



Season of Creation Poster (printing by Becky McKenna, art by Anne Osdieck)

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 4, 2020
Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:30 pm, Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 4:30 pm. Please RSVP at sfxstl.org.

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

Weekday Masses: 7:15 am and noon Monday through Friday, 5:15 pm Monday through Wednesday, all in main church.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Mondays and Wednesdays, 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 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 Sister Carolyn McWatters at 314-977-1797 or carolyn.mcwatters@slu.edu or Fr. Dan White.

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: Available for Pre-K through eighth grade. Classes meet September - May on Sunday mornings. Ages 3-6 use the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Contact Terry Edelmann at terry@sfxstl.org or Julie Kilian at 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.

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

PASTORAL STAFFPastor

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

Associate Pastor

Matt Stewart, S.J.
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Parish Administrator

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Parish Life

Angela Pancella
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Christian Initiation, Adult Formation, & Marriage Ministry

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Office Manager

Joyce Miller
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Youth Faith Formation

Terry Edelmann
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Social Ministry

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Outreach Coordinator

Tess Sanders
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Outreach—Vista Volunteer

Sheltoria Love
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Wedding Ministry

Sandy Hauck
314-977-7303
sandy@sfxstl.org

Choir Director, Music Ministry

Ray Sherrock
rsherrock@desmet.org

Director of Wedding Music & Accompanist, Music Ministry

Sue Martin
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susan.martin@slu.edu

Pastoral Council Chair

Lisa D'Souza
ljd Souza@yahoo.com

Deacon

Jim Griffard
james.griffard@slu.edu

Coordinator of Liturgy

Sister Carolyn McWatters, RSM
314-977-1797
carolyn.mcwatters@slu.edu

Pastoral Ministry

Bridget Brennan
joy@canainstitute.org

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Mary Lou Ampleman
 Michael Anderson
 Bruce Blattenberger*
 Mary Bruemmer*
 Maureen Carney*
 Linda Castillon*
 Jenna Dalisay
 Fay Efken*
 Diane Flynn
 Mary Frank
 Monica Gunn
 Jessi Haselhorst
 Paul Hanson*
 Mary Jane and Butch Henning*
 Christina Bah Ireland
 Terry Kippenberger*
 Pat March*
 Mark Marsh
 Karena Menard
 Nancy Partridge* & Glider
 Lyn Pickel
 Ruthann Redmon
 Mark Roddy*
 Dennis Saunders*
 Jennifer Saunders*
 Fr. Gary Seibert, SJ*
 Family of Candace Sexton
 Art Taylor*
 Judy Taylor*
 Jacob Verghese
 David Williams
 Julia Williams
 Lisa Zimmerer*

* Long-term

Prayer requests to:

church@sfxstl.org

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

Join our intercessory prayer group on Zoom,

Friday mornings at 9 am:

Contact Bridget Brennan at

joy@canainstitute.org for info.

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK



Today is the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. The Season of Creation concludes with the proclamation of the latest papal encyclical from the town of Assisi by the Pope who has taken his name from St. Francis. The Pope has followed the saint’s example by stressing the care for creation and care for the poor.

It makes sense to conclude our celebration of this season with that particular focus. Pope Francis’ great gift has been to vigorously articulate the connection between how we treat the poor and how we treat the earth. A changing climate and environmental degradation spell disaster for the most vulnerable. We have already begun to see the migration of peoples due to rising temperatures, a lack of clean water, and food insecurity. The most polluted places in America are populated by our poorest citizens.

Care and concern for the most vulnerable is the core of Catholic Social Teaching. Scripture and Church tradition consider this a non-negotiable. What we are coming to realize is that solidarity with those in need and how we treat our world are inseparable.

St. Francis of Assisi was blessed with the gift to see how all that is reflects God’s glory. This recognition calls us to respond in love. His namesake is reminding us of this truth.

Virtual Blessing of the Animals

Sponsored by the Circle of Creation Committee

Sunday, October 4, 2020 – 1:00 pm



As part of our celebration of the Season of Creation, all are invited to bring an animal to the prayer service. Or, you may wish to bring a picture of the animal you love **or a photo of an endangered species**. If you are grieving for an animal companion, you may wish to bring a

photograph of your deceased, beloved animal companion to the service.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98795165282>

Meeting ID: 987 9516 5282

Openings on the SFX Pastoral Council

The St. Francis Xavier (College) Church Pastoral Council is a group composed of the pastor and twelve active, adult parishioners who meet regularly to deliberate, reflect, and make decisions on a variety of issues related to the operations, programming, and spiritual life of the parish. The Pastoral Council provides support and direction to the various parish Commissions and Committees, and is generally charged with making sure that all activities support the parish's Mission. There will be four openings on the Pastoral Council starting in January 2020. Council members serve for a three-year term with the option to serve a second term. The group meets one Saturday morning per month, and also participates actively in various special events throughout the year. A parishioner may nominate another parishioner or nominate himself/herself.

