

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

BUT WHO DO  
YOU SAY THAT

**I AM?**

— MARK 8:29 —



**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH (TAOS)**

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

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024**

# St. Francis Xavier Parish

7319 Route M Jefferson City (Taos) MO 65101

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

DEACON MICHAEL BERENDZEN 573.694.4916  
Email: [mberendzen@diojeffcity.org](mailto:mberendzen@diojeffcity.org)

**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!*

**NEW**

Email: [info@sfxtaos.com](mailto:info@sfxtaos.com)

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

Office: 573.395.4401 Fax: 573.395.4302

Parish Website: [www.sfxtaos.com](http://www.sfxtaos.com)

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

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

Religious Education Director - Cathy Singer Email: [reled@sfxtaos.com](mailto: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; 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](mailto:jtobar@sfxtaos.com)**

**Office: 573.395.4612 Fax: 573.395.4017 School website: [www.sfxtaos.com](http://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, Sept 16th: No Mass**

**Tuesday, Sept 17th:**

7:00 p.m. - William & Joan Thessen

**Wednesday, Sept 18th:**

7:45 a.m. - Louis Eiken

**Thursday, Sept 19th:**

7:45 a.m. - Bernard & Laurine Heet and Leroy & Jewel Dean Wilbers

**Friday, Sept 20th:**

7:45 a.m. - Thomas Verslues

**Saturday, Sept 21st:**

5:00 p.m. – L&D of Joe Schollmeyer, Haslag & Frieda Siebeneck Families

**Sunday, Sept 22nd:**

8:00 a.m. - Leonard, Ted & Antonia Sanning and Otto & Lucy Rehagen

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 **Sept.** are: Samaritan Center, Parish School, Capital Improvements/Repairs and St. Ann’s (\$15).

# mark your Calendar

**Sept 16** Ladies Aux. meeting 6:30, K of C Hall

**Sept 18 Women’s Bible Study 5:30-6:30 p.m. Commons Rm**

**Sept 18 PSR Class** 6:45-8 p.m. SFX School

**Sept 22 Children Liturgy of the Word** 10 a.m. Mass Cafeteria

**Sept 22 Little Flowers** 1-3 p.m. Commons

**Sept 23 Mary & Elizabeth** Meeting 7 p.m. Commons

**Sept 25 Lunch Bunch** 11:30 a.m. K of C Hall

**Sept 25 Women’s Bible Study 5:30-6:30 p.m. Commons Rm**

**Sept 25 PSR Class & Confirmation** 7 p.m. SFX School

**Sept 25 OCIA** 7 p.m. Parish Office

**Sept 29 Children Liturgy of the Word** 10 a.m. Mass Cafeteria

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

**Goal for Sept** \$ 102,500.00 (5 Sundays)

**Aug 31 & Sept 1** \$ 15,850.00

**Sept 7 & 7** \$ 10,557.10

**ACH** \$ 28,806.00

\$ 55,213.10

### Offertory Collection Fiscal YTD 2024

**Goal thru Aug** \$ 164,000.00

**Actual thru Aug** \$ 156,605.50

**End of the Year** \$ -7,394.50

**Booking for Mass Intention will open on Thursday, October 3rd at 9:00 a.m.**

**Payments:** St. Francis Xavier parishioners are very generous-both of their talents and financially. You are appreciated! Please remember to write a separate check for anything outside of Sunday giving i.e. Samaritan Center, St. Ann’s, Candles, etc. Thank you, as this makes processing of your financial gifts easier.

**Fall Supper:** 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!**



**The Lunch Bunch:** will meet **Wednesday, Sept. 25th** at 11:30 a.m. at the Knight of Columbus. Please RSVP to Evelyn Borgmeyer 690-1332, Jean Pinnell 694-2111, Jane Knaebel 680-6158, or Janet Klebba 680-9925 by **Wednesday, Sept. 18th.**

### Liturgical Ministries

	<b>Sept 21 &amp; 22</b>	<b>5:00 p.m.</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Keith Henke Angeline Prenger Sue Sandbothe Debbie Backes	Cara Sandbothe Josh Sandbothe Rhonda Rackers MB	Kathy Rackers Nick Rackers Lisa Reinke MB	
<b>Lector</b>	Sarah Boss	Dan Sanning	Michael Winkler	
<b>Ushers</b>	Jim Radmacher Ruby Radmacher Carol Forck Tony Forck	Joe Otto Nyla Cartmell Andi Riley Taylor Riley	Cindy LePage Steve LePage Robin Reinkemeyer Ross Reinkemeyer	
<b>Servers</b>	Zoey Prenger	Gabby Sandbothe Libby Sandbothe	Nate Verslues Riley Verslues	
<b>Musicians</b>	Hoffmeyer & Branum	Jackie & Adult Choir	Children’s Choir	



*Funny Name. Easy Fundraising.*

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.

