



Attendees at Dining Out for Seniors at SLU's Grand Hall Sunday, October 29th (photo by Tina Saunders)

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

November 5, 2023
Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:15 pm, Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 4:30pm (when school is in session), 8:00pm (when school is in session)

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

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, 10:30 am through 11:45 am.

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 frtim@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 frtim@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 Jennifer Quick at jennifer@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

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

Canonical Pastor

Tim McMahon, SJ
314-977-7300
frtim@sfxstl.org

Associate Pastor

Tucker Redding, SJ
frtucker@sfxstl.org

Stewardship

Angela Pancella
314-977-7304
angela@sfxstl.org

Bulletin Editor

Camille Smith
bulletin@sfxstl.org

Christian Initiation, Adult Formation, & Marriage Ministry

Joe Milner
314-977-7305
joe@sfxstl.org

Liturgy

Mary Seise
mary@sfxstl.org

Office Manager

Joyce Miller
314-977-7300
joyce@sfxstl.org

Youth Faith Formation

Julie Kilian
314-977-7302
julie@sfxstl.org

Jennifer Quick

jennifer@sfxstl.org

Social Ministry

Christine Dragonette
314-977-7309
christine@sfxstl.org

Regional Access Coordinator

Madeline Powers
314-282-7205
madeline@sfxstl.org

Outreach Coordinator

Cynthia Enghauser
outreach@sfxstl.org

Director of Wedding Ministry, Young Adult Faith, and Marriage Preparation

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
314-977-7313
sue@sfxstl.org

Pastoral Council Co-Chairs

Jen Hahn-Petruso and Aimee Wittman
sfxpc@sfxstl.org

Pastoral Ministry

Bridget Brennan
314-313-0613
joy@canainstitute.org

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Anonymous Faculty member
 Margaret Baughman
 Samuel Belk
 Maureen Carney*
 Tara Chandler
 Tom Engelhardt
 Bernadette Farrell
 Dick Fleming
 Steve Frank*
 Sue Griffard
 Jessi Haselhorst
 Joanie Hasser*
 Butch Henning*
 Jeanne Hermann*
 Laura Kaiser and Family
 Terry Kippenberger*
 Julianne Lister
 Tom McDermott
 Eddie McDevitt
 Angie Menard*
 Karena Menard*
 Barb Michael
 Rea O'Neill
 Terry O'Toole
 Nancy Partridge* & Glider
 Fr. Dick Perl, SJ*
 Tim Plunkett
 Helen Risse
 Mark Roddy*
 Jennifer Saunders*
 Mark Segovia
 Fr. Gary Seibert, SJ*
 Ned Spencer
 Greg Stephen
 Debbie Webers
 Robert Wilmott
 * 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



There is a lot being said about the Global Synod Gathering that just concluded. America Magazine has many articles sharing multiple people's perspectives. This is part of what Fr. James Martin, SJ shared. His full article can be found here: <https://bit.ly/JMSynod>

Excerpts from Father James Martin: What happened at the Synod on Synodality

"We preach the gospel of friendships that reach across boundaries," said Timothy Radcliffe, O.P., during the retreat he led for members of the Synod of Bishops outside of Rome, a few days before our deliberations began. This image informed and illuminated my experience of the XVIth General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, which concluded this weekend:

So the foundation of all we shall do in this synod should be the friendships we create. It does not look like much. It will not make headlines in the media. "They came all that way to Rome to make friends. What a waste!" But it is by friendship that we will make the transition from "I" to "We."

To my mind, that was the most important thing that occurred at the synod: Friendships were built across boundaries, within the boundary of our love for Christ, whose love knows no boundaries.

But I would like to answer the questions that many Catholics have about the synod: What really happened? What did you do? And, crucially, what was the point?

We began with a retreat at the Fraternal Domus retreat center, led by Father Radcliffe, the former master general of the Dominicans, and Mother Maria Ignazia Angelina, an Italian Benedictine sister. Unlike most retreats, it included not only prayer and presentations, but also an introduction to the main way of participating in the synod, called "Conversations in the Spirit."

