

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

245 WEST FRONT ST.

"LIKE" us on our parish Facebook page at www.facebook.com/stfxsikeston

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 8, 2017

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.

HOLY MASS ON THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS

"Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we have observed his star in the East, and have come to worship him" (*Mt 2:2*).

With these words, the Magi, come from afar, tell us the reason for their long journey: they came to worship the newborn King. To see and to worship. These two actions stand out in the Gospel account. We saw a star and we want to worship. These men *saw a star* that made them set out. The discovery of something unusual in the heavens sparked a whole series of events. The star did not shine just for them, nor did they have special DNA to be able to see it. As one of the Church Fathers rightly noted, the Magi did not set out because they had seen the star, but they saw the star because they had already set out" (cf. Saint John Chrysostom). Their hearts were open to the horizon and they could see what the heavens were showing them, for they were guided by an inner restlessness. The Magi thus personify all those who believe, those who long for God, who yearn for their home, their heavenly homeland. A holy longing for God wells up in the heart of believers because they know that the Gospel is not an event of the past but of the present. That longing keeps hope alive in the community of believers, which from week to week continues to plead: "Come, Lord Jesus". This same longing led the elderly Simeon to go up each day to the Temple, certain that his life would not end before he had held the Saviour in his arms. This longing led the Prodigal Son to abandon his self-destructive lifestyle and to seek his father's embrace. This was the longing felt by the shepherd who left the ninety-nine sheep in order to seek out the one that was lost. Mary Magdalene experienced the same longing on that Sunday morning when she ran to the tomb and met her risen Master. Longing for God has its roots in the past yet does not remain there: it reaches out to the future. Believers who feel this longing are led by faith to seek God, as the Magi did, in the most distant corners of history, for they know that there the Lord awaits them. An entirely different attitude reigned in the palace of Herod, a short distance from Bethlehem, where no one realized what was taking place. As the Magi made their way, Jerusalem slept. It slept in collusion with a Herod who, rather than seeking, also slept. And so Herod was afraid, and that fear led him to seek security in crime: "You kill the little ones in their bodies, because fear is killing you in your heart" (Saint Quodvultdeus, *Sermon 2 on the Creed*: PL 40, 655). *We want to worship*. Those men came from the East to worship, and they came to do so in the place befitting a king: a palace. This is significant. Their quest led them there, for it was fitting that a king should be born in a palace, amid a court and all his subjects. It was there, in that place, that those men, come from afar, would embark upon their longest journey. There they set out boldly on a more arduous and complicated journey. They had to discover that what they sought was not in a palace, but elsewhere, both existentially and geographically. There, in the palace, they did not see the star guiding them to discover a God who wants to be loved. Some of us, how far Jerusalem is from Bethlehem! Herod is unable to worship because he could not or would not change his own way of looking at things. He did not want to stop worshipping himself, believing that everything revolved around him. He was unable to worship, because his aim was to make others worship him. Nor could the priests worship, because although they had great knowledge, and knew the prophecies, they were not ready to make the journey or to change their ways. But there, in Bethlehem, was a promise of newness, of gratuitousness. There something new was taking place. The Magi were able to worship, because they had the courage to set out. And as they fell to their knees before the small, poor and vulnerable Infant, the unexpected and unknown Child of Bethlehem, they discovered the glory of God.

MASS INTENTIONS

Week of January 8, 2017

Monday, January 9

8:15 AM +Joe Lankheit, Jr.

The Baptism of the Lord

Tuesday, January 10—NO MASS

Wednesday, January 11

5:15 PM Int of Joy Bond & the Legion of Mary

Confessions 4:30—5:00 PM

Thursday, January 12—NO MASS

Friday, January 13

8:15 AM +Mary Etta Mitchell

St. Hilary, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

Saturday, January 14

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM +Matthew Szymanski

Confessions 3:00-3:45 PM

Sunday, January 15

8:00 AM Spanish Mass +Mary Paylor

10:00 AM +Christine Korenak

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Today we remember the three wise men from the East who came to pay homage to the infant, Jesus, bringing him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The gifts we bring—our time and service and some share of what we earn for the work we do—are equally precious in his sight.

STEWARDSHIP OF YOUR TREASURE

Sunday, January 1 Collection Report

Envelopes	\$5,351.00
Plate	162.00
Automatic Deductions (env.)	747.00
Spanish Mass	66.00
Poor Box	20.00
Solemnity of Mary—Holy Day	1,428.00
Mass Offering	50.00
Debt Reduction/Capital Improvement	100.00
Bulletin Advertising	32.00

MONTHLY OPERATING ACCOUNT

Projected expenses FY 2017-2018	\$32,675.00
Received January 1, 2017	7,956.00
Received for January, 2017	7,956.00

Thank you for contributing to the Seminarian and Diocesan Retired Clergy Collection!

DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION at ST. MARY'S

Preparations are underway for the annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration to be held on Sunday, February 19, 2017, at 2:30 PM at St. Mary of the Annunciation Cathedral in Cape Girardeau. This occasion is an opportunity to all of us to celebrate and affirm the great gift of married love with a mass celebrated by Bishop Edward Rice, followed by a reception in the school cafeteria. Any couple who will or has celebrated their 1st, 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, or 50+ anniversary anytime during 2017, is most cordially invited to attend. Family members of the couple are included in this invitation. In order for the diocese to be prepared properly they need to hear from participating couples by **January 30**. Interested couples need to contact Katie Newton, Office of Family Ministries, 601 South Jefferson, Springfield, Missouri, 65806-3143 or email her at knewton@dioscg.org.

ROSARY

The Rosary is said thirty (30) minutes before weekend Mass: 3:30 PM on Saturday and 9:30 AM on Sunday morning. Please join us to pray for the needs of our parish. Try to bring your family one time a month!

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.com.

"Be courageous...go to confession." (Pope Francis)

<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>
<p>Family Medicine of SE Missouri A Christian Medical Practice That Cares Vicki J. Roberts, MD and Barb Mickel, FNP 808 E. Wakefield • Sikeston, MO 63801 • Ph: 573-620-6444 • Fax: 888-854-6599</p>	<p>BOLLINGER REAL ESTATE SERVICES Real Estate Sales & Appraisals 811 North Main Sikeston, Mo. 63801 573-471-6448</p>	<p>FINE ART PORTRAITS IN OIL by <i>Shirley Catherine Anderson</i> 573-471-0521 www.andersonpaintings.com A GIFT FOR THE GENERATIONS OF THOSE YOU LOVE</p>	
<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>Your Ad Should Be Here!</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>Montgomery BANK Easier and Friendlier Financial Solutions. FDIC</p>	<p>PAUL'S RECYCLING, INC. Owner: Rick McCoy 2199 Garwood St. Sikeston, MO 573-471-5812</p>	
<p>YOUR AD SHOULD BE HERE!</p>	<p>Mitchell Insurance 901 North Main - Sikeston, Mo. 63801 471-0538</p>	<p><i>"When you want it done right..."</i> 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>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>Support the advertisers who support our bulletin!</p>	<p>Scheffer's OFFICE FURNITURE & BUSINESS MACHINES "A locally owned & operated company" 573-472-2422</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>	
<p>foot & ankle centers of southeast missouri Medical and Surgical Treatment of the Foot and Ankle CAPE GIRARDEAU: 36 Doctors Park, Ste 2 • (573)335-1141 SIKESTON: 522 Virginia Street • (573)472-2202 MADISON MEDICAL CENTER (573)783-7061 www.missourifootdoctor.com Toll Free: 800-439-9690 Hugh R. Protzel, D.P.M.</p>	<p>Dr. Dan Obermark Dr. Cassidy Obermark Optometry 471-1080 www.obermarkeyehealthcare.com</p> <p><i>Remember your parish in your will.</i></p>	<p>We appreciate the advertisers who support our bulletin!</p> <p>SAM THOMAS Goldsmith Sam's Fine Jewelry 130 East Front Street • Sikeston, Missouri 63801 p 573.472.1331 • c 573.380.6068 • f 573.472.1388 e-mail: samsfinejewels@yahoo.com</p>	<p>FOCUS BANK www.focusbank.com 472-2002 MEMBER FDIC</p>

An Evening with the Bishop

Knights of Columbus 6420 in Scott City is holding a fundraiser for the Missouri Religious Vocation Fund on Friday, February 17, at the Council Hall. Doors open at 6 PM. Tickets are \$20 each and include heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine and beer. Bishop Rice will be present to answer questions and meet with those in attendance. A limited number of tickets will be sold. Call Brian at 573-450-4902 to purchase. Come enjoy a night with Bishop Rice and help support our seminarians!

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

Please save the date for our Dinner/Dance/Auction. It will be on Saturday, March 11. The theme is St. Patrick's Day.

EUCHRE TOURNAMENT

St. Augustine School, Kelso, will host a Euchre Tournament on Saturday, January 21, in the School Gym with play beginning at 7 PM. \$10 donation includes chili, hot dogs, and Euchre. Outside food & drink permitted.

JACKSON KC DINNER

The Jackson Knights of Columbus are hosting a fried chicken and kettle beef dinner with all the trimmings on Sunday, January 22, from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Proceeds go to help the Youth Ministry Program. Come out to support our youth and enjoy a good meal!

GUARDIAN ANGEL DINNER AUCTION

Guardian Angel Dinner auction tickets will be on sale after 6:00 PM Mass on Saturday, January 28, and after 10:00 AM Mass, January 29, at the Guardian Angel School cafeteria. The Dinner Auction will be held on Saturday, February 25, at the Oran KC Hall. Tickets are \$30 per person, and the price includes your meal and drinks for the evening. Contact Jill Siebert at 887-1623 after February 1 to purchase tickets if you can't make it to the ticket sales.

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.