



## **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 27, 2022**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

### **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 [frtim@sfxstl.org](mailto:frtim@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. Tim McMahon at [frtim@sfxstl.org](mailto: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](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 Edelmans at [terry@sfxstl.org](mailto:terry@sfxstl.org) or Julie Kilian at [julie@sfxstl.org](mailto:julie@sfxstl.org) for more information.

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

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

**PASTORAL STAFF**Parish Life Coordinator

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**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Margaret Baughman  
 Bill Bollwerk\*  
 Ann Burk  
 Maureen Carney\*  
 Alice Edler  
 Steve Frank\*  
 Al Frei  
 Jessi Haselhorst  
 Paul Hanson\*  
 Butch Henning\*  
 Jeanne Hermann\*  
 Laura Kaiser and Family  
 Terry Kippenberger\*  
 Julianne Lister  
 Carol Marshall  
 Tom McDermott  
 Eddie McDevitt  
 Angie Menard\*  
 Karena Menard\*  
 Liz Moloney\*  
 Suzanne Mondello  
 Nancy Partridge\* & Glider  
 Mark Roddy\*  
 Jennifer Saunders\*  
 Betty Schnorbus  
 Mark Segovia  
 John Seibel  
 Fr. Gary Seibert, SJ\*  
 Jean Steely  
 Greg Stephen  
 Colleen Starkloff  
 Marjorie Woodeye  
 Lisa Zimmerer\*  
 \* Long-term

**Prayer requests to:**

[church@sfxstl.org](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.

**Excerpts from Parishioners on College Church's Journeying Together in the Spirit.**



[John Stiles] *I would like to start by asking you a question – Why are you here? Perhaps you are here to hear a great Jesuit homily. Perhaps you are here because you enjoy our wonderful choir. Or perhaps you are here because this Church holds special meaning to you. I lived in the County for 19 years, and on special occasions, I would come here because to me it was a special place. When I went to work at Saint Louis University a little over 8 years ago, and I moved to the City; I knew there is one parish that was for me – St. Francis Xavier College Church. This place is special. However, this place isn't special for the building. Although this is a beautiful Church. This place is special for what's in the pews. People who live their faith, not only on Sunday, but throughout the week.*

[Aimee Wittman] *As I reflect on the "why" behind our family's stewardship commitment to the College Church, I am pondering the imagery of journey and thinking about the many friends and disciples at the College Church who accompany us, break bread with us, and who have helped to open our eyes. As I reflect on our stewardship theme of "Journeying Together in the Spirit," I think about the scripture story of the Road to Emmaus. In this scripture, the disciples walk together as they proceed in their faith journey, quite imperfectly, fully human, and yet not fully seeing. The College Church is a faith community where we are overflowing with gifts in service of praising God, loving our neighbors, and walking together. We are each invited to contribute our unique gifts as we journey together, guided by the Holy Spirit, to continue to sustain the mission of our parish. Our College Church community has in many ways been the Road to Emmaus for me and for my family.*

[Dick Fleming] *Our "journey together" may take a variety of forms for our parish and for each of us as fellow parishioners — but the overall context for this "journey together" dates back several years to when Pope Francis convened his present synod of bishops, which encourages Catholics to become what Pope Francis called "more synodal." An underlying element of synodality is a much greater level of engagement and stewardship by each of us as parishioners – well beyond simply our participation in mass each week.*

[John Stiles] *To live out our faith by continuing our wonderful programs requires financial support. If you are like me, you may get in the routine of making the same gift every week or every month. I would like to ask you to give some thought to your giving to the parish. Your gifts have impact!*

[Aimee Wittman] *Thank you for your prayerful discernment of your stewardship commitment as we continue to journey together to upbuild the Kingdom of God through the work of the College Church.*

**PRAY FOR THE DECEASED**

With the hope of the Resurrection, we ask that you remember in your prayers:

Paul Hanson

May he and all the departed share in the peace and joy of God's presence forever.



### **An Evening of Advent Reflection**

Come and prepare your heart for Advent on December 1, from 6:30-8:30 pm. Step away from the busy pace of the season for an evening of quiet reflection, led by parishioner and CGS catechist Alicia Timko. We'll begin with dinner in the ballroom, followed by a presentation and time for personal and group reflection. Hands-on materials will be offered to aid our reflection. Please contact Julie for any questions and to RSVP at [julie@sfxstl.org](mailto:julie@sfxstl.org).

### **Family Christmas Eve Children's Choir and Tableau**

We are inviting young instrumentalists and vocalists to be a part of our Children's Choir for the Christmas Eve Family Mass!

