

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH (TAOS)

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

THE HOLY FAMILY

**I MUST BE**  
IN MY FATHER'S  
HOUSE.

LUKE 2:49

# *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 worshipping 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: [info@sfxtaos.com](mailto:info@sfxtaos.com) Parish Website: [www.sfxtaos.com](http://www.sfxtaos.com)

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](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 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 30th: No Mass**

**Tuesday, Dec 31st : New Year’s Eve Mass**

**5:00 p.m.** – Walter & Catherine Bock, Kathy Paschal and Donald Prenger

**Wednesday, Jan 1st: New Year’s Day Mass**

**9:00 a.m.** - People of the Parish

**Thursday, Jan 2nd: No Mass**

**Friday, Jan 3rd:** 7:45 a.m. – Alan & Garrett Atnip

**Saturday, Jan 4th:**

5:00 p.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

**Sunday, Jan 5th:**

8:00 a.m. - People of the Parish

10:00 a.m. - L&D of Hildegard Bax

**For those of you who have your offertory collection done electronically and do not receive monthly envelopes, the special envelopes for Dec. are:** Samaritan Center, Parish School, Capital Improvements/Repairs, First Offering, Seminarian Formation, and My Christmas Offering.

# mark your Calendar

- Jan 1 **NO PSR Class, Confirmation, or OCIA** Classes
- Jan 3 **Adoration with Benediction after Mass (till 4 pm)**
- Jan 4 & 5 January Anniversary Blessing at Mass
- Jan 5 **Children Liturgy of the Word** 10 a.m. Mass
- Jan 6 **Women’s Coffee Group 9 a.m. K of C upper level**
- Jan 6 Book Club 2 p.m. Parish Office
- Jan 6 Ladies Aux. meeting 6:30, K of C Hall
- Jan 7 & 9 Quilting 8 a.m. Taos Park Office

## OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Goal for Dec	\$ 102,500.00 (5 Sundays)
Nov 30 & Dec 1	\$ 12,332.00
Dec 7 & 8	\$ 21,961.00
Dec 14 & 15	\$ 10,674.00
ACH	\$ 28,576.00
	\$ 73,543.00

## Offertory Collection Fiscal YTD 2024

Goal thru Nov	\$ 430,500.00
Actual thru Nov	\$ 395,985.60
End of the Year	\$ -34,514.40



Please keep Fr. Penn, 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.

Liturgical Ministries		Weekend Masses			
Dec.	31st 5pm	Jan. 1st 9am	Jan. 4th 5pm	Jan. 5th 8am	Jan. 5th 10am
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Sarah Boss Sue Sandbothe <b>Volunteer Needed</b> MB	Jean Pinnell Rhonda Rackers <b>Volunteer Needed</b> MB	Carol Forck Mary Jane Forck Sharon Forck Jean Pinnell	Debbie Borgmeyer Charles Callaway Elaine Callaway MB	Kathy Rackers Nick Rackers Lisa Reinke MB
<b>Lector</b>	Lisa Berendzen	Sarah Boss	Ava Kleffner	Kristin Wegman	Brenda Verslues
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>	Rita Lipskoch Jo Lootens Jim Radmacher Ruby Radmacher	Carson Sanning Tom Sanning Ron Talken Bill Vanderfeltz	Cindy LePage Steve LePage Robin Reinkemeyer Ross Reinkemeyer
<b>Servers</b>	Libby Sandbothe Gabby Sandbothe	<b>Volunteer Needed</b> <b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Elle Kleffner <b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Jackson Kerperin Gentry Wegman	Julia Reinke Ella Wright
<b>Musicians</b>	Jackie & Adult Choir	Katnik	Jackie & Adult Choir	Kathy & Cheryl	Hood & Forbis Fam.



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

**The Holy Family:** As a first-time pastor in a parish, I received a phone call one afternoon from a young married couple, "Father, our 2-year-old son drowned in our pool this morning. We are at the hospital. Please help us." I sped over. The little boy was gone, his body cold, slightly blue, laid out on a bed. His parents were distraught and in shock. For the next few years, I walked with the couple along their difficult and painful road. They openly shared with me how they were often tempted to blame and accuse each other for the loss. And yet, by God's grace, their love for each grew stronger and deeper as the years went by.

The Holy Family was not without its pain and loss, either. Luke tells us, after losing their twelve-year-old son, Joseph and Mary "after three days found him in the temple area, sitting among the teachers..." (Luke 2:46). We don't know specifically what those three days were like for them except for what Mary says: "Your father and I have been looking for you anxiously." The three days of his absence foreshadow his death and burial. His finding in the temple is a kind of resurrection for his family. They had to learn, again and again, that their family was becoming a place where death and resurrection was not only accepted but welcomed and celebrated. But surely they deeply felt the dangerous agony of their loss — just like every couple who has lost a child.

What losses in your experience of family still cause you anxiety? In what ways has God's presence seemingly vanished in your family? Will you keep searching for Jesus? Remember, he will rise and be found. Your family may be suffering, but when he is found, it will be stronger than ever before. — Father John Muir ©LPi



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



St. Francis Xavier  
Mary & Elizabeth  
Mothers' Group

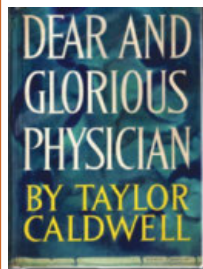


**Women in Faith**  
Love. Grow. Serve.



**Inviting all women of the Parish!**

The Mary and Elizabeth group and the Women in Faith will meet together to see how we can collaborate on ministering to the women of our parish. Between them, a few of the things they are working on are Women's Bible studies, supporting mom's such as sending cards for things like Baptisms and illnesses, ladies Nite out. We will meet on **January 9, 2025** at 6:30 p.m. in the Commons Room. Come and share your thoughts and suggestions on how we can better support all the women of our parish.



