



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

January 1, 2023
Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

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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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.

Reflection from Our Parish Life Coordinator

By Katie Jansen

Today's reflection is taken from Vinita Hampton Wright's *How To Enter the New Year*: <https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/how-to-enter-the-new-year/>

If you're reading this, you lived to see the new year. This is no small matter! Your life makes a difference in the universe, whether or not you embrace your God-given power. May this prayer accompany your initial steps into the future.

God of all time,
 help us enter the New Year quietly,
 thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others,
 mindful that our steps make an impact
 and our words carry power.

May we walk gently.

May we speak only after we have listened well.

Creator of all life,

help us enter the New Year reverently,

aware that you have endowed

every creature and plant, every person and habitat
 with beauty and purpose.

May we regard the world with tenderness.

May we honor rather than destroy.

Lover of all souls,

help us enter the New Year joyfully,

willing to laugh and dance and dream,

remembering our many gifts with thanks

and looking forward to blessings yet to come.

May we welcome your lavish love.

May we cast off the small, vindictive god our fears have made.

May the grace and peace of Christ bless you now and in the days ahead.

Donut Sunday and Spotlight on Seniors

Next Sunday, January 8th, is our Donut Sunday following the 8 am and 10:30 am Masses.

Please join us also on January 8th after the 10:30 Mass as we launch our Spotlight On Seniors Ballroom Lecture Series.

Sandy Spencer, parishioner and spiritual guide will open the series with a reflection on the Spirituality of Aging. Everyone is invited.



Social Ministry Christmas Appeal: Thank You!

On behalf of our staff and volunteers, thank you so much for your generous support of the Social Ministry Christmas Appeal! All of the funds raised will go directly toward the continuation and growth of our parish's service and social justice efforts. What a blessing to enter into a new year confident in the support of the College Church community.

Enjoy these pictures from our ID and Birth Certificate Program volunteer appreciation event in November.

Thank you again for your continued generosity and prayers for Social Ministry!

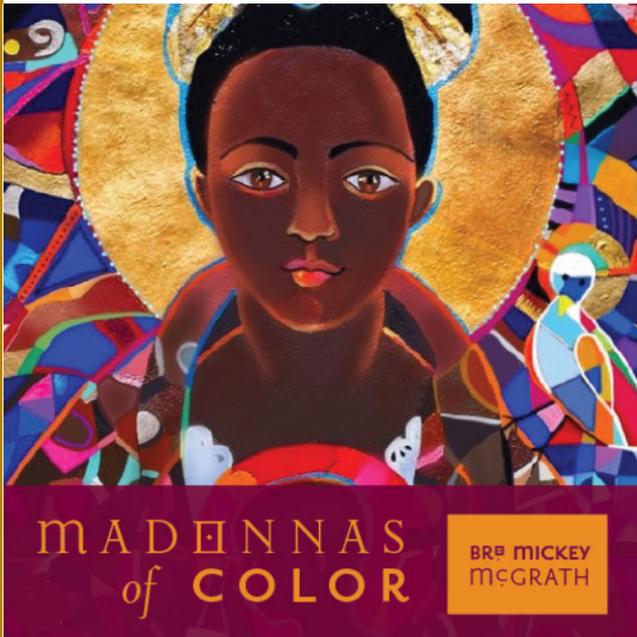


Antiracism at College Church

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.

Madonnas of Color

By Winnie Sullivan



Recently, the person who first invited me to attend College Church, Mary McDevitt, gave me another gift: a book by Brother Mickey McGrath, OSFS, titled *Madonnas of Color*. Inspired by the life of Sister Thea Bowman and a retreatant who told him, “you have a Black Soul,” Brother Mickey created images of Mary—along with commentary—as she manifested, and was represented, across time and by multiple cultures.

As Danielle Harrison, a presenter at last year’s SFX Speakers Series on Antiracism and Ignatian Spirituality, wrote in the preface: “These Madonnas are not afraid to enter my world, my space, my experience. Indeed these Madonnas know the weight of their “Yes” ... but say it gladly. Most importantly, these images look like me, which lets me know that my “Yes” is just as powerful and just as needed in the world today.” The Madonnas look like all of us; the images include Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of La Vang, the Lakota Mother and Child, and my favorite image of Mary, the Windsock Visitation, which captures Mary’s visit with Elizabeth as the occasion of the Magnificat. On this feast of the

Solemnity of Mary, and as we work to ensure that our sacred art at College Church is culturally inclusive, the collection of images in this book by Brother Mickey McGrath is food for the soul.

