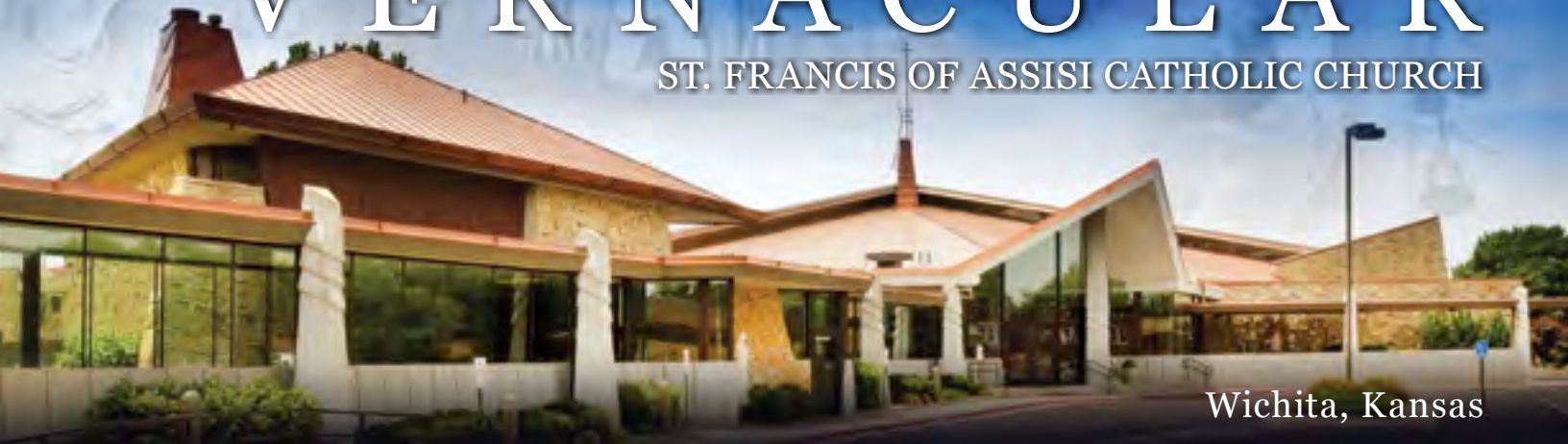


# THE VERNACULAR

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH



Wichita, Kansas

AUGUST 2016

## Journey of Faith

Would you like to become Catholic? Or, do you know someone who would like to become Catholic? The Lord is extending an invitation to you or to someone you to know to follow him more closely as his disciple in the Catholic Church.

This is an invitation respond to Jesus' first words as He began His public ministry "Repent and believe in the Gospel" (Mk 1:15). Our life is a journey of faith, and Jesus Christ is calling you to follow Him who is our "leader and perfecter of faith" (Heb 12:2).

We lay ahold of belief in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in the sacrament of Baptism. This sacrament is the first step of the faith journey that leads toward eternal life.

Take a moment to look at the picture on this page and on the back cover of this Vernacular. Notice how the baptismal font stands at the head of the main aisle of our church at St. Francis. How important this aisle is for us as Catholics! It represents the journey of our entire sacramental life through which we express our living faith and receive God's grace.

We begin with **Baptism**, which



Message From  
**THE PASTOR**

washes away our sins, enters us into the life of the Trinity and makes us a part of the family of the living God. After baptism one is anointed with the oil of **Confirmation**, which is a fuller outpouring of the Holy Spirit that confirms us as witnesses to the resurrection of Jesus.

Having been anointed in the Spirit, we then take the next step up the aisle toward the altar at the front of the Church, where we receive that most precious gift: the **Eucharist**, the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

He Himself invites you saying, "Take this all of you and eat it, this is my body which will

be given up for you" (Matt 26:26).

Not only are we baptized, confirmed and given the Eucharist in that aisle; but it is also there in that aisle where **marriages** are consecrated. Just as a husband loves his wife so Christ loves his Church. and "handed Himself over for her to sanctify her, cleansing her by the

bath of water with the word" (Eph 5:25-26). Jesus wants to unite you to Himself as a husband is united to a bride.

