

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

245 WEST FRONT ST.

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**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**July 17, 2016**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.stfxsikeston.org](http://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](mailto:Fatherpatrick@stfxsikeston.org)

**Associate Pastor:**  
Rev. Maria Thumma  
(573)-683-1583  
[Fatherthumma@stfxsikeston.org](mailto:Fatherthumma@stfxsikeston.org)

**Hispanic Ministry:**  
Rev. Francisco Gordillo  
[frajagovi67@yahoo.com](mailto:frajagovi67@yahoo.com)

**Principal:**  
Mrs. Debra Pollock  
(573)-471-0841  
Fax: 573-475-9847  
[principal@stfxsikeston.org](mailto:principal@stfxsikeston.org)

**DRE:**  
Mrs. Toni Grojean  
(573)-471-2447  
[toni@stfxsikeston.org](mailto: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](mailto:kay@stfxsikeston.org)

**Facilities Manager**  
Tim Greenway  
[tim@stfxsikeston.org](mailto:tim@stfxsikeston.org)

### **Sacrament of Baptism**

Please contact Toni Grojean at  
[toni@stfxsikeston.org](mailto: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.

### **HOMILY OF POPE FRANCIS**

Pope Francis states that prayers are not magic words for Christians and when we pray the 'Our Father', we can feel God looking at us and this prayer should be the cornerstone of our prayer life. Taking his inspiration from the gospel reading where Jesus teaches his disciples to pray the "Our Father, the Pope's homily was a reflection on the value and meaning of prayer in the life of a Christian. He noted that Jesus always used the word "Father" in the most important or challenging moments of his life, saying our Father "knows the things we need, before we even ask Him." He is a Father who listens to us in secret just like Jesus advised us to pray in secret.

"It's through this Father that we receive our identity as children. And when I say 'Father', this goes right to the roots of my identity: my Christian identity is to be his child and this is a grace of the Holy Spirit. Nobody can say 'Father' without the grace of the Spirit. 'Father' is the word that Jesus used in the most important moments: when he was full of joy, or emotion: 'Father, I bless you for revealing these things to little children.' Or weeping, in front of the tomb of his friend Lazarus: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer,' or else at the end, in the final moments of his life, right at the very end."

The Pope warned that "unless we feel that we are his children, without considering ourselves as his children, without saying 'Father,' our prayer is a pagan one, it's just a prayer of words.

In the same way, the Pope stressed that the 'Our Father' prayer is the cornerstone of our prayer life. If we are not able to begin our prayer with this word, he warned, "our prayer will go nowhere."

"It's about feeling our Father looking at me, feeling that this word 'Father' is not a waste of time like the words in the prayers of pagans: it's a call to Him who gave me my identity as his child. This is the dimension of Christian prayer - 'Father' and we can pray to all the Saints, the Angels, we can go on processions, pilgrimages ... all of this is wonderful but we must always begin (our prayers) with 'Father' and be aware that we are his children and that we have a Father who loves us and who knows all our needs. This is that dimension."

Turning next to the part of the 'Our Father' prayer where Jesus refers to forgiving those who "trespass against us" just as God forgives us, Pope Francis explains that this prayer conveys the sense of us being brothers (and sisters) and part of one family. Rather than behaving like Cain who hated his own brother, he said, it's so important for us to forgive, to forget offences against us, that healthy attitude of saying 'let's forget this' and not harbour feelings of rancour, resentment or a desire for revenge.

In conclusion, the Pope said the best prayer we can say is to pray to our God to forgive everybody and forget their sins.

"It's good for us to sometimes examine our own consciences on this point. For me, is God my Father? Do I feel that He is my Father? And if I don't feel that, let me ask the Holy Spirit to teach me to feel that way. And am I able to forget offences, to forgive, to let go of it, and if not, let us ask the Father: 'these people too are your children, they did something horrible to me ... can you help me to forgive them'? Let us carry out this examination of our consciences and it will do us a lot of good, good, good. 'Father' and 'our': give us our identity as his children and give us a family to journey with during our lives."

[\(from Vatican Radio\)](#)

## MASS INTENTIONS

Week of July 17, 2016

### **Monday, July 18**

**8:15 AM** +Jamil & Victoria Tellow  
USA: St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest

### **Tuesday, July 19**

**NO MASS**

### **Wednesday, July 20**

**5:15 PM** +Elizabeth Stewart  
St. Apollinaris, Bishop & Martyr  
Confessions 4:45 pm

### **Thursday, July 21**

**NO MASS**

St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest/Doctor of the Church

### **Friday, July 22**

**8:15 AM** Int. Mark Blanton  
St. Mary Magdalene

### **Saturday, July 23**

**4:00 PM** +Joseph Rennier  
Confessions 3:00-3:45 PM  
St. Bridget, Religious; BVM

### **SUNDAY, July 24**

**8:00 AM - Spanish Mass**  
+Thomas Maddox  
**10:00 AM** +Brenda Matthews

## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Please take a few moments to prayerfully consider your offertory gift to God in thanksgiving for the many blessings you have received this week.

### **STEWARDSHIP OF YOUR TREASURE**

<b>Sunday, July 10</b>	<b>Collection Report</b>
Envelopes	\$4,980.00
Plate	207.00
Automatic Deductions (env.)	352.00
Spanish Mass	59.00
Poor Box	120.00
Debt Reduction/Capital Improvement	50.00
Bulletin Advertising	64.00
Organ Fund	110.00

### **MONTHLY OPERATING ACCOUNT**

Projected expenses FY 2015-2016	\$32,675.00
Received July 10, 2016	5,942.00
Received for July, 2016	14,597.50

Thank you for your contributions to the mission appeal of St. Vincent de Paul for the Vincentian Fathers and Brothers! \$1,373.00 was collected.

