



## **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 2nd, 2022  
The Epiphany of the Lord**

### **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](https://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](mailto: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](http://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 [associatepastor@sfxstl.org](mailto:associatepastor@sfxstl.org) with questions.

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

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

Funerals: contact Fr. Dan White at [frdan@sfxstl.org](mailto:frdan@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](http://sfxstl.org/parishioner-registration) or at the Parish Center front desk. For questions email [church@sfxstl.org](mailto: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](mailto:terry@sfxstl.org) or Julie Kilian at [julie@sfxstl.org](mailto:julie@sfxstl.org) for more information.

Liturgy of the Word for Children: Suspended until further notice due to the pandemic. Contact Terry Edelmann at [terry@sfxstl.org](mailto:terry@sfxstl.org).

Safe Environment Program Compliance contact Terry Edelmann at [terry@sfxstl.org](mailto:terry@sfxstl.org).

To reach the Pastoral Council, email [sfxpc@sfxstl.org](mailto:sfxpc@sfxstl.org).

**PASTORAL STAFF**Pastor

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Ray Sherrock  
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Director of Wedding Music & Accompanist, Music Ministry

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Pastoral Ministry

Bridget Brennan  
[joy@canainstitute.org](mailto:joy@canainstitute.org)

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Mary Lou Ampleman  
 Michael Anderson  
 Margaret Baughman  
 Bill Bollwerk\*  
 Kathy Bookstaver  
 Mary Bruemmer\*  
 Sheila Byrnes  
 Maureen Carney\*  
 Linda Castillon\*  
 Marcie Corwin  
 Steve Frank  
 Monica Gunn  
 Jessi Haselhorst  
 Paul Hanson\*  
 Mary Jane and Butch Henning\*  
 Jeanne Hermann\*  
 Laura Kaiser and Family  
 Terry Kippenberger\*  
 Julianne Lister  
 Tom McDermott  
 Sr. Mary Kay McKenzie  
 Karena Menard\*  
 Karen Mitts  
 Mary Mondello  
 Suzanne Mondello  
 Tom Mulvihill, Sr.  
 Nancy Partridge\* & Glider  
 Mark Roddy\*  
 Dennis Saunders\*  
 Jennifer Saunders\*  
 Mark Segovia  
 Fr. Gary Seibert, SJ\*  
 Alix Serant  
 Louis M. Sherrock  
 Vicki Simon  
 Lucille Sims  
 Greg Stephen  
 Colleen Starkloff  
 Judy Taylor\*  
 Brent Thompson  
 Patricia Wittman  
 Lisa Zimmerer\*

\* Long-term

**Prayer requests to:**

[church@sfxstl.org](mailto:church@sfxstl.org)

Or visit [sfxstl.org](http://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](mailto:joy@canainstitute.org) for info.

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

I am starting to think 22 months of the pandemic has changed even how I read the bible. The story of the Magi now raises a million different questions. Did they mask up before entering the house in Bethlehem? Are they fully vaccinated? Is it possible they could be bringing a new variant from the East? Yes, COVID does ruin everything.

However, a certain level of suspicion does inform the story. Herod is threatened by the arrival of these strangers seeking a new king. The people of Jerusalem are fearful of what this could mean. When sketchy strangers show up from distant lands to tell you about something going in your own backyard it is easy to get suspicious.

St. Matthew tells the story to demonstrate that God thinks differently. The birth of Jesus is celebrated by all peoples, not just some. The presence of the Magi is symbolic of the universality of salvation. God's fidelity to his people can not be limited to a single people. The name Emmanuel means God with us. Today's Gospel is wonderful reminder that the notion of "us" needs to be expanded. There are no limits, barriers or boundaries to God's love.

**New Parishioner Welcome**

If you have joined the parish in the last two years, you are invited to one of our upcoming New Parishioner Welcome gatherings to learn more about ways to connect with fellow parishioners and become involved in our community. The next New Parishioner Welcome gathering will be held in our ballroom at 9 am on Sunday, January 16th.

Please RSVP if you plan to attend:

<https://sfxparishionerwelcome.eventbrite.com>

## House Meetings in January

We have several more options (mostly virtual) for folks who have not yet had a chance to attend a house meeting. The purpose of these meetings is two-fold:

1. Build relationships with other College Church parishioners and friends.
2. Share with one another about becoming a more synodal church: a discerning Church, in which everyone listens to each other, in order to listen to the Holy Spirit.

What we hear from one another in these gatherings helps us to discern our path together as we transition into our new leadership model. Our desire is to listen to everyone in the parish.

If you would like more information or if you are interested in hosting a gathering, please contact Katie Jansen at [katie@sfxstl.org](mailto:katie@sfxstl.org). You can also sign up here: [tinyurl.com/sfxhousemeeting](https://tinyurl.com/sfxhousemeeting)

## This Sunday's Scripture Readings

### First Reading:

Isaiah 60:1-6

### Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

### Second Reading:

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

### Gospel:

Matthew 2:1-12

## YOUTH AND FAMILY FAITH FORMATION



Youth Faith Formation eighth-graders and some parent volunteers sort through piles of donated clothing that is a part of the annual Let's Start Christmas Party.

