



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

SFX UPDATE – May 13, 2022

All are welcome at
[St. Francis Xavier](#)

Parish Pentecost Retreat - Friday evening, June 3 5:30-9:00. Led by Mariann and Sue, this retreat is for couples and singles, men and women, and young and old. In the presence of the Holy Spirit we'll get acquainted, share a meal, reflect on the Fruits of the Spirit, have some quiet time and time to share, and close with prayer and song. **Limit: 54 people.** [Sign up here](#) and contact Sue or Mariann for more information.

Strong Blessings on Caleb Michael Kramer (son of Calvin Edward Kramer and Kelly Therese Harbison) who will be baptized Saturday morning. May he – and all our children and teens – grow up to “find God in all things.”

We continue to pray for all Kansas City Metro homicide victims at our weekend liturgies. Those killed in the city of Kansas City, Missouri this week are:

- Marion Warden, 22 on May 5
- Eric Verner, 51, on May 5
- Marcia Boring, 52, on May 6
- Eugene Shaw, 50, on May 6
- Maurice Boudreaux-Boone, 20, on May 6
- Terylle Gorham, 31, on May 10

Ignatian Parish Justice Summit

VIRTUAL ONLY – June 15 11:15-5:15 pm via Zoom – Cost is \$50 [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

This is a terrific opportunity to:

- Share best practices,
- form new connections within the broader Catholic network, and
- explore strategies and ideas around parish work for social justice inspired by the Ignatian charism.

Join us as we explore how to nurture more just, spiritually grounded, and vibrant parish communities.

Ignatian Year Pilgrimage last stops: EL PASO, TEXAS

Jesuit **Provincial Tom Greene, SJ** is in El Paso, Texas to visit the Jesuit apostolates there. Join in the gathering Saturday **Saturday, May 14, 6:45 pm:** “Migrating with the Migrant: Rich Possibilities for Spiritual Accompaniment of the Migrant Poor” with **Most Reverend Mark Seitz, Bishop of El Paso.** [YouTube](#) or [Zoom Meeting](#) ID 872 6360 8608 Passcode 051422

May Prayer Walk Join us **May 21, 9:30 am** at the Neighborhood Park at 81st and Troost (just north of the Family Dollar). This is part of the **Investing in KC/Target Green Project** in the Marlborough Neighborhood. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the project. All ages welcome!

Wheelchairs and strollers, dogs on leashes. We will walk and talk and share faith – and learn more about **green infrastructure**. Caring for Our Common Home is one of four [Universal Apostolic Preferences](#) of the Society of Jesus. For more information, contact [Mariann](#).

ADULT CONFIRMATION for practicing Catholics, age 21 and older, who “missed” being confirmed as a teenager, will be celebrated by Bishop Johnston **Thursday, June 9** at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Contact [Mariann](#) for information and to sign up for preparation classes.

Centering Prayer Group IN PERSON in the SFX Chapel

Monday, May 16

7:00-9:00 pm. All are welcome. Contact Rebecca Thompson [Rebecca Thompson](#) for details. For information about Centering Prayer go to <http://contemplativeoutreachkc.org> .

Our Marian Devotion Group “Truly Our Mother” will meet this Sunday, May 15, 9:00 am in the Parish Library for their monthly meeting. At the end of the meeting we will have a **May Crowning** of the statue of Mary in the garden. All are welcome! Parishioners are also invited to join in praying the rosary on Zoom: Wednesdays and Fridays at 6:00 pm and Saturdays at 3:30 pm. Contact [Gail Fein](#) for more information, Zoom meeting id and password link.

Calling All SFX Youth in Grades 7-12: Creating a Connected World-Social Justice Camp for Youth

June 7-8 (Tues-Wed) 6-8:30 p.m

Precious Blood Renewal Center in Liberty

Join Youth from around the Kansas City Metro Area who will gather for empowering talks, fun crafts and socializing. The aim is to know yourself better and meet some new friends. This is the third annual summer youth camp sponsored by the Precious Blood Renewal Center. FREE! Contact Mariann (mccormally@sfx-kc.org) for more information.

