



# St. Francis Xavier Parish

2618 Seneca Street, Saint Joseph, MO 64507

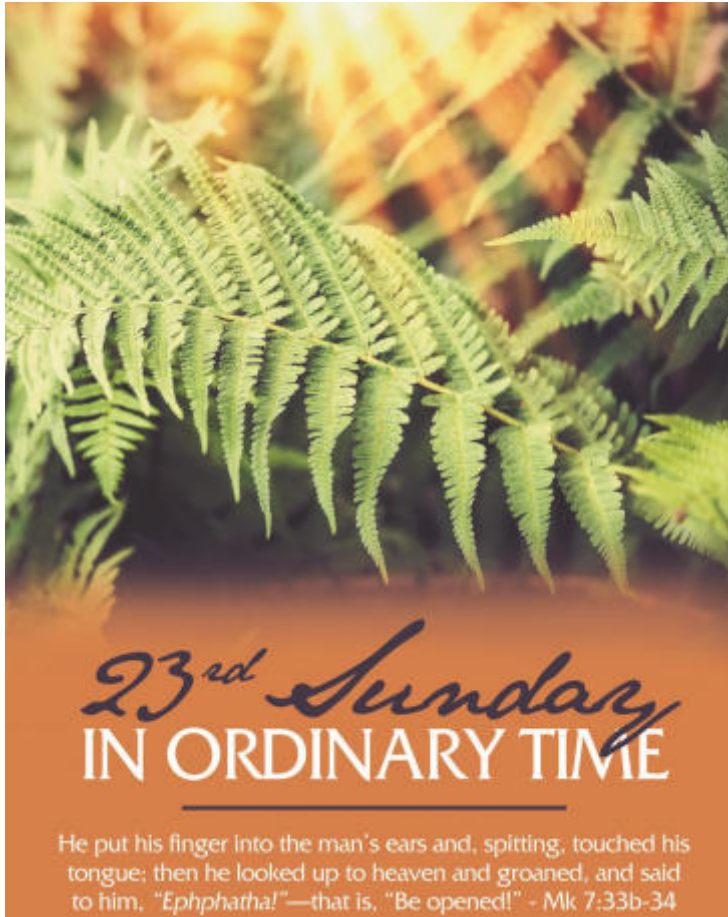
Directed by the Missionaries of the Precious Blood Since 1890

*Mission:*

*To encounter Jesus Christ and bring Him  
to all through Vibrant Liturgy, Lifelong Christian Formation and Social Outreach*



**SATURDAY—SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4—SEPTEMBER 5, 2021**



## PARISH STAFF

Fr. Al Ebach, C.P.P.S., Parochial Administrator  
Fr. Lac Pham, C.P.P.S., Parochial Vicar  
Fr. Bill Walter, C.P.P.S.

Parish Administrator ..... John Lutz

Administrative Assistant, Bulletin Editor,

Parish Center Manager ..... Ruth White

Secretary/Receptionist ..... Jerri Ann Daly

Music Director ..... Paul Hart

R.C.I.A. Coordinator ..... June Stancliff

S.F.X. School Principal ..... Darin Pollard

School of Religion Coordinator ..... Nyla Bitunjac

Pastoral Council: Rachael Bergeron, Sherrel Coats, Pat Dillon,  
Cayetana Maristela, Adam Miljavac, Roberta Seevers, Beth  
Sterns, Brian Ziesel,

Diocesan Victim's Advocate ..... Kathleen Chastain

816-392-0011 or [victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org](mailto:victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org)

Ombudsman ..... Joseph Crayon (816) 812-2500



## PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

PARISH OFFICE: 816-232-8449 (Fax) 816-364-5174

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

8:00am-4:00pm, Monday—Friday. Closed on holidays.

