



## **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**

**December 10, 2023**  
**Second Sunday in 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 Jennifer Quick at [jennifer@sfxstl.org](mailto:jennifer@sfxstl.org) or Julie Kilian at [julie@sfxstl.org](mailto:julie@sfxstl.org) for more information.

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

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

**PASTORAL STAFF**Parish Life Coordinator

Katie Jansen  
314-977-1954  
[katie@sfxstl.org](mailto:katie@sfxstl.org)

Canonical Pastor

Tim McMahon, SJ  
314-977-7300  
[frtim@sfxstl.org](mailto:frtim@sfxstl.org)

Associate Pastor

Tucker Redding, SJ  
[frtucker@sfxstl.org](mailto:frtucker@sfxstl.org)

Stewardship

Angela Pancella  
314-977-7304  
[angela@sfxstl.org](mailto:angela@sfxstl.org)

Bulletin Editor

Camille Smith  
[bulletin@sfxstl.org](mailto:bulletin@sfxstl.org)

Christian Initiation and Adult Formation

Joe Milner  
314-977-7305  
[joe@sfxstl.org](mailto:joe@sfxstl.org)

Liturgy

Mary Seise  
[mary@sfxstl.org](mailto:mary@sfxstl.org)

Office Manager

Joyce Miller  