World Day of Peace

Along with the Solemnity of Mary, the Catholic Church celebrates the World Day of Peace every year on January 1st. This practice was established in 1967 by Pope Paul VI and continues to this day. The annual celebration is marked by a special message from the pope in which we are asked to reflect on the important work of building peace. In his message for World Peace Day this year, Pope Francis emphasizes that “...our greatest and yet most fragile treasure is our shared humanity as brothers and sisters, children of God. And that none of us can be saved alone.” He asks us to let our hearts be changed by the suffering we see so that we not only consider our own individual or national needs, but we seek the common good and work for a more just and peaceful world. We can do this through prayer, learning, and action. Pray for all those in need of peace in our community and throughout the world. Learn about the political and social issues that contribute to poverty and conflict, as well as the ways individuals and faith communities are working for peace and justice. Discern the ways you might Act in support of peacemaking through encounter, direct service, and advocacy.

You can learn more about the World Day of Peace through a handout developed by the USCCB: tinyurl.com/225w26ar and read Pope Francis’s entire message for the 56th annual celebration: tinyurl.com/4urpshu8

Upcoming Events

January 19, 2023 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm (Central Time) The Ignatian Solidarity Network is hosting a virtual presentation entitled Slavery, the Catholic Church, and Lessons for Today. The featured speaker is Chris Kellerman, SJ whose book All Oppression Shall Cease: A History of Slavery, Abolition, and the Catholic Church was recently published. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required. For more information or to register go to: tinyurl.com/yvusm6jx

Reflecting on the Gifts of 2022

We asked our ministries and commissions to reflect on what they are thankful for from 2022. Here are a few of their responses:

Antiracism At College Church: There have been many gifts—given and received—in the ministries of antiracism. Those gifts have been found in the growing number of companions who are accompanying one another on this journey. Such gifts have been seen on the steps of College Church on Tuesday evenings sharing prayer, in the ballroom confronting the hard history of racism and slaveholding, and in countless Zoom calls helping each other recognize systemic oppression. Gifts are exchanged in conversations with those who have learned something new about Black Catholics through parish publications and programs with community partners, as well as in the connections made throughout the country with others who are also seeking and working toward racial justice. For all of the ways God has blessed this work, we give thanks!

Grace Teofilo from our Young Adult Faith Group: I would like to share the joy that is the growing College Church Young Adult group! I only joined in May but I believe the first meeting of its new incarnation was December 2021, with about 6 people. We've now grown to almost triple that size, and it's been such a blessing to be surrounded by such a wonderful, thriving community. While still small, the energy only continues to grow! Throughout the year, we've participated in several bible, book, and media studies, celebrated holidays together, and grown our social lives through a supportive and diverse community. We're a community that meets young adults in all the different stages of their life and no matter where they're at in their faith journey, they're encouraged to question and explore. I'm excited to see where 2023 takes us!

St. Vincent De Paul: This year the St. Francis Xavier St. Vincent De Paul conference received an increase in requests from neighbors who were either facing eviction or were unhoused (living in a car, couch surfing, motel stays). With the funds raised at our Fall 2021 trivia night and the contributions of other parish conferences, we were able to secure stable housing for these individuals and families. The need continues to be great, but we feel hopeful that God will guide us, and our conference community will support us, in our efforts to make sure our neighbors are safely sheltered.

Parish Men's White House Retreat, February 9-12, 2023

The parish men's retreat at the White House Jesuit Retreat Center is a great opportunity to study and apply the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. If you are interested--or think you may be interested—in participating, now is the time to act. The White House is holding spaces for our parish.

The retreat is sometimes called a “silent” retreat but that label is imprecise. Retreatants do have abundant quiet time to reflect and pray (in a beautiful setting), and we are not asked to join in group discussions. We do, though, attend fabulous presentations by a Jesuit retreat director, may join in daily liturgy, and have many opportunities to meet individually with a priest. Accommodations are excellent and meals are delicious. Also, there is no charge for the retreat; instead, retreatants may consider any free will offering they can afford and find appropriate.

The retreat begins Thursday, February 9th with 7:00 pm dinner and concludes on Sunday the 12th at about 1 pm following lunch.

For more information, just call John Hartung (314-326-6018), Bill Morrison (314-991-8599) or David Schnelt (314-791-0227). You can also get info/register by contacting White House directly at 314-416-6400 or at www.whitehouseretreat.org.



Pastoral Care Commission

Spotlight on Seniors

2023 Program

Join with us to learn, to celebrate, to grow in our faith and build friendships and community

Ballroom Lecture Series following 10:30 Mass

January 8th: The Spirituality of Aging with Grace, Grit & Humor Presented by parishioner and spirituality guru, Sandy Spencer.

