Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.

Luke 1:38
St. Francis Xavier Parish
7319 Route M Jefferson City (Taos) MO 65101

REV. MICHAEL W. PENN - PASTOR
Email: mpenn@sfxtaos.com

DEACON MICHAEL BERENDZEN  573.694.4916
Email: mwberendzen@gmail.com

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 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: sfxchurch1@embarqmail.com
Facebook: St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church
Office: 573.395.4401  Fax: 573.395.4302
Parish Website: www.sfxtaosmo.org
Bookkeeper- Cecilia Lock Email: clock@sfxtaos.com (ext. 1002)
Secretary - Laurie Herzing Email: lherzing@sfxtaos.com (ext. 1001)
Religious Education Director - Shelle Sandbothe Email: reled@sfxtaos.com (ext. 1003)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4:15 - 4:45 p.m.
or anytime by appointment.

PASTORAL COUNCIL: Jason Hoffmeyer, President 395-4305; Mark Wankum, Vice President 573-808-5070; Sara Kerperin, Secretary 230-1112; Janet Klebba, Social Concerns 680-9925; Jody Bennett 353-4410; Bill Buschman 659-1583; Dale Heckman 645-1905; Jeff Pleus 395-4428; Tim Riley 291-3991; DeWayne Sprenger 690-3683; Sarah Tweekus 528-7208; Julie Wilbers 291-6893; 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

† 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.
† Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet prior to Tuesday evening Mass at 6:40 p.m. in Church until 7:00p.m.
† Baptism: Contact Father regarding preparation sessions and scheduling.
† Marriage: Contact Father at least six months in advance for preparation and scheduling.
“For the sons and daughters of the Church: that we may be the light of God’s love for the world by our sacrificial gifts for those in need, especially the children of our world.”

Monday, Dec 21st: No Mass
Tuesday, Dec 22nd: No Mass
Wednesday, Dec 23rd: No Mass
Thursday, Dec 24th: Merry Christmas Eve
3:00 p.m. - Roman & Josephine Kampeter
3:00 p.m. - Intention of the Celebrant (Cafeteria)
7:00 p.m. - L&D of Ted & Mildred Struttman and Anton & Minnie Baumhoer Families
7:00 p.m. - People of the Parish (Cafeteria)
9:00 p.m. - L&D of Leo & Eleanor Bernskoetter Family
Friday, Dec 25th: Merry Christmas
9:00 a.m. - Corrie Talken
Saturday, Dec 26th:
5:00 p.m. - Walter & Catherine Bock & Kathy Paschal
Sunday, Dec 27th:
8:00 a.m. - L&D of Donald Kerperin Family
10:00 a.m. - L&D of Clarence & Gesina Stegeman Fam.

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 Dec are: First Offering, Samaritan Center, Immaculate Conception, Parish School, Capital Improvements/Repairs, Christmas Offering, and Seminarian Formation & Priests Retirement.

Helias Catholic High School: is seeking a Theology Teacher full or part-time beginning in January. For the full job description, please go to the Helias website at www.heliascatholic.com/AboutUs/EmploymentOpportunities or contact the office at 573-635-6139.

Important: Anointing of the Sick: Due to hospitals’ strict protocols, it is important to seek the sacraments of the Anointing of the Sick and Reconciliation prior to going to the hospital. Most hospitals only allow a priest to provide the sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick if the patient has been placed on comfort care (hospice) or is nearing death.

Liturgical Ministries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dec 26 &amp; 27</th>
<th>5:00 p.m.</th>
<th>8:00 a.m.</th>
<th>10:00 a.m.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eucharistic Ministers</td>
<td>Deanne Rackers</td>
<td>Glenda Vanderfeltz</td>
<td>Brian Werdehausen</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sue Sandbothe</td>
<td>MB</td>
<td>MB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lector</td>
<td>Cecilia Lock</td>
<td>Glenda Vanderfeltz</td>
<td>Kathy Rackers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ushers</td>
<td>Keith Henke</td>
<td>Dan Sanning</td>
<td>John Prenger</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tom Henke</td>
<td>Bill Vanderfeltz</td>
<td>Josh Sandbothe</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bruce Kliethermes</td>
<td>Nyla Cartmell</td>
<td>Steve Distler</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rita Lipskoch</td>
<td>Joe Otto</td>
<td>Cindy LePage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musicians</td>
<td>Katnik</td>
<td>Kathy</td>
<td>Hood Family</td>
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</tbody>
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If you or someone you know is homebound and would like to receive communion or a visit, call the office at 395-4401.

