

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

245 WEST FRONT ST.

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 18, 2016

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.stfxsikeston.org

Please register on our webpage to receive weekly updates!

Bishop of Springfield-Cape Girardeau:

Most Rev. Edward M. Rice

Pastor:

Rev. Patrick I. Nwokoye
(573)388-1833
Fatherpatrick@stfxsikeston.org

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Alexander Nwagwu
417-718-8897
Fatheralexander@stfxsikeston.org

Hispanic Ministry:

Rev. Francisco Gordillo
frajagovi67@yahoo.com

Principal:

Mrs. Debra Pollock
(573)-471-0841
Fax: 573-475-9847
principal@stfxsikeston.org.

DRE:

Mrs. Toni Grojean
(573)-471-2447
toni@stfxsikeston.org

Parish Office Hours:

8:00-4:30 Monday-Friday
(573)-471-2447
Fax: (573)-471-9820

Office Staff

Kay Tetley
kay@stfxsikeston.org
Darlene Yancy
Darlene@stfxsikeston.org

Facilities Manager

Tim Greenway
tim@stfxsikeston.org

Sacrament of Baptism

Please contact Toni Grojean at
toni@stfxsikeston.org
or call the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday from 3:00-3:45PM and
Wednesday at 4:45PM
when Mass is celebrated

Sacrament of Matrimony

Please contact the Priest at least **six months** prior
to setting a wedding date.

Our Hope is in the Name of the Lord!

Dear Friends in Christ,

Peace and blessings to you!

Advent season is coming to an end, and now, we must continue the spirit of Advent - constantly awaiting and preparing ourselves for the coming of the Messiah in our hearts and in our lives.

Today we thank God whose love for His children is enduring - the God who is full of mercy and compassion! Our lives make sense and have meaning when lived entirely for the Lord - I pray that this good news becomes the foundation of our lives.

We are greatly looking forward to the year of grace 2017- working at reaching out to so many in the parish and the beginning of our ongoing catechesis. Please help us accomplish the task of effectively spreading the good news of the gospel. To find out more, please email me at fatherpatrick@stfxsikeston.org

My renewed blessings to you and your family during this grace-filled time of the year - may your hearts be drawn ever closer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus who alone is our peace and joy.

God love and bless you all.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Patrick Ike
Pastor



MASS INTENTIONS

Week of December 18, 2016

Monday, December 19**8:15 AM** +Jamil & Victoria Tellow**Tuesday, December 20—NO MASS****Wednesday, December 21****5:15 PM** +Almaretta Huber

Confessions 4:30—5:00 PM

*St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church***Thursday, December 22—NO MASS****Friday, December 23****8:15 AM** +Beth Huber*St. John of Kanty, Priest***Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve****4:00 PM** Int. St. Francis Xavier Parish Families

Confessions 3:00-3:45 PM

7:00 PM Int. St. Francis Xavier Parish Families**Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day****THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD****8:00 AM Spanish Mass** +Albert Seiler**10:00 AM** Int. St. Francis Xavier Parish Families**STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

When he discovered that Mary was with child, Joseph resolved to end their engagement with as little disgrace as possible. But obedient to the voice of God, he changed those plans and became instead the protector of the child Jesus and his mother Mary. God grant that I may be as open to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

STEWARDSHIP OF YOUR TREASURE**Sunday, December 11 Collection Report**

Envelopes	\$4,505.00
Plate	242.10
Automatic Deductions (env.)	352.00
Spanish Mass	293.00
Poor Box	168.24
Mass Offerings	140.00
Memorial Donation	50.00
Debt Reduction/Capital Improvement	50.00
Immaculate Conception	437.24
Christmas Flowers	105.00

MONTHLY OPERATING ACCOUNT

Projected expenses FY 2016-2017	\$32,675.00
Received December 11, 2016	6,342.58
Received for December, 2016	15,827.07

OUR CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

How have priests impacted your life or the lives of your family members? How have priests helped you through difficult or stressful times? How have priests helped you grow closer to our Lord and to each other? How can you help prepare the men who will serve your parish in the years to come? What can we do to show our gratitude for the priests who have ministered to us?

