

## 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

# October 17th, 2021 Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## 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.

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

<u>Infant Baptisms:</u> Visit the Baptism page on the SFX website, www.sfxstl.org/baptism-I, 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 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. Dan White at frdan@sfxstl.org or 314-977-7300.

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

<u>Parish Registration</u>: 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 I 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.

<u>Liturgy of the Word for Children:</u> Suspended until further notice due to the pandemic. Contact Terry Edelmann at terry@sfxstl.org.

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

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

### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Pastor Daniel White, S.J. 314-977-7300 frdan@sfxstl.org

Associate Pastor James Page, S.J. 314-977-7301 associatepastor@sfxstl.org

Parish Administrator Katie Jansen 314-977-1954 katie@sfxstl.org

Parish Life
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angela@sfxstl.org

Christian Initiation, Adult
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joe@sfxstl.org

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Social Ministry
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Onsite Outreach Coordinator Jasmine Brown 314-977-7311 outreach@sfxstl.org

Mobile Outreach Coordinator Katie Copps katiecopps@sfxstl.org

Outreach—Vista Volunteer Janeé Davis 314-977-1950 Janee@sfxstl.org Wedding Ministry Sandy Hauck 314-977-7303 sandy@sfxstl.org

Choir Director, Music Ministry
Ray Sherrock
rsherrock@desmet.org

<u>Director of Wedding Music</u>
<u>& Accompanist, Music Ministry</u>
Sue Martin
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susan.martin@slu.edu

Pastoral Council Chair Maurice Muia sfxpc@sfxstl.org

<u>Deacon</u> Jim Griffard james.griffard@slu.edu

Pastoral Ministry
Bridget Brennan
joy@canainstitute.org

## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Mary Lou Ampleman Michael Anderson Margaret Baughman Bruce Blattenberger\* Bill Bollwerk\* Kathy Bookstaver Mary Bruemmer\* Sheila Byrnes Maureen Carney\* Linda Castillon\* Maureen Clever Marcie Corwin Fay Efken\* Monica Gunn lessi Haselhorst Paul Hanson\* Mary Jane and Butch Henning\* Jeanne Hermann\* Laura Kaiser and Family Rich Kilian Terry Kippenberger\* Julianne Lister Carlita Logan lim Martin Karena Menard\* Mary Mondello Suzanne Mondello Tom Mulvihill, Sr. Nancy Partridge\* & Glider Mark Roddy\* Dennis Saunders\* **Jennifer Saunders\*** Mark Segovia Fr. Gary Seibert, SJ\* Louis M. Sherrock Vicki Simon Colleen Starkloff ludy Taylor\* Patricia Wittman 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.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



The front of College Church is adorned with small bushes with bright red flowers. I do not know the name, but they are magnets for neighborhood bees. Sunny mornings you can find all manner of honeybees, bumble bees and others swarming all over the flowers. Check them out and you will understand the saying, "busy as a bee".

Bees are significant in most cultures. They are seen as industrious, hard-working and communal. Bees produce the sweet delight of honey. Ancient Christians considered bees a symbol for believers. It was thought bees never slept so they became symbolic of our need to be vigilant. St. Ambrose of Milan was said to have had honey deposited in his mouth by bees as an infant to show his future eloquence. He also compared the Church to a beehive where all work together for the common good. Ambrose is the patron of beekeepers.

The Early Church also made use of the beeswax for producing liturgical candles. Thus, bees figure prominently in the Exsultet sung at the Easter Vigil. The paschal candle that shines in the darkened church is praised as "the work of bees" whose light is "fed by melting wax, drawn out by mother bees, to build a torch so precious." Bees get a huge shout-out on the holiest night of the year!

We sometimes imagine an understanding and care for creation is a recent invention. It is good to remember our ancestors in faith lived far closer to the natural world than we do. The appreciation and wonder they had for creatures like bees can help us recapture a sense of God's work.

### Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick continues the ministry of Jesus through the church in offering strength, healing, and renewal to all who are sick, who are preparing for surgery, or who have experienced the diminishment of life through advancing age.



It is available individually throughout the year to anyone who is in need. The sacrament will be celebrated communally next weekend. At the parish masses on October 23 and 24, the sacrament will be offered after the homily. The rite begins with intercessory prayers for those who wish to be anointed. All who are near them are invited to touch their shoulder or extend a hand toward them.

For the anointing they will be invited to step out into the aisle and stay by their pew. The priest will come to them. Those who are unable to stand should raise their hand as the priest comes down the aisle. He will anoint you on your forehead and the palms of your hands with the words:

Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen

May the Lord who frees you from sin, save you and raise you up. Amen If you or someone you know would benefit from prayer for healing and strength, please plan to attend.