HELP NEEDED: Please consider joining us as we rebuild our children and teen ministries at SFX! What a blessing to have so many new, young families. Now to provide them with great faith formation programming! Do you have ideas? Suggestions? Can you be a part of Children’s Liturgy, Baptism Prep, First Sacraments, Family Faith, Middle School and High School Youth Group? 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. Volunteers receive on-going training and support. Please contact [Mariann](#) for more information.

Synod on Synodality

Shared Sense of Mission was identified as the third important issue by respondents to our Synod Survey. This is the summary of those comments we sent to Bishop Johnston.

Respondents were grateful at how much and how well St. Francis Xavier supports the work of those who pursue social justice, who pursue scientific research, who teach, who promote human rights, and who protect the environment. One respondent wrote, “SFX does a marvelous job of making us all care for each other and the environment.” But there was great and grave concern about how this is NOT happening in other parishes or in the diocese or US Catholic Church as a whole. In fact, it seems like a low priority for many in the Church who are focused only on salvation and the pro-life issue of abortion. Many respondents wrote of their disappointment in parishes and dioceses that seemed to deny science by fighting mask mandates and stay-at-home orders and discouraging vaccinations during the COVID pandemic. Others noted that little is said from the pulpit or by the bishops about global climate

change. Several mentioned the 2020 presidential election and Bishop Johnston's letter that seemed to be telling them who to vote for (or, at least, who not to vote for) based on the single issue of abortion. Some respondents were disheartened, too, by the preaching of some pastors and the teaching of some bishops decrying gay rights. Respondents overwhelmingly want pastors and bishops to say more about other social justice issues including systemic racism in housing, policing, healthcare and education. Respondents are also concerned about income inequality, educational disparity and the rise in authoritarianism that is leading to a decline in human rights. One respondent wrote about the "INCREDIBLE" work down by the Catholic Church by non-governmental organizations like Catholic Relief Services and Jesuit Refugee Services. But, overall, respondents want to see more concrete action for social justice on the parish and diocesan level.

Please continue to pray for our Bishops and Pope Francis – and all the Church – that we can truly listen to the Holy Spirit! To learn more about the Synod go to [Synod 2021-2023](#).

Mark Your Calendars:

Pizza and a Movie! Join us in the Romero Room TUESDAY, May 24 for the last of our 4:00 movie series highlighting leaders of non-violence. We will enjoy pizza and watch *King in the Wilderness*, a documentary about Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his prophetic voice of non-violence and peace.

Don't get off until 5:00? Watch it on YouTube, then join us for the discussion. Contact [Peg Burns](#) or [Sue](#) for more information (or to **RSVP, which is helpful**, but not necessary.)

RIM (Refugees, Immigrants, and Migrants) **Ministry** will meet **THIS Sunday, May 15 from 9:00-10:15 in Xavier Hall**. Join us as we build community and support those seeking freedom from violence and corruption in their home countries.

RIM Recommends: Attending "Welcoming Communities" sponsored by JVS who will explain how they serve immigrants and share new information about who they expect to serve in the future. The events will be held on Tues, May 24 and Thurs, June 24 starting at 5 pm. To attend you must register for their next [information session](#).

Another important event sponsored by Returned Peace Corps volunteers and the KC Irish Center is a **fundraiser for Ukraine**. There will be live music and dance performances, art, raffle prizes, a silent auction, and a cash bar. It will be held on Fri, May 27 at 6 pm at Drexel Hall (3301 Baltimore) The cost is \$15, or \$20 at the door. For more information go to [Our Village: A Kansas City Benefit for Ukraine Tickets, Fri 27 May 2022 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Justice & Life Committee meets May 22 – 9:00 am-10:15 – Romero Room – Want to learn more about Catholic Social Teaching and how it applies to today's issues? This is the group for you! For more information, contact [Sue](#) or Tim Driscoll.

George Floyd Public Witness & Prayer Service – Wednesday, May 25 – 4:30-5:45 pm – 1001 E 52nd Street. Mark your calendar, bring your friends and your signs and come remember George Floyd and show support for Black lives. We will witness from 4:30-5:30 and then pray from 5:30-5:45. In case of rain, we will hold the prayer service in the church. Contact [Sue](#) for more information.

