



St. Francis Xavier (College) Church

The Jesuit Parish in the Heart of St. Louis

3628 Lindell Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63108

314-977-7300

sfxstl.org

December 11, 2022
Third Sunday of Advent

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:15 pm, Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am.

Online Masses will be posted on our YouTube channel. Subscribe here: tinyurl.com/collegechurchmass

Weekday Masses: 7:15 am and noon Monday through Friday, all in main church. (7:15 am Mass only on national holidays.)

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Mondays through Fridays, 10:45 am through noon.

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the members of St. Francis Xavier College Church, form a welcoming Jesuit parish community. As followers of Jesus Christ, we praise God, love our neighbors as ourselves, celebrate liturgy and the sacraments, engage in lifelong formation and proclaim God's reign of justice, mercy and peace.

PARISH INFORMATION**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** church@sfxstl.org

The Parish Center is closed if St. Louis City Schools are closed due to bad weather. Activities and events are also cancelled.

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Saturday we are closed & Sunday: 8:30 am to 1:00 pm.

Bulletin Notices: must be submitted to church@sfxstl.org by noon on Thursday, ten days before the bulletin date. Holidays require additional time.

Infant Baptisms: Visit the Baptism page on the SFX website, www.sfxstl.org/baptism-1, for information on infant baptisms and required preparation class. Baptisms are celebrated on the first and third Sunday of the month, at 12 pm. Contact fritim@sfxstl.org with questions.

Christian Initiation of Adults: contact Joe Milner at 314-977-7305 or joseph.milner@slu.edu

Marriages: contact Sandy Hauck at 314-977-7303 for scheduling and preparation information.

Funerals: contact Fr. Tim McMahon at fritim@sfxstl.org or 314-977-7300.

Disability Access: Our church has an elevator and hearing assistance system. Please see an usher for assistance.

Parish Registration: Available online at sfxstl.org/parishioner-registration or at the Parish Center front desk. For questions email church@sfxstl.org.

Youth Faith Formation: Catechesis of Good Shepherd classes are available for preschool through 6th grade level students. Traditional religious education classes are available for grades 1 through 8. Classes meet September - May on Sunday mornings. Contact Terry Edelmann at terry@sfxstl.org or Julie Kilian at julie@sfxstl.org for more information.

Safe Environment Program Compliance contact Terry Edelmann at terry@sfxstl.org.

To reach the Pastoral Council, email sfxpc@sfxstl.org.

PASTORAL STAFFParish Life Coordinator

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Pastoral Ministry

Bridget Brennan
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PRAY FOR THE SICK

Margaret Baughman
 Russ Bley
 Bill Bollwerk*
 Ann Burk
 Maureen Carney*
 Alice Edler
 Steve Frank*
 Jessi Haselhorst
 Butch Henning*
 Jeanne Hermann*
 Laura Kaiser and Family
 Terry Kippenberger*
 Julianne Lister
 Carol Marshall
 Tom McDermott
 Eddie McDevitt
 Angie Menard*
 Karena Menard*
 Liz Moloney*
 Suzanne Mondello
 Nancy Partridge* & Glider
 Fr. Dick Perl, SJ*
 Mark Roddy*
 Jennifer Saunders*
 Betty Schnorbus
 Mark Segovia
 John Seibel
 Fr. Gary Seibert, SJ*
 Jean Steely
 Greg Stephen
 Colleen Starkloff
 Marjorie Woodeye
 Lisa Zimmerer*
 * Long-term

Prayer requests to:

church@sfxstl.org

Or visit sfxstl.org, and find the form under “Parish Life.”

Join our prayer group on

Zoom, Friday mornings at 9:

Contact Bridget Brennan at joy@canainstitute.org for info.

Where do we get the word PARISH?



Written by parishioner Ron Knapp

As I reflect on the All Things New process, I’ve been thinking a lot about the Holy Spirit. One of the premier fruits of the Holy Spirit is unity. The scriptural witness shows the Spirit to be an active, persuasive, effective bond in a Christian community. Now, stay with me, as we explore this truth in a roundabout way...