PROCESS

Nominees will be asked to submit a short statement explaining their interest in serving on the Council answering the following three questions: (1) What has drawn you to SFX College Church, and what are your hopes for the future of the parish? (2) What background and experience, either professional, personal, or as a parishioner, would you bring to the Council and how would you apply it? (3) Can you commit to regular attendance and participation at Council meetings and, from time to time, assisting with special projects or events?

Fr. Dan will meet with each nominee to discern whether or not the nominee would be a good fit for the council.

CURRENT LEADERSHIP

Chair

Lisa D'Souza

Secretary

Margie Borges

Members

Gwendolyn Hood

Jeff Leonard

Maurice Muia

Matt Perlow

Jen Petruso

Amy Sanders

Winnie Sullivan



Commission Chairs

Adult Faith Formation Commission: Laura Greiner

Financial Development Commission: Mike Eggleston

Finance Committee: Carl Greiner

Liturgy Commission: Sr. Sherri Coleman

Parish Life Commission: Carla Bolland

Social Ministry Commission: Christina Greiner

Youth Faith Commission: Aimee Wittman

If you are interested in serving, would like to nominate another parishioner, or would just like more information, please contact

Council Chair Lisa D'Souza

ljdsouza@yahoo.com

or Fr. Dan White

314-977-7310, frdan@sfxstl.org.

Gala of Gratitude

Dear College Church parishioners,



I want to invite you to a very special event this fall. The weekend of **November 20-22** St. Francis Xavier will celebrate a **Virtual Gala of Gratitude**.

This has been a challenging, difficult, and stressful year for everyone. Yet, we are also aware that we have much to be grateful for as a community. This has been a year of great grace, too. This virtual event held the weekend before Thanksgiving is a celebration of the countless ways we have been blessed. We know the Holy Spirit is always at work, and want to acknowledge this truth.

The fun kicks-off with our Virtual Gala Friday night the 20th. Think of it like our regular Gala, except instead of getting all dressed up to come to the Coronado you can lie on the couch wearing sweats and a hoodie. And the best part is that it is absolutely and completely free.

There will be opportunities to share in our community and all the wonderful work we are doing through videos showcasing everything from our Youth Faith Formation to our choir. We will also have a silent auction and Fund-a-Need (a call for donations to support our

various ministries) during the evening. Clearly this is a challenging year for our financial health. I appreciate all the support you have generously offered so far.

This Gala, and the support we will raise through it, is a crucial way for us to continue our ministries in the midst of difficult economic realities. This will be an essential means to remain committed to these important works.

Throughout the weekend there will be an opportunity to dive deeper into the life of the parish. Talks, reflections and prayer will be available to deepen our sense of all the good things taking place here. Think of it as a way to know and appreciate even more this faith community, all from the comfort of your own home.

The weekend's events will conclude with 10:30am liturgy on Sunday. The celebration of the Eucharist is the Church's great prayer of thanksgiving. There is no better way to conclude our parish celebration than by thanking God.

God bless,
Fr. Dan

Saint Francis Xavier College Church Virtual Gala of Gratitude

November 20-22, 2020

Save the Date!

Auction items needed!

- Stays at Summer or Vacation homes
- Electronics
- Jewelry
- Restaurant or retail gift cards (\$50 or more is ideal)

Photos needed!

- Weddings, Baptisms, First Communion, Confirmation, Galas

Contact: Angela Pancella
 church@sfxstl.org
 (314) 977-1954

Donors will be provided with a donation acknowledgment form from the parish for tax purposes.



Fifth Sunday of the Season of Creation

September 27, 2020 | 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 5:1-7

Ps. 80:9, 12-16, 19-20

Philippians 4:6-9

Matthew 21:33-43



As we come to the close of this year's Season of Creation, we can recall its messages simply through the last weeks:

- God has given us a mission to pass on truthfully the prophetic word given us about care of Earth.
- We need to communicate that prophetic word without anger or vengeance, but with a forgiving heart, as we have been forgiven.
- It involves a call to all of us to pay attention to God's ways for us to live, Jubilee ways, in all dimensions of life.
- Each person is ultimately responsible for his or her own ecological conversion, a conversion which leads to transformed ways of acting in creation.

