



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

KANSAS CITY'S JESUIT PARISH



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SFX UPDATE – January 6, 2023

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

[SFX YouTube Channel](#)

[SFX Facebook Page](#)

[SFX Justice & Life Facebook](#)

Pastor's Corner

Rockhurst Univ Security: 816-501-4010

At the 4:00 pm Mass on Saturday, Dec 31, a parishioner experiencing mental health challenges caused a number of parishioners considerable concern due to his behavior. Rockhurst University Security regularly patrols our SFX grounds and will provide immediate assistance. If you see anything at Mass that causes you alarm, please do not hesitate to call Rockhurst Security - they can be here within 2 minutes. RU Security will call the proper authorities to assist if needed. This is what we are instructed to do at the Jesuit Residence as well. RU can be here faster than 911 responders and begin immediate assistance. Please put the RU Security number in your phone for quick access. This number is also posted on the wall by the collection baskets, and on the tables at each entry. It will be put in the bulletin beginning next week.

Rockhurst Univ Security: 816-501-4010

Pastors Corner

In 2023 we will continue to pray for all those murdered in our nation, our metro and in our own neighborhood – and “pray by name” as best we can for those killed in Kansas City, Missouri. We share the names reported on the database provided by [The Kansas City Star](#). On January 3 this death was added:

171. Unknown Man, 12/30/22.

Second Collection January 14-15th Next weekend we'll take up a second collection for Catholic Home Missions. What Is a Home Mission Diocese? Home mission dioceses are those Catholic dioceses in the United States, its territories, and former territories that cannot provide basic pastoral services without outside help. Basic pastoral services include Mass, the sacraments, religious education, and ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters, and laypeople. Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered home missions. Please consider supporting this

January Prayer Walk Saturday, January 7, 9:30 am at Brookside Hill. We'll meet at the NE corner of 57th and Brookside Boulevard. We'll walk around the area, talk about why some think we shouldn't call it "Suicide Hill," reflect on the Feast of the Epiphany and the importance of awe and appreciation in our lives, and find God in all things. All ages welcome. Wheelchairs and strollers. Dogs on leashes. Bundle up! For more information, contact [Mariann](#).

Reality Check – Children's Liturgy and Sunday School We will be unable to offer Children's Liturgy of the Word for Ages 5-10 on January 15 or January 22 because of staff scheduling conflicts and a lack of trained volunteers. We are also struggling to rebuild our Sunday School for Ages 2-3-4. We ask that you prayerfully consider if you might be called to this ministry. We can't do anything without YOU! Contact [Mariann](#) for more information.

SFX Cookie Project Many thanks to all who baked, packaged and carried cookies up and down the steps! Special shout-out to **Melanie Apodaca** who organized the joyful chaos! Your cookie containers have been washed and dried and can be picked up this weekend from a cart in the narthex. Any containers leftover will be offered to our food pantry clients.

Visit a Hindu Temple As a follow-up to our parish read of Barbara Brown Taylor's "Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others," our Adult Faith Formation Committee has arranged for us to visit the [Hindu Temple & Cultural Center of Kansas City](#) at 6330 Lackman Road, Shawnee KS on **Saturday, January 28, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. We will meet at the SFX Parking Lot at 10:00 am to carpool** (or meet us there NO LATER THAN 10:45 am).

The schedule for the visit is:

11:00 am Tour and Talk on Hinduism

11:30 am Lunch (cost \$5/person - "real Indian food")

12:00 noon Prayer Service

All ages welcome. [CLICK HERE to watch a short video on Hinduism.](#)

Please rsvp to [Mariann](#).

(And mark your calendar for a visit to the New Reform Temple on Friday, February 10 to share in their shabbat service. Details to come!)

Looking ahead to Lent Our Adult Faith Formation Committee is encouraging parishioners to read "**Learning to Pray: A Guide for Everyone**" by Father James Martin, SJ (available wherever books are sold, including on Audible and at Half Price Books). We will be offering a **three-session study group during Lent**. We hope to offer multiple groups on different days, at different times and different modes – on Zoom, in-person at the parish office and in parishioners' homes. Please contact [Mariann](#) if you'd be willing to host a group in your home. [CLICK HERE to view a 3-minute YouTube video of Father Martin answering the question, "Why should you pray?"](#) [CLICK HERE to read the first three chapters of the book](#) [CLICK HERE to download the reading guide.](#)

The Adult Faith Formation Committee recommends FutureChurch's [Respect Women Lecture: A Catholic Action Plan for Justice](#) on **January 18, 6:00 pm** CT by Dr. Emily Reimer-Barry of the University of San Diego. The FREE lecture will explore what practical steps Catholics can take to advance justice for and with women in our Church and world. Click the link above to register and receive Zoom link.

Father Rafael and Sacred Heart in El Paso in the News [CLICK HERE](#) to view a news story from CNN about our former pastor Rafael Garcia's work on the southern border,

opening their parish gym as a night shelter and caring for hundreds of refugees. He says, "we are happy to do it...we are responding to a real crisis...we are taking it one day at a time." To help alleviate the pressure at the Southern border, SFX will again partner with other community agencies to accept another bus of asylum seekers the weekend of February 18. Watch the bulletin and this update for current needs and more information. In the meantime, please pray for Fr. Rafael and those in migration. Thank you!

Soup-er Bowl 2023 is happening now! – To date, we only need 1,899 more cans of hearty soup to feed our neighbors this season and win THIS Soup-er bowl!. Join in the fun as we strive to collect 2023 cans of soup between January 1 and February 12, the date of the Super Bowl. Contact Sue with any questions. Thank you!

RIM Ministry Meeting – Sunday, January 8, 2023 in the BVM room at 9:00 am. Start your year by joining the RIM (Refugees, Immigrants, and Migrants) Ministry. We'll have updates on our next bus of asylum seekers who will be here the weekend of February 17-20, and review our goals for the year. All are welcome! Contact Bill Schmidt (schmidtwilliam1219@gmail.com) or Sue Robb (srobb@sfx-kc.org) for more information.

MLK Opportunity – St. Therese Little Flower will hold a prayer service and call to action on Monday, January 16 beginning at 10:00 am. They have invited SFX to attend the service and help create Care Bags to give to the homeless in our city. Join us in this time of great winter need in our city. Thank you!

Justice & Life Ministry – Join us Sunday, January 22 at 9:00 am for our Justice & Life ministry meeting. We will read and discuss a brief article on an aspect of Catholic Social Teaching and look forward to upcoming opportunities in 2023. For more information, contact Tim Driscoll (tdriscoll1951@gmail.com) or Sue.

EmbRace Ministry – Sue and Mary are returning from a national Jesuit conference and will share what they learned on Sunday, January 29, at 9:00 am (between the Masses). Join us as we engage with today's racism issues and work to educate ourselves, engage with the community, and build SFX as an anti-racist parish.

Missouri is set to execute two people in the first 40 days of 2023: Amber McLaughlin was executed on Jan. 3, 2023 and Leonard "Raheem" Taylor is scheduled to be executed on Feb. 7, 2023, despite witnesses who can attest to him not being in Missouri when the murders took place.

Take Action today! Call Governor Mike Parson (573) 751-3222 and ask for clemency and freedom for Raheem. Killing is not what Christians are supposed to do. Visit <https://www.madpmo.org/> for more information.

Violence in our City Half Day Retreat- This retreat has been postponed until Saturday, June 3.

Thank you for reading to the end!
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
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Peggy Beaven-Calia, Administrative Assistant – pbeavencalia@sfx-kc.org
Sue Robb, Pastoral Associate, Justice & Life - srobb@sfx-kc.org