

JANUARY 23, 2022—THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# St. Francis Xavier Parish

2618 Seneca Street, Saint Joseph, MO 64507

Rectory (816) 232-8449 -:- School (816) 232-4911

Fax: (816) 362-5174 Email: parishoffice@sfxstjoe.com

Website: www.sfxstjoe.com

*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., Senior Priest in Residence*



Directed by the Missionaries of the  
Precious Blood Since 1890

## Mission Statement

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



## SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY (Sunday Vigil Mass): 4:00pm -:- SUNDAY: 7:30am., 9:30\*\*am, and 11:30am

3RD SUNDAY each month 6:00 pm, Mass in Vietnamese

WEEKDAYS: 7:00am and 8:15am -:- SATURDAY: 8:00am

\*\*Streamed online at SFX1891 (YouTube)

## RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS: 11:00am & 3:00pm (or by appointment)

## *All Are Welcome!*

Saint 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.



**Parish Office: 816.232.8449**

Office Hours:

8:00am to 4:00pm, Mon.-Fri.  
(Closed on holidays)

**School: 816.232.4911**

### Our Parish Staff

**Parish Administrator:** John Lutz

**Administrative Assistant, Bulletin Editor, and  
Parish Center Manager:** Ruth White

**Secretary/Receptionist:** Jerri Ann Daly

**Liturgy Coordinator:** Regina Riviello

**School Principal:** Darin Pollard

**Music Director:** Paul Hart

**Confirmation Coordinator:** Janey Johnston

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

**School of Religion Coordinator:** Nyla Bitunjac

**Maintenance:** Greg Kneib

**Custodial Staff:** Maria Thomas and John Chavez

### Other Contact Information

**Parish Fax:** 816.364.5174

**Email:** parishoffice@sfxstjoe.com

**House of Bread Help Line:** 816.671.9473

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/sfxstjoe>

**Knights of Columbus:** 816.364.3449

**Bulletin:** bulletin@sfxstjoe.com

**Website:** www.sfxstjoe.com

**Diocesan Victim's Advocate:** Kathleen Chastain  
816.392.0011 or victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org

**Ombudsman:** Joseph Crayon - 816.812.2500

### Sacraments

#### **Baptism**

Parental preparation classes offered throughout the year. Announcement of class can be found in the bulletin. For more information call the Parish Office.

#### **Matrimony**

Preparation for marriage is offered for engaged couples. For preparation, a nine month notification needs to be made before the marriage date. Call the Parish Office and talk to one of the priests.

#### **Anointing of the Sick**

Call the Parish Office to request a priest to come for this sacrament.

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

### Other Information

#### **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.)**

R.C.I.A. meets weekly from September through Pentecost. Inquiries regarding the RCIA process are welcome year-round. For more information call the Parish Office.

#### **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 Parish Office.

Due to privacy laws, the hospital cannot tell the priests who is in the hospital.

#### **Counseling**

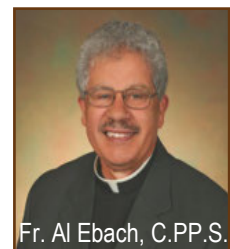
Counseling is available to individuals and families. Make an appointment through the Parish Office.

### Pastoral Council Members

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

## Pastoral Reflection

I have not taken the opportunity to share much about St. Francis Xavier School. So with Catholic Schools' Week just around the corner, scheduled to begin on January 31, I thought this would be a good time to share about our own parish school. I have had the privilege to serve in a number of parishes, which have been responsible for a school connected to its parochial structure. The greatest gift to me was the diversity availed to me through these various experiences, from a Catholic mission on the Navajo Nation, to the inner city of Kansas City, to the outreaches of northern Wisconsin.



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

Two of the schools I served were not traditional Catholic schools since many of the students were not baptized Catholic. I grew in faith personally because of what all these students and parents offered me. I was impressed with many of the students or parents who were given the option to opt out of the traditional Catholic structure of prayers and Eucharist at the school, and in all cases they shared that these traditions were exactly what parents were wanting for their children. It was delightful to be in the classrooms where students longed to hear those Bible stories and hear about the heroes of the Church we call saints. Scripture, tradition and religion seemed to have come alive right before me.

Unfortunately I have not had a good opportunity to interact with our children and their parents here at St. Francis, due to COVID restrictions. I definitely want to respect the procedures in place, which seem to minimize possible outbreaks. I am looking forward to the time when we as pastors of the parish can again participate with the students' faith development through visits and open discussions. I have definitely appreciated the opportunity afforded to us when students participate at our weekday Masses.

