx-kc.org](mailto:asheridan@sfx-kc.org)**

**Becca Jackson, Facilities – [rjackson@sfx-kc.org](mailto:rjackson@sfx-kc.org)**

**Fr. Jim Caime, S.J., Pastor – [pastor@sfx-kc.org](mailto:pastor@sfx-kc.org)**

**Mariann McCormally, Pastoral Associate, Faith Formation – [mccormally@sfx-kc.org](mailto:mccormally@sfx-kc.org)**

**Peggy Beaven-Calia, Administrative Assistant – [pbeavencalia@sfx-kc.org](mailto:pbeavencalia@sfx-kc.org)**

**Sue Robb, Pastoral Associate, Justice & Life - [srobb@sfx-kc.org](mailto:srobb@sfx-kc.org)**

