

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

245 WEST FRONT ST.

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**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**July 31, 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

**Associate Pastor:**

Rev. Maria Thumma  
(573)-683-1583  
Fatherthumma@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

**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.

## Loving the Lord Your God with All Your Heart

*Mark 12: 28-31. "One of the scribes came up, and when he heard them arguing he realized how skillfully Jesus answered them. He decided to ask him, "Which is the first of all the commandments?" Jesus replied: "Hear O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! Therefore you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the second. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."*

Let's analyze the first commandment, loving God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. To embrace the meaning of loving God in this way is overwhelming. I'm not sure if anyone can fully embrace this. I need to equate it in human terms such as, how do I love my family? I know I want to do everything I can to comfort them, protect them, and be with them. Then we should ask ourselves, do I love God in this way? Do I worship Him as He deserves? Do I participate in church activities and attend regularly and reverently? Do I try to learn more about Him and understand what He is asking of me by reading, studying and living the Bible? God created heaven, earth, and man. How awesome is that? Now ask yourself the question, how do I love God in return? All of us will fall short because it is impossible to love God as He loves us. Yet, we please Him just by trying.

Consider how hard we try to be successful and achieve certain goals in sports, our job, business or family. Do we give our loving God that level of effort? If we really analyze what is at stake here, eternal life with God, shouldn't this be more important than anything else?

Following the opening reading in this chapter (Mark 12), Mark goes on to say in verse 33, "Yes, to love Him with all our heart, with all our strength and to love our neighbor as our self is worth more than any burnt offering or sacrifice."

I sometimes think of how far down the list of importance I place God compared to good friends or the president of my company or a famous person. Suppose Pope Francis was coming to the United States and visit your town. You were selected out of all the people in your town to have him for dinner. Think about how you would treat him. Wouldn't you roll out the red carpet, fix the best meal you could, buy the best bottle of wine you could afford, and try to have everything perfect? Most likely, yes. So ask the question, do I treat God with at least the same kind of intensity? It is also very important too keep focused on, *1 John 5: 3, Loving God means keeping his commandments.*

"Why & How Much Should I Be **GIVING**  
To The Church, To The Poor "...Ben Scott

## MASS INTENTIONS

Week of July 31, 2016

### Monday, August 1

**8:15 AM** +Dana Jenkins

St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop/Doctor of the Church

### Tuesday, August 2

**NO MASS** St. Peter Julian Eymard, Priest

St. Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop

### Wednesday, August 3

**5:15 PM** +Thomas Korenak

Confessions 4:45 pm

### Thursday, August 4

**NO MASS**

St. John Vianney, Priest

### First Friday, August 5

**8:15 AM** Int. of K C Members & Deceased

Dedication of Basilica of St. Mary Major

### First Saturday, August 6

**4:00 PM** +Ed & Bettie Pansky

Confessions 3:00-3:45 PM

The Transfiguration of the Lord

### SUNDAY, August 7

**8:00 AM - Spanish Mass**

+Madleen Abbo

**10:00 AM** +Regina Anderson

## 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 24</b>	<b>Collection Report</b>
Envelopes	\$4,438.00
Plate	231.00
Automatic Deductions (env.)	352.00
Spanish Mass	81.00
Poor Box	166.91
Debt Reduction/Capital Improvement	27.00
Bulletin Advertising	32.00
Organ Fund	11.00

### MONTHLY OPERATING ACCOUNT

Projected expenses FY 2015-2016	32,675.00
Received July 24, 2016	5,338.91
Received for July, 2016	24,696.26

Thank you for your contributions to the Mission Appeal of the Vincentian Fathers & Brothers, Congregation of the Mission Western Province.

### **FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION**

First Friday Adoration will be held on August 5 in the St. Joseph Room at the Parish Center from 9 A.M. to 5 PM. Don't miss this glorious opportunity to spend special time with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament! Please e-mail [chou1943@att.net](mailto:chou1943@att.net).