These conversations, more than anything else, were the main contribution of the synod to the church. It took me a while to understand that the Synod on Synodality was less about issues, even important ones, and more about how we discussed those issues. Thus, the most powerful message of the synod was the image of 350 delegates sitting at round tables, talking to one another and, more important, listening to one another.

Thanksgiving Day Eucharist

November 23 is our American holiday, Thanksgiving. Our grateful ancestors paused from all the challenges of life to give thanks for all their blessings and opportunities. The Eucharistic liturgy is also our Catholic way of giving thanks. We recall all that God has done for us and ask God to continue to bless us. As you plan your Thanksgiving day, please consider sharing in the Thanksgiving Day Eucharist at College Church. There will be one mass that morning at 9:00 am.



Fair Trade Sales this Sunday!

Fair trade coffee, tea, chocolate and more will be available in the vestibule for purchase after the 8 am and 10:30 am Masses. All sales support our sister parish, St. Peter Claver in Belize.

CONCLUDING RITE***Recessional: We Walk by Faith******Gather 680****All rights reserved. Used with permission. LicensingOnline number U2821. WLP License ALC.**Reprinted under OneLicense.net number 04947-A.**Art by Steve Erspamer. All Rights Reserved.***Parish Men's White House Retreat, February 8-11, 2024**

The parish men's retreat at the White House Jesuit Retreat Center (an easy drive to South County) begins Thursday evening, February 8, 2024 with 7:00 pm dinner and concludes on Sunday the 11th at about 1:00 pm following lunch. For early registration (now open), the White House is holding a limited number of College Church parishioner slots.



To get signed up or learn more, you can contact White House directly (www.whitehouseretreat.org, 314-416-6400) or just reach out to John Hartung (314-326-6018, jjhartung@aol.com), Bill Morrison (314-991-8599, wkmorrison534@yahoo.com) or David Schnelt (314-791-0227).

The retreat is a great opportunity to study and apply the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. Retreatants have abundant quiet time to reflect and pray (in a beautiful setting) and are not asked to join in group discussions. We do, though, attend outstanding presentations by a Jesuit retreat director, may join in daily liturgy, and have many opportunities to meet individually with a priest. Accommodations and meals are excellent. No charge is specified for the retreat; retreatants are encouraged to consider any free will offering they can afford and find appropriate.

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 over a decade and rely on volunteer support to offer this program.

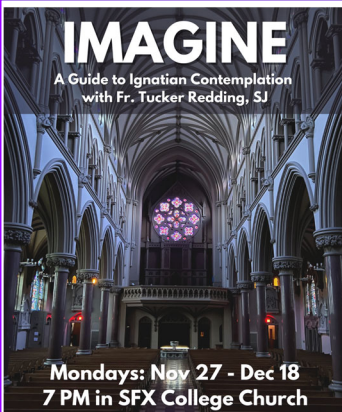
New and Returning Volunteers: Volunteer positions include Setup, Greeters/ Hosts, Innkeepers, Cleaners, Dinner Cooks and Laundry Drivers. Volunteers must register to attend a virtual training scheduled for Monday, November 13th from 7:00-8:30pm.

Register for the 11/13 volunteer training: <https://bit.ly/winterinn2023>

If the training date does not work for you, you can still volunteer! Please still register at the link above to receive the recorded training. Contact Anne Osdieck at aosdieck@gmail.com or (314) 313-0636 with any questions.

Volunteers ages 13+ are welcome. Those under the age of 18 are required to be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

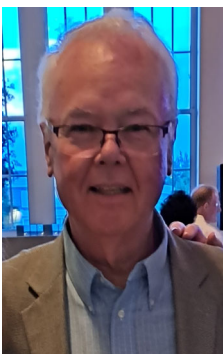
Winter Inn relies on volunteer support each year. Thank you for considering plugging into this initiative!

