ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH (TAOS)

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 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: mberendzen@diojeffcity.org

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

<u>Welcome to St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church!</u> 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: <u>info@sfxtaos.com</u> Parish Website: <u>www.sfxtaos.com</u>

Facebook: St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church & St. Francis Xavier Parish

Office: 573.395.4401 Fax: 573.395.4302

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; Russell Richter 291-3745; Tom Sanning 694-1241; Stacy Strope 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

- 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.



"For hope to find a home in our hearts as we embrace the joy of Christ's birth. Amid the jubilation, may we also find time in prayer to experience the calm and peace of God's presence in our lives.."

Monday, Dec 16th: No Mass

Tuesday, Dec 17th:

7:00 p.m. – Rosemary Prenger

Wednesday, Dec 18th: 7:45 a.m. - Jamie Strope Thursday, Dec 19th:

7:45 a.m. – Herbert, June and Marilee Sandt

Friday, Dec 20th:

7:45 a.m. – Herman & Wilma Grothoff

Saturday, Dec 21st:

5:00 p.m. – L&D of Andrew & Teresa Kloeppel, Jeron

Sandbothe and Linda Forck

Sunday, Dec 22nd:

8:00 a.m. - Michael Ortmeyer 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 <u>Dec.</u> are: Samaritan Center, Parish School, Capital Improvements/Repairs, First Offering, Seminarian Formation, and My Christmas Offering.

mark

your Calendar

Dec 16 Contemporary Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Cafeteria

Dec 17 & 19 Quilting 8 a.m. Taos Park Office

Dec 18 PSR Christmas Pageant 7 p.m. SFX Gym

Dec 19 SFX Christmas Program 1:30 & 6:30 p.m. SFX Gym

Dec 20 All School Mass 7:45 a.m. SFX Gym

Dec 22 Children Liturgy of the Word 10 a.m. Mass

Dec 23 Contemporary Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.

Dec 24 Christmas Eve Masses 5 p.m. & 9 p.m.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Goal for Nov	\$ 82,000.00 (4 Sundays)
Nov 2 & 3	\$ 13,411.00
Nov 9 & 10	\$ 12,548.00
Nov 16 & 17	\$ 9,474.00
Nov 23 & 24	\$ 14,472.00
ACH	\$ 27,841.00
	\$ 77,746.00

Offertory Collection Fiscal YTD 2024

 Goal thru Oct
 \$ 348,500.00

 Actual thru Oct
 \$ 318,239.60

 End of the Year
 \$ -30,260.40



Please keep Georgene Bernskoetter, Cynthia Forck, Grant Lamb, Cindy Stegeman, Mary Ann Thacker, Patty Verslues in your prayers and pray that each day that God will give them strength, determination, & healing.



BIRTHRIGHT SHOWER: Our parish will be having a shower for Birthright during the Advent Season. Birthright is in need of new and used baby items. We especially can use diapers and baby clothing. We will have a crib on display by the altar for you to place your gifts. This is just a

good way for our parish to reach out and help the less fortunate. Let's continue praying for Birthright volunteers and mothers. If you have any questions, you can call **Kathy Hayes at 694-4289**.



Liturgical Ministries			
Dec 21 & 22	5:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
Eucharistic Ministers	Mary Jane Forck	Gerard Forck	Linda Tobar
	Sharon Forck	Rhonda Rackers	Brian Werdehausen
	Jean Pinnell	Cara Sandbothe	Cindy Werdehausen
	Shirley Woehr	MB	MB
Lector	Jean Decker	Wayne Verslues	Kathy Rackers
Ushers	Rita Lipskoch	Joe Otto	Rob Sachse
	Jo Lootens	Nyla Cartmell	Tammy Sachse
	Jim Radmacher	Andi Riley	John Prenger
	Ruby Radmacher	Taylor Riley	DeWayne Sprenger
Servers	Volunteer Needed	Stevie Howell	Tyler Sandbothe
	Volunteer Needed	Audrey Verslues	Volunteer Needed
Musicians	Kathy & Cheryl	Jackie & Adult Choir	Hoffmeyer & Branum

Attention Quilters!

"The quilters are in need of a volunteer to bind quilts for us. It would be appreciated very much. Also, if you know how or would like to learn to quilt we are in need of quilters."

Contact Janet @

janetprenger@gmail.com

Looking for a large flower pot to replant our big Piece Lilly in church. If anyone has one contact the parish office.