The rehearsals for this group will be on:

- Sunday, December 4, 12:00-1:30, in the church
- Sunday, December 11, 12-1:30, in the church
- Saturday, December 17, 9-12:30, in the church

We do ask that instrumentalists, at a minimum, be in their second year of school ensemble instruction, as they will be reading and learning the music outside of rehearsal time. Please let us know as soon as you can if your child is interested; we'll need to hear from all musicians by Tuesday, November 29. If your child would like to participate in the choir, please email Julie ([Julie@sfxstl.org](mailto:Julie@sfxstl.org)).

Our Christmas Eve tableau will also be a part of the Family Mass. This is a simple visual of the Gospel narrative of Jesus' birth. We are seeking angels, shepherds, and a few animals; costumes are provided. There will be two brief rehearsals after mass on December 11 and December 18. Please email Jennifer ([jennifer@sfxstl.org](mailto:jennifer@sfxstl.org)) if your child would like to participate.



## 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.

### An Advent Litany for Racial Equity

by Christina Ryan



Sisters and brothers, we've begun our new liturgical year with the season of Advent—a time of expectant preparation and waiting for the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. We also mark the one-year milestone of another important journey: accompanying one another on our Racial Equity Review. For

several years now as a parish, we have been reflecting more and more deeply on how the sin of racism hurts our sisters and brothers of color, and how it strips all of us of our humanity and our identity as children of God. The work of our Antiracism Team, Racism and Reconciliation Committee, Racial Equity Review Team, and Pastoral Council, along with your support and prayers, have brought us to this point, where we move beyond educating and reflecting on ourselves as individuals to scrutinize the specific policies and practices at College Church that have caused and preserved systemic racism.

As we continue this journey, let us attend to the familiar and beautiful story of the Annunciation. Let us hear how the ordinary life of a young woman, our Blessed Mother, was made extraordinary and sacred by her assent to God's invitation. And, following that example, let us respond to the invitation before us. God summons us to use the potential already within us to repair—and make whole—ourselves and our Church. In that spirit, we pray:

Let us reflect on how the sin of racism strips all of us of our humanity and our identity as children of God.

*Response: Lord, graciously hear us.*

Let us continue to inform ourselves about the sin of racism, its roots, and its historical and present-day manifestations at College Church. *Response: Lord, graciously hear us.*

Let us prepare ourselves to hear God's voice and hear the truth, even when we would rather not hear it.

*Response: Lord, graciously hear us.*

Like our Blessed Mother saying yes to the angel Gabriel's invitation, let us open our eyes, hearts, and minds to the extraordinary and sacred. *Response: Lord, graciously hear us.*

Like our Blessed Mother, let us listen to the Holy Spirit telling us to be not afraid of how our lives will profoundly

change. *Response: Lord, graciously hear us.*

Like our Blessed Mother asking, "How can this be?," let us accept that the Holy Spirit will guide us in our understanding and in our reconciliation and help us to become closer to God's vision for our Church.

*Response: Lord, graciously hear us.*

Let us not run or hide but face with courage the specific policies and practices that have caused and preserved inequitable outcomes in decision-making, power-sharing, and inclusion of people of color at College Church.

*Response: Lord, graciously hear us.*

Let the Holy Spirit guide us toward the transformative change of becoming an antiracist parish and compel us to see this change as an opportunity for reconciliation and for hope-filled celebration of all people's gifts.

*Response: Lord, graciously hear us.*

Lord, we know racism is a sin and spiritual disorder that has taken root in the garden of our souls. We pray for your grace to convert us through the Holy Spirit so that we can walk by faith toward justice, hope, love, and healing for the glory of your Kingdom. We ask the Holy Spirit to enter our lives, change our hearts, and allow us to see what we would rather not see. Lord, we ask that you bless us as we go on this journey, and may we be grounded and rooted in Your Word.

Amen.

### Celebrating Black Catholic History Month at College Church

November is Black Catholic History Month. It was instituted by the National Black Clergy Caucus in 1990. For the last several years, our parish has participated in this celebration by highlighting the gifts and contributions of Black Catholics. We recognize the many black saints and holy people who are part of our Catholic heritage as well as the current Catholic community in St. Louis. We have shared their stories by displaying informational posters, articles in the bulletin, and video interviews.

This year our focus will be to tell the stories of those individuals whose lives are directly connected to our own parish history but have remained less well known. During the month of November posters will be displayed in church and these important stories will be included in our weekly bulletin.