**Imagine: A Guide to Ignatian Contemplation with Fr. Tucker
Mondays Starting November 27th**

Ignatian contemplation is a form of prayer in which we use our imagination to see and interact with various scenes from scripture. St. Ignatius guides us through this prayer in his Spiritual Exercises.

This four-part series is a chance to learn about contemplation and experience it through guided exercises. Starting on November 27, we'll pray through the stories of Advent, including the Annunciation, the Visitation, the Journey to Bethlehem, and the Nativity. Feel free to come to any one or all of the evenings. For more information email sfxFaithEnrichment@gmail.com

**Mondays: Nov 27 - Dec 18
7 PM in SFX College Church**



Living Our Faith: Meet Dave

(Note: this is one of a series of profiles of parishioners to help us all get to know one another better. If you are interested in participating, or want to suggest we highlight a parishioner friend, contact Angela at angela@sfxstl.org.)

Dave Werthmann

I've been a parishioner for: I started attending Mass at SFX in 1987 before I became a staff member at St. Vincent's Parish and later moved to the West Coast where I worked and studied for four years. By the early 2000s I moved back to St. Louis to be closer to my ailing father in Iowa. I officially registered as a parishioner in 2001.

Dave Werthmann

Living my faith: For many years my only connection to SFX was the 10:30 Sunday liturgy. That's what attracted me to the parish in the first place. In retirement, I got involved with the parish's anti-racism work because that has always been a great interest of mine. I currently serve on the Anti-racism Committee and the Anti-racism Parish History Committee, and help prepare the weekly Anti-racism Column for the weekly bulletin. In addition, I serve as a Eucharistic Minister and a member of the Elder Prayer Companions group that prays daily for the needs of the parish and its members. Earlier in 2023, I helped organize the parish library containing all the books (now over 1500) that have been donated by parishioners.

Why I'm involved: I attend daily Mass as often as I can. One day while praying and receiving the Eucharist, I became aware that I, too, am somehow transformed into the image and likeness of God. I take that transforming presence of Christ with me into the world. It's nothing I do. It's God who brings about whatever transformation needs to happen. It's said that about 35% of the world's population claims to be Christian. Imagine if all of them receive the Eucharist every Sunday -- how transforming that would be, and what a different world we would live in!!

Three words that describe SFX: Dynamic, Life-giving, Uplifting

My neighborhood: I live in the Bevo community. My city block is very diverse, eclectic in fact. My neighbors include interracial and African American families, older white couples, LGBTQ folks, Bosnian immigrants and a family who recently moved to St. Louis from Cuba.

Fun facts: I retired in 2019 – right before the pandemic broke out (providential!) – after working at Aquinas Institute of Theology for 12 years and Liguori Publications for six years.

My grandparents started a family-owned bakery in the 1930s, which my father and uncle took over and operated for 10 more years. My family lived upstairs, and my bedroom was above the giant oven that baked several dozen loaves of bread at a time. Many SFX parishioners have become aware of my own baking skills. I also enjoy traveling, and have set foot on four continents: Europe (twice), Australia, Africa and, of course, North America.

St. Francis Xavier's parish family represents diverse backgrounds, ages and interests, with many immensely talented, deeply engaged, warm and welcoming parishioners. We come from all areas of the St. Louis region, including from over 80 zip codes. Learn more about our parish and how to become involved by calling (314) 977-7300 or visiting sfxstl.org

Advent Materials

The season of Advent begins on Dec 3. Following the Sunday morning masses, starting next Sunday, there will be Advent reflection booklets, books, and calendars available in the ballroom. The booklets include writings from various authors and the Little Blue Book is also available. There are daily reflections booklets for Advent and for all of 2024.



Come down to ballroom and find something to inspire you during the coming weeks of Advent.



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.

