

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

I AM
THE BREAD
OF LIFE.

— JOHN 6:35 —



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH (TAOS)

7319 ROUTE M, JEFFERSON CITY, MO | 573.395.4401 | LHERZING@SFXTAOS.COM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 2024

St. Francis Xavier Parish

7319 Route M Jefferson City (Taos) MO 65101

REV. KELECHI UZUEGBU - PASTOR
Email: kuzuegbu@sfxtaos.com (ext. 1004)

DEACON MICHAEL BERENDZEN 573.694.4916
Email: mwberendzen@gmail.com

WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 8:00 & 10 a.m.

Welcome to St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church! We are glad that you came to join us for Mass. We hope that you feel welcome in our parish community. We are a Roman Catholic community dedicated to worshiping God, proclaiming the Gospel, teaching the faith, and serving our brothers and sisters. Whether you are just visiting or looking for a faith community to call home, we hope that you feel welcome with us. May God bless you!

Email: sfxchurch1@embarqmail.com

Facebook: [St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church & St. Francis Xavier Parish](#)

Office: 573.395.4401 Fax: 573.395.4302

Parish Website: www.sfxtaos.com

Bookkeeper- Cecilia Lock Email: clock@sfxtaos.com (ext. 1002)

Secretary - Laurie Herzing Email: lherzing@sfxtaos.com (ext. 1001)

Religious Education Director - Cathy Singer Email: reled@sfxtaos.com (ext. 1003)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4:15 - 4:45 p.m.
or anytime by appointment.

PASTORAL COUNCIL (2024-25): Steve LePage, President 338-3909;
Randy Kempker, Vice President 619-8230; Maureen LeRoy, Secretary 694-4487;
Jean Decker, Social Concerns 619-0282; Lacy Green 680-2321; Cindy Luebbering 291-2625;
Russell Richter 291-3745; Tom Sanning 694-1241; Stacy Strobe 291-4323;
Wendy Sullivan 353-2191; Linda Tobar 619-7306; Kristen Wegman 619-1202;
Diana Wekenborg 694-6707; Josh Sandbothe, Property Manager 690-2861

MISSION STATEMENT: St. Francis Xavier Parish is an example of Christ's Love by educating, serving and celebrating our faith with others in our community.

Adopted by Parish Council Fall 1997

St. Francis Xavier School 7307 Rt. M, Jefferson City, MO 65101

Jordan Tobar - Principal Email: jtobar@sfxtaos.com

Office: 573.395.4612 Fax: 573.395.4017 School website: www.sfxtaos.com

- ✠ Pray the Rosary at 7:10 p.m. every first Wednesday of each month at the K of C Hall, Taos
- ✠ Pray the Rosary at Church before each Mass (Saturday 4:30 p.m., Sunday 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.)
- ✠ **Baptism:** Contact Father regarding preparation sessions and scheduling.
- ✠ **Marriage:** Contact Father at least six months in advance for preparation and scheduling.
- ✠ **Interested in Joining the Catholic Faith?** Contact Cathy Singer at the parish office 573-395-4401.



Mass Intentions

“For a greater respect for the dignity of each and every human life in all public policies.”

Monday, Aug 5th: No Mass

Tuesday, Aug 6th:

7:00 p.m. - L&D of August Forck Family

Wednesday, Aug 7th:

7:45 a.m. - Mary & Jim Taylor

Thursday, Aug 8th:

7:45 a.m. - Louis Eiken

Friday, Aug 9th:

7:45 a.m. - Bui Van Bang, Bui Van Hai, Bui Thi Thoi, Le Thi Het, Bui Van Phuong, Bui Van Trang, Bui Van Su, Bill Lipskoch, Selma Lipskoch, Beulah Lipskoch, Charles Andrew Scheppers, Rosemary C. Scheppers & Fr. Richard Cronin

Saturday, Aug 10th:

5:00 p.m. - Walter & Catherine Bock, Kathy Paschal & Donald Prenger

Sunday, Aug 11th:

8:00 a.m. - Brad Verslues

10:00 a.m. - People of the Parish

For those of you who have your offertory collection done electronically and do not receive monthly envelopes, the Special envelopes for Aug are: Samaritan Center, Parish School, and Capital Improvements/Repairs.