# Our Leadership Transition: Becoming a more Synodal Church

### A Call to Discernment

This change is a watershed moment in the history of our parish, and one that calls for new forms of engagement. Pope Francis has reminded us that we should be a Church whose members, clergy and laity both, are discerning our direction; a Church in which each person's potential is recognized and their contributions fully valued; a Church in which we all participate fully.

To that end, we are inviting everyone to consider attending a house meeting. In these meetings, we want to talk in more detail about what the transition means or may mean, to hear your honest reactions, and to gather input on how you and other parishioners can guide College Church through this transition. We hope by meeting as small groups, we can begin to be the Church we hope to become--one in which our lay members take an active role in discernment about our future.

## SIGN UP FOR A HOUSE MEETING https://forms.gle/6oKd7qauSC2iweFL8

## From the Preparatory Document for the global Synod on Synodality:

The Church of God is convoked in Synod. The path entitled "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission" will solemnly open on the 9th – 10th of October 2021 in Rome and on the following 17th of October in each particular Church.

Pope Francis invites the entire Church to reflect on a theme that is decisive for its life and mission: "It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium." This journey, which follows in the wake of the Church's "renewal" proposed by the Second Vatican Council, is both a gift and a task: by journeying together and reflecting together on the journey that has been made, the Church will be able to learn through Her experience which processes can help Her to live communion, to achieve participation, to open Herself to mission. Our "journeying together" is, in fact, what most effectively enacts and manifests the nature of the Church as the pilgrim and missionary People of God.

https://www.synod.va/en/news/preparatorydocument.html



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER (COLLEGE)

CHURCH

**Ignite** is the theme of our new fall fundraising campaign, which takes the place of a gala this year.

Ignite calls to mind the way one candle flame can light another, and it also reminds us of the name
St. Ignatius. In our support of this parish, we are living into our call to become a synodal church, walking together toward our common goals.

On our website, <a href="https://sfxstl.org/">https://sfxstl.org/</a>, you'll find a link where you can learn all about **The Ignite Campaign** and how to take part. We are taking financial donations, we'll be offering a silent auction, and we'll be selling raffle tickets. Raffle tickets are available this Sunday in the back of church. (Anyone who donates above \$10 is also entered.)

We are also asking you to consider becoming an **Ambassador** to help us spark more interest and support. Every week, we'll feature videos and stories about our different activities and ministries; Ambassadors commit to help share these with fellow parishioners, with friends outside the parish, or on social media. Please choose the "Ambassador" button on the Ignite Campaign page to learn more, or contact Angela Pancella at angela@sfxstl.org.

## Antiracism at College Church Opportunities for Education and Advocacy

Like all aspects of our lives and our faith, the practice of antiracism calls us to ongoing growth and action. The following

events and resources provide opportunities to increase our understanding and connect with others in our community who share our commitment to racial and social justice.

## Sunday, November 7 12:00 – 1:00 pm The True History of the 1917 East St. Louis Race War

St. Alphonsus Liguori "Rock" Church - Parish Gym

Rev. Dr. Joseph A. Brown, S.J., Ph.D. will discuss the three days of mob violence and massacre in his hometown of East St. Louis and will unpack the causes of this horrific incident. Guests are also welcomed to join the Rock Church community Mass at 10 am, followed by a short break and refreshments before the 12 pm lecture.

## Sunday, November 7 3:00 – 4:30 pm Black Catholic History: Honoring the Ancestors (Virtual Presentation)

Sponsored by St. Pius V Catholic Church

The history of black Catholics in the archdiocese of St. Louis—a history of resilience and faithfulness despite hardship—is a heritage that we all share. Join us for a journey back to our city's founding to honor the lives and contributions of African American Catholics and others of our ancestors who, early on, sought racial equity in our Church. For more information, contact Winnie Sullivan at penultim@swbell.net.

## **Metropolitan Congregations United** mcustlouis.org

MCU puts faith into action by developing leaders who move their congregations, organizations, and communities to change public policy for the common good. College Church is one of approximately sixty member congregations. MCU's current community organizing campaigns are focused on breaking the "school to prison pipeline," combating environmental justice, and voter engagement. Hear more about what MCU is up to on their podcast "This is What Democracy Sounds Like," which is linked on their website: https://mcustlouis.org/this-is-what-democracy-sounds-like/

## **Seeds of Justice Network**

seedsofjusticenetwork.org

The Seeds of Justice Network is a collaborative of Catholic and faith-based individuals and groups that promotes the principles of Catholic Social Teaching and social justice through communication, collaboration, education, and advocacy in the St. Louis area and beyond. Visit their website and sign up for weekly electronic newsletters for information about upcoming events and current issues.

