



F.A.Q's

St. Francis Xavier Parish, Kansas City Transition from Society of Jesus

Based on the UCS Province Apostolic Plan for 2020-2030, a declining number of Jesuit priests, and following a comprehensive resource study and review, the leadership of the USA Central and Southern Province of the Society of Jesus will remove its clergy from 7 of the 14 parishes it has staffed in the province. This decision will impact the Jesuits' presence at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Kansas City, effective July 31, 2024.

Q: Is St. Francis Xavier Parish, Kansas City going to close?

A: There are no plans to close St. Francis Xavier Parish in Kansas City. The recent Pastoral Plan for Deaneries I, II and XI recognized St. Francis Xavier as an anchor parish in Deanery I, reporting a 14 percent growth in registered households and a 75 percent growth in the number of Baptisms performed between 2015 and 2020. The parish is expected to continue its important ministry work and collaborate with other parishes in Deanery I to expand its reach in the community.

Q: Who will be the new pastor at the parish?

A: Bishop Johnston intends to assign a diocesan priest to serve as pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish, Kansas City during Summer 2024.

Q: Is the Society of Jesus pulling out of any other institutions in the Kansas City area?

A: The Jesuits have shared with the diocese that they intend to continue their presence at Rockhurst University, Rockhurst High School, and the Ignatian Spirituality Center in Kansas City. Decisions regarding any additional changes will be communicated by the leadership of the Society of Jesus.

Q: Where is Father Jim Caime going?

A: That decision is up to the leadership within the Society of Jesus and Father Caime.

Q: Are other parishes in our diocese served by religious order priests?

A: There are several religious orders that support parishes in our diocese - we are grateful for the Redemptorists, Benedictines, Congregation of the Missionaries of St. Charles (Scalabrinians), Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest, Society of the Precious Blood and the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT), who all provide clergy serving at parishes in our diocese.

Learn more at www.kcsjatholic.org