Our scriptures today warn us that if the human community and its political leaders fail in this mission to care for Earth through the transformation of our cultures and political structures and policies, Earth will be taken away from our care. St. Paul urges us to accept this call and challenge with utmost seriousness but without anxiety, praying with gratitude, and opening our hearts to receive the gift of God's peace.

Points for Reflection on the Scriptures

Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. "The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel."

In Isaiah's parable, the vineyard, although carefully prepared and cultivated by God, produces wild grapes. God promises to destroy the vineyard. The House of Israel must expect destruction and ruin because God came to this "cherished plant" looking for judgment and justice and found only bloodshed and the outcry of those suffering from injustice.

In *Laudato Sí*, Pope Francis refers extensively to the role of individuals and cultures in the destruction of Earth. He calls us to critique the "myths" on which our cultures grow and guide the lifestyles and actions of people around the world: myths of individualism, the possibility of unlimited progress and economic growth, competition, consumerism, and the unregulated market system [L.S. #210]. He notes that they support the kind of short-term thinking that has led to the current destructive patterns of overconsumption, inequality, pollution, climate change and social unrest.

- Do these myths operate in our culture, our society? In our community? Do they affect my thinking and actions? My hopes and dreams? My lifestyle choices? Our lifestyle as a community?
- How can we learn to discern them and the ways they affect our unexamined cultural assumptions?
- How can we turn away from their destructive influence and grow in solidarity, responsibility, and compassionate care for creation, including all in the human family? How might this lead us to make changes in even small daily actions to provide better care for creation [L.S. #211]?

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- How can we help inform and teach others? How can we together grow in simplicity of life? In grateful contemplation of God's gifts in creation? In concern for the needs of the poor? In protecting the environment?
- How can we use social media and participate in social movements and organizations promoting this kind of change in our culture and societal patterns of action?

In Matthew's version of the parable of the vineyard, the focus is not on the cultural beliefs and social patterns of the people as it is in the passage from Isaiah. Jesus addresses his vineyard parable to the chief priests and elders of the people, the decision-makers, the leaders, the politicians.

Pope Francis is clear in *Laudato Sí* that political action and change are also critically important to the urgent and desperately needed integral ecological conversion we are being called to. Political institutions and politicians set larger community policies, laws, and structures to establish order and protect the common good.

Vatican Council II defined the common good as "the sum of those conditions of social life which allow social groups and their individual members relatively thorough and ready access to their own fulfillment." [*Gaudium et Spes* #26]

- Are our political leaders working to address the ecological needs of Earth? Do they reflect the vision of integral ecological conversion to which we are called? At the local level? At the regional or state level? At the global level?

Pope Francis writes: "The gravity of the ecological crisis demands that we all look to the common good, embarking on a path of dialogue which demands patience, self-discipline and generosity...." [*L.S.* #201]

- How can we fulfill our prophetic responsibility in love to demand that our political leaders and institutions acknowledge the urgency and respond effectively to the current ecological crisis, guiding our communities into more sustainable ways of living for the healing and care of Earth? At the local level? At regional, state, and global levels? How can we as individuals and as faith communities call upon political leaders to think of, respect, and set in place political processes for protecting the long-term common good?

Visit our Season of Creation page on our website for more: <https://sfxstl.org/season-of-creation>
These reflections come from catholicclimatecoventant.org.

Laudato Si Quote of the Week

The universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely. Hence, there is mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face. The ideal...is to discover God in all things. (233)

The full encyclical can be read here: http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html



YOUTH FAITH FORMATION NEWS**Youth Faith Classes Have Resumed**

College Church Youth Faith Formation Classes began Sunday, September 27. In an abundance of caution they are beginning virtually, with a commitment to return to live classes as soon as it is safe.

Both RE and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd virtual classes will replicate the in-person classes as closely as possible. Classes for children in sacramental years will concentrate on sacramental preparation. There will be times when students in those years come together outside or in the ballroom for activities specific to that preparation.

There will be opportunities to come together even as we learn virtually. We will have Class Masses with seating in designated areas of the Church, and we will come together for penance services.

We will offer opportunities and suggestions for service work, either done independently at home, or in safe gatherings in the ballroom or outside.

It is all our hope and prayer that this is a very temporary situation. In the meantime we feel this structure will allow you and your family to maintain and nurture the role of faith in your life and keep a connection with our YFF family.