Let's Start is an organization for children whose mothers are incarcerated. For the past several years the College Church Confirmation class and some parents have invited Let Start children and caregivers to a Christmas Party with games, lunch and gifts of winterwear.

Due to COVID concerns there was no party this year, but families in the Youth Faith Formation program donated new clothing items for the children, and on December 11th, eighth-graders and some parents gathered to bundle all of the items for delivery, and make individual bags with cookies and crafts for the sixty-five children who would have attended.



## Antiracism at College Church

### Our Racial Equity Review: Lessons from the Past

On Monday, December 20, members of the SFX Racial Equity Review Team gathered with representatives from Crossroads Antiracism and Training Organization to share a retrospective of College Church history. Crossroads tasked the review team to undertake the historical analysis—providing some evaluative questions to be addressed during the course of it—in order to: 1) explore the ways in which the parish, from its very beginning, had caused, participated in, and/or preserved systemic oppression, and 2) to elevate instances of resistance to such oppression. The expectation was that knowledge of our history would inform and guide the equity review process, helping to identify aspects of present-day parish life where change is most needed.

A subset of review team members formed a history committee to conduct the needed research and compile the historical data. It immediately became clear that, because of the age of our parish—nearly two hundred years old—its history is intimately interwoven with that of the City of



College Church at 9th & Washington

St. Louis, the Archdiocese of St. Louis, the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), and St. Louis University. Consequently, any consideration of parish history requires inclusion of the details of that much broader history that forms its context.

During the presentation, members of the history committee reiterated the purpose and value of the historical analysis, described the process by which the information was collected, offered a summary of the findings to date, and spent time specifically responding to the questions that Crossroads had posed. During a period of small group discussion, review team members talked through why it's important to know the history of the parish, which of the historical findings were most striking, and how the history can be used to lead us toward the goal of becoming an antiracist church.

Going forward, the history committee will be looking to update and refine the collected historical information and to find creative ways to share the content with the entire parish. The review team, as a whole, looks toward its next activity with Crossroads, an in-depth workshop, Understanding and Analyzing Systemic Racism, set to begin in January.

### Lift Every Voice

The Office of Racial Harmony in the Archdiocese of St. Louis will be hosting a discussion forum on Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Letter from a Birmingham Jail." Writing in response to the "Call for Unity" from eight white clergymen who criticized the Civil Rights demonstrations, Rev. Dr. King's compelling words continue to challenge and inspire us, as people of faith, to take action in bending the "long arc of the moral universe toward justice."

You are invited to participate in four weekly sessions: January 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Held through Zoom, each session will include excerpts from the letter, a brief reflection, and small group discussion.

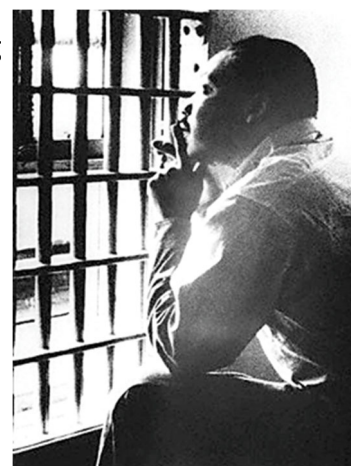
Registration is required. Please contact Joyce Jones in the Office of Racial Harmony to enroll and to receive the Zoom link: [joycejones@archstl.org](mailto:joycejones@archstl.org)

Link to "A Call for Unity" AND "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" (PDF)

[tinyurl.com/callforunitybirminghamletter](https://tinyurl.com/callforunitybirminghamletter)

YouTube Video: Reading of the letter from a Birmingham Jail

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=cT397uOak](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cT397uOak)



SAVE THE DATE

IGNATIAN  
SPIRITUALITY AND  
ANTIRACISM:

## A CALL TO CONVERSION

With the support of a grant from the Jesuits' Central and Southern Province, College Church will be hosting a speaker series exploring the gifts of Ignatian Spirituality in the transformational work of antiracism. We have invited some of the most knowledgeable and engaging speakers from around the U.S. to share, from their individual perspectives, their experiences with grounding the work of racial justice in Ignatian Spirituality. Make plans to join us through Zoom for this three-session series of consequential and thought-provoking presentations.

*February 9th, February 16th, February 23rd*  
*7:00pm-8:30pm CST*

INFORMATION ON SPEAKERS AND  
REGISTRATION TO COME SOON

## SOCIAL MINISTRY

### Christmas Appeal

Every year at Christmas, we reach out to our parish community for specific support that helps to sustain our work over the coming year through the Social Ministry Christmas Appeal. And we are still in the Christmas season! As the cornerstone program of Social Ministry, the Outreach Program for ID and birth certificate assistance particularly relies on your contributions.