We, at St. Francis are blessed with teachers and administrators, who are so committed and connected to the school. A number of them are products of the St. Francis Xavier faith-tradition itself. Sacrificing in their lives in so many ways, they want to continue to share this tradition with the young children of our community. Not only are they committed to the future because of their own history but a number of them have served in this school for many years. Thank you to our teachers and administration for sharing your gifts and lives with the people of our parish and of the local community. You truly are a blessing to the school and parish.

There is always the question whether we can continue to maintain our Catholic tradition in our parish and in our local community. It would be nice to have a crystal ball to give us all the answers regarding the future of Catholic schools. St. Francis School has survived a depression, overpopulation (if you can believe that), a building addition, shortage of staff, shortage of funds, and presently a virus. We trust that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide us into the future. We seem to have a local team of people who believe in Catholic education, assisting the Catholic community to hopefully design a plan to continue to develop and grow in our faith through Catholic education. I look at the here-and-now and realize we are blessed with wonderful people who are providing for this particular Catholic school we call St. Francis. Thank you so much for believing that what is happening now will make a difference for the future.

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

*Grant me, O Lord my God, a mind to know you, a heart to seek you, wisdom to find you, conduct pleasing to you, faithful perseverance in waiting for you, and a hope of finally embracing you. Amen. —St. Thomas Aquinas*

## Vocation Prayer

You call us, dear Jesus, your disciples, to live in harmony. Although we may have differences of opinion or interpretations of morality and Catholic doctrine, teach us to desire the unity of mind and heart, that is open to hear the other's point of view. We ask your Holy Spirit to give us the gifts of wisdom and understanding enabling us to listen for the feelings such as fear, anger or hurt underlying our differences. Help us always to keep in mind that only you know the heart of the other and love that person unconditionally.

All-knowing, all-merciful God, send us young priests who live the compassion of your son, Jesus. Through them may we learn to understand our brothers and sisters who frustrate, irritate, or trigger reactions contrary to the example given to us by Jesus. Amen.



Mass Intentions for the Week

**MONDAY, January 24**

*Saint Francis de Sales,  
Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

- 7:00am Sir Knight Paul Glennon Buckman
- 8:15am Mithelavage and Still Families

**TUESDAY, January 25**

*The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle*

- 7:00am John Patterson
- 8:15am TJ-For God's Guidance and Protection

**WEDNESDAY, January 26**

*Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops*

- 7:00am Fr. Al Ebach, C.PP.S. (Living)
- 8:15am Roger Gillette

**THURSDAY, January 27**

*Saint Angela Merici*

- 7:00am Richard Peed
- 8:15am Agnes Gray

**FRIDAY, January 28**

*Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church*

- 7:00am Marietta Russell
- 8:15am James Morelock (Living)

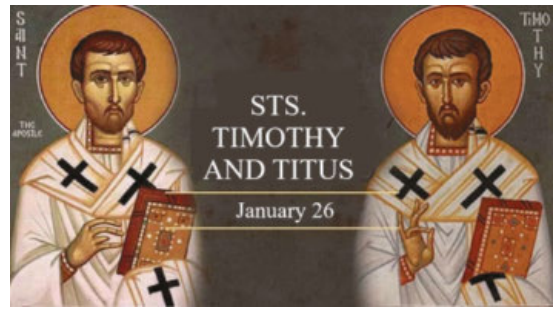
**SATURDAY, January 29**

- 8:00am Edwin H. Meyer
- 4:00pm Nick Seufert

**SUNDAY, January 30**

*Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Celebrate Catholic Schools Week*

- 7:30am Michael Tighe
- 9:30am Shirley, Henry, Danny Riha
- 11:30am For the Parish

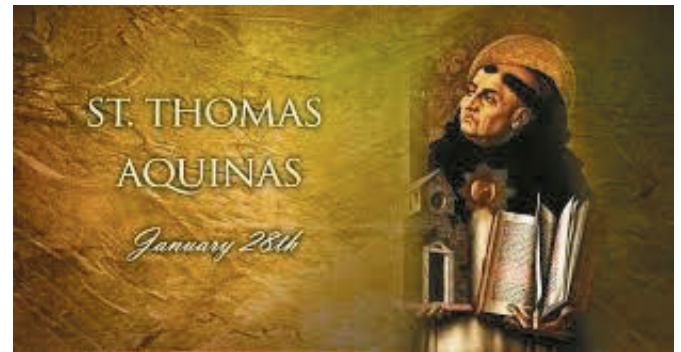


*Saint Paul could not do all the work in the first century church alone so he appointed helpers.*