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 ~~pick~~ the next book.



**Sunday Coffee & Pastries**  
after Mass on  
**Sunday, January 12th**  
in the Cafeteria.



- Jan. 13** 1pm Faith Formation in the Parish Office
- Jan. 19** 2pm Confirmation Retreat in the Cafeteria
- Feb. 27- March 1** Parish Mission
- Mar. 25** 7pm Confirmation
- Apr. 27** 12pm First Communion
- June 22-27** Totus Tuus



**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:**



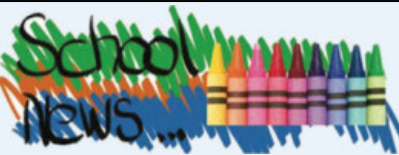
Religious Ed. Director: Cathy Singer  
573-395-4401

**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.





1 Faith  
1 Family  
1 SFX

Thank you to all of our parish and community supporters that have helped make the first half of the school year one to remember. We had a great start to the school year filled with lots of learning, many laughs, and tons of memories that will last a lifetime. We have many blessings to be thankful for at St. Francis Xavier School, with your support being at the top of the list. Thank you for believing in Catholic education and thank you for your dedication to St. Francis Xavier School and parish. We couldn't continue to provide a quality, Catholic education without your generosity and your support. I hope that you all know how much you mean to our school and our community. Have a wonderful Christmas and I pray that you have the opportunity to enjoy the holiday season surrounded by family and friends.

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 list!

### Coming Up at S.F.X.

- 12/21 - 1/5 - Christmas Break
- Monday 1/6/2025 - Classes Resume

Blessings,

Mr. Jordan Tobar, Principal

[jtobar@sfxtaos.com](mailto:jtobar@sfxtaos.com)

## Holiday Mass Times

**New Year's Eve Mass**

**Tuesday, December 31st at 5:00 p.m.**

**New Year's Day Mass**

**Wednesday, January 1st at 9:00 a.m.**

**Thursday, January 2nd - NO MASS**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS OR PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS TO BE REFLECTED ON THE 2024 GIVING STATEMENT, PLEASE MAKE SURE THEY ARE IN THE PARISH OFFICE BEFORE 10:00 AM ON DECEMBER 30, 2024.**

**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](mailto:kuzuegbu@sfxtaos.com).

You're invited to a  
**HOLY HOUR**  
for vocations

Join Bishop W. Shawn McKnight, priests and seminarians in praying that our diocese, parishes, homes and hearts would be fruitful ground for the Lord's gift of vocations

Exposition  
Evening Prayer  
Benediction

December 30, 2024; 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Cathedral of St. Joseph  
2305 W Main St.  
Jefferson City, MO



## WHAT IS A JUBILEE?

This holy year of Jubilee invites the faithful to embrace the spirit of hope. A Jubilee Year is an important occasion in the tradition of our Church, focused on promoting spiritual renewal through reconciliation and unity among believers. The Jubilee Year of 2025 will provide opportunities to experience grace, including by participating in special Jubilee Masses or joining a pilgrimage.



We are never really separated from our loved ones. They are as close to us as our thoughts and prayers. Please remember in your prayers the names listed. May they rest in peace!

*In Loving Memory*

Anton & Agatha Haselhorst  
Tim Pinnell  
Clarence & Caroline Pinnell  
Travis Singer

**Attention Quilters!** We quilt every Tuesday and Thursday weather permitting. All are welcome to join us.



**Blair Oaks** will be hosting a blood drive on **January 9th** from 1:30 - 5:00 in the High School auditorium. Chance to win a Super Bowl Ticket. Scan QR for mor information.

**ENERGIZE!** Our Parish:

**INVITE A FRIEND SUNDAY AT 10AM**  
**SUNDAY Jan. 12th, 2025**

**Sunday, Jan. 12th** at our 10AM Mass is "Invite a Friend" Sunday so please, bring someone with you. We'll also have coffee and pastries after, so we look forward to seeing you!

**Healing Mass**

For anyone who has been divorced or separated, has been negatively impacted by divorce, and all those who wish to show support.

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH**

6:30 PM 1206 E. McCarty St Jefferson City, MO

**JANUARY 16TH**

**Perpetual Adoration Chapel (Wardsville)**  
**Hours Available**

Thursday morning 12:00 Midnight-1:00 a.m.  
Saturdays 1:00-2:00 a.m. (every other Saturday)  
Sundays 2:00-3:00 a.m. (1st and 3rd Sundays)  
Sunday 10:00-11:00 p.m. (2nd and 4th)

**Please call Donna at 680-1470 if you are interested in joining our Perpetual Adoration Chapel Program.**

Join Musicians and Composers

Kathleen Basi and Katie Wills

For a Time of Music & Reflection

Women of God: Uniquely Gifted, Uniquely Called

**Ministry on the Move!**



SCAN TO SIGN UP

**Dates**

- Jan 31 - Immaculate Conception Loose Creek MO, at 5:45 PM
- Feb 1 - Holy Family Parish Hannibal, MO at 9:00 AM
- Feb 2 - Our Lady of Lourdes Columbia MO at 1:30 PM
- Feb 3 - St Patrick Parish Rolla MO at 5:30 PM



full details and registration at: [diojeffcity.org/womens-ministry-upcoming-events](http://diojeffcity.org/womens-ministry-upcoming-events)

**THANK YOU**

Thank you to all the parishioners who have helped us in so many ways this year with our parish, school, church and or special events. Your support and hard work are greatly needed and appreciated!  
Hoping you and your families have a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

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



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