## Mill Creek Valley: The Sad Demise of a Vibrant Community

One of the most significant bureaucrats of St. Louis' urban history is Harland Bartholomew (1889 – 1989). A civil engineer by training, Bartholomew was the first full-time city planner recruited to St. Louis in 1915. In 1947, Bartholomew announced a Comprehensive City Plan. His goal was to prevent the movement of Black residents into "finer residential districts." He identified a gigantic arc around the center of the city as blighted and proposed tearing down approximately 11,000 acres of the city's land —urban renewal by destruction. At the heart of his plan was demolishing the area of Black residential concentration. Rather than seeing poor housing conditions as a product of segregated housing and trying to improve the neighborhoods, Bartholomew wanted to tear the neighborhoods down.

Bounded by Grand Avenue on the west, Lindell/Olive on the north, 20th Street on the east and the railroad tracks on the south, Mill Creek Valley (MCV) was the home to 20,000 African American St. Louisans. The main thoroughfare was Market Street, where there were small shops, three Black theaters, dance halls, restaurants, and bars. At the corner of Market and Compton was the Stars Park, one of only four Negro League baseball fields in the country where Cool Papa Bell played in the 1920s and '30s.

With the support of Mayor Raymond Tucker, a bond in 1955 was proposed and passed with 23 propositions including hospital improvements, new parks, new expressways, and slum clearance. Ten million dollars was allocated to acquire 2,000 homes, churches, schools, and businesses through condemnation or purchase and to demolish them for redevelopment. Support for the bond proposal included the Post Dispatch; the newly formed organization, Civic Progress, composed of 30 CEOs of the city's leading firms; and the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

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Bartholomew, Tucker, and the Land Clearance Redevelopment Authority recommended the tearing down of the MCV while acknowledging that most of the current residents would not be able to afford to move back to the area after redevelopment and there was no new housing for Negroes anywhere in the St. Louis metropolitan area due to deed restrictions. The bond proposal assumed the destruction of the MCV would create a huge number of jobs for the all-white union construction workers, and \$10 million was to be made from the sale of the cleared land.

On February 19, 1959, the MCV structures met the wrecking ball. Not much ever became of the tract's redevelopment, which was designated by the locals as the "Hiroshima Flats." Of the former MCV residents, fewer than 20% moved into the Pruitt–Igoe public housing complex. As there was no administrative oversight of the relocations, no one was keeping track where the former MCV residents went. As historian Walter Johnson concluded, "It was apparently enough to know they were gone."

This history calls us to question what the long-term impact of these decisions and actions has been. As we stand in the doorway of College Church and look south and east, what do we see? What has been gained? Who continues to benefit? How can we help to repair what has been broken?



For more information about the history of Mill Creek Valley and other key events in the story of race in St. Louis, look for The Broken Heart of America by Walter Johnson c 2020.

### **SOCIAL MINISTRY**

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.



**New and Returning Volunteers:** Volunteer positions include Setup, Greeters/ Hosts, Innkeepers,

Cleaners, Dinner Cooks and Laundry Drivers. Volunteers must register to attend a virtual training scheduled for Monday, November 15th from 6:30-8:00pm.

## Register for the 11/15 volunteer training: bit.ly/winterinn2021

If the training date does not work for you, you can still volunteer! Please contact Jasmine Brown at outreach@sfxstl.org or (314) 977-7311.

Interested in volunteering, but want to learn more first? Contact Jasmine to register for a half hour information session on Monday, November 8th from 7-7:30pm.

Winter Inn relies on volunteer support each year. Thank you for considering plugging into this initiative!

## Join Legislative Advocacy Meetings in November

College Church Social Ministry is partnering with Metropolitan Congregations United (MCU) to set virtual meetings with state legislators representing our parish's address, as well as other key legislators in early- to mid-November. We plan to bring some key parish issues to the meetings, as well as hear from legislators about their priorities and expectations for the upcoming legislative session in 2022.

Would you be interested in joining one or more of these meetings? Contact Christine at christine@sfxstl.org to learn more. No experience required; training will be provided.





### Citizen Recognition Award

Each year the Missouri Catholic Conference (the public policy agency of the Catholic Church in Missouri) recognizes a Catholic citizen from each diocese who has exemplified good citizenship in promoting Catholic values in the public policy arena and in their local communities and parishes. The recipient from the Archdiocese of St. Louis is our very own **Christine Dragonette**, director of social ministry, in recognition of her work with parishioners as we serve vulnerable populations in our community.

Congratulations, Christine! (You can find this writeup in last week's St. Louis Review.)