**Have hope and firm faith  
in God, for he will help  
you in everything.**

**SAINT ANGELA MERICI  
January 27**



**Bible Readings for the Week**

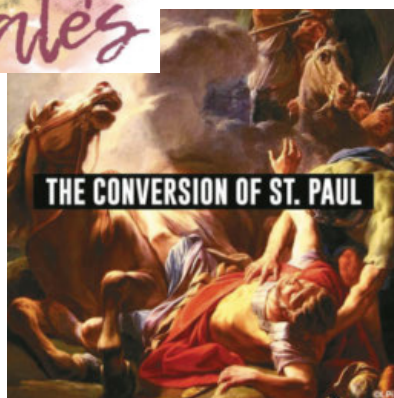


**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 23, 2022**

- Sunday:** Nehemiah 8:2-4, 5-6, 8-10 / Ps. 19:8-10, 15 / I Corinthians 12:12-30 / Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21
- Monday:** II Samuel 5:17, 10 / Ps. 89:20-22, 25-26 / Mark 3:22-30
- Tuesday:** Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22 / Ps. 117:1-2 / Mark 16:15-18
- Wednesday:** 2 Timothy 1:1-8 or Titus 1:1-5 / Ps. 89:4-5, 27-30 / Mark 4:1-20
- Thursday:** II Samuel 7:18-19, 24-29 / Ps. 132:1-3, 5, 11-14 / Mark 4:21-25
- Friday:** II Samuel 11:1-5, 10a, 13-17 / Ps. 51:3-7, 10-11 / Mark 4:26-34
- Saturday:** II Samuel 12:1-7a, 10-17 / Ps. 51:12-17 / Mark 4:35-41
- Next Sunday:** Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19 / Ps. 71:1-6, 15-17 / 1/30/2022 I Corinthians 12:31—13:13 or 13:4-13 / Luke 4:21-30



January 24



January 25



**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.



The Fox-Liles Early Childhood Center and Kindergarten enjoyed a lot of holiday fun over the Christmas season.



Kindergarten is preparing to join the primary grades in Mass this coming week as well!



*If you want to give your child or grandchild the formation that only St. Francis can offer, in our ECC or Kindergarten, give us a call to arrange a tour! 816-232-4911*



This Week at Saint Francis

**Sunday, January 23, 2022**

After 7:30am Mass—Novena for Life  
 10:30am—School of Religion meets via ZOOM  
 3:00pm—Precious Blood Companions, PC West Side  
 3:30pm—Confirmation, PC East Side

**Monday, January 24, 2022**

No Events Scheduled

**Tuesday, January 25, 2022**

8:30am-10:30am—House of Bread Open  
 7:00pm—SFX Book Club, PC Conf. Rm  
 7:00pm—Baptism Prep Class, Rectory Conf. Rm

**Wednesday, January 26, 2022**

After 7:00am Mass—Novena for Life  
 6:30pm—RCIA, PC East Side

**Thursday, January 27, 2022**

After 7:00am Mass—Novena for Life  
 8:30am-10:30am—House of Bread Open

**Friday, January 28, 2022**

No Events Scheduled

**Saturday, January 29, 2022**

6:30am—Men of Faith, PC West Side  
 8:30am-10:30am—House of Bread Open

**Sunday, January 30, 2022**

10:30am—School of Religion meets via ZOOM

Confirmation Class

*Meets Today,  
 Sunday, January 23, 2022  
 3:30 p.m.—Parish Center*



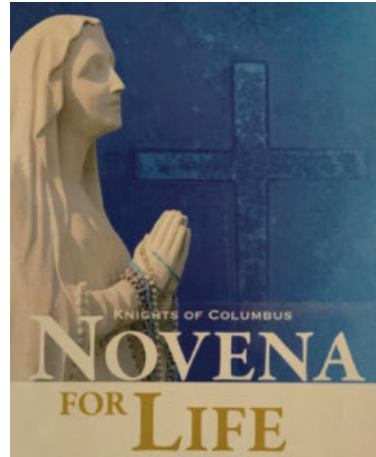
**February  
 Liturgical Ministry Schedules**

Available at the Doors

Beginning Experience of Kansas City is hosting a 10-week, online session to help divorced and widowed persons deal with grief and pain. **Coping With Life Alone**, begins February 7, 2022, 6:30-8:30. \$50. Via Zoom.