Randomly, I will become curious about the background of a word—even a familiar word. I recall my delighted surprise as I sought out the etymology (word origin and history) of the term “parish.”

The word “parish” traces all the way back to a Greek word *pároikos*, which means *neighbor*. Another translation of the original Greek might be *sojourner*, a traveling buddy. Well, in Christian/Church usage, this refers to folks on a faith journey together.

This discovery truly jazzes me. Sometimes a word’s original meaning sheds SO much light on how we might conceive of the concept today.

When I think of the Holy Spirit, I also think of the divine presence in us as Advocate, Paraclete, Companion. In this parish, we can trust that through the binding force of the Holy Spirit, we are traveling together. And we’re traveling, not in circles or haphazardly or occasionally, but always in history, sojourners ever on pilgrimage to fuller community (communion) in the Lord.

So, to be a parish doesn’t boil down to a geographically bounded area (or even a Planning Area, per All Things New). The concept is not that bureaucratic, not that superficial, not that hollow—but RICH and DYNAMIC.

The Church isn’t an “it.” The Church is **we**. And in this parish we look out for one another, lift up one another, worship together, grieve together, rejoice together, tithe together, serve together, struggle together, laugh together, listen to each other, encourage one another, inspire one another, strengthen one another, bless one another.

Howdy, neighbor! Hey, there, sojourner! Greetings, fellow College Church parishioner! Hello, Planning Area 2 and Archdiocese and beyond! It’s so heartening to know—to experience ever more fully—that we’re all in this together.

Donut Sunday

Please join us for donuts after the 8 am and 10:30 am Sunday Masses this weekend! This is made possible by our Social Connections Commission. Contact Maureen Hoock at butmomwhy@gmail.com if you’re interested in learning more about the Commission.

-Advent and Christmas Celebrations-

College Church will celebrate the coming of Christ with the following liturgical offerings:

Daily Masses (Mon-Fri)	7:15 am & Noon (Dec 5—Dec 23)
Confessions (Mon-Fri.)	10:45 until Noon
Sunday, December 11	Advent Penance Service Noon
Saturday, December 24	Christmas Eve Family Mass 4:30 pm
	Mass during the Night at 11:00 pm; Choir prelude at 10:30 pm
Sunday, December 25	Christmas Day
	Masses at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
Daily Masses (Dec 26-Jan 2)	Only 7:15 am
No Confessions	Dec 26-Jan 2
Saturday, December 31	Mass at 5:15 pm
Sunday, January 1	Feast of Mary, the Mother of God
	Masses at 8:00 and 10:30 am



For more information, call the Parish Center at 977-7300 or visit our website at: sfxstl.org
Complimentary Parking is available in the SLU Laclede Garage

Family Christmas Eve Children's Choir and Tableau

We are inviting young instrumentalists and vocalists to be a part of our Children's Choir for the Christmas Eve Family Mass!

The rehearsals for this group will be on:

- Sunday, December 11, 12-1:30, in the church
- Saturday, December 17, 9-12:30, in the church

We ask that instrumentalists, at a minimum, be in their second year of school ensemble instruction, as they will be reading and learning the music outside of rehearsal time. If your child would like to participate in the choir, please email Julie (Julie@sfxstl.org).

Our Christmas Eve tableau will also be a part of the Family Mass. There will be two brief rehearsals after mass on December 11 and December 18. Please email Jennifer (jennifer@sfxstl.org) if your child would like to participate.

The Giving Tree 2022: Gloves!

This year's Giving Tree will focus exclusively on providing men's and women's heavyweight gloves. Please return the gift-wrapped gloves by Sunday, December 11th.

Contact Christine Dragonette with any questions at christine@sfxstl.org or (314) 977-7309.

Thank you so much for your generosity!



Social Ministry Christmas Appeal

The second collection on the weekends of December 4th and 11th will go to Social Ministry. You can also give online anytime by sending in a check with "Social Ministry Appeal" in the memo or visiting: bit.ly/SocialMinistryAppeal (case sensitive link).

Contact Christine with any questions at christine@sfxstl.org or (314) 977-7309.
Thank you so much for your ongoing support!