Black Catholic History Month

November is Black Catholic History Month. It was instituted by the National Black Clergy Caucus in 1990. This month was chosen, in part, because it is a time when the Church prays for all saints and souls in loving remembrance, and so we recall the saints and souls of Africa and the African Diaspora. It is also a month that contains dates of significance in the history of Catholics of African descent. St. Martin de Porres, who died on November 3rd, became the first Black American saint.

November 13th is the birthday of St. Augustine—the first Doctor of the Church—who was from North Africa. This month is a time we can celebrate the many saints and holy people of African descent who share and help to lead the Catholic faith.



College Church will celebrate Black Catholic History Month this year by presenting the Diverse Religious Imagery Project in the Ballroom after Sunday Masses on November 12th. Portraits of saints and holy people representing different races, ethnicities, and artistic styles will be displayed. We hope you will join us to view the images as well as reflect on and share your experience. It is also Donut Sunday, so refreshments will be served.

On November 19th we will share the soon-to-be-published volume of *Our Parish Racial History*. This booklet extends the stories presented in the current materials and adds to our understanding of the people and events that have shaped the spiritual community we are today. All are invited to the Ballroom after the Sunday Masses on November 19th to hear more about the development of this project and to receive a complimentary copy of the booklet.

Many other events in celebration of Black Catholic History Month are being sponsored by St. Louis University and throughout the St. Louis Community. Please see the Upcoming Events for more information.

Honoring Indigenous People of the U.S.

November is also National Native American and Alaskan Native Heritage Month. Let's examine some of the Indigenous Peoples who once lived in the St. Louis region.

Over a thousand years ago, St. Louis was part of the Mississippian culture. That civilization built complex earthworks over much of the continent. Across the river from St. Louis is Cahokia, a medieval city that could have rivaled any European city in the 13th century when it was built.

The massive earthen mound we pass by whenever we drive on Interstate-55 in Illinois is one of the few structures left from those days and is among the largest pyramids in the world. Several smaller such "pyramids" dotted both the Illinois and Missouri sides of the river. In fact, the area now called St. Louis was once known as "Mound City." Sixteen of those human-made mounds were leveled in Forest Park to prepare for the 1904 World's Fair.

Today the federal government recognizes nearly 600 Native American tribes in the U.S. Some historians estimate that 18 million people may have lived north of the Rio Grande River before Christopher Columbus landed in North America. The Osage, Miami and Sioux nations once populated the St. Louis region and still have living members today. The Iroquois people were a federation of Indigenous nations around the Great Lakes whose impact reached to the Mississippi River valley.

Native populations began dwindling almost immediately from European diseases like smallpox and measles even before Europeans fought them for their lands. It is estimated that 50 million Native Americans died in the 400 years after 1492. Some estimate that the Native population plummeted around 90 percent due to war, enslavement, and disease.



Stereotypes and racist portrayals of Indigenous peoples are abundant today. Artwork, books, and plays depict Native peoples as savages wielding tomahawks while wearing warpaint, feathered headdresses and loincloths. Those false portrayals perpetuate myths, ignore the great diversity of Native peoples in North America, and spread fictitious images of modern-day Native Americans. We need to "de-romanticize" these representations by recognizing the many contributions our Indigenous ancestors have offered our nation and by engaging with them as contemporary 21st century neighbors.

Accompanying photo by R. Madison

Antiracism at College Church

Continued from previous page

Significant Figures in Racial History

William Wells Brown – died November 6, 1884, in Chelsea, MA. Brown was born into slavery and spent most of his youth in St. Louis. He was regularly hired out by his owner to work on steamboats on the Missouri River. At age 19 he escaped to Ohio and eventually settled in Boston where he became a prolific writer and worked for abolitionist causes.

Bartolome de las Casas – born November 11, 1484, in Seville, Spain. De las Casas arrived in Hispaniola as a layman, then became a Dominican friar. He was appointed Bishop of Chiapas and "Protector of the Indians." He spent the next 50 years fighting slavery and the colonial abuse of the Natives. His writings chronicle the atrocities committed by colonizers against indigenous peoples.