mark your Calendar

Aug 5 **Women’s Coffee Group 9 a.m. K of C upper level**

Aug 7 **Women’s Bible Study 5:30-6:30 p.m. Commons Rm**

Aug 7 K of C meeting, 7:30 p.m., K of C Hall

Aug 8 School Advisory Council 5:30 p.m. Commons Rm

Aug 11 **150 Anniversary of Fr. Helias at the 10am Mass Reception after Mass in the Cafeteria**

Aug 12 **Welcome Back To School Barbeque**

Aug 14 **First Day of School**

Aug 14 **Women’s Bible Study 5:30-6:30 p.m. Commons Rm**

Aug 14 **Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary**

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Goal for July \$ 82,000.00 (4 Sundays)

July 6 & 7 \$ 12,058.00

July 13 & 14 \$ 9,916.00

July 20 & 21 \$ 11,692.00

July 27 & 28 \$ Early to Print

ACH \$ 28,611.00

\$ 62,277.00

Offertory Collection Fiscal YTD 2023

Goal thru June \$ 1,066,000.00

Actual thru June \$ 1,015,857.95

End of the Year \$ -50,142.05



Please keep Fr. Penn and Cynthia Forck in your prayers and pray that each day that God will give them strength, determination, and healing.

Fall Super: If anyone can help us by donating turnips or sweet potatoes for the Fall Supper in November, please contact Brian and Emily Talken or Cecilia at the parish office. **Thank You!**

Dear Parishioners:
Please prayerfully consider giving of your time to coordinate removal of all church items from the gym after the 10am mass each Sunday during construction. This will begin on Sunday, August 18 through completion of our church renovations. It will not be required for you to be in person every Sunday, but rather to coordinate the effort.
It is expected that the removal of all items from the gym will take approximately 30 minutes. All items will be moved to closet space within the gym.
Once we have a coordinator, we will look to seek additional help for each weekend. This could be a great opportunity for a student seeking service hours.
Please reach out to **Eric Bernskoetter** (573-680-1945) if you are interested in helping, or if you have any questions.

Liturgical Ministries

	Aug 10 & 11	5:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
Eucharistic Ministers	Jean Decker Carol Forck Sharon Forck Keith Henke	Eddy Davis Tina Davis Rhonda Rackers MB	Nick Rackers Cathy Singer Tammy Sachse MB	
Lector	Sarah Boss	Glenda Vanderfeltz	Lisa Reinke	
Ushers	Jo Lootens John Bassett Carol Forck Tony Forck	Dan Sanning Ron Talken Bill Vanderfeltz Wayne Verslues	Cindy LePage Steve LePage Rob Sachse James Singer	
Servers	Zoey Prenger Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	Gabby Sandbothe Libby Sandbothe	
Musicians	Hood & Forbis Family	Kathy & Cheryl	Hoffmeyer & Branum	

Parish now offers **Low-Gluten Hosts**. Come to the sacristy to make your request 15 minutes before Mass.

If you or someone you know is homebound and would like to receive communion or a visit, call the office at 395-4401.

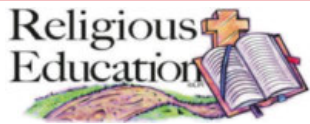
Parish Prayer Line—Alma Sandbothe 573-395-4666 or Shirley Toebben 573-619-0674.

For emergencies, weekends or after-hours, Fr. Kelechi 395-4401

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Since my college days I've loved a song called "Dance with You" by the rock band Live. It touches on the deep mystical hunger of our heart: "I've tasted all the wines/ a half a billion times/ came sickened to your shore/ you showed me what this life is for." These lines resonate with anyone who has feasted on the good things of this world only to be left spiritually hungover and unsatisfied.

We see a similar dynamic evoked by Jesus' words after he feeds the crowd with bread and fish. To teach them to hunger for God, he recalls God's gift of manna-bread for the hungry ancient Israelites. Those folks had grown spiritually sick from the idolatrous food of Egypt yet still longed for more worthless pagan food. So, God sent heavenly bread to nourish their bodies, but also to heal their distrustful hearts. His people — like us — must learn to hunger and thirst for God alone. Before we can receive that which will not disappoint, we first must cease expecting that earthly goods will satisfy us.