Finally, there in that same aisle, we complete our journey in the funeral rites of the Church. In those rites we offer our loved ones to the Lord in the hope of eternal life that was promised to us in Baptism

For a Christian "life is changed not ended" and death is filled with the hope of salvation. Jesus Christ fide for our sins so that we "who live and believe in Him, will never die" (John 11:26).

Such is our journey of faith as Catholics. From baptism to burial, Jesus Christ invites you to be His disciple so that you can rejoice forever with Him in His heavenly Kingdom.

Would you like to follow Jesus on this journey?



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Labor Day**  
Sept. 5

**Virtus Training,**  
Sept. 10, 9 a.m., Stewardship Hall

**Teacher workday, no school at SFA**  
Sept. 30

**Generations of Faith,**  
Oct. 2, 5-7:30 p.m., gym

# CYM participates in Prayer & Action mission



Photos by Emily Savage

This past summer SFA CYM took 45 students two different weeks to Prayer & Action, a weeklong mission trip in the Wichita Diocese.

The retreat began on a Sunday evening and concluded the following Friday morning after cleanup.

A mission team of seminarians and other dynamic young adults facilitated each Prayer & Action week. The mission team and the parish adult leaders were with the students at the worksites, working side-by-side with them to paint, clean, do yard work, and perform other tasks for those in need.

In the evenings, the team led Collatio, the retreat portion of Prayer & Action. Collatio is perhaps the most important part of the day, as the students pray, worship and grow together in Jesus Christ.

It was a great couple of weeks!

– Emily Savage  
Director of Youth and  
Young Adult Ministries



## Required reading

Connie Zienkewicz sent in this photo of her grandchild and wanted to let us know that young and old alike enjoy reading the Vernacular each month.

# October GoF event features Mother Teresa

Generations of Faith will finish this Year of Mercy with a talk about the life and work of Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Our speaker will be Fr. John Lanzrath, who had the unique opportunity of working alongside this beautiful woman for a short time.

“Through the eyes of Mercy” will take place Sunday evening Oct. 2, 5-7:30. We will begin with a light meal in the school gym, followed by age-appropriate talks and a closing prayer. Registrations are a must and will take place Sept. 10-11 and Sept. 17-18 after all masses.

Generations of Faith is catechesis for those kindergarten-age and up. Because of the large number, no child care is available.

We hope to see everyone here for the closing of our Year of Mercy.

## Changes coming to Generations of Faith format

Those attending the fall Generations of Faith event will notice some changes in our format. Though most of the format for these parish-wide mini retreats will remain the same (a light meal, age-appropriate talks and prayer), you will see some much-needed improvements.

Our adult talks will now take place in the church in order to enhance the quality of the sound, and our children will have an optional “kids area” in the gym during dinner. This feature will allow more socializing among

both adults and children. We are hopeful these changes will improve the experience for all participants and increase the quality in family catechesis.

## Stewardship Thought

O Loving God, open my eyes that I may recognize the many gifts that You abundantly give to me. Open my heart that I may humbly receive these gifts in love. Open my mind that I may willingly accept these gifts from You. Open my soul that these gifts from You may internally transform my heart to love others as You love me. Open my life that I may joyfully share these gifts with others. For all of these gifts are from You O God, and I am simply a steward of these gifts. Amen.

## NEW PARISHIONERS

**James and Aubrey Balman**, 3 children  
**David and Gail Becker**, 5 children  
**Gregory and Donna Brummett**, 2 children  
**Aaron and Lori Cross**, 1 child  
**Andrew and Stephanie Downey**  
**Jon and Carol Fowler**, 1 child  
**Logan and Kayla Wilson**, 3 children

## FUNERALS

**Mary Ann Becker**, mother of Kimberly Fairchild, Kristy Sourk, and Kerri Hageman, on July 6.  
**Janet Eckberg**, wife of Dick Eckberg, mother of Tim Eckberg, Tom Eckberg, Christina Norell, Rev. Joe Eckberg, and Mary Kay Rott, on July 8.  
**Shirley M. Mainzer**, wife of Leonard Mainzer, mother of Rev. James Mainzer, Linda Mainzer, Cindy Goodwin, Mark Mainzer, David Mainzer, and Mike Mainzer, on July 11.  
**Marie Emrich**, wife of Paul Emrich, mother of Michael Emrich, Douglas Emrich, and Kipton Emrich, on July 19.  
**Phyllis J. Horine**, mother of Connie Schlegel and Troy Horine on July 22.