If your family would like to donate toward a Christmas Gift for Father Penn and or Deacon Michael, please put it in an envelope marked Christmas gift and drop in the collection basket or parish office by December 22nd. Thank you!

Calendar

Dec 21 6-8p.m. Confessions in Church with Fr. Penn
Dec 22 11-1p.m. Confessions in Church with Fr. Penn
Dec 24 & 25 Collection for Seminarian Formation & Priest Retirement
Dec 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!
Dec 31 New Year’s Eve Mass 5:30 p.m. (Live-streamed)
Jan 1 New Year’s Day Mass 9:00 a.m.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Goal for Dec $72,549.00 (4 Sundays)
Dec 5 & 6 $13,097.00
ACH $22,516.00
$35,613.00

Offertory Collection Fiscal YTD 2021

Goal thru Nov $399,019.00
Actual thru Nov $354,803.87
End of the Year $-44,215.13

Birthright: The Annual Birthright Shower at St. Francis Xavier has been canceled due to the ongoing pandemic.

Behavior 4th Sunday of Advent
“Yes”. Like Mary’s response to God, so too may it be our response to Him. Sin compels us to say, “no” to God and His will and when we respond negatively, we cannot reach our potential and live in the grace the Lord intended for us. When we cooperate with what God intends for us His Presence dwells in us and we make Him manifest in the world by our words and actions. Responding “yes” to the Lord we dwell in communion with God and with one another and our possibilities are limitless. Let us bear God’s word in our hearts and be always willing to do what God asks of us.

I will be available in the church for the Sacrament of Penance tomorrow (December 21st) from 6:00-8:00 p.m. and on Tuesday (December 22nd) from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. I will be in the Reconciliation Room during these times. I will also be available for Confessions by calling me at the Parish Office (395-4401) to schedule a time.

In order to comply with health directives during this time of pandemic to reduce crowd attendance in one location, the Christmas Masses and locations are as follows:

**Thursday 24 December**

3:00 p.m. in church (Fr. Stephen Jones) *(Live-streamed)*

3:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria-if necessary, for church overflow (Fr. Michael Penn)

7:00 p.m. in church (Fr. Stephen Jones)

7:00 p.m. in school cafeteria (Fr. Michael Penn)

9:00 p.m. in church (Fr. Stephen Jones)

**Friday 25 December**

9:00 a.m. in church.

Thursday 1 January is the Octave Day of Nativity of the Lord, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Masses for this day will be celebrated in the church at the following times:

**Thursday 31 December**

5:30 p.m.

**Friday 1 January**

9:00 a.m.

**Quilters**: We are quilting on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 a.m. at Josh Sandbothe house. Call Georgene (619-4610) if you have any questions. Can quilt daytime or evening. Please come join us!

**Religious Education**

Shelle Sandbothe, Director of Religious Education, 
573-395-4401 ext.1003

**Prayer for Communion of Desire**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, renew my heart now with the power of Your Spirit. I embrace You and unite myself wholly to you. Unite me more closely to Your Body, the Church. And never permit me to be separated from You.

**Amen**

**Totus Tuus Applications**

Are you a Catholic young adult interested in bringing the Gospel to kids and teens across our diocese? Please consider applying to be a Totus Tuus missionary. Download the materials at diojeffcity.org/totus-tuus/ and return your application to khartman@diojeffcity.org. We do hire on a rolling basis, so the earlier the better! The application packet includes a job description, application, and instructions for a letter of recommendation. Totus Tuus Missionaries serve from May 27 – Aug 1. This is a full-time, paid position.
Hello! Emma Luebbering and I (Claire Koenigsfeld) are FCCLA officers at Fatima Highschool. For our STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) project we have created a flip grid that has many books on it. This link [https://flipgrid.com/lilibert2864](https://flipgrid.com/lilibert2864) can lead children to books that all it takes is hitting the play button to listen to. Reading is incredibly important for youth and we want it to be possible for as many children as possible to listen to them. If at all possible, we would greatly appreciate it if you shared this with children you know, teachers at your community schools, and parents as well. Thank you for any advertising you may do for this. We hope you enjoy these as much as the elementary at Fatima has. Let me know if you have any questions.