We ask you to generously support Those Who Have Served and Those Who will Serve.

MASS TIMES FOR CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S EVE AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER**Christmas Masses****Saturday, December 24, 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM****Sunday, December 25, 10:00 AM****Sunday, Christmas Bilingual Mass—8:00 AM**

St. Henry's Mass times are Saturday, December 24, 11:00 PM, and Sunday, December 25, 9:00 AM

New Year's Masses**Saturday, December 31, 4:00 PM and Sunday, January 1, 10:00 AM****Sunday, New Year's Bilingual Mass—8:00 AM**

St. Henry's Mass times are Saturday, 6:00 PM and Sunday, 8:00 AM

**There will be NO MASSES on the MONDAY & TUESDAY after CHRISTMAS DAY,
December 26 AND 27.**

<p>CARL EFTINK NATHAN EFTINK EFTINK Construction Co., Inc. P.O. Box 1727 • Sikeston, MO 63801 573-471-8781 www.EftinkConstruction.com</p>	<p>1SB MEMBER FDIC FIRST STATE BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, INC.</p>	<p>State Farm Greg Comer Agent 573.471.4461 225 S. Main Sikeston, MO 63801 greg@gregcomer.com www.gregcomer.com <i>Walk in, Mail in, Call in, Click in</i></p>	<p>ANDERSON GREEN INSURANCE AGENCY LAURA GREEN - JEREMY ANDERSON 573-471-9757 www.andersongreen.com INSURANCE SPECIALISTS DEDICATED TO SERVING YOU</p>
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<p>Lewis FURNITURE & APPLIANCE 650 WEST MALONE • SIKESTON, MO 63801 573-471-2446</p>	<p>Sonny's Solid Waste, Inc. P.O. Box 791 Sikeston, MO 63801 (573) 471-2869</p>	<p>Alliance Bank <i>"Your best friend in banking."</i> Cape Girardeau Sikeston Oran EQUAL HOUSING LENDER 573-472-4600 MEMBER FDIC</p>	<p>Your Ad Should Be Here!</p>
<p>Hunter Gin Co. 27943 E. St. Hwy. Y Bell City, Missouri 573-733-4366</p> <p>Willow & Co.</p>	<p>Knights of Columbus St. Francis Xavier Council No. 3151 www.sikestonknights.org Meetings 7:00 p.m. 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 829 Tanner Street • Sikeston, Mo. 63801</p>	<p>Sean Cauthorn Electrician cauthornelectric@gmail.com 573-380-9996 2107 E. Malone Unit C Sikeston, MO 63801</p>	<p>Paul's Recycling, Inc. Owner: Rick McCoy 2199 Garwood St. Sikeston, MO 573-471-5812</p>
<p>Jones & Company A Full Service Salon 573-472-5955 616 Virginia • Sikeston, MO 63801</p>	<p>Your Ad Should Be Here! To advertise your business in our bulletin, call the Parish Office 471-2447 Bulletin Deadline: <i>By Noon Wednesday</i></p>		<p>The Natural Image 471-9282 220 East Center St. Glenn Pinkerton Sikeston, Mo. 63801 Dannie Good</p>
<p>Shelter Insurance Mackenzie Scherer, Agent 325 Tanner Street Sikeston, MO 63801 Phone: 573-471-8272 LIFE • HOME • AUTO • FARM • BUSINESS mscherer@agent.shelterinsurance.com</p>	<p>Mitchell Insurance 901 North Main - Sikeston, Mo. 63801 471-0538</p>	<p>Montgomery BANK Easier and Friendlier Financial Solutions. FDIC</p>	<p>Women of Saint Francis Xavier Church All ladies welcome to join anytime! Meetings are at 6 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month.</p>
<p>YOUR AD SHOULD BE HERE!</p>	<p>Scheffer's OFFICE FURNITURE & BUSINESS MACHINES "A locally owned & operated company" 573-472-2422</p>	<p>Rick Leonard Heating, Air Conditioning, Plumbing and Home Services 142 North Ranney • P.O. Box 116 Sikeston, Mo. 63801 (573) 471-2800 1-866-807-2800</p>	<p>St. Francis Xavier School Pre-School thru Grade 8 Call 573-471-0841 for more information and to support your Parish School!</p>
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END OF YEAR GIVING!