February 12th: Wills and Healthcare Directives Presented by parishioner and attorney, Matt Perlow. He will focus on understanding and developing health care directives from a legal perspective.

March 12th: End of Life Conversation Presented by Carla Baum, Senior Healthcare Executive and Founder of *Life | Decision | Story.com*. Carla's focus will be on exploring end of Life decisions.

April 23rd: Understanding Healing Touch Presented by parishioner, Mary O'Neil. Healing Touch is a relaxing, nurturing energy therapy. Gentle touch assists in balancing your physical, emotional, mental and spiritual well-being. Healing Touch supports your natural ability to heal.

Small Groups for Seniors

Registration required

Contact Bridget Brennan at 314-313-0613 or joy@canainstitute.org to register

Beginning Thursday January 19th, parishioner, Peg Woodworth will host a **small faith group gathering** at her home in University City. **Group will meet monthly on 3rd Thursdays from 2:00—3:30.** Parishioners, Anita Blattenberger will co-facilitate the group. Join with other parishioners to reflect on our life's journey, our prayer lives and build community with other parishioners.

Beginning Sunday, January 29th after the 10:30 parishioner, Mary O'Neill will facilitate a **weekly small group** based on the film series, **The Chosen**. Group will meet most Sundays after the 10:30 in the Adult Faith Room. Mary will begin with Season I. (Season I runs 8 weeks. Adjustments will be made so as not to conflict with Ballroom Series.)

Beginning Feb. 5th after the 8:00 Mass **Sister Sally Rude, RCSJ** will offer a guided prayer experience **after the 8:00 a.m. Mass** on the **first Sunday** of each month. We will reflect on the readings of the day, asking God to deepen our awareness of God's love and call to each of us.

Support Groups

Widow and Widowers Support Group meets **fourth Sundays** after the 8:00 Mass in Parish Center.

Caregivers of Those with Alzheimer's and Other Forms of Dementia meets on **fourth Sundays** after the 10:30 Mass in Parish Center.

For information or questions about any of the above programs please contact Bridget@ joy@canainstitute.org or 314-313-0613. More events will be announced as the year unfolds. Stay tuned!

Circle of Creation Green Corner



For information about recycling Christmas trees, consult these sites:

St. Louis City: <https://tinyurl.com/z9yj9cw4>

St Louis County: <https://tinyurl.com/2dfj88ub>

The status of recycling by the St. Louis City Refuse Department at this time is questionable. But some things are clear:

Plastic grocery bags, bubble wrap, resealable food storage bags, and other sorts of plastic bags and film do NOT go into recycling bins anywhere. Instead these items should go to NexTrex plastic bag and film recycling via the brown bins at the grocery store (e.g., Schnucks, Dierbergs, etc.). Check out <https://nextrex.com/view/educate> for further information and the specific kinds of items NexTrex accepts and makes into composite decks and benches. Scroll down that page to More Than Just Plastic Bags Are Recyclable. This even includes ice bags, wood pellet bags, salt bags.

The Operation Brightside Recycling Center, operated by Earth Circle Recycling, at 1660 Kingshighway is no longer in operation as of Nov. 30, 2022.

One type of item that unequivocally can and should be recycled is ABCs, that is, Aluminum Beverage Containers. Inside Climate News provides an informative article "Want to Help Reduce PFC Emissions? Recycle Those Aluminum Cans." (<https://tinyurl.com/eeebd395>) The moral of the story is when you purchase beverages in stores, if possible, buy those in aluminum containers. Then, do what you can to be sure those Aluminum Beverage Containers (ABCs) get recycled. First, be sure they are emptied of liquid. Keep ABCs separate from trash and other possible recyclables. If it is feasible for you to do so, squash the ABCs so they take up less space for the same weight. You can then take ABCs to a metal recycler yourself (Try googling aluminum recycling near me). Or leave your ABCs in a bag on a fence post for the Alley Pickers.

Have you been following the Solving Plastic series on YouTube? Tune in to learn how we can end the plastic pollution crisis for real! <https://tinyurl.com/5brtn54v>

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 31 - January 1, 2023

Saturday
5:15 pm Fr. Armstrong, SJ
Sunday
8:00 am Fr. Daly, SJ
10:30 am Fr. Daly, SJ

January 7 - 8, 2023

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

This Sunday's Scripture Readings:

First Reading:
Numbers 6:22-27

Responsorial Psalm:
Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

Second Reading:
Gal 4:4-7

Gospel:
Luke 2:16-21

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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