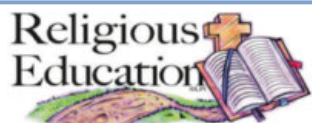
For emergencies, weekends or after-hours, Fr. Kelechi 395-4401

**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time:** This morning, I received a text message that a member of my extended family will likely die of cancer within the next few hours. His name is Luke. He is a 45-year-old husband and father of six. Though I am not as close to him as my sister (she is his sister-in-law and knows him well), I wonder: how can we, including Luke himself, manage such a terribly awful and unfair situation?

The words of this Sunday's Gospel offer a powerful and challenging path. Jesus says, **"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me"** (Mark 8:34). Today I see with new freshness the starkness and strangeness of the words **take up**. The cross stands for suffering which is unjust, absurd, seemingly hopeless, and humiliating. Jesus doesn't say "accept" or "endure" or "tolerate," but "take up." Embrace it, actively. Choose it and lift it up for others to see what terrifies and sickens us. But somehow, for Jesus, this is the path to **"saving one's life."** A new world is breaking in, one in which love is everything, when no relationship can be wounded or die. I trust that in the embraced suffering of Luke and his loved ones, Jesus is taking up his cross and saving us all.

By the time you read this, barring a miracle, Luke will have died. He will be carrying his cross no longer. But we all still face suffering. This week let's not just endure, but take up our crosses, big and small. That's our only hope for saving our lives.

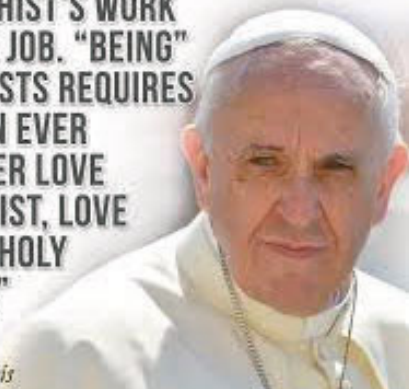
— Father John Muir ©LPi



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

**A CATECHIST'S WORK IS NOT A JOB. "BEING" CATECHISTS REQUIRES LOVE, AN EVER STRONGER LOVE FOR CHRIST, LOVE FOR HIS HOLY PEOPLE."**

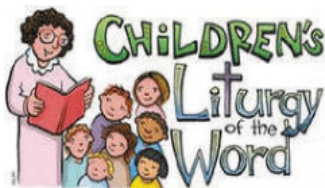
*Pope Francis*



On this Catechetical, take time to thank our catechists, Father, Deacon, Mr. Tobar, SFX, PSR, Confirmation, OCIA, and CLW teachers and their helpers for their love and dedication to our parish.



**Wednesday, Sept. 18th**



Children's Liturgy of the Word will start at the 10am Mass on **Sunday, September 22nd**. There is no need to register. It will take place in the cafeteria.



**Mary & Elizabeth Group:** The Mary & Elizabeth Group was active in our parish before Covid. We have had interest in bringing it back. The goal of the group is to recognize and support motherhood in our parish and to celebrate the feast days of our Mother Mary. Here are some of the things they did in the past. \* Placing flowers at Mary's statue on feast days \* Passing out muffins to Moms on Mother's Day \* Holding a bunco party for Mother's night out \* Providing cards for baptisms.

**Please join us for an informational meeting on Monday, Sept. 23rd @ 7 p.m. in the Commons Room at School**



OCIA will start on **Wednesday, September 25th** at 7 p.m. in the Parish Office. All are welcome! If

you are already Catholic and just want to know about your faith, if you were baptized but have not received any of the other sacraments or if you are interested in joining the Catholic Church, this meeting is for you. We would love to have you join us and share what is available.