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.

The Winnie Lewis family extends a big thank you for all the support they have received during this difficult time with cards and prayers. Thanks to Roger Strope and the Contemporary Group for the beautiful music and Fr. Penn for the beautiful service and homily. And God Bless you all!  

**The Winnie Lewis Family**

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### Fourth Sunday of Advent

The words below are from an important story found in the first chapter of Luke’s Gospel (Luke 1:26–38). Decide where each word belongs and write it onto the blanks.

Joseph Nazareth Gabriel Mary baby

An angel named __________ came to the town of __________.  
He appeared to __________. She was engaged to marry __________.  
The angel told this woman she would have a __________! This child would be the Son of God!
New criteria for KC Ladies Auxiliary membership: Members must be at least 17 ½ years old and a practicing Catholic. New members no longer need to have a spouse or father as a KC member for them to become a KC Ladies Auxiliary member. If anyone is interested in becoming an auxiliary member, please contact Dolores Urban at 573-680-0716.

Tina Bischoff Benefit: Tina adopted her nephew Coty when he lost both of his parents back in 2010-2011. In 2015, her son Josh was diagnosed with aplastic anemia. This year he had to have a bone marrow transplant. Tina’s other son John was a match. In August 2020, Coty passed away from an UTV accident and John went into surgery to be the donor for his brother. In September 2020, Josh received his transplant; however, has to stay in St. Louis until January. Due to these circumstances, we are asking you to please join us in “WE GOT THIS BISCH” by providing any donations to be auctioned or towards a meal during a benefit that will be held Saturday, January 30, 2021 at the St. Thomas Parish Hall in St. Thomas, MO. Your donation will assist in raising proceeds to help a wonderful family with their travel, lodging, medical and funeral expenses. Call or text Loree Libbert at (573) 619-7359 or email her at Loree.Libbert@gmail.com if you would like to donate.

Parishes are encouraged to pray the Prayer to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for the Protection from the Coronavirus at the end of each Mass.

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, we entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross, you participated in Jesus’ pain, with steadfast faith. Patroness of the Diocese of Jefferson City, you know what we need. We are certain of the power of your intercession, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father’s will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who taught us to “love one another, as I have loved you” took our sufferings upon Himself and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Bring under your mantle of protection all who provide care for the sick and minister to their needs, as your Son implores us to do for one another.

V. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.
R. Do not despise our pleas and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

CHURCH CLEANING POLICY: If you are unable to work on your assigned date, let your coordinator know and turn in your $15 to the parish office. Coordinators listed below. Students who are seeking service hours are welcome to help clean. Please contact the weekly coordinator to verify when you will be there (1-2 hours Saturday morning, or occasionally a Friday evening).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1: Dec 5</th>
<th>Week 2: Dec 12</th>
<th>Week 3: Dec 19</th>
<th>Week: 4 Dec 26</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elaine Callaway 690-8966</td>
<td>Debbie Borgmeyer 680-9748 &amp; Elaine Ready 619-6803</td>
<td>Jean Pinnell 694-2111</td>
<td>Sue Sandbothe 230-3154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim Felthrop, Dana Fennewald, Loretta Fennewald, Jillian Fidler, Diana Findley</td>
<td>Tina Forbis, Lisa Forck Margaret Forck, Teri Forck, Cynthia Forck</td>
<td>Carolyn Forck (Dennis) Shawnna Forck, Imogene Forck, Rhonda Forck, Debbie Forck</td>
<td>Laurie Forck, Elaine Forck, Carolyn Forck (Joe), Sonya Forck, Jana Forck</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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