Antiracism at College Church

At College Church, antiracism is an expression of our recognition that all are created in the image of God. As such, we respond—personally and collectively—to the call to identify, and to actively challenge, structures and systems that devalue people on the basis of race, and to practice restoration in the pursuit of justice.

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Monday, December 12th is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Pope John Paul II established this commemoration in 1999 and named her the Patroness of all America. The story of her appearance and message to Juan Diego, as well as his faith-filled response, provides direction and inspiration for our own spiritual journey.



On a December morning in 1531, the Virgin Mary appeared to Juan Diego, an indigenous farmer, just outside of Mexico City at a place known as Tepeyac Hill. During that first sacred encounter and in several more apparitions over the next few days, Mary asked him to petition the

bishop to build a shrine. She instructed Juan Diego to gather flowers which she then arranged in his tilma, or cloak. Juan Diego carried the flowers to the bishop. When he opened his cloak and the flowers dropped before the bishop's feet, all those present were stunned to see Our Lady's image imprinted on his cloak. This tilma is currently displayed at the basilica built in her honor on the Hill of Tepeyac.

Juan Diego's vision was of a woman who had both Indigenous and European features and who spoke to him in his native language of Nahuatl. Her message to him was that she is a merciful mother to Juan Diego, to all the inhabitants of that land, and all other people of any ancestry who love her. Her appearance to Juan Diego inspired many Mexican people to embrace Catholicism. Our Lady of Guadalupe has been an important part of the spiritual and national identity of Mexico. She is also honored throughout the United States, other countries in Latin America, and beyond. Hundreds of thousands of pilgrims visit her shrine every year.

Juan Diego was canonized in 2002. His feast day is celebrated on December 9th, the day he witnessed Our Lady's appearance.

The National Black Catholic Congress

In 1889, Daniel Rudd, an African American Catholic journalist, convened the first gathering of the Colored Catholic Congress. Rudd, who had been born into slavery,

was convinced that Catholicism offered the path to racial justice, that "there could be no greater factor in solving the race problem than that matchless institution whose history for 1,900 years is but a continual triumph over all assailants." Through the Colored Catholic Congress, he sought to address problems such as legal segregation, public education, and employment discrimination. The organization met annually for five years before disbanding.

The National Black Catholic Congress (NBCC), founded in 1987 by the National Black Catholic Clergy Conference, the National Black Sisters Conference, and the Association of Black Catholic Administrators, is the modern-day successor to the organization formed by Daniel Rudd. The NBCC has set as its mission: 1) enriching the Church by evangelizing African Americans within and outside the Church; 2) enhancing the physical and spiritual well-being of African Americans as full members of the Church and society; 3) creating an ongoing agenda for evangelizing African Americans; and 4) collaborating with national Roman Catholic organizations.

The NBCC meets every five years, renewing its mission with a pastoral plan of action. Preparing for the 2023 conference and its theme—Write the Vision: A Prophetic Call to Thrive—St. Louis members of the NBCC hosted a day of reflection last month at the Cathedral Basilica. To learn more about the NBCC, visit <https://nbcccongress.org/>.

VOCL: A Voice of Catholic Laity

On November 15, the Catholic Racial Justice Collaborative (CRJC) released the first issue of its new bimonthly circular, VOCL: A Voice of Catholic Laity. The newsletter was developed to provide a racial justice-related forum and will contain a variety of features including timely articles, opinion pieces and guest editorials, book reviews, spotlighted parishes, and coming events. The publication is created and produced by members of the CRJC, a multiracial group of Catholics from parishes and religious organizations throughout the archdiocese of St. Louis. The group works to acknowledge the history of racism and to challenge its perpetuation, to encourage meaningful interracial dialogue, and to compel action that leads to

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racial justice. To view the newsletter and to subscribe to VOCL, go to <https://mailchi.mp/0c68e2b16678/vocl20221115>. And for more information about the CRJC, visit <https://www.catholicracialjusticestl.org>.

Table Talks

While you are enjoying coffee and donuts in the Ballroom after Mass today, look for members of our Antiracism ministries wearing this name tag. They will be glad to engage in conversation about current projects and eager to hear your ideas and perspectives. We hope to see you there!