SCHOOL: 816-232-4911

HOUSE OF BREAD: 816-671-9473

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: 816-364-3449

BULLETIN: [bulletin@sfxstjoe.com](mailto:bulletin@sfxstjoe.com)

WEBSITE: [www.sfxstjoe.com](http://www.sfxstjoe.com)

EMAIL: [parishoffice@sfxstjoe.com](mailto:parishoffice@sfxstjoe.com)

## Mass Schedule Saint Francis Xavier Church

SATURDAY: (SUNDAY VIGIL MASS) 4:00pm

SUNDAY: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:30 a.m.

—9:30 a.m. Mass is streamed online at: SFX1891

(You Tube)

—3rd Sunday each month 6:00 p.m. Mass is in  
Vietnamese

WEEKDAYS: 7:00 a.m. and 8:15 a.m.

SATURDAY: 8:00 a.m.

## RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS: 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

(or by appointment)



**S**aint Francis Xavier Parish has been under the spiritual leadership of the Society of the Precious Blood since its beginning in 1890. As a Catholic community, we stand ready to serve all those who are in need. We value in a special way the handing on of faith and tradition through our Parish School, Religious Education and Christian Formation. We welcome everyone. New members are encouraged to call and register at the Rectory.

#### **BAPTISM**

Parental preparation classes offered throughout the year.

#### **MATRIMONY**

Preparation for engaged couples. Nine months notification before marriage date.

#### **R.C.I.A.**

Meets weekly from September through Pentecost. Inquiries are welcome year-round.

#### **COUNSELING**

Available to individuals and families. Make appointments through the Parish Office.

#### **ANOIDING OF THE SICK**

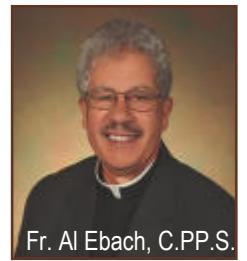
Due to the coronavirus pandemic a priest will respond on a case by case basis.

#### **HOSPITAL VISITS**

If you have a family member or friend in the hospital who would like to be visited by a parish priest, please call the Rectory. Due to privacy laws, the hospital cannot tell the priests who is in the hospital.



There are a number of parish committees and councils at St. Francis, which have been part of the parish for years. Some of them are still very active and others seem to have run their course due to attrition or inactivity. As I shared in a previous bulletin, there are people who have served on some committees and councils for decades, continuing to be faithful to them. That is admirable! Members of various committees and councils, who are examining and evaluating the councils or committees on which they are serving, are discovering that there is much attrition, or members aging, with no one seemingly wanting to replace them. This seems to be a situation many organizations are facing.



Fr. Al Ebach, C.P.P.S.

One of the committees, which has been part of the parish for about twenty-five years, has decided to change its approach: namely, the vocation committee. For many years a "vocation cross" has been provided on a weekly basis for individuals or families to take with them and pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. This seems to have run its course over the years. It is not that we no longer need to pray for vocations, but rather, the committee is asking and inviting more parishioners to participate.

Rather than just one cross being passed from family to family, a number of little pocket crosses have been ordered to be distributed, so many more families will have a reminder of a cross to pray for vocations. A prayer will be accompanying this small cross for people who do not feel comfortable with spontaneous prayers. Fr. Joe Miller, C.P.P.S., had been a great proponent regarding vocation awareness, so each cross will be stamped with his favorite prayer: "God is good." These crosses and prayers will be available for people at the end of September to take home to place in a prominent place, or to carry on one's person as a reminder to pray for priesthood and religious vocations.

A special thanks to those who have so diligently served on the vocation committee: Mike Caruso, Willie Clark, Shari Edelman, Cathy Pankiewicz, Bob Whetsell. All of them have been very faithful in their responsibilities for so many years. Mike Caruso will continue to write prayers for the bulletin on a weekly basis, and Bob Whetsell will lead the rosary at the end of holy hour each First Friday, unless the children are leading it. First Friday is always a good time for parishioners to gather, not only for the rosary, but to take some time out of the day to come to church to pray for vocations during the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Thanks to the vocation committee for reviewing and reevaluating their purpose and their call to be people of faith, and to be proactive by inviting all parishioners, who wish to participate, to get involved in this prayer opportunity with the symbol of the cross. There are many ways to grow the parish in faith, and the vocation committee members have been a good example of people working together to help others grow spiritually.