We are proud that our program offers a unique service, providing the only large scale, consistent identification assistance in the region. This year, we are also grateful to have hired a Mobile Outreach Coordinator who is exploring ways to make IDs and birth certificates more accessible in the region as a whole. Your donation will ensure the sustainability of our onsite program each Tuesday, as well as build the groundwork for expansion of identification access in St. Louis.

You can also give online anytime by visiting: <https://bit.ly/socialministryappeal>.

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

### Happy Holidays from the Sister Parish / Fair Trade Committee!

Thank you for your continued support of our Sister Parish in Belize through Fair Trade purchases! We offer a way to order through our website here:

<https://sfxstl.org/buy-fair-trade>

There you will find coffee, tea, soups and much more, as well as a way to give a donation. Thank you for remembering St. Peter Claver in Belize!

### Xavier Winter Inn—Volunteers Needed!

Every winter, College Church hosts a Winter Inn, offering emergency shelter to unhoused individuals on Wednesday and Thursday nights from Dec.-Feb. The Winter Inn is run entirely by volunteers and provides hospitality on nights when temperatures drop below 20 degrees. We have hosted Winter Inn for nearly a decade and this will be our second year during the pandemic offering shelter in a COVID-safe environment for both volunteers and guests.

Winter Inn relies on volunteer support each year. Thank you for considering plugging into this initiative! Please contact Jasmine Brown at [outreach@sfxstl.org](mailto:outreach@sfxstl.org) or (314) 977-7311 to learn more about volunteering.

### Parish Men's White House Retreat, February 10-13, 2022

Thanks to College Church's leadership, staff and many parishioners, we have ongoing opportunities to study The Spiritual Exercises, created by the Jesuits' founder, St. Ignatius. One excellent opportunity is a retreat based on the Spiritual Exercises, at the White House Jesuit Retreat Center in South County.

The retreat has fabulous presentations by a Jesuit retreat director, daily liturgy, many opportunities to meet individually with a priest, ample silent time for prayer and reflection in a beautiful natural setting, comfortable accommodations and delicious meals. Our Parish Men's Retreat begins Thursday, February 10th with 7:00 pm dinner and concludes on Sunday the 13th at 2 pm following lunch.

We invite you to prayerfully consider participating. More information (including COVID precautions) and registration is available at [www.whretreat.org](http://www.whretreat.org) or by calling John Hartung (314-326-6018), Bill Morrison (314-991-8599) or David Schnelt (314-791-0227).

# The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Aquinas Lecture

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## Why Read Aquinas in a Postmodern World?

PRESENTED BY:

**Denys Turner**

HORACE TRACY PITKIN PROFESSOR  
OF HISTORICAL THEOLOGY EMERITUS  
AT YALE UNIVERSITY

**FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

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Please RSVP at [ai.edu/aquinaslecture](https://ai.edu/aquinaslecture)



**Circle of Creation  
Green Corner**

Parishioners and others will want to make it a habit to check the Circle of Creation's Green Corner ([sfxstl.org/circleofcreation](http://sfxstl.org/circleofcreation)) on the Parish website to keep up to date on information concerning environmental education and actions. In particular, there are dates of upcoming public electronics recycling opportunities through Midwest Recycling Center (MRC) and education and actions concerning environmental racism coming to us through Metropolitan Congregations United (MCU). Soon there will be volunteer opportunities with Great Rivers Greenway.



**January 1-2, 2022**

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

**January 8-9, 2022**

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

**Bulletin Articles**

email bulletin articles to [church@sfxstl.org](mailto:church@sfxstl.org) before Thursday at noon 10 days before the bulletin date.

**The Ignite Campaign**

Our fall and winter fundraising campaign, Ignite, has drawn to a close. We want to thank everyone who has donated to this special fundraising effort, in which we have been offering support to all of our church's ministries and activities. Thanks in a special way to parishioner volunteers Lucinda Payne-Santiago and Susan Werremeyer for helping us envision what we could do in lieu of a gala, thanks to Carly Manshum for the design of the Ignite logo, and thank you to those who have participated in our video interviews to help tell the stories of College Church's ministries.



THE IGNITE CAMPAIGN  
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER (COLLEGE)  
CHURCH

We will have our raffle drawing in early January.

If you missed any of our videos highlighting our various ministries, they can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/sfxignite>

**Online Giving Reminder**

Over the past several years (even before the pandemic!), we've been inviting our parishioners and friends to consider supporting College Church through online giving. If you set up weekly or monthly gifts, it saves the trouble of writing out checks, and it means our ministries can better rely on stable funding.

Many of our parishioners have begun to contribute to College Church through our online link, which can be found at the top of our website, [sfxstl.org](http://sfxstl.org). We wanted to make it more convenient to reach this site, so we have made a QR code for it.

Thank you for your support!

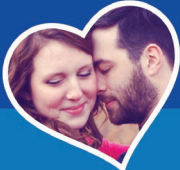


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