Sister Antona Ebo – died November 11, 2007, in St. Louis, MO. Orphaned at age 6, Antona eventually became a nurse and was one of the first black women allowed to join the Sisters of St. Mary in St. Louis. In 1965 she marched with civil rights activists in Selma, Alabama and worked for social justice until her death at age 93.

Current and Upcoming Events

November 5 3:00 pm The Community Gospel Choir of St. Louis will be one of the choirs performing at the Spirituals Festival held at St. Alphonsus Liguori "Rock" Church. Some of the members of our College Church choir sing with this group. All are welcome to attend.

November 9 5:30 pm SLU is hosting Dr. Alexia Williams, Department of Religion at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. She will speak on *Envisioning Paradise: Canonizing African American Catholic Women of the Frontier*. The talk will be held in the Sinquefeld Stateroom–Dubourg Hall, 209.

November 11 9:45 am – 1:00 pm The Black History Bus Tour, led by Fr. Gerry Kleba, shares some of the concealed stories of our racial history and deepens understanding of systemic racism in St. Louis. The tour leaves St. Cronan's Church, 1202 S. Boyle Ave, 63110 at 9:45 and will return at 1 pm. The cost of the tour is \$10.00 to be paid the day of the event. There is one stop in the middle of the tour at a service station for rest rooms and refreshments. Participants are invited to bring a lunch and stay for further discussion. If you would like to reserve a spot, send your name, email address, and phone # to Paul Loida at Paul.Loida@Bayer.com

November 12 8:45 and 11:30 Join us in the Ballroom after the 8:00 am and 10:30 am Masses to view and discuss the diverse images of saints and holy people that will be installed in the Parish Center. Project leaders Thi Nguyen and Christina Ryan will describe the development of this project.

November 12 1:00 – 5:00 pm The St. Louis Archdiocesan Office of Racial Harmony is hosting a Black Catholic History Month celebration with guest speaker Cheryl Archibald, Parish Life Coordinator of St. Vincent DePaul and St. Pius V Catholic Churches and a panel presentation from the Archdiocesan implementation team of the National Black Catholic Congress. The event will be held at Pallottine Renewal Center, 17270 Old Halls Ferry Rd. 63034 Please RSVP if you will attend a light dinner, racialharmony@archstl.org or 314-792-7430.

November 18 10:00 am to 11:00 CT A webinar, sponsored by the Jesuit Antiracism Sodality, will be presented by Fr. Tim Kesicki, SJ on: *A Reflection on the Jesuits' Relationship to Descendants of People Held Enslaved by the Society of Jesus*. Register for this event at: <https://forms.gle/VBzUGYxhUoUM4vsT9>

For more information, or to become part of antiracism ministries at College Church, contact Winnie Sullivan penultima@swbell.net or Lisa Burks Imburks60@gmail.com.



Gala News!

Tickets still available! Visit 2023sfxgala.givesmart.com to purchase yours.

Our silent auction page is now live! We'll be adding items over the coming days and weeks, so be sure to check back regularly and start placing your bids.

Visit 2023sfxgala.givesmart.com and choose "View Items" under the heading "Browse, Bid and Buy."

We're especially excited to offer the SLU Basketball President's Box this year. You and your guests will be in the President's Suite for Billiken Men's Basketball on Tuesday, **November 28** vs Utah State. Suite capacity is 50 and includes food and drinks during the game.



Donated By Saint Louis University,
Dr. Fred Pestello

2023sfxgala.givesmart.com



Have you returned your Living Our Faith Commitment Card?

Our goal this year for our *Living Our Faith* campaign is full participation! Even if you are keeping your offertory giving the same this year, please return a Commitment Card to let us know. And, of course, we welcome your pledges for increased support. Every gift, big or small, helps us *Live Our Faith* through the ministries of St. Francis Xavier College Church. As parishioner Maurice Muia says, "At College Church we use our richness, our God given gifts to serve with our talents, some professional and some personal. This is done, because this is what our God and Savior Jesus Christ calls us to do."