## BAPTISMS

**Reese Harper**, daughter of Brent and Lindsay Riley, on July 16  
**Logan Ryan**, son of Justin and Katie Utt, on July 24  
**Jude Kenneth**, son of Zachary and Lindsey Faber, on July 30

## Square dance lessons available at SFA this fall

The Westside Steppers Square Dance Club will be conducting square dance lessons in St. Clare basement on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7-9 p.m., from Sept. 27 to Nov. 17. Couples, singles and families are all welcome; it is casual attire and no prior experience is needed.

Registration and social hour – including light snacks – will be on Sept. 27 from 6-7 p.m. The cost for all classes is \$30 (cash or check), which is less than \$1 per hour.

The instructor will be Sheldon Lawrence, 729-6920, and the club presidents are Rod and Judy Dietz, 641-3445. For more information, send an email to westsidesteppers@hotmail.com or visit <http://westsidesteppers.com>.

## The Vernacular

This monthly newsletter is published by and for the parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi Parish. It is mailed to each registered parish household by the end of each month.

To submit articles, photos or story ideas, send them via email to [sfavernacular@gmail.com](mailto:sfavernacular@gmail.com). Photos must be high-resolution print quality images.

Contacts for *the Vernacular* are news editor Lanette Belton, 722-3952, and copy editor Ann Walden, 249-2430.

Deadlines for submitting information are the beginning of each month.

New volunteers – especially reporters, photographers and layout editors – are always welcome.

# Fr. Duling Welcome Reception



Photos by Sean Beebe



Photo by Ann Walden

*Parishioners visit with new associate pastor Fr. Dan Duling at a welcoming reception in his honor shortly after he moved to St. Francis. Ladies Auxiliary members (below left) prepare to serve at the cookie-and-punch reception.*



Photo by Ann Walden

**SFA SOCIAL SITES**



If you're on any of these social sites, please take a few minutes to follow or like us:

- [www.facebook.com/kssfachurch](http://www.facebook.com/kssfachurch)
- [www.instagram.com/kssfachurch](http://www.instagram.com/kssfachurch)
- [www.twitter.com/kssfachurch](http://www.twitter.com/kssfachurch)

**Youth Ministry**

- [www.facebook.com/sfacym](http://www.facebook.com/sfacym)
- [www.twitter.com/sfacym](http://www.twitter.com/sfacym)

Spread the word!

# Fr. Xavier's Mass of Thanksgiving



Father Xavier, a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal, says a Mass of Thanksgiving at his home parish of St. Francis before heading back to his new life of priestly service at his order's friary in Newark, N.J. He is the son of Don and Judy Meiergerd of our parish.



Photo by Michelle Kostelecny & Cheryl Stasiak

## CYM Summer Mondays

*CYM participants have fun at SFA's Summer Mondays. During these four evening events this summer, the youth played on the parish's south lawn – enjoying hula-hoops, a parking lot dance, and an outdoor movie.*



Photos by Emily Savage

# Totus Tuus 2016



On the last day of Totus Tuus Day Camp at SFA, the kids once again enjoyed the opportunity to turn their leaders into a human sundae!

Photos by Kathleen Timmermeyer



## RCIA class nears end

Fr. Dan Duling, new associate pastor at SFA, speaks to current RCIA participants, who will become Catholics at the 7 p.m. Mass on Oct. 1.

Photo by Sean Beebe





*Jesus Christ  
&  
You*

**The Lord requests the honor of your presence**  
Instruction for discipleship in Christ  
and entry into the Church begins  
September 28, at 6:30 p.m.

RSVP by calling 722-4404 or sending email  
to [frduling@stfranciswichita.com](mailto:frduling@stfranciswichita.com)

*Follow me,* and I will make you fishers of men  
Matthew 4:19

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