



SFX UPDATE – December 10, 2021

Feast of St. Francis Xavier

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.

Please take home your loved one's Candle of Remembrance and whatever photos or mementos you placed at the Altar of Remembrance at the end of Mass this weekend. You will find them in the narthex.

Christmas Eve-Day and Feast of Holy Family

Friday, December 24, 4:00pm & 9:00pm

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)

Pastor's Corner–

Last weekend's homily included an excerpt of Fr. Alfred Delp, S.J. who was martyred for speaking out against Hitler. Here is a link to the website where you can find some of his writings. **[The Shaking Reality of Advent](#)**

I will be away this weekend on a men's retreat with some of the men from our parish. My Jesuit brothers are helping by covering the Masses this weekend. I know you will give them a warm welcome!

Also, 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.

Second Collection this Weekend: Retirement Fund for Religious
Proceeds from the annual Retirement Fund for Religious appeal enable the National Religious Retirement Office to distribute financial assistance to hundreds of religious communities each

year. The majority of donations are distributed as Direct Care Assistance, which is used to help meet immediate eldercare needs or saved for long-term retirement expenses.

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/ cell phone: 816-462-3523.

Deanery Project: Help Us Shape the Future of Parishes

One of the greatest hopes for the future is that the Church in the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph will grow and thrive. As part of the Diocese's long-term vision, all parishes in our deanery have been involved in a process to plan for the future. There have been site visits, meetings with parish leaders, and studies of area and parish data. The Diocese is keenly interested in your ideas about the possibilities for vibrant ministry in our deanery. In January, we'll host an all-parish Zoom meeting to update you on the project and ask for your input. Please consider joining parish representatives Nancy Seibolt and Jim Hafner along with Fr. Jim and Ann to discuss our future. Details about the meeting will be published in a few weeks. Stay tuned!

We continue to pray for Kansas City Metro homicide victims by name at our weekend liturgies. This weekend we remember:

- 138. Justin Doza-Adams, 27, on November 29
- 139. Isaiah Abraham-Brown, 19, on December 1
- 140. Jeffrey Phillips, 59, on December 3
- 141. Cicely Shirley, 35, on December 3
- 142. Duan R. Bryant, Jr., 21, on December 4
- 143. Donald McDaniel, 60, on December 5
- 144. Mondrell Smallwood, 33, on December 6
- 145. Ja'Braughn James, 24, on December 6
- 146. Unknown person on December 6
- 147. Edmon Alexander, 54, on December 8

IGNATIAN YEAR PILGRIMAGE STOP #4 NEW ORLEANS Saturday, December 11, 10:00am – 12:00noon (Central Time). Learn about the good work of the Jesuits and their lay colleagues, pray the Mass with Provincial Tom Greene, SJ, and listen to a presentation on **“Walking with the Marginalized” by Father Christopher Collins, SJ**. There will also be an opportunity to talk with others from around the province in small groups. Join <https://bit.ly/PilgrimageZoom> Meeting ID: 872 3504 3229 Passcode: AMDG.

Our MARIAN DEVOTION Group will meet and pray the rosary Sunday, December 12, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. 9:00am. SFX Parish Library. Contact [Gail Fein](#) for more information.

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 We need **YOU, children, teens and adults!** To help make our celebration complete we need: greeters, ushers, candle-bearers, gift-bearers, lectors, and Eucharistic ministers. For more information or to volunteer contact [Mariann](#).

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](#).

Spiritual Direction The holidays can be difficult for those who have experienced significant losses. [Sue](#) and [Mariann](#) are certified spiritual directors and are here to meet and journey with you through the holidays. Contact either of us. We are here for you.

Christmas Basket Update – We're getting close! Bagging day is just 8 days away (December 18) and distribution day is Tuesday, December 21. Thanks so much to those of you who have donated! We still **need 10-20 more turkeys**, but what we **REALLY, REALLY** need is for more food to come in! We only have about 10% of what we need. If you can help, please bring the food to church this weekend. All food donations needs to be to us by December 16 at the very latest. That way we can go out and purchase what we need and be ready to package on the 18th. In case you misplaced your shopping list, here is what we are collecting this year.

Cream of Mushroom Soup (10 oz can)	French Fried Onions (for GB casserole)
Gravy Mix (pkgs. only/no jars or cans)	Cranberries (14-16 oz.)
Bag of sugar (1-2#)	Bag of flour
Bag of Marshmallows	Chunk Pineapple (16-20 oz.)
Brownie Mix (14-16 oz)	Jello (sm. box)
NEW ITEMS: Imitation Vanilla	Ground Cinnamon
Ground Nutmeg	Ground Ginger

Aldi or Dollar Tree are good places to get these items.

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, or a dessert, please contact Sue.

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.

A Christmas gift idea - Several years ago, Ken Burns and PBS did a six-night documentary on the Vietnam War. One man, John Musgrave, literally stole the show with his insight. As a kid from Independence MO, all he wanted to do was become a Marine. In Vietnam for 11 months, John was permanently disabled by his third wound. Subsequently, he has been a

voice for anti-war protests. He, along with John Kerry, threw their Purple Hearts over a fence in DC with 30 others in 1971. John lives in Baldwin City KS and has a new book, [The Education of Corporal John Musgrave](#). While we are grateful for the sacrifices people make in the name of justice and peace, Pope Francis has significantly shifted the Church's longstanding Just War teaching. Check out this book! We hope to do a couple book groups after the first of the year. For more information, contact Sue Robb or Kaler Bole.

ID Cards – Please contact Sue if you are able to help obtain ID cards and driver's licenses for those in need. It would require meeting the person at the DMV at a set time and (using J&L funds) paying for the ID. We receive requests 1-2 times a month. TIA!

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

MORE² Planning meeting - Are you looking for an opportunity to get more involved in making positive change in our community? All are welcome to join and get involved in one of our issue task forces working on a variety of racial and economic equity issues. Join MORE² next Monday, December 13 at their monthly Issues2Action meeting, from 6-7:30pm, online via Zoom. [You can register and attend this meeting using this link.](#)

Ignatian Solidarity Network – Las Posadas - 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 St. Sabina Parish, 700 Trevis Avenue, Belton, MO 64012 www.stsabinaparish.org.

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

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

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

