ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH (TAOS)

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

THE HOLY GHOST DESCENDED LIKE **ADOVE.**

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

- ✤ 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.

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.

Mass Intentions

"For our civic leaders, that they may be guided by wisdom and integrity in their decisions. May they seek the common good, foster unity in our communities, and lead with compassion and justice."

Monday, Jan 13th:

7:45 a.m. - Frank & Katherine Verslues

Tuesday, Jan 14th :

7:00 p.m. – John & Marie Stokes Family

Wednesday, Jan 15th: No Mass

Thursday, Jan 16th:

7:45 a.m. - L&D of Diane Scott Family Friday, Jan 17th:

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

Saturday, Jan 18th:

5:00 p.m. – L&D of Robert & Regina Forck

Sunday, Jan 19th:

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

10:00 a.m. - L&D of Joseph & Johanna Grothoff Family

If you know of someone who no longer needs envelopes, please contact the parish office. This is a parish expense. For those of you who have your offertory collection done electronically and do not receive monthly envelopes, the special envelopes for Jan. are: Solemnity of Mary, Samaritan Center, Parish School, and Capital Improvements/Repairs.

THANK YOU

to all the parishioners who participated in the Giving Tree & Birthright. You and your gift of giving so generously to those in our community who are in need was very much appreciated . Thank You!

Liturgical Ministries			
Jan 18 & 19	5:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.
Eucharistic Ministers	Shirley Woehr	Gerard Forck	Brian Werdehausen
	Debbie Backes	Rhonda Rackers	Cindy Werdehausen
	Jean Decker	Cara Sandbothe	Linda Distler
	Carol Forck	Ken Sandbothe	Patty LeComte
Lector	Sarah Boss	Robin Bernskoetter	Jeff Kempker
Ushers	Art Greenbank	Karl Lootens	Steve Distler
	Tom Henke	Robbie Lootens	Andrea Forck
	Rita Lipskoch	Dan Sandbothe	Cindy LePage
	Jo Lootens	Josh Sandbothe	Steve LePage
Servers	Audrey Verslues	Camden Linhardt	Julia Reinke
	Zoey Prenger	Corbin Linhardt	Ella Wright
Musicians	Kathy & Cheryl	Jackie & Adult Choir	SFXCE

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

mark vour

- Jan 13 Monday Walk with Mary will begin at 7:15
- Jan 13 Contemporary Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.
- Jan 14 & 16 Quilting 8 a.m. Taos Park Office
- Jan 15 PSR Class 7-8 p.m. SFX School
- Jan 19 Children Liturgy of the Word 10 a.m. Mass
- Jan 20 Martin Luther King Day

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			
Dec 21 & 22	\$ 12,710.00			
Dec 28 & 29	\$ 11,022.00			
ACH	<u>\$ 28,576.00</u>			
	\$ 97,275.00			
Offertory Collection Fiscal YTD 2024				

Goal thru Nov

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

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.

thank



Mayra, Brian, and Harold Eiken would like to sincerely thank the entire St. Francis Xavier Parish for the overwhelming condolences and show of community support at the death of our mother Clara. We would like to especially thank the Bereavement Committee for providing and serving the meal following the funeral. We also want to thank the church staff making the arrangements, Fr. Kelechi for the inspired Mass, Fr. Oligschlaeger for concelebrating, and the choir for providing the beautiful music as we laid our mother to rest. The entire St. Francis Xavier community has been a huge support for our family, Thank you!

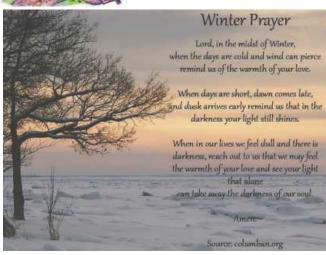
The Baptism of the Lord: In my second year of theology studies, I went to confession to a priest visiting the seminary for a three-day retreat. My heart wasn't in it. I was going through the motions. I confessed my sins and waited for his response. The priest said, "For your penance, I'd like you to go into the chapel and repeat the words **'You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased'** (Luke 3:22) until they mean something to you." Easy penance, I thought.

But to my surprise, I struggled to say those words. I sensed a strong interior resistance blocking them. How could God be well-pleased with *me*? He couldn't be, I thought. A battle within me ensued. Two hours later, the resistance vanished, and I found myself able to speak, and claim as my own, those marvelous words. I emerged from the chapel with a new, deep, peaceful conviction that I was indeed God's beloved son.

Those words are a precious gift from heaven to all of us. Jesus' baptism, which we celebrate this week, offers them to us. Are we willing to receive these words anew? Many things can block this deepening of our baptismal identity: failings, sins, disappointments, traumas, problems, and so on. Yet God's love is always greater. This week I challenge you to prayerfully repeat these words over yourself — or perhaps over someone you're struggling to love — until those words find a home in your heart. — Father John Muir ©LPi



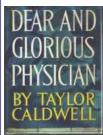
Cathy Singer, Director of Religious Education 573-395-4401 ext. 1003





All are invited to join us on Monday, **January 13th in the parish** office at 1pm as we prepare for the

upcoming parish mission and plan Faith and Fellowship opportunities for St. Francis Xavier for 2025. Please come and share your suggestions for the coming year.



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. 13th at 2pm in the office to discuss fsipick the next book.