### **BISHOP'S VISIT**

Bishop Edward M. Rice will be visiting each parish and mission in the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. He is scheduled to visit our parish on Sunday, August 28, after the 10 AM Mass.

### **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

#### **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!

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

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<p><b>Hunter Gin Co.</b> 27943 E. St. Hwy. Y Bell City, Missouri 573-733-4366</p> <p><b>Willow &amp; Co.</b></p>	<p><b>Knights of Columbus</b> St. Francis Xavier Council No. 3151 www.sikestonknights.org Meetings 7:00 p.m. 2nd &amp; 4th Wednesdays 829 Tanner Street • Sikeston, Mo. 63801</p>	<p><b>We appreciate the advertisers who support our bulletin!</b></p>	<p><i>To advertise your business in our bulletin, call the Parish Office 471-2447</i></p>
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<p><b>Shelter Insurance</b> <b>Mackenzie Scherer, Agent</b> 325 Tanner Street Sikeston, MO 63801 Phone: 573-471-8272 LIFE • HOME • AUTO • FARM • BUSINESS mscherer@agent.shelterinsurance.com</p>	<p><b>YOUR AD SHOULD BE HERE!</b></p>	<p><b>Montgomery BANK</b> Easier and Friendlier Financial Solutions. FDIC</p>	<p><b>Women of Saint Francis Xavier Church</b> All ladies welcome to join anytime! Meetings are at 6 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month.</p>
<p><b>Support the advertisers who support our bulletin!</b></p>	<p><b>Mitchell Insurance</b> 901 North Main - Sikeston, Mo. 63801 471-0538</p>	<p>"When you want it done right..." <b>Rick Leonard</b> Heating, Air Conditioning, Plumbing and Home Services 142 North Ranney • P.O. Box 116 Sikeston, Mo. 63801 <b>TRANE</b> (573) 471-2800 1-866-807-2800</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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**FAREWELL FOR FATHER THUMMA**  
On Wednesday, August 3, there will be a reception from 6:15—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 auxiliary 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

**WOMEN OF ST. FRANCIS MEETING**  
The first meeting of the Women of St. Francis after the summer vacation will be held on Thursday, August 4, at 5:15 pm in the Parish Center gym. All women are invited to attend to plan the year's activities and get acquainted with one another. If you have any questions regarding the organization, please call the Parish Office at 471-2447 or Pat Jackovic at 471-3513

**DIOCESAN DEVELOPMENT FUND—THANK YOU!**  
To date our parish has given/pledged \$38,682 toward our \$55,957 goal. Thank you! The Diocesan Development Fund is vital to the life of the Church in Southern Missouri. If you have not yet made your pledge, please add your gift, whatever the amount, in unity with those who have already given, by returning a pledge card. If you need a pledge card, please stop by the Parish Office.

**LIFT US UP IN PRAYER**  
Please remember all those in our parish who are ill, homebound and in nursing homes. Mary Schuchart, Laverna Rennie, Jerome Rennie, 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.

**PSR (PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION) REGISTRATION**  
Beginning the weekends of August 20/21 and August 27/28, there will be registration after the weekend masses for all students not attending Catholic School.

**RCIA 2016-2017— A Life changing opportunity**  
All members of the Church are Gods messengers. Therefore, share your gift of faith. Seriously consider offering an invitation to friends, neighbors, and relatives to learn more about our Catholic Faith. If you know someone who might be interested in our Catholic Faith, kindly complete the form below and give to Toni Grojean or call Toni at 258-1172.

Name(s) to contact: \_\_\_\_\_ **R.C.I.A.**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ **Rite of**

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ **Christian**

\_\_\_\_\_ I will tell them to expect your call. **Initiation of**

\_\_\_\_\_ You may tell them I said to contact them. **Adults**

\_\_\_\_\_ I prefer to remain anonymous. Signed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ You may tell them I said to contact them. Phone \_\_\_\_\_