October Offertory Report				
	October		2022-2023 Year to Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Offertory: Envelopes	\$12,257	\$30,500	\$49,025	\$79,000
Offertory: On-Line	\$32,618	\$34,600	\$122,973	\$135,350
Holy Day Gifts	\$0	\$0	\$128	\$50
Offertory: Loose Cash	\$3,124	\$3,900	\$11,440	\$7,550
TOTALS	\$47,999	\$69,000	\$183,566	\$221,950
YTD Surplus/ (Deficit)	(\$38,384)			

Advent Communal Penance

God’s love and mercy are immense gifts to us. As part of the human family, each of us has known brokenness and sin. Deep within our hearts there is the desire for wholeness and reconciliation with God, with ourselves, with others, and even the world around us.

Sunday, **December 11 at Noon** there will be a communal Penance service with multiple confessors for individual confession. There will be Scripture, preaching, and reflection time at the service. Please plan to join us as we pray with and for one another.

Xavier Books

A variety of spirituality and reflection books are available in the ballroom after the Sunday morning masses. There are materials on Ignatian spirituality, writings of Pope Francis., daily reflection guides for 2023.



Come down and find something to enrich your spirit and inspire you in the coming year.



Journeying Together in the Spirit

We’re asking our whole parish to prayerfully consider their ongoing offertory giving. This is the support that helps keep our ministries serving the community, helps us provide the Mass and sacraments, and helps us build relationships in the parish and beyond.

You can find Commitment Cards in the pews, or visit sfxstl.org/giving for the electronic Commitment Card.

We also have photos and videos from our Decade of Dan celebration linked on that page!

Circle of Creation Green Corner



Did you know?

REALSIMPLE provides a helpful article on [How to Be Environmentally Friendly During the Holidays](#).

Specifically, about holiday lights, a parishioner points out the following:

For most of us in the St. Louis area, the electricity that powers our holiday lights is generated by burning coal, which releases mercury, lead, sulfur dioxide and other pollutants, and which produces carbon dioxide, a heat-trapping gas that is a major contributor to climate change. To limit the impact your holiday lights have on the environment, try to do the following:

- ..# Use LED lights instead of incandescent lights
- ..# Limit the number of hours you keep your lights lit
- ..# Do not turn on your light displays until a week or two before Christmas, and stop turning them on after New Year’s Day

Subaru Zero Waste Box at REI

REI Co-op, in partnership with Subaru and its participating retailers nationwide, are helping divert waste from landfills. There is a collection box at REI for **Snack Wrappers and Snack Bags, only**. All three Subaru dealers in metro St. Louis, MO have a Subaru Zero Waste Box in their Sales Departments: Dean Team, Lou Fusz, and Sunset Hills.

Visit the College Church Circle of Creation Committee’s [Green Corner](#) on the Parish website to keep up to date on resources related to caring for creation, including public electronics recycling events.

December 10-11, 2022

Saturday
5:15 pm Fr. McMahon, S.J.
Sunday
8:00 am Fr. O’Dwyer
10:30 am Fr. O’Dwyer

December 17-18, 2022

Saturday
5:15 pm Fr. McMahon, S.J.
Sunday
8:00 am Fr. McMahon, S.J.
10:30 am Fr. May, S.J.

This Sunday’s Scripture Readings:

First Reading:
Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

Responsorial Psalm:
Psalms 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10

Second Reading:
James 5:7-10

Gospel:
Matthew 11:2-11

Fair Trade Sales To Support Our Sister Parish

Our sister parish is St. Peter Claver in Punta Gorda, Belize, a Jesuit parish. SFX provides support primarily through our fair trade program. The proceeds from our fair trade sales and from our annual Fair Trade Christmas Market benefit St. Peter Claver.



Fair Trade items will be sold after the 8:00 and 10:30 masses on December 11th and 18th. So make sure you stock up for your Christmas giving!

Bulletin Articles

Email bulletin articles to Angela Pancella at angela@sfxstl.org before Thursday at noon 10 days before the bulletin date.

Online Giving Reminder

Click the blue bar at the top of our website, sfxstl.org. Or use this QR code.



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