### Charles H. Anderson

Charles Hollingsworth Anderson was born in 1902 in Alabama. After completing his education at Geneva College in Pennsylvania and graduate studies at Chicago University, he taught English at Florida A&M College and Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri before accepting a position at Sumner High School in St. Louis in 1925. There, for the next 24 years, he taught English and directed the Robeson Dramatic Club. He was married to Birdie Beal Thompson who, along with her father, operated a mortuary business that still bears the Beal family name. Anderson was a practicing Catholic and active in the Men's Club at St. Malachy's Parish. He was part of the work coordinated by the St. Louis Clergy Conference on Negro Welfare and the Catholic Interracial Council of St. Louis. He wrote an article that appeared in St. Elizabeth's publication, *The Chronicle*, advocating for black people to receive medical care in Catholic hospitals. Through multiple letters and a personal meeting with Archbishop John Glennon, Anderson campaigned for more inclusive ministry to black Catholics.



In 1942, Anderson applied for admission to St. Louis University, wishing to enroll in a biology course offered as a Saturday extension program. His application was denied because of his race. With assistance from the St. Louis American and the local chapter of the N.A.A.C.P., Anderson protested this injustice by publishing a leaflet entitled, "An Appeal By A Negro Catholic to White Catholic Students of St. Louis University." In it he argued that the core tenets of the Catholic faith hold that all members of the church are one in the Mystical Body of Christ. He referenced recent writings of Pope Pius XII who taught that the physical and cultural differences are not to divide us, in fact they add to the beauty of humanity. Anderson's treatise also pointed out that the university already accepted students of other races, nationalities, and religions, including Japanese students at a time when the United States was engaged in World War II—countering the university's argument that racial integration would cause white students and donors to withdraw. The leaflets were distributed to students on campus between classes and received without opposition. Anderson further demonstrated against his exclusion from admission by "sitting in" —attending—classes even though he was not enrolled. He continued this practice until the policy of desegregation was adopted. The first five black students enrolled for the summer term in 1944, although Anderson would never be admitted. His actions, along with the advocacy and actions of many others, compelled the university to offer Catholic postsecondary education to African American students.

Charles Anderson died in 1949 of heart disease after being hospitalized for three weeks at St. Mary's Infirmary. His funeral was held on October 1st at the St. Louis Cathedral. His life and legacy of faith, service, and advocacy serves as a model for us today.

### Upcoming Events

November 30, 2022 7:00 pm. St. Cletus Parish 2705 Zumbel Rd. in St. Charles. Prayer Service for Racial Healing led by Fr. Steve Robeson and including music from the Phil Woodmore Singers.

### Advent Materials

The season of Advent begins today. Following the Sunday morning masses, Advent reflection booklets, books, and calendars are available in the ballroom. The Daybreaks series features a single page reflection for each day of the season. The writings of various authors, including John Kavanaugh, SJ, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Henri Nouwen, Ronald Rolheiser, are featured. There are similar booklets by other authors including Pope Francis with some focusing on families and others for seniors. The Little Blue Book is another popular Advent booklet with a scripture reflection and an introduction to a person or a practice.

Another option are the "Advent and Christmas with" books that compile writings from authors for a daily reflection. Writings come from Pope Francis, St. Francis of Assisi, Thomas Merton, and others. Fr. Dan Daly, SJ, one of our regular celebrants has a book, *Jesus and the Barbecued Breakfast Fish*. It offers insights and starting points for reflection on Gospel passages.

Advent candles are available along with CDs with recordings of Fr. John Kavanaugh's homilies. Items may be reserved for pickup on other days when the parish office is open. Come down to the ballroom and find something to inspire you during the coming weeks of Advent. To request an item for pickup, email Joe Milner at [Joe@sfxstl.org](mailto:Joe@sfxstl.org).

### Mass of Remembrance and Commemorating the Faithful Departed Through November

Here are parishioners and family members of parishioners we are remembering this November (if we are forgetting anyone, please let us know by emailing [angela@sfxstl.org](mailto:angela@sfxstl.org), and we will include them in the coming weeks):

Allen Abernathy • Mary Lou Ampleman • Kathleen Arns • Kathleen Belk • Kathy Bookstaver • Kathleen Borges • Mary Bradley • Mary Bremmer • Fr. John “Jack” Callahan, SJ • Concetta Immaculata Isabella Casergola • Linda Castillon • Fay Efken • Richard Fister • Gigi Gonderinger • Mary Jane Henning • Nancy Kraus • Bill Kuc • Daniel Kuc • Clarita Labilles • Julie Long • John (Jack) Magee • Norman Marmillion • Michael Montgomery • Jack Moore • Frank Nichols • Ann Meara Nobs • Fr. John Padberg, SJ • Valerie Davies Payne • Pathrose Michael Planthottathil • Mary Ann Robinett • Jacolyn Rolf • Thomas Rolfe • Denny Saunders • Susie Steger • Mary Stolze • Judy Taylor • Justin Tognozzi • Joe Vaughan • John Veidt • Captain William Webster • Eulis Weeden • Jerry Wuller • Louis Zoia