Fr. Al Ebach, C.P.P.S.

# Pray for Vocations

### Vocation Prayer

You call us, Lord, to be people of encouragement. Increase our faith and trust in your living presence within us, supplying our needs, healing our blindness and faulty speech. Help us attain such deep conviction of your overwhelming love for us that we remain thankful, anchored and tranquil in your Spirit while ministering compassion toward all.

Holy God, St. Gaspar del Bufalo's devotion to the saving blood of Jesus enlivened the men who joined him. Bless the Missionaries of the Precious Blood with increased membership, whose love and gratitude for Christ's presence in their lives flow from their Eucharistic devotion into merciful pastoral outreach to us, your needy children. Amen.



**INTERNATIONAL  
DAY OF  
CHARITY**

Originally a Hungarian civil society initiative to commemorate Mother Teresa's death, International Day of Charity on September 5 took off worldwide in 2012 when the UN declared it an international holiday. Besides honoring Mother Teresa's tireless work to help others overcome poverty and suffering, the holiday provides a platform for charitable opportunities to take place.

This day reminds us that simple acts of charity can alleviate the worst effects of humanitarian crises and create more inclusive and resilient societies.

*Do an Act of Kindness for someone today.*

### Mass Intentions for the Week

#### MONDAY, September 6

*Labor Day*

9:00am Pat Kunze

#### TUESDAY, September 7

7:00am For the Victims in Haiti

8:15am Charlene Slater

#### WEDNESDAY, September 8

*The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

7:00am Louise Hershewe

8:15am Mary Ann Weaver

#### THURSDAY, September 9

*St. Peter Claver, Priest*

7:00am Debbie Williams

8:15am Paul Buckman

#### FRIDAY, September 10

7:00am Bob Fitzpatrick, Sr.

8:15am Virginia Fisher

#### SATURDAY, September 11

*Patriot Day*

8:00am Fr. Joe Miller, C.P.P.S.

4:00pm Remedios Maristela

#### SUNDAY, September 12

*Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Grandparents' Day*

7:30am Maureen Asbell

9:30am Living and Deceased Members of the Altar Society

11:30am For the Parish

## THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

September 8



REMEMBER SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

**PATRIOT DAY**



## Sunday, September 5, 2021

### Special Diocesan Collection

**For the People of Haiti  
Following the Devastating Earthquake  
and Hurricane**

**Please see the article on  
page 4 of this bulletin and the display in  
Gaspar Hall.**



## Bible Readings for the Week

### Sunday — September 5, 2021

Isaiah 35:4-7a / Ps. 146:7-10 / James 2:1-5 / Mark 7:31-37

### Monday

Colossians 1:24—2:3 / Ps.62:6-7, 9 / Luke 6:6-11

### Tuesday

Colossians 2:6-15 / Ps.145:1b-2, 8-11 / Luke 6:12-19

### Wednesday

Micah 5:1-4a or Romans 8:28-30 / Ps. 13:6ab, 6c / Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23

### Thursday

Colossians 3:12-17 / Ps.150:1b-6 / Luke 6:27-38

### Friday

I Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14 / Ps. 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8 /  
Luke 6:39-42

### Saturday Morning

I Timothy 1:15-17 / Ps. 113:1b-5a, 6-7 / Luke 6:43-49

### Sunday — September 12, 2021

Isaiah 50:5-9a / Ps. 116:1-6, 8-9 / James 2:14-18 / Mark 8:27-35

**“Learn the heart of God, from the word of God.”**

Saint Gregory the Great, Pope



*Rest in Peace*



**Albert Ebach**

**July 22, 1939—August 25, 2021**

Brother of Fr. Al Ebach, C.P.P.S.