For more information, please visit [beginningexperiencekc.org](http://beginningexperiencekc.org) or call Maria at 913-314-9844.

PRAY TO PROTECT  
 HUMAN LIFE!



JANUARY 19-27, 2022

**9 Day for Life** is a novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life.

Come join the SFX Knights of Columbus (Council 15126) immediately following the 7:00 a.m. daily masses (8:00 Saturday and 7:30 Sunday) for a brief observance and prayer of **9 Days for Life**, starting Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022.

**BAPTISM PREP CLASS**

January 25, 2022

7:00pm Rectory Conference Room



Precious Blood Companions

*Meet Today,  
 Sunday, January 23, 2022*

3:00 p.m., Parish Center West Side

Stewardship in Action



**COLLECTION FOR THE WEEKEND OF  
 JANUARY 15 & 16, 2022**

Weekend Mass Envelopes:	2,918.00
Weekend Mass Plate:	193.00
Weekend Kids' Collection:	—
Utility Collection:	—

**TOTAL WEEKEND COLLECTION: \$3,111.00**

Home Mission Appeal Collection: \$1,035.00

Total Parish Income from all sources  
 for the week of January 10th: \$37,177.71





The Knights of Columbus will be running their 2nd Annual Parish Wide Garage Sale June 16-17-18, 2022. They ask that you keep them in mind as you begin your yearly spring cleaning. As in the past all proceeds will go to support parish wide ministries. If you have any questions contact project chairman Knight John Bitunjac or check the bulletin for further details.

**It Takes All Kinds**

"If every flower wanted to be a rose," wrote St. Therese of Lisieux, "spring would lose its loveliness."

Who is God asking you to be today? There is an obvious answer that springs to mind right out of the gate. God wants me to be a good person (a good father, a good husband) today; today, God wants me to be a saint.

But this answer fails to get to the heart of the question. We are all striving today to serve the same Spirit, but we are given different gifts to do so. The one who has the gift of knowledge may fail if today he decides he wants to be a healer. The one who has the gift of "varieties of tongues" might falter in the expression of wisdom.

Think about the wedding at Cana and the players in the scene: the servers, the guests, the bride and groom. They all have a unique role to play, and though it is to the servers that Mary gives the instruction, "Do whatever he tells you," her words apply to all.

Today, are we called to be the servers — do we wait on God's instruction and carry it out, no matter how foolish or impossible it may seem to our human ears? Are we asked to be the disciples, to bear witness to a miracle and to give our testimony? Are we called to imitate the Blessed Mother herself and give encouragement to follow God's word?

Let us examine our gifts and listen in the silence of our hearts to the direction of the Spirit. Then and only then, let us do whatever He tells us.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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- ◊ Ability to operate hand held tools and equipment including lawnmower, weed trimmer, leaf blower, sledgehammer, and chain saw.
- ◊ Ability to operate mechanical equipment including but not limited to a dump truck, tractor, utility vehicle, and tamper. Backhoe experience preferred but will train the right candidate.
- ◊ Ability to accurately use measuring devices like tape measure, ruler etc.
- ◊ Ability to communicate effectively with co-worker, contractor, personnel and visitors.
- ◊ Must be able to lift 50 plus pounds.
- ◊ Must be able to work in adverse weather conditions
- ◊ Monday thru Friday, 8:00-4:30. Some Saturdays 8:30-12.

For more information about this position please contact Lisa Rocha Gann at 816-279-5005 or 816-262-0674.



**Irene L. Kiger**  
**1942-2022**  
 Sister of parishioner: Wayne Pease

**Do you need firewood?**

**If so, call Joe Hamera at 816-261-6325.**  
**Cost is \$75.00 for a pick-up load.**  
**All proceeds from the sale of this firewood will be donated to SFX Parish.**



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, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or [crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org](mailto:crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org) 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: Whitney True-Francis, Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 816.392.0011 or [true.francis@diocesekcsj.org](mailto:true.francis@diocesekcsj.org) for more information.

**BULLETIN DEADLINES**

For the Weekend of January 29 and 30, 2022 — Submissions due by: **Sunday, January 23, 2022**

For the Weekend of February 5 and 6, 2022 — Submissions due by: **Sunday, January 30, 2022**

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