***Binding Us Together* by Alvin Brooks** – Few have faced adversity like Alvin Brooks has. He was born into an impoverished family, he nearly lost his adoptive father to the justice system of the South, and he barely survived a health crisis in infancy. Alvin Brooks proves that a good

heart, a generous spirit, and a lot of work can connect the world; one person can make a difference by binding us together.

We'll read and discuss Mr. Brooks' book via Zoom on Monday evening June 6 (Chapters 1-4), June 13 (Chapters 6-9), and June 20 (Chapters 10-13), and then host him in Xavier Hall on June 27 for an engaging discussion. Please consider purchasing the book from Rainy Day books. Let us know you're interested by signing up [here](#) or contact [Sue](#).

EmbRace recommends: For parents looking for books on social justice, civil rights and books by black authors for their young children, EmbRace Recommends checking out this link for suggestions from the Kansas City Public Library: <https://kclibrary.bibliocommons.com/list/share/1167659367/1653908779>

Migrant Farmworkers Collection and Dates - We have 3 dates to go to Lexington to serve the migrant families who put food on our tables. Mark your calendars for **August 22, September 19, and October 3**. We'll leave the SFX parking lot at 3:00 and return about 8:00 pm. All are welcome!

We have been asked to collect:

- white rice (not instant)
- pinto beans (dry, not in cans)
- cans of hearty, meaty soup - beef chili, hearty chicken, chicken and rice, beans and ham (*Yes, we're collecting soup again!!!! Go SFX!*)
- Paper sacks without handles
- Clean bath towels
- New or gently used white or gray tube socks – knee high
- Simple, solid colored stocking caps (*Start your needles, knitters and crocheters!*)
- *clean sweatshirts - med, large, X-large
- *clean lightweight long sleeve shirts – med, large, X-large
- *clean new and gently used T-shirts – med, large, X-large

* For the non-food items, **please separate, sort, and label all donations.*** (Example: t-shirts – medium) *Neither MFAF nor SFX has the staff and time to sort all we receive.* Please drop off your donations in the back of church when you come to Mass or bring them to the parish office during office hours. Contact [Sue](#) for more information.

Are you ready for Spring? Ready for a return to fun? The social committee is gearing up for a return to normal activities and is seeking new members who want to get creative and love to party. The group is responsible for planning fun activities and utilizing Xavier Hall. We will be meeting **Monday, May 16 at 7:00pm in Xavier Hall**. Past events included a Valentine's Day party, game night, and Halloween party. Please contact [Shelby Siegel](#) if you are interested in joining or if you have any questions about the group.

FROM OUR APOSTOLATES and FRIENDS

LEAD TO READ KC is recruiting volunteers to read with elementary students in high-need schools across the Kansas City metro. It's the easiest, most meaningful volunteer experience in Kansas City! You can volunteer **virtually or in-person one lunch hour a week**, twice a month, or as often as your schedule allows—no evenings or weekends!

[Apply online](#), complete a short online training session, and begin reading with a student at a school near or far to you. **Learn more and apply today:** leadtoreadkc.org

Easing into Contemplative Prayer with the Ignatian Spirituality Center of Kansas City
Wednesdays, June 8 – July 13, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM ZOOM

Looking to reinvigorate your life in prayer this summer? Join us for a 6-week long experience of exploring the four stages of prayer that lead to contemplation. We will be reading together *The Armchair Mystic* by Fr. Mark Thibodeaux, SJ and praying his suggested exercises to help cultivate a deeper relationship with our Lord. You will read about 5 pages per day and pray for 30 minutes and meet weekly with your group to reflect and share about your prayer experience. Weekly gatherings will begin on Wednesday, June 8th at 7:00 PM. Cost \$35 (book not included)

For more information and to register, please see our events page <https://www.ignatiancenterkc.org/events>.

May Blessings!

Ann, Becca, Fr. Jim, Laura, 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

Laura Worms, Music Director - lworms@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