## OCIA SPONSORS

We are looking for sponsors for our OCIA. Each OCIA inquirer should be given a sponsor from the parish to walk with them through the OCIA process. The sponsor is there to help the inquirer "become familiar with the practice of the Christian life." This person is not necessarily the godparent for Confirmation. If interested, please contact Cathy Singer at the parish office. We would love to have a mixture of married, single, parents, ages etc. to be able to offer the inquirer someone that will be comfortable with.



Join us for a **Rosary Walk with Mary**  
To honor the Feast of **OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY**

**Sunday, October 6**  
**1pm**

**Taos Community Park**  
Followed by a **Fall Plant Swap**

**Bring a plant**  
**Take a plant**  
**No invasive species**



Sponsored by SFX Women in Faith



1 Faith  
1 Family  
1 SFX

School masses started back up in Reker Hall a couple of weeks ago! Seating was limited in the small space, but we are able to accommodate half the school on Wednesday and the other half on Friday. It was so great to have the students back in mass with Fr. Kelechi and it was wonderful to get to celebrate the mass with so many of you who attended.

This year at St. Francis Xavier we are bringing back after school clubs! Students are able to participate in four different clubs which include CHOIR, FITNESS, BOARD GAME, and KINDNESS. We can't wait to share pictures and details of how these clubs go for our students who signed up to participate this year!

Tiger Pride Assemblies are new to the calendar this year. As a school we will be focusing on one character trait each month that we will celebrate at our end of the month assembly. We will also be celebrating our birthdays at each of these assemblies since we are no longer having our birthday celebrations after school masses each month. Be on the lookout for more info regarding dates and times!

**ONLINE SILENT AUCTION...**Be on the lookout for more detailed information regarding our 2nd annual S.F.X. Online Silent Auction. Tentative dates for the auction are **Nov. 3rd- Nov. 9th**. We are still looking for items to put in the online auction, especially items such as sports/event/concert tickets and Airbnb stays. Here's to an amazing 2nd auction! For anyone still interested in helping greet our students and staff on Tuesday mornings, please use the following form to sign up for dates. You can also contact the school office for more info. <https://forms.gle/C5M2bKNRmP9po2hg6>

**Coming Up at S.F.X.**

- **Monday 9/16** - Dr. Erin Vader Visits S.F.X.
- **Tuesday 9/17** - 8th Graders Visit Helias Catholic High School
- **Thursday 9/19** - MRRL Bookmobile
- **Friday 9/20** - Grandparents Day
- **Tuesday 9/24** - Fitness Club
- **Thursday 9/26** - Tiger Pride Assembly
- **Monday 9/30** - NO SCHOOL (Teacher PD)

Blessings,  
**Mr. Jordan Tobar, Principal**  
[jtobar@sfxtaos.com](mailto:jtobar@sfxtaos.com)

What would Amendment 3 actually do?

**Put women at risk**

Health care professional ≠ medical doctor.  
A medical doctor would not be required to approve or perform any abortions.  
A health care professional in Missouri includes nurses, pharmacists, physician assistants, and dental hygienists.



**VOTE NO ON 3 AMENDMENT**

*Safeguard them both*

Learn more at [diojeffcity.org/amendment3](http://diojeffcity.org/amendment3)

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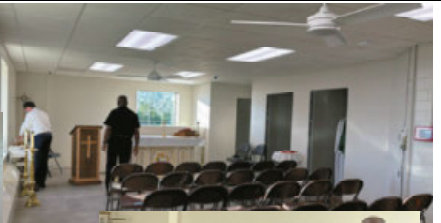
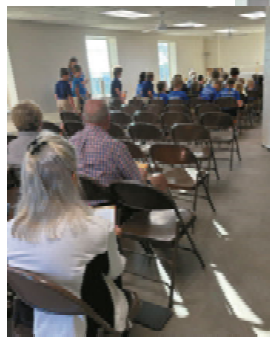
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CHURCH

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12TH  
AFTER 5PM MASS  
SCHOOL PARKING LOT  
(LOWER LEVEL, WEATHER PERMITTING)

**First School Mass in Reker Hall**



**On September 19, @ 6 PM** at **Blair Oaks Elementary School**, **Scouting America** will hold a parent information meeting for joining cub scouts for those 5 grade or less or scouts for 6th grade and above. There will be activities for the potential new scouts. Scouting America is open to all boys and girls from grades K to 12th grade. The local pack & Troop is based out of St. Stanislaus and is open to all children in the district (St. Thomas/Wardsville/Taos/Osage Bend). Scouting is a faith based/ service organization that teaches respect and outdoor skills with any activities available (rock climbing/archery/camping to name a few). You can also contact Cash McManus @732-407-4025 or Jim Dallas @573-656-5656 for more information.