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

3rd Sunday of Advent: On a bright Spring morning, a passerby once saw St. Francis of Assisi hoeing a row of beans and asked him, "What would you be doing right now if you knew this was the last day of your earthly life?" The Saint responded, "I'd keep hoeing this row of beans." Preparing for this world to end — whether by our death or by Jesus' glorious coming — invites us to live not in the past or the present, but deeply in the present moment.

This same point is on display in the simple advice given by the wild and eccentric John the Baptist. He speaks of the one who is to come who will baptize "with the Holy Spirit and fire" (Luke 3:16). Despite the bizarre awesomeness of this announcement, he tells his listeners to engage in the present moment with simple acts of justice and love as their preparation for Jesus' coming, sharing their clothes and food, eliminating greedy and underhanded practices, being content with their wages. It's so undramatic. But how many actually did it? We don't know. How many of us will commit ourselves to these types of humble and demanding practices in our lives? That's what we should be doing now in our present moment, not worrying about the future.

Advent challenge: Name one way you are doing the bare minimum towards others in your daily life. Or name something you are doing because you are not content with your financial situation. Pray: "Jesus, if it is your will, help me to stop doing these things this week. Help me prepare for your coming." Then make the appropriate changes. — Father John Muir



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

December 15: 3rd Sunday of Advent I lift my heart up to you, Lord, to thank you for the blessings you shower on me each day. You are the 'joy of my soul.' I know that in your great love, I am held and protected by you. I pray and listen to the good news you send; I ask and feel the healing. I am freed by you from the things in this world that let me hide from you. I rejoice. I rejoice, down to my soul. Help me to prepare my heart

Prayer for Vocations



Oh Jesus, eternal Shepherd of souls! Deign to look with eyes of mercy on your beloved flock. Lord, we need a greater number of priests and consecrated men and women. We ask this by the intercession of our Lady of Guadalupe, your sweet and Holy Mother. Oh Jesus, give us priests and religious according to your heart. AMEN.

to be open and able to receive your immense love. I am waiting with open arms. Amen.

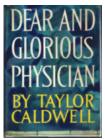


PSR Christmas Pageant Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m.

in the School Gym



Let us help you do your baking and support the school at the same time. The Ladies of the K of C will be selling goodies after each of the Christmas shows on December 19th.



SFX December Book club pick is "Dear and Glorious Physician" This novel tells the story of St. Luke, called herein Lucanus, from childhood, adoption by a kindly Roman patrician as the latter's son, medical studies in Alexandria, to his wanderings to serve the poor. We will meet on Jan. 6th at 2pm in the office to discuss fsipick the next book.



the parish office



Want to deepen your faith & meet new people in our parish?

Consider joining a small group for a four-session series on Parishes as Communities of the Beatitudes

For more information, contact:



Religious Ed. Director: Cathy Singer 573-395-4401



As you're planning your gift list for Christmas, why not consider one that will give beyond this season and maybe forever? Consider making a planned gift to St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. To learn more about possibilities, please call the parish office.



Something great recently was getting to listen to our choir sing at the Capitol Rotunda on December 5th! This event is one of my favorites of the entire year because it is such a showcase for the wonderful and talented young children we have at our school. Thank you to Mrs. Kempker for all of your hard work getting our students ready to share their amazing voices!

Tiger Tales will be looking a little different when we come back from break. Starting Jan. 10th we will have a new program and new format coming home to families and community members each week. If you would like to hear about more of the wonderful things taking place at S.F.X., please email Mr. Tobar and we will get you on our mailing

On **Friday, December 20th** we will be having the 7:45am morning mass in the school gym! We will be celebrating the start of our Christmas break with an all-school mass! All are welcome to join us for our first all-school mass of the school year.

Our annual Christmas Program will be taking place on Thursday, December 19th. We will have an afternoon showing at 1:30pm and an evening showing at 6:30pm. The Ladies Auxiliary will also be holding their annual bake sale at both the afternoon and evening showings. Can't wait to see everyone there.

Coming Up at S.F.X.

- Thursday 12/19 Christmas Program @ 1:30pm and 6:30pm. Ladies Auxiliary Bake Sale following each of the showings.
- Friday 12/20 Early Dismissal @ 12:30pm. NO AFTERCARE
 - 12/21 1/5 Christmas Break

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

Holiday Mass Times

Tuesday, December 24th

Vigil Mass of Christmas 5:00 p.m. Christmas Mass during the Night 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 25th The Nativity of the Lord 9:00 a.m.