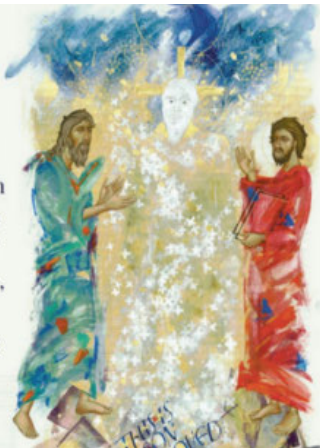
We will get to the Lord's teaching on the Eucharist in the next two weeks. But first, he asks us: do you trust me to take care of you? Do you trust me to give you what you need for each day, and to not worry about the next day? Do you see that when you hungrily stuff yourself with the things of this world you become sick and lose your taste for the bread of life? So, our hungry hearts cry out: Lord, help us to trust that you'll provide for our every need. Help us to use only what we truly need. Help us hunger for the goodness of your Son, who is the true bread from heaven. That is what this life is for. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi



Cathy Singer, Director of Religious Education
573-395-4401 ext. 1003

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Jesus, the Beloved, walk down the mountain with us and open our eyes to see you. Help us to resist the urge to check out of our lives, to distract ourselves, to be addicted to being busy. Wake us up to the glory that is all around us all the time. Amen.



OCIA, formally RCIA will start this fall. If you or someone you know is interested in learning about our Catholic

Faith, we would love to have you come and explore with us. Registration forms are available on our website or at the "church" entrance to school.



Pilgrimage of Churches Founded by Fr. Helias Assumption Parish, Cedron, MO

We will celebrate Mass on **Saturday, August 24th @ 4 p.m.**

Assumption was one of Fr. Ferdinand Helias' original 7 parishes and was closed in the 1990's. It is now under the care of Annunciation Parish in California and only offers Mass twice a year. It will be the second parish we visit on our pilgrimage of visiting Father Helias's churches.



SFX WOMEN'S GROUP BIBLE STUDY:

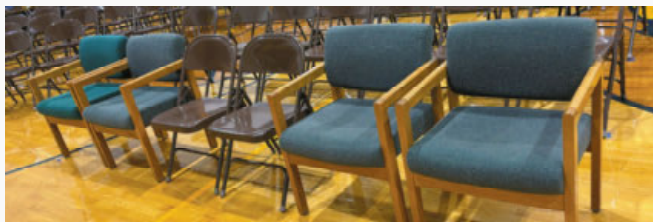
Join the women of the parish on **Wednesday, Aug. 7th** for Bible Study discussing The Bible & The Virgin Mary. We will meet most Wednesdays in the Commons Room at School from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. **No Bible Study on September 4th.**

Want more info or to RSVP?

Contact Sarah Boss at (573) 821-2395 or email sarahbeth1125@gmail.com.



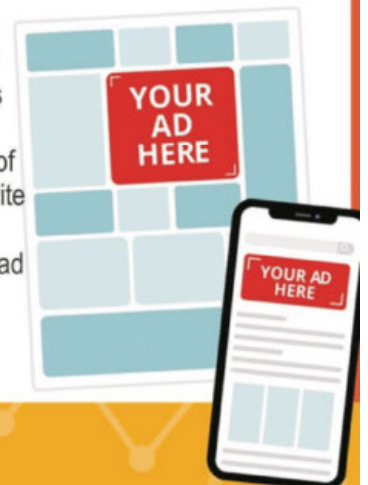
We now have **wheelchairs** available at the school entrance for church for those needing assistance getting into the gym for Mass and some chairs in the gym with arms in order to make it easier getting out of the chair.



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Cami Fox from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com.