**Rectory Office Closed**

**Monday, September 6, 2021**

**For the Labor Day Holiday**

**Morning Holiday Mass is at 9:00**

### COLLECTION FOR THE WEEKEND OF AUGUST 28 & 29, 2021

**Weekend Mass Envelopes: 4,936.00**

**Weekend Mass Plate: 400.92**

**Weekend Kids' Collection: —**

**Utility Collection: —**

**TOTAL WEEKEND COLLECTION: 5,336.92**

**Total Parish Income from all sources  
for the week of August 23rd: \$28,366.20**

(Contributions, Operational & Education (tuition) Income)

Correction of Dates from August 29, 2021 bulletin

**Rose Marie (Rosie) Haertling**

**Born March 21, 1944 / Died August 13, 2021**

*I apologize for the error made on this information.  
The Bulletin Editor*

## September Ministry Schedule

Available at the exits

## Special Diocesan Collection September 4 and 5, 2021

The people of Haiti, the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere, have most recently undergone terrible tribulations - political upheaval, a severe earthquake, and a tropical storm.



Picture Courtesy of New York Post

Bishop Johnston, Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, has called for a special collection to assist helping those in need.



Picture Courtesy of  
New York Times

Funds collected will be sent to the Diocesan Finance Office which will then transfer them to the Emergency Assistance Fund of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The funds will be used to support the pastoral and reconstruction needs of the Church as well as the efforts of Catholic Relief



Picture Courtesy of Wikipedia

Services and/or Catholic Charities USA, the official relief agencies of the U.S. Catholic Church, as they and their local agencies respond to immediate emergency needs and aid in long-term rebuilding and recovery efforts.

**Please see the Display in Gaspar Hall**

**Make checks out to Saint Francis Xavier Church**

**Envelopes are provided at the Display  
for your donation or you may mail to the  
Rectory Office marked “Haiti”**

*Thank you.*

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



Catholic School

## St. Francis Xavier School—*The Difference is Inside!*

- **Guided by Christ**, we strive to become the best we can be.
- **Formed with Family**, we carry on the traditions and legacy of SFX Parish.
- **Engaged through Innovation** our students bring about a better future.
- **Children are Empowered** to achieve beyond expectations.
- **Called to Lead**, our students serve our community, nation and world.



## Falcon Family Please Meet

**Mrs. Seufert**



My name is Kat Seufert, the 2021-2022 school year will be my first year teaching at St. Francis Xavier. I have been a member of the parish since 2016. I have taught for six years and took a two-year break to complete my K-12 Reading Specialist. I have a Masters of Education in TESOL, a Bachelors in Theatre, and am certified to teach Elementary, Speech/Theatre, and English. My husband, Nick, and I are both members of St. Francis Xavier Parish. We have a one-year old son, Patrick. My goal for my 6th-8th grade English Language Arts, Yearbook/Art and Theatre students is to bring a love of learning to the classroom that is supported by our Catholic faith and values.

**Mrs. Boss**



My name is Mrs. Olga Boss and I teach middle school science and art. This will be my 5th year working at St. Francis. I'm passionate about all things science. My goal for this year is to enrich the minds of my students through science and art. I plan on incorporating engaging projects, lessons, labs, and experiences.

I love spending time with my little family. I'm married to my wonderful husband of 22 years and we have two children. My daughter is a junior in high school and my son is in college.

We have been blessed to receive our St. Joseph statues and equally blessed to have Fr. Al bless them at Masses recently.



We were also blessed to have one of our SFX Alums in the building bringing our new hallway St. Joseph to our prayer space.