You can fill out an online Commitment Card by using the QR code below.



Then, visit sfxstl.org/giving if you'd like to enroll in online giving or update your gift. If you have any difficulties with our online giving platform, please reach out to Angela at angela@sfxstl.org or (314) 977-74304.

Thank you, and God bless you for your generosity!

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FRIDAY, NOV 10TH - 11:00-6:00
SATURDAY, NOV 11TH - 11:00-6:00
 SPECIAL WINE & CHEESE HAPPY HOUR EVENT
 FROM 4:30-6PM ON FRIDAY!



ONLINE SHOPPERS MUST STATE THAT THEY ARE SUPPORTING THE COLLEGE CHURCH FUNDRAISER WHEN CHECKING OUT AND SELECT "PICK UP" FROM EITHER STORE.

VOLUNTEERS WILL PROVIDE LOCAL DELIVERY FOR ONLINE ORDERS. NO SHIPPING AVAILABLE FOR ORDERS THROUGH THIS FUNDRAISER.

Circle of Creation Green Corner

Metropolitan Congregations United (MCU) is asking Missourians to sign a [petition](#) on their website to urge the State of Missouri to create a modern digital system for licensed scrap tire haulers to minimize the dumping of used tires and promote accountability concerning this issue.

All people of good will can read this for free. **APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION [LAUDATE DEUM](#) OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS TO ALL PEOPLE OF GOOD WILL ON THE CLIMATE CRISIS**

The final film of the **Fall 2023 Franciscans For Earth Eco-Series** is “Seeking Asylum, A Mother’s Journey” and will be shown via Zoom on Tuesday evening at 6:30 PM Central Time on November 14. Registration is available at fsolph.org/events.

Smithsonian Magazine Smart News September 18, 2023 brings this informative article [“Humans Have Exceeded Six of the Nine Boundaries Keeping Earth Habitable.”](#)

Open Space STL lists opportunities for volunteer service through various organizations, providing information and registration [here](#). Great Rivers Greenway lists events at various Greenway locations. You can look through those [events](#) for volunteer opportunities.

Public Electronics Recycling events [sponsored by Midwest Recycling Center \(MRC\)](#)

November 18, 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM
359 Old Meramec Station Road
Manchester, MO 63021
hosted by City of **Manchester**

December 2, 9:00 AM to Noon
Electronics Recycling and Food Drive
13201 Clayton Road
St. Louis, MO 63131
hosted by Principia School

December 9, 8:00 AM to Noon
2505 South Brentwood Boulevard
Brentwood, MO, 63144
hosted by the City of **Brentwood**

December 9, 8:00 AM to Noon
900 TR Hughes Boulevard
O’Fallon, MO, 63366
hosted by the City of **O’Fallon**

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.

November 4-5, 2023

Saturday
5:15 pm Fr. Redding, SJ

Sunday
8:00 am Fr. McMahan, SJ

10:30 am Fr. McMahan, SJ

November 11-12, 2023

Saturday
5:15 pm Fr. Redding, SJ

Sunday
8:00 am Fr. McMahan, SJ

10:30 am Fr. McMahan, SJ

This Sunday’s Scripture Readings:

First Reading:

Malachi 1:14b-2:2b, 8-10

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 131:1, 2, 3

Second Reading:

1 Thessalonians 27b-9

Gospel:

Matthew 23:1-12

Online Giving Available

<https://www.osvhub.com/sfxstl/>

Thank you for your gift!



Bulletin Articles

Email bulletin articles to Camille Smith at bulletin@sfxstl.org before Thursday at noon 10 days before the bulletin date.

College Church Accessibility

As a reminder, **assistive listening devices** are available for our liturgies. Please let the ushers know if you would like to use one.