## TODAY—FOCUS

Seth Robert, a Catholic missionary with FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students), is our speaker at the end of each mass this weekend regarding FOCUS. The purpose of FOCUS is to send missionaries to college campuses to reach out to students who fall away from their faith. Their goal is to get a group of 40-60 people to support them with monthly donations and form a relationship that lasts their entire time with Focus and beyond. Seth will be going to Texas A&M in August and is looking for people who are interested in learning about FOCUS and how they can help! Please give him your support in any way possible and keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

## THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR 2016 ENTRUSTED TO THE APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER

### JULY

#### **Universal: Indigenous Peoples**

That indigenous peoples, whose identity and very existence are threatened, will be shown due respect.

#### **Evangelization: Latin America and the Caribbean**

That the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean, by means of her mission to the continent, may Announce the Gospel with renewed vigor and enthusiasm.

### **LEAVING A GIFT FOR THE PARISH!**

Anyone who wishes to make a planned gift for the parish should use the following language in legal documents (wills, trusts, etc.) **“Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, for the EXCLUSIVE use and benefit of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Sikeston, MO.** Whatever we have has been given to us by God. Our gifts of Time, Talents, and Treasures, when used for the greater glory of God, is blessed indeed. Remember our parish in your will!

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<p><i>Support the advertisers who support our bulletin!</i></p>	<p><b>Scheffer's</b> OFFICE FURNITURE &amp; BUSINESS MACHINES "A locally owned &amp; operated company" 573-472-2422</p>	<p><b>ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL</b> Pre-School thru Grade 8 Call 573-471-0841 for more information and to support your Parish School!</p>	
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<p><b>Remember your parish in your will.</b></p>		<p>SAM THOMAS Goldsmith <b>Sam's Fine Jewelry</b> 130 East Front Street • Sikeston, Missouri 63801 p 573.472.1331 • c 573.380.6068 • f 573.472.1388 e-mail: samslinjewels@yahoo.com</p>	<p><b>MEMBER FDIC</b></p>

**FAREWELL FOR FATHER THUMMA**

On Wednesday, August 3, there will be a reception from 6-7:30 pm in the Parish Center for Father Thumma. This event will be after the 5:15 pm Mass. Punch and cookies will be served.

**ROSARY LEADERS**

Our parish is in need of Rosary Leaders on Saturdays before the 4:00 PM Mass. If you can fill this need, please contact the parish office at 471-2447. Two regulars and one auxillary will be greatly appreciated. The Rosary is said 30 minutes before weekend Masses: 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.

**NEW CELL PHONE NUMBER**

Please note on the front of the bulletin that Father Patrick has a new cell phone number:  
(573) 388-1833

**CATHOLIC NIGHT with BISHOP RICE and the Springfield Cardinals**

Mark your calendars and plan to attend Catholic Night with Bishop Rice and the Springfield Cardinals on August 23. Wrap up your summer by joining 300+ of your closest Catholic friends to cheer on Bishop Rice as he delivers one of the "first pitches", enjoy \$1 Brat Night, receive a complimentary STLC ball cap & possibly a commemorative beer stein (first 2000=21 year-olds), and between-inning fan games. Gates open at 6:10 and game begins at 7:10 pm. Reserve your ticket now by calling Teresa Calhoun (417)832-3031 or by emailing her at tcalhoun@cardinals.com. All seats for Catholic Night are on the "shady side" third baseline. Tickets are \$7 each and include all of the above!

**ANNUAL LEOPOLD PICNIC**

The Annual Leopold Picnic, sponsored by St. John Church, will be held on **Saturday, July 30**, from **1:00-11:30 P.M.** The festivities will be held on the picnic grounds, which are directly behind St. John Church. An old fashioned country dinner, including **Kettle Beef, Fried Chicken, and Chicken & Dump-lings with all the trimmings** will be served from **3:00 until 8:00 P.M.** **Adults: \$10.00 Children (6-12): \$5.00 Under 6: FREE** Also included are **crafts, homemade ice cream, games, fish pond, and "I Got It!"** (just like Bingo). **"Common Thread"** will perform live country/southern rock music from **8:00 P.M.—Midnight.** Admission to the dance is **FREE!!!!!!**

**CAMP RE-NEW-ALL NEEDS**

Camp Re-NEW-All desperately needs a NURSE for Session 5C at Camp Smokey in Cassville—July 24-29. This is a critical position. If you are unable to come for the entire week, why not tag-team with a friend and come for a few days. Please contact Rosie Francka in the camp office at [rfrancka@dioscg.org](mailto:rfrancka@dioscg.org) or telephone (417) 866-0841. To be eligible to attend camp, all staff 18 yrs. & over are required to complete VIRTUS Safe Environment Training and a diocesan background check and sign the diocesan code of conduct.

**LIFT US UP IN PRAYER**

**Please remember all those in our parish who are ill, homebound and in nursing homes especially:**

Mary Schuchart, Laverna Rennier, Jerome Rennier, Malcolm Sandvos, Emme Lankheit, Stuart Cawthorn, Andrew & Mickie Ormsby, Annabel Conners, Mark Blanton, Joan Moss, Donald Cento, Beulah Leible, Richard Guter, Father Glenn Eftink and Alma Eftink. For all serving in the Armed Forces, for the protection of the unborn, for religious vocations, and our religious freedoms.