More than half of all charitable giving is made during the last two months of the year. Why? It is a time of the year when we express thanks for the many blessings we have received. It is the time when we review our finances and do our tax planning. As you consider your end-of-year tax planning, please consider a gift to St. Francis Xavier and School. Any donations received or postmarked by December 31 can reduce your income taxes if you itemize, and make a positive impact on our parish and our school.

Announcement!!!

**Have you remembered the Church in your will?
 We are called to share our gifts.**

The "Church" includes your parish, or a Catholic school, or the diocese. It can even include a particular ministry, such as youth ministry or the diocesan priests' retirement fund. Through a gift in your will, you can pass on the Faith to the next generation. Thank you for supporting the Lord's work!

For more information, contact Fr. Patrick @ fatherpatrick@stfxsikeston.

DAILY MASS READINGS BOOK AVAILABLE

We have available in the parish office a large print edition of "Pray Together", a book of daily mass readings for anyone who attends daily mass and would be interested in purchasing one. The cost of the book is \$5.00.

SCHOOL NEWS

- Tuesday, December 20, 10:00 am, the students will be singing Christmas carols at the Gazebo in downtown Sikeston.
- Dress rehearsal for the Christmas Program will be on December 20 at 1:00 pm.
- The Christmas Program will be on December 20, 6:30 pm. Grades PreK-8th will be performing.
- Please save the date for our Dinner/Dance/Auction. It will be on Saturday, March 11. The theme is St. Patrick's Day.

CHRISTMAS MASSES for BENTON and NEW HAMBURG

Christmas Eve Mass: St. Denis, Benton, 8:00 PM, and St. Lawrence, New Hamburg, 4:00 & 6:00 PM
 Christmas Day Mass: St. Denis, Benton, 10:00 AM, and St. Lawrence, New Hamburg, 8:30 A.M.

JOB OPENING

St. Francis Xavier Parish in Sikeston & St. Henry in Charleston, two parishes with 650 families, is seeking a full time, enthusiastic, energetic, faith-filled Youth Minister who is passionate about bringing our youth to a deeper relationship with Christ. This position collaborates with a myriad array of interlocking ministries including: pastoral care, youth formation, our school, and music and worship. Our successful candidate will assist in the development and growth of our middle school youth ministry, high school youth ministry, and young adult ministry. As a member of our parish staff, they will also be a pivotal member of our Ministry Team. Our Youth Minister will coordinate our Confirmation preparation, ongoing parish formation, and other parish youth programs all in support of our parish mission, "To be disciples who know, love, and serve God."

We seek an active, practicing Catholic with at least a B.A. in Theology, Youth Ministry, or a Certificate of Youth Ministry. Salary follows diocesan guidelines and is commensurate with experience and education. Please submit a cover letter and resume to: fatherpatrick@stfxsikeston.org.

LIFT US UP IN PRAYER

Please remember all those in our parish who are ill, homebound and in nursing homes.
 Laverna Rennie, Jerome Rennie, Malcolm Sandvos, Emme Lankheit, Stuart Cawthorn, Andrew & Mickie Ormsby, Annabel Conners, Mark Blanton, Joan Moss, Donald Cento, Beulah Leible, Karen Matthews, Marge Ferrenburg, Ralph Henneman, Rodney Abney, Father Glenn Eftink, Alma Eftink, Jack Jackovic, and Jon Burden. For all serving in the Armed Forces, for the protection of the unborn, for religious vocations, and our religious.