## Ministry Month: Our Featured Ministries this Sunday

Antiracism Team (presented by Christina Ryan): College Church is committed to becoming an antiracist parish. We prepare ourselves, through prayer and antiracism training, to effectively examine every facet of our parish identity and structures so as to move us along the path of becoming a racially and culturally affirming institution; a parish that regards our differences as gifts. That work, the work of transformation, is hard and long, and will require the active engagement of each of us. We are blessed to hear a commitment to antiracism sounded each Sunday from our pulpit. In turn, we are called to embrace a future that sees that commitment animate every aspect of our parish life.

Racism and Reconciliation Committee (presented by Joan McGinnis): The members of the Racism and Reconciliation Committee recognize the presence of racism so deeply entrenched in our society and the harm and pain it inflicts on individuals, organizations and communities. The group seeks to increase our own awareness and deepen our understanding of the structure and impact of oppression, so that we can work most effectively for healing, reconciliation and justice in the St. Louis region.

And remember, email angela@sfxstl.org when you hear the secret word to be entered into a drawing for a prize! The prize drawing will take place at the end of October.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM OUR NEIGHBORS**

## **Ecumenical Prayer - Care for Creation**

Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski, Archdiocese of St. Louis and Bishop Susan Candea, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will co-preside an outdoor ecumenical prayer emphasizing our shared commitment to care for the Earth and acknowledging the damage done to vulnerable communities by neglect of our common home.

Our hosts for the prayer request that all attendees be vaccinated. Masking & social distancing required.

WHEN: 3 PM Sunday Oct 24

WHERE: The Garden at Our Lady of the Holy Cross 8115 Church Road St. Louis. MO 63147

For more Information: Call James Fowlkes-Comninellis 314-792-7177

## WE SAVED YOU A SEAT FOR A LIFE-CHANGING EVENT!

From November 7 - 11, Mary, Mother of the Church (5901 Kerth Rd.) will sponsor a parish mission called "Change Our Hearts!" The mission will be led by Redemptorist Priest Fr. Peter Schavitz, C.Ss.R., a former Mary, Mother of the Church pastor. Over five nights, Fr. Pete will proclaim the Gospel through his own life, learning and experience. Each night explores faith topics such as the Bible, Crucifix, Ashes, Bread, and the Altar. The parish mission will be introduced at all weekend Masses on November 6 and 7 and each evening session will begin at 6:30pm in the church. For more information, call 314-894-1373. All are invited. Invite a family member, friend, or neighbor to join us! Kids are welcome (childcare will be provided). Lights refreshments served afterwards. We look forward to seeing you!

## FUSZ PAVILION NURSING OPPORTUNITY

Feeling called to do something new and different? Want a career opportunity that brings fulfillment and joy to your life? If compassionate care is the heart of your nursing practice and you would like to work with retired Jesuit priests in their home setting, we would like to talk with you about joining our team. We are seeking qualified RN, LPN and CNA candidates. Full time, part time and PRN openings available.

Interested? Send resume and cover letter to cyndisdonfusz@gmail.com or call 314-633-4546 to schedule a phone interview.

## MEMORIAL MASS FOR SR. JEANNE AND SR. RAMONA

The Franciscan Sisters of Mary will have a Memorial Mass for Sr. Jeanne Meurer and Sr. Ramona Meurer on Monday, October 25, at 1:30 p.m. in Marian Chapel at The Sarah Community, 12284 DePaul Drive, Bridgeton, MO.

If you would like to attend, please contact Sr. Sherri Coleman, FSM, at sherrirfk@aol.com so that adequate materials may be provided.

# **Circle of Creation Green Corner**

A Cleanup Service Project sponsored by St. Francis Xavier College Church and St. Mark's Lutheran Church ELCA will be held on Sunday, November 7, 2021. Meet at Mary Meacham Freedom Crossing Site



(Ask your favorite maps app for location) at 2:00 PM.

If you have questions and/or would like to carpool, please contact SFX Social Ministry Director <a href="mailto:christine@sfxstl.org">christine@sfxstl.org</a> or St. Mark's Pastor Andrew Baumgartner <a href="mailto:pastor@stmarkselca.com">pastor@stmarkselca.com</a>.

## October 16-17, 2021

Saturday

5:15 pm Fr. Page, S.J.

Sunday

8:00 am Fr. White, S.J. 10:30 am Fr. White, S.J.

## October 23-24, 2021

Saturday

5:15 pm Fr. White, S.J.

Sunday

8:00 am Fr. Page, S.J. 10:30 am Fr. Page, S.J.

The 10:30 am Mass will be livestreamed. RSVP at sfxstl.org.

## **Bulletin Articles**

email bulletin articles to church@sfxstl.org before Thursday at noon 10 days before the bulletin date.

## **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. We wanted to make it more convenient to reach this site, so we have made a QR code for it. You can find this code on cards we will leave in the pews every week.

Thank you for your support!





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