Cami Fox
(262) 398-4553
cfox@4lpi.com

Honoring the “Apostle of Central MO”

August 11 marks the 150th anniversary of the death of Father Ferdinand Helias, a remarkable man, with great passion and zeal for helping bring the Word of God to us here in central MO. If you recall, in an earlier article I told of how Fr. Helias died as he was going out to ring the evening Angeles bell. When his neighbors didn't hear the bell ringing they went to check on him and found him dead in the churchyard of an apparent stroke. The date was August 11, 1874, Fr. Helias was 78 years old. He had given 36 years of his life to the people of this area.

Highlights of the life of Father Helias

- Father Helias was born on Aug. 4, 1796 in Ghent, Belgium.
- He was ordained a Jesuit priest on June 5, 1825 at the age of 29.
- His dream to become a Catholic missionary in America came true for him in 1833 when his Jesuit superiors in Europe sent him to America. He spent time in Maryland, Pennsylvania & was finally sent to Missouri where he taught at the Jesuit University & ministered to the German Catholics in St. Louis.
- In 1838 he was sent by Bishop Rosati of St Louis to the wilds of central MO to establish a Catholic Mission with Westphalia as its headquarters.
- Father Helias visited 11 counties in central MO, starting over 20 Catholic Missions.
- From 1838-1845, he established 7 Catholic parishes in central MO. Parishes in Westphalia, Taos, Rich Fountain, Jefferson City-St. Peters, Cedron, Loose Creek and St. Thomas were all founded by Fr. Helias.
- In 1842, Father Helias made St. Francis Xavier his home parish. He continued to travel and administer to other parishes until the mid 1840's when more priests became available.
- Father Helias spent the rest of his years as the pastor of St. Francis as well as continuing to visit other missions that he had founded.
- His death in 1874, was mourned by many people throughout the central MO area. He was beloved by both Catholics and non-Catholics alike and his funeral was largely attended.
- Fr. Helias was buried in the old Taos cemetery until 1964 when a more fitting memorial was made for him. Under the direction of Dulle Funeral Home, his body was exhumed and then re-entombed in the vestibule of SFX church on Memorial Day in 1964.
- Many other parishes along with the Helias Council of the Knights of Columbus helped to defray the cost of this beautiful memorial.

- In 1974, 100 years after Fr. Helias' death, a centennial celebration took place in our parish to honor this great priest for his spiritual commitment, bravery and determination to bring the Catholic faith to central MO. A memorial in the side yard of the SFX church was erected and then dedicated at this celebration on the spot where most believed he died as he went to ring the Angelus bell on the evening of Aug. 11, 1874.

SFX parish is proud to share Fr. Helias' life and legacy with others in the diocese. We can still feel his presence today as he watches over us and reminds us of the importance of being part of a strong Catholic community. **A special Mass in honor of Fr. Helias will be held on Sun. 8/11 at the 10:00 Mass on the 150 anniversary of his death.**

(Written by Kathy Rackers of the Museum Committee with information taken from the History of SFX Church 1838-1988 and the Father Helias Centennial Book.)

Fr. Helias' Anniversary



Mass for Father Helias' 150th Anniversary of Death August 11th at the 10:00 a.m. Mass

There will be a reception after Mass.

Shirts to commemorate the **150th Anniversary of Father Helias's Death** are here!!! To order, contact Cathy Singer at reled@sfxtaos.com or text 573-690-1491 with name and size(s).



“God goes to heroic lengths to guide, warn, coach, and direct his children. Not just in the past, but here and now, today.”

MATTHEW KELLY
The Three Ordinary Voices of God



upcoming EVENTS

St. Joseph Parish Picnic (Westphalia, MO): Sunday, Aug. 4th. Serving 11-6 p.m. Dine-in, Carry Out, and Drive-Thru. Adults (\$16), children 6-12 (\$8), & Under 5 (Free). Live Music 1:30-3:30 p.m., Kiddie Tractor Pull 3 p.m. (registration at 2pm), Quilt and Dessert Auction 5 p.m. and Raffle Drawing at 6 p.m.

Sacred Heart Parish Picnic (Rich Fountain, MO): Sunday, Aug. 11th. Serving all you can eat buffet style and carry-outs from 11-7 p.m. Adults (\$16), Kids ages 5-10 (\$10) and under 4 (Free). Raffle, 50/50, Kiddie Tractor Pull 4 p.m., & Quilt Auction at 6 p.m. Feel free to bring a chair and quilts will be on display at church until 5 p.m.

St. Thomas Parish Picnic (St. Thomas, MO): Sunday, Aug. 18th. Serving cafeteria style from 11-7p.m. Carry-Outs and Drive Thru. Adults (\$15), Children 6-12 (\$7) and 5 & Under (Free). Kiddie tractor pull 3-4:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!

Overwhelmed, looking for the Calm in Life? Would you like some tools to cultivate a growing faith in yourself and your family? Would you like to commit some time now, to be able to instill the faith to your children, to share God's Love and Joy to all those in your circle of life? CURSILLO begins with a weekend where Catholic men or women gather, led by a team of trained laity and a Priest/Deacon/Religious member. Daily Mass, Reconciliation, short talks and fellowship are major elements of the Weekend. If you are interested in making your Weekend, reach out to anyone in the Cursillo movement or contact Lisa Berendzen Parish Rep. at lisaberendzen@gmail.com / 573-694-4917 or Becky Sander, Diocesan Rep at jeffcity.diocese.cursillo@gmail.com / 573-808-3758. **Upcoming Cursillo Weekends:**

Men's: September 19-22, 2024 Edina, MO; June 5-8, 2025, Columbia, MO **Women's: October 10-13, 2024 Edina, MO; June 12-15, 2025, Columbia, MO**

Finding Peace in Any Storm!
Women's Ministry
FAITH IN ACTION TOGETHER

Enjoy Cocktails & Appetizers Starting at 6:30

Join Sterling Jaquith
Author of *Catholic Mom Calm*

My kids have stopped attending mass.
Am I a bad Mom?
How am I going to manage...

September 6th, 2024
6:30pm - 8:30pm
St. Martin Parish
7148 St Martin Blvd
School Gymnasium
Jefferson City
sponsored by
St Martin Women's Ministry

Register at:
<https://diojeffcity.org/wm-sept-2024-events-sterling-jaquith/>
or call: Maddie Gramlich 573-635-9127



1 Faith
1 Family
1 SFX

The 2024-2025 school year officially kicks off on **Wednesday, August 14th** at St. Francis Xavier! Summer has been a very busy time around St. Francis Xavier with all of the construction both inside and outside of the school building. We've done some work on floors, the office, roofs, and our heating and cooling. I would like to extend a big thank you to all of the workers and volunteers who have helped get our school building ready for the upcoming school year. It was a lot of work and dedication on your part but it is very much appreciated!

Monday, August 12th we will be having our third annual Back to School Family Night! We will be serving hot dogs and chips for all school families who attend this event. This is a great opportunity for parents to get a few minutes to meet and to chat with their children's teachers. Hope to see you all there.

For the first time in a long time I'm ecstatic to be able to say that enrollment at St. Francis Xavier is growing! It has been a long time coming and has taken a ton of work to get our school closer to where we want it to be. I would like to thank my staff for pouring their hearts into this school because they are the main reason we are growing at St. Francis Xavier. I would also like to thank all of our parents, volunteers, and parishioners for their support to help us back on the road to growing our enrollment. We definitely couldn't do this without your support.

We have a few new staff members joining us at St. Francis Xavier this school year. Miss Rachel Garro will be joining us as our new preschool teacher. Miss Karlie Allen will be coming on as our new third grade teacher. Mrs. GERALYN Buckland will be joining Miss Rachel in the preschool classroom as our new preschool aide. Last but not least, Mrs. Breanne Talken will be taking over duties as the new head cook! I'm looking forward to having these wonderful individuals join our family this year. If you see them around be sure to give them a warm welcome.

Volunteers Needed: If you are looking for an opportunity to volunteer with the kids they always love seeing new faces over at school. We have a few new volunteer opportunities planned this year so be on the lookout for more information coming soon! If you are interested in volunteering in any way please contact Mr. Tobar.

Blessings,
Mr. Jordan Tobar, Principal
jtobar@sfxtaos.com

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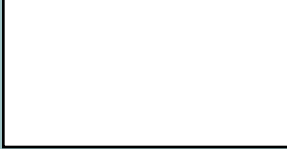
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