### Social Ministry Christmas Appeal



Each year at Christmas, we reach out to our parish community for support that helps to sustain our work over the coming year through the Social Ministry Christmas Appeal. This year, our appeal is especially urgent because in the last fiscal year we served more people than we have ever served before in the history of our Birth Certificate and Missouri State ID Program. We don't expect the need for our program to decrease in the coming months. With your support, we hope to continue to help all those who are in need of this service.

We are proud that our Tuesday Birth Certificate and ID Program, coordinated by Jasmine Brown, offers a unique service, facilitating access to vital documents so that people can access employment, housing. Regional Access Coordinator Madeline Powers has also worked to develop training and support resources for other organizations in the state of Missouri to start ID and Birth Certificate clinics. Our program saw 3,861 people through our doors in our last fiscal year. At an average cost of just \$23 per person, our weekly program can provide this life changing service for thousands more in the coming year.

**The second collection on the weekends of December 4th and 11th will go to Social Ministry. You can also give online anytime by sending in a check with “Social Ministry Appeal” in the memo or visiting: [bit.ly/SocialMinistryAppeal](https://bit.ly/SocialMinistryAppeal) (case sensitive link).**

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!

### The Giving Tree 2022: Gloves!

Given the huge number of requests for sturdy gloves that our Outreach Program has received in recent years, this year's Giving Tree will focus exclusively on providing for this particular need. Here's how you can participate:

- Please take a paper ornament from the Giving Tree, located near the front of the south aisle toward the south transept.
- Purchase the listed item: either men's or women's heavyweight gloves.
- Return the wrapped item with the ornament attached to it by Sunday, December 11th.
- Gifts may be returned to either a labeled receptacle in the vestibule of the church or to the parish center front office at 3628 Lindell Blvd. Please do NOT leave gifts under the tree.

...# Gifts will then be distributed to guests of our State ID and Birth Certificate Program on Tuesday mornings.

Contact Christine Dragonette with any questions at [christine@sfxstl.org](mailto:christine@sfxstl.org) or (314) 977-7309.

Thank you so much for your generosity!



**Circle of Creation Green Corner**



Important information for Saint Louis City residents about avoiding contamination of their recycling bins is available at [Saint Louis City Recycles](#). Some of this information is relevant to County residents as well.

**Did you know?**

Foil-embossed gift wraps and greeting cards and foil-lined envelopes are not recyclable. They shine, but eventually they are just going to end up in the landfill. REALSIMPLE provides a helpful article on [How to Be Environmentally Friendly During the Holidays](#).

If you are looking for reusable eco-friendly household and cleaning and personal care items, you might try googling the following: reusable eco-friendly “whatever” (e.g., tissues, paper towels, Q-tips, sponges, whatever).

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

Dec. 3 from 8:00 AM to Noon  
900 TR Hughes Boulevard  
O’Fallon, MO, 63366  
hosted by City of **O’Fallon**

Dec. 3 from 9:00 AM to Noon  
1 Detjen Drive  
Saint Louis, MO, 63126  
hosted by City of **Crestwood**

Dec. 17 from 8:00 AM to Noon  
2505 South Brentwood Boulevard  
Brentwood, MO, 63144  
hosted by City of **Brentwood**

The next ones are not until February of 2023.

**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.

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception**

Dec 8 is the feast of the Immaculate Conception. Our masses that day are 7:15 am, Noon, and 5:15 pm. All masses are in the Church.

**November 26-27, 2022**

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

**December 3-4, 2022**

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

**This Sunday’s Scripture Readings:**

**First Reading:**  
Isaiah 2:1-5  
**Responsorial Psalm:**  
Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9  
**Second Reading:**  
Romans 13:11-14  
**Gospel:**  
Matthew 24:37-44

**Bulletin Articles**

Email bulletin articles to Angela Pancella at [angela@sfxstl.org](mailto:angela@sfxstl.org) before Thursday at noon 10 days before the bulletin date.

**Online Giving Reminder**

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). You can also reach this link through the QR code here.



Thank you for your support!




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