Jan. 19 2pmConfirmation Retreat in the CafeteriaFeb. 27- March 1Parish MissionMar. 25 7pmConfirmationApr. 27 12pmFirst CommunionJune 22-27Totus Tuus

CALLED BY NAME

St. Francis Xavier is joining the Diocese in implementing the "Called by Name" initiative in our parish as designated by Bishop McKnight. On the weekend of **February 8/9**, parishioners are invited to share the names of young men in the parish who show lives of prayer and service. Their names will then be submitted to the Vocations Office so that the individuals can then be invited to upcoming vocational events. Nomination slips are available on our website.

PARISH MISSION: February 27 - March 2



DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL A Presence of Hope in Today's World





New TV for Christmas? Consider donating your old one for our religious programs, zoom meeting calls and PSR. Contact Cathy Singer at <u>reled@sfxtaos.com</u> or 690-1491. 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.

Nou

Dan and Charlotte Schnieders of the Taos Wreaths for Heroes Committee would like to thank those that participated in honoring the deceased veterans of Taos on December 13th. Namely the Taos Knights of Columbus & Ladies Auxiliary, whose donations helped fund the program starting in 2016, Bill & Mary Wekenborg, Tom Wieberg that placed marker flags and Tom used his trailer to transport the wreaths to and from the cemetery, while also being Program's MC. Thanks also goes to Father Kelechi Uzuegbu, Jordan Tobar, Laura Kempker, Barbara Hood & the 8th grade presenters: Libby Sandbothe, Max Parris, Leah Scheulen, Caden Pleus, Henry LeRoy, Aubrey Forck and Kiptyn Thessen who assisted in the program and our great photographer, Janie Forck! Plus, all that helped retrieve the wreaths prior to the incoming bad weather; we couldn't have asked for better support!

Centering Prayer Group at Immaculate Conception

- Every Friday
- 11 am to Noon
- The Emmaus Room (lower level of the rectory)
- All are welcome
- Fr. Matt is happy to teach the simple method for those who would like to learn.

Be still and know that I am God. Is this God's invitation to move your prayer life to a more profound level, to travel more deeply into your spiritual journey? Centering prayer is a simple practice that can open us to the intense intimacy and power of Divine Love and lead us to greater inner stability, peace and joy. In the silence of our hearts, our God leads us to know God's sweetness and beauty.



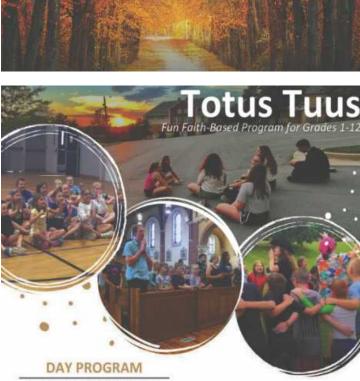
MATTHEW KELLY

The Rhythm of Life

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

vears 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**.

"Don't let the hustle and bustle of life drag you down. Don't allow the day-to-day drudgery of life distract you from your essential purpose becoming the-best-version-of-yourself! Take time to dream. Imagine what you are capable of, and live that life."



For incoming 1st-6th graders Monday - Friday 8am-1:30pm COST: \$25 per child, max of \$75 per family

Ist-6th graders join us for a week to participate in the sacraments, fun games, silly songs and skits, fun classes on the faith and so much more! <u>Snacks and lunch</u> are provided. Please bring a water bottle and wear shoes you can run in.

7th-12th graders are welcome to attend the day program as volunteers!

To register, contact Abby Thompson (St Stan), Cathy Singer (SFX), or Theresa Veit (St Thomas)





For incoming 7th-12th graders Sunday - Thursday 6:30pm - 8:00 pm COST: The evening program is FREE

Teens come together with the missionaries in the evenings for games, fellowship, personal testimonies from the missionaries, prayer, and much more!



EVENTS

Men of St. Francis Xavier Parish: You are invited to join the Men of Signum Crucis at our next gathering, which begins at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 15, at Helias Catholic High School in Jefferson City. Our presenter this month is Father Mark Porterfield on the topic of the Sanctity of Marriage. Feel free to come early to pray the Rosary at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel. We hope you can come every or any third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. to deepen your knowledge of and devotion to our faith in fellowship with the best men of our area. As always, enter the school on the east end of the front Swifts Highway parking lot. Our Hospitality men will greet you right inside the door and direct you to the appropriate location. The mission of the Men of Signum Crucis is to provide Fraternity through Catholic Study, Devotion, and Service, in order to increase virtue to meet the many challenges of our day. For more information, contact Ken Sandbothe at 573-644-4088, or visit us at www.menofsignumcrucis.com.

Seasons of Hope Grief Support Group: will

begin on **Wednesday, January 15** at 2:00 pm in the St. Martin Church cry room and will be held weekly until February 26. Please call the parish office to reserve a spot at 573/893-2923 or email <u>receptionist@stmartinjc.org</u>.



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 JANUARY 16TH Jefferson City, MO

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. Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri and American Red Cross: are hosting a Blood Drive on Tuesday, January 21st from 10:00 to 2:00 pm. Located in our Community Room at Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri, 1015 Edmonds Dr. Jefferson City, MO 65109. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: CCCNMO to schedule an appointment.

Musicians and Composers

Kathleen Basi ^{and} Katie Wills

For a Time of Music & Reflection

Women of God: Uniquely Gifted, Uniquely Callec

Ministry on the Move! 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

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Applications due March 26, 2025 s

The Diacese of Jefferson City is pleased to offer our parish families college scholarship opportunities through a generous donation from the families of William H. (Bill) Simon and John L. Warack



FOR ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND TO COMPLETE AN APPLICATION, VISIT: diojeffcity.org/scholarships

Jefferson City



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St. Francis Xavier Church, Jefferson City, MO

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