New Year's Eve Mass Tuesday, December 31 at 5:00 p.m. **New Year's Day Mass** Wednesday, January 1 at 9:00 a.m.

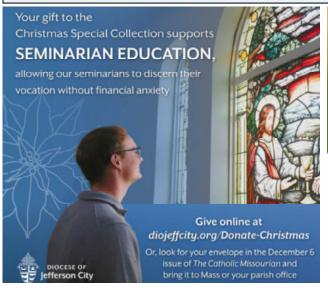
December 24th at 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass Come and hear the **SFXpressions** youth choir! You won't want to miss these angel voices!

Job Opportunity, Parish Bookkeeper: St Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Taos, Missouri seeks to hire a part-time bookkeeper. This position involves Payroll & HR Duties, General Ledger Duties (Accts Rec & Accts Payables), School HL Program, Capital Campaign Duties, and Parish Collection Duties. Position will be required to work 20-25 hours per week. It is possible that duties could be shared. For an application and job description or for further information, contact Fr. Kelechi Uzuegbu, St Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 7319 Route M, Jefferson City, MO 65101, 573-395-4401, kuzuegbu@sfxtaos.com.



The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic organization here in the parish and we are looking for new members. If you or someone you know is over 18 years old and a practicing Catholic, you are eligible

to join the Knights. Whether you are a man or woman, new to the parish, or have lived here your whole life, we would love to talk to you about the Knights of Columbus or the Knights of Columbus Ladies Aux. For more information, please contact: Grand Knight, Ross Temmen 573-619-6568 or Ladies Auxiliary President, Linda Distler 573-680-4959.



Seasons of Hope Grief Support Group The parishes of the See City Deanery offer to walk with you through your grief in a group or individual setting. All are welcome! Join us at one of the following parishes:

St. Martin Parish, St. Martins

Afternoon sessions in the St. Martin School Cafeteria For more information and to save your spot, contact the parish office at 573-893-2923 or email receptionist@stmartinjc.org

Proto-Cathedral of St. Peter, Jefferson City

Evening sessions

For more information and to save your spot, contact the parish office at 573-636-8159



Tim Francis Presents: Signs From God, Miracles and Their Meaning. Sunday, December 15th. 1:15 Potluck Dinner Starts. 1:30 - 4 p.m. presentation (with intermission). Monday,

December 16th 6-8:30 p.m. (with intermission). St. Joseph Catholic Church, Westphalia MO

Men of Signum Crucis: We gather the 3rd Wednesday of each month, from 6:30-8 p.m. at Helias Catholic High School. Chaplain is Father Paul Clark. Next gathering: Dec. 18th. Call Ken Sandbothe at 573-644-4088 for directions or more information.



If your family would like to donate toward a Christmas Gift for Father Kelechi and Deacon Mike, please put it in an envelope marked Christmas gift and drop in the collection basket by December 20th.



Wardsville Perpetual Adoration Chapel Hours Available:

Thursday morning 12:00 midnight - 1:00 a.m.

Saturday 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Saturday 1:00 - 2:00 a.m.

(every other Saturday)

Sunday 2:00 - 3:00 a.m. (1st & 3rd)

Call Donna at 680-1470 if interested

12 STEP SUPPORT GROUP RECOVERY **MEETINGS**



Meetings held at Immaculate Conception Church in The Emmaus

Room

Enter in the back of the

rectory under the blue

awning. Look for sign.

SATURDAYS 9:00-10:00 AM

Alcoholics Anonymous downstairs: Al-Anon upstairs.

WEDNESDAYS 7:00-8:00 PM

Both meetings are closed, which means they are open only to those who acknowledge they are alcoholic or co-dependent. All those in recovery are welcome.

An Open 11th Step meeting. All are welcome. Those who are in any 12 step program, and or, those who simply want to learn more. This meeting includes 10 minutes of silent prayer/meditation.

The 2025 Taos Knights of Columbus Winterfest

will be held on January 18th, 2025. Tickets are \$150, which includes dinner for two, drinks, 50/50 raffle tickets, and a bingo card. We will also have auction items to bid on this year. Please contact Matt Forck at 573-690-5058 for details, or email Jeff Pleus jpleus@hotmail.com for an order form.





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