*Thank you, Bernie Meyer for being a great example of a holy father as St. Joseph was!*

***St. Joseph,***  
**PRAY FOR US!**

## This Week at Saint Francis

### Sunday, September 5

No Events Scheduled

### Monday, September 6—Labor Day

Rectory Office Closed for the Holiday

### Tuesday, September 7

8:30am-10:30am—House of Bread Open

6:30pm—Knights of Columbus, PC West Side

7:00pm—School Advisory Committee, PC Conf Room

### Wednesday, September 8

3:00pm—SFX School Faculty Meeting, Parish Center

4:15pm—SFX School Tutoring, PC Conf Room

6:30pm—RCIA, PC East Side

### Thursday, September 9

8:30am-10:30am—House of Bread Open

7:00pm—Choir Practice, PC Conf Room

### Friday, September 10

No Events Scheduled

### Saturday, September 11

8:30am-10:30am—House of Bread Open

After 4:00 Mass—Celebrating Fr. Bill, Gaspar Hall



**PRECIOUS BLOOD**  
**Renewal Center**

a ministry of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood



2120 St. Gaspar Way, Liberty, MO 64068

### Nature's Revelation: 'Every Common Bush Afire with God'

A Day of Reflection on Creation and the Creative Process

• Saturday, Sept. 18

• 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

The verdant 30-acre campus of the Renewal Center will be our prayer-book for a day of reflection on the power of God's creation. We'll give expression to our brush with the Divine through art: drawing, painting, dancing, poetry, journaling, music, photography — how ever the Spirit moves you.

### Repairers of the Breach:

Reconciling Division, Healing Community

• Saturday, Sept 25

• In-person and live-streamed

• 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Facilitated by Fr. Joseph Nassal, CPPS

Like the early church in Corinth, today we struggle with division and disunity, but St. Paul tells us that we have been given "the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:18). This day of reflection will explore what that means and what we need for that ministry.

### Respect Life Challenge: A Call to Action

• Saturdays in October

• 10-11:30 a.m.

• In-person and live-streamed

Join the Renewal Center on Saturday mornings in October for a series of discussions marking Respect Life Month. Meet people active in ministries that defend the "incomparable and inviolable worth of every human life." Topics include: elder abuse, gun violence, mothers of homicide victims, the death penalty and more.

**For more information:**

**816-415-3745 / Email: [info@pbrenewalcenter.org](mailto:info@pbrenewalcenter.org)**

## School of Religion

School of Religion begins September 12 for children grades K-6th Grade for students not attending one of the parochial schools in St. Joseph. Classes will be in the SFX school, 10:40-11:20 a.m. Children and staff will be required to wear masks. Please enter the building through the east door of the school.

Registration will be available in the first floor hallway of the school.

All of our teachers have taken Protecting God's Children, a requirement of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

We are looking forward to in-person classes this year and having fun learning about our faith in the process.

For more information please call Nyla Bitunjac 816-364-3449.



*All Are  
Welcome*

### MIR House of Prayer Events

*You are invited to*

- Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Sept. 14, 2021 at 6:00pm
  - Celebrated with Outdoor Stations
- Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, Sept. 15, 2021 at 6:00pm
  - Celebrated with outdoor little Rosary of the Seven Dolours of Mary on the Trail of the Seven Sorrows

### Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

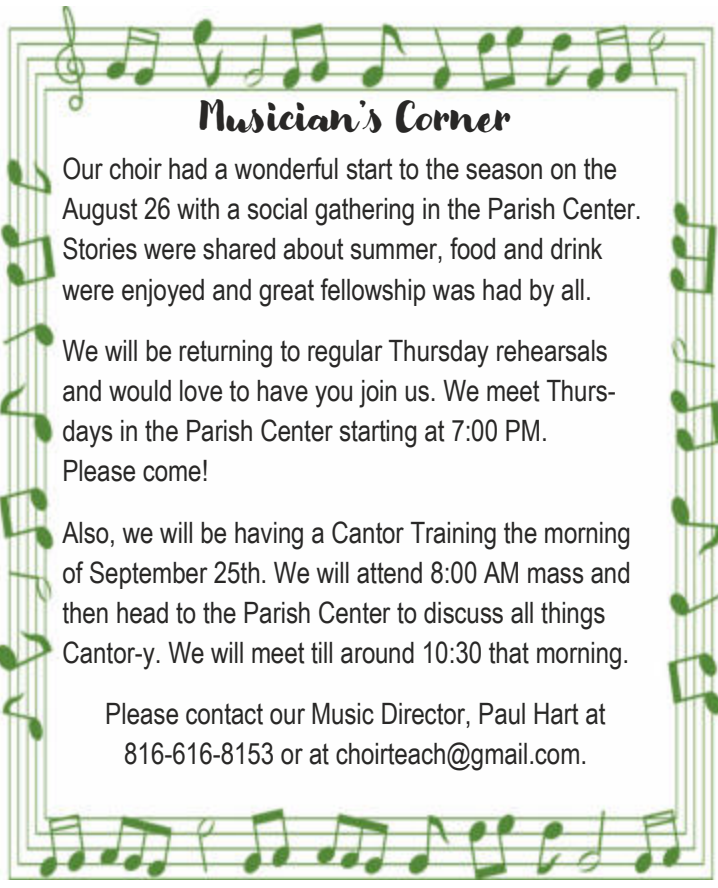
**The first meeting of the RCIA for 2021-2022 is Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 6:30pm in the Parish Center**

**This will be a welcome and introduction to the RCIA that will include a tour of the Church.**

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*These advertisers pay the cost of printing our bulletin each week.*





### Musician's Corner

Our choir had a wonderful start to the season on the August 26 with a social gathering in the Parish Center. Stories were shared about summer, food and drink were enjoyed and great fellowship was had by all.

We will be returning to regular Thursday rehearsals and would love to have you join us. We meet Thursdays in the Parish Center starting at 7:00 PM. Please come!

Also, we will be having a Cantor Training the morning of September 25th. We will attend 8:00 AM mass and then head to the Parish Center to discuss all things Cantor-y. We will meet till around 10:30 that morning.

Please contact our Music Director, Paul Hart at 816-616-8153 or at [choirteach@gmail.com](mailto:choirteach@gmail.com).

### ***The Final and Last Ever Christian Brothers Alumni Association Event!!!***

- \* October 9, 2021 "Last Hurrah" Reception
- \* 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Benton Club, 402 N. 7th St., St. Joseph
- \* Heavy hors d'oeuvres and 2 wine or beer drink tickets
- \* \$15 per attendee to be collected at the event
- \* For all who ever attended Christian Brother High School, the Convent of the Sacred Heart or Bishop LeBlond High School and their guests
- \* In addition, anyone who have been involved with Catholic Education in Saint Joseph is invited along with their guests
- \* The leadership of the Christian Brothers of the Midwest will be attending
- \* Meet the new Saint Joseph Catholic School Alumni Association leaders
- \* Short program at 7:00 p.m.

***Please make your reservation by October 1st!!***

Contact John Mallon

Phone or text: 816-248-1630

Email: [jmallonet@icloud.com](mailto:jmallonet@icloud.com)

Mail: 2800 Douglas St., St. Joseph, MO 64506-2117



### **The first Confirmation Class Meets, Sunday, Sept. 12th at 3:30pm in the Parish Center**

For youth 9th through 12th grade

If you have questions, Contact Janey Johnston at 816-261-9585 or email: [johnstonstj@aol.com](mailto:johnstonstj@aol.com)

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

## **BLOOD DRIVE**

### **Knights of Columbus**

**Monday, September 27th**

**12:00-5:00 p.m.**

**Saint Francis Parish Center**

### **The Diocese of Kansas City—St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church**

If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you *observe or suspect* sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected *sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult* to the Diocesan Ombudsman at 816.812.2500 if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact:

Victim Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or [Chastain@diocesekcst.org](mailto:Chastain@diocesekcst.org) for more information.

### **BULLETIN DEADLINES:**

For the Weekend of September 18th—September 19th — Submissions due by Sunday, September 12th.

For the Weekend of September 25th—September 26th — Submissions due by Sunday, September 19th.

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