If you have questions please contact Terry Edelman, 314.712.4216, or Julie Kilian at 314.698.9268.

Link for Registration:

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/CollegeChurchI/YouthFaithFormationRegistration20202021>

(Please note: the 8th grade class is full.)

New Classrooms for Atrium Levels I and II.

When students return to their Atrium classes, they will have a dedicated space which is much more easily accessible. Level I and II classrooms will all be in a large area behind the Ballroom in the space of the former Chapel.

All the rooms are larger than the current ones, and they will have a dedicated entry, down the ramp on the south side of the church. There are no steps so monitored entry and social distancing will not present a problem. Parents can park in the Laclede garage, which is free on Sunday, and just make a short trip through the campus to the Atrium door.



NETWORK's Nuns on the Bus Is Coming to Saint Louis (Virtually)!

Join Us:

**Site Visit with College Church Outreach Program
Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 11:00 AM Central**

RSVP at www.nunsonthebus.org/rsvp

Watch the event *LIVE* at www.nunsonthebus.org/live
or on Facebook at www.facebook.org/NunsontheBus/live

In 2020, We The People face consequential decisions about how to respond to a global health crisis as well as racism and white supremacy, xenophobia, and economic inequality in our nation. These are difficult times, but there are reasons for hope. Across the U.S., people are speaking out for justice and advocating for policies to mend the gaps. With a federal election coming up, we know that **who we elect — at every level of government — matters.**

Nuns on the Bus: The Virtual Tour will highlight the most pressing issues in our nation, elevate the lived experiences of those facing the greatest challenges, and help participants prepare to vote for the common good on Election Day. **Join us on this important journey!**

NETWORK
NUNS
on the bus
THE VIRTUAL TOUR

For more information, visit nunsonthebus.org
or email info@networklobby.org.

Nuns on the Bus is a project of NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice and NETWORK Advocates for Catholic Social Justice. NETWORK was founded in 1971 by Catholic sisters to educate, organize, and lobby for economic and social transformation.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2020

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

BALLOT NOTARY DRIVE

BRING YOUR **UNSIGNED** MAIL IN OR
ABSENTEE BALLOT TO BE
NOTARIZED

LOCATED AT ST. ALPHONSUS
LIGUORI "ROCK" CHURCH

1118 N. GRAND BLVD, ST. LOUIS, MO 63106

 Bring your ballot in an envelope, a
pen, a photo ID,
& WEAR A MASK!

Hosted by College Church and The Rock Church

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Green Corner

“Opt to Act” for Earth



REI Co-op is sponsoring Opt to Act, 52 simple weekly challenges to reduce your impact on the Earth, get active, and leave the world better than you found it. This well-researched website (Just Google REI Opt to Act Plan), actually helps with information on why and how to take these steps.

This week’s tip:

Week 45 (October 4-October 10): Take a four-hour break from technology one day this week. (Sleeping doesn’t count.) Technology inherently uses energy but the real challenge this week is practicing mindfulness. Try using your four-hour break to better connect with friends and family, your neighborhood, or the world in general..

October 3-4, 2020

Saturday	
5:30 pm	Fr. White, S.J.
Sunday	
8:00 am	Fr. Stewart, S.J.
10:30 am	Fr. White, S.J.
4:30 pm	Campus Ministry

October 10-11, 2020

Saturday	
5:30 pm	Fr. Stewart, S.J.
Sunday	
8:00 am	Fr. White, S.J.
10:30 am	Fr. Stewart, S.J.
4:30 pm	Campus Ministry

The 10:30 am Mass will be livestreamed, and will have Outdoor Communion. RSVP at sfxstl.org.

Bulletin Articles

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

Faith and Civic Engagement

“Politics, according to the social doctrine of the Church, is one of the highest forms of charity, because it serves the common good.” Pope Francis, 2013



When confronting the many decisions-large and small-presented in our lives, we turn to the tenets and teaching of our faith for guidance. That includes our choices of community policies, programs and leaders that we will make in the coming weeks. As Catholic Christians, we are called to look beyond the rational decision-making process and to seek ways to recognize and cooperate with Christ’s redeeming work in the world. We are challenged to listen-detached from our personal bias-to the voices of people who are marginalized, to the cry of the injured earth, as well as to our own needs and desires.

Please visit <https://sfxstl.org/faithful-citizenship> for a resource on civic engagement created by the Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States, as well as information on checking your voter registration, on the different voting options in Missouri, and important dates.