## upcomingEVENTS

**St. Louis of France Parish Fall Festival (Bonnots Mill, MO):** **Sunday, Sept. 15** at the Bonnots Mill Parish Hall serving from 12-6 p.m. Fried Chicken & Bone-In-Ham. \$15 a plate. County Store, sandwich stand, and raffle. Live Auction at 4 p.m.

**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](mailto:lisaberendzen@gmail.com) / 573-694-4917 or Becky Sander, Diocesan Rep at [jeffcity.diocese.cursillo@gmail.com](mailto: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, 2024, Columbia, MO.**



**Our Lady, Help of Christians Parish (Frankenstein, MO):** **Sunday, Sept. 22** serving from 11-6 p.m. Whole Baked Turkey & Country Sausage Dinner. Serving cafeteria style & To Go Meals. Partial Indoor Seating/Covered Pavilion/Picnic Tables. Dessert & Specialty Items Auction at 3:30 p.m. Free Bingo 12-3p.m. Music on the grounds, Putters Popcorn, Fly Wheel Ice Cream, Sandwich Stand, Beer & Gin Rickeys, Country Store, Splatter Cards, Craft Store, Raffle & Kid Games.

**OPENING RALLY 40 DAYS FOR LIFE:** 40 Days will open its 16th year on the sidewalk in front of Columbia Planned Parenthood with a rally on **September 24** at Our Lady of Lourdes, 903 Bernadette, Columbia, at 6 pm with remarks from Matt Britton, National Team Member of 40 Days, and Stephanie Jacobsen, who will share her abortion experience. Light refreshments will be served, and we will then caravan at 7 pm to Columbia Planned Parenthood, 711

N Providence, for a candlelight vigil with prayer until 8 pm. The 40 Days will kick off its first day on Wednesday, September 25, from 8 am to 5 pm daily except Sundays through Saturday, November 2. Trained core members will greet those who come to offer their time in prayer with Jesus during these hours. To sign up, go to [www.40daysforlife.com/columbiamo](http://www.40daysforlife.com/columbiamo) or call Doris at 573 999 5209. Mark your calendar for the Closing Rally Dinner on November 9 at St Andrew, 400 St Andrew Dr, Holts **Summit**.

## Liturgical Ministries Training

Hosted by The Diocesan Liturgical Commission

**October 5, 2024**

St. Joseph Cathedral  
2305 W. Main St.  
Jefferson City, MO

10:00 am Welcome and Prayer

10:05 am Keynote by Fr. Dan

- What is Liturgy?
- What are the postures used during the Liturgy and when?
- What does it mean to be a minister of the Liturgy?

10:30 am Breakout Sessions

- Lectors
- Sacristans
- Musicians
- EMHCs  
(VIRTUS trainer available throughout)

12:00 pm Sharing of the Wealth & Questions

12:15 pm Closing Prayer



**St. Aloysius & St. Boniface Fall Festival (Argyle, MO):** **Sunday, October 6** serving from 11-6p.m. at the Argyle K of C Hall. \$15 a plate, serving fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, slaw, applesauce & dessert. Dine In & Carry Out. Entertainment from 11-7 p.m. Owen Kloeppel and Broken Arrow. Live auction at 4 p.m.

**St. Andrew Parish Fall Festival (Holts Summit, MO):** Food, drinks, Silent Auction, Quilt Auction, and Kids Games. **Sunday, October 6** from 11-4 p.m. Menu: Chili, Beef Stew, Tomato Soup, Hot Dog, Grilled Cheese, Cornbread & Dessert. Adults (\$10), Kids 6-12 (\$7).

### Fr. Matt at Immaculate Conception in J.C. Needs Your Help

Faithful friends, Fr. Matt has long wanted to see a new support/prayer/community group formed at IC, which will journey with and provide support for all **Divorced and Separated Catholics**. In this group, these friend and family members of ours will find solace and comfort in a faith community. There are wonderful programs and materials already in place, which will provide a place to start for such a group. Are you interested in helping to form such a group, or be a member? Please call Fr. Matt at the parish office 573-635-6143. Thanks so much and let us all pray for these efforts.

**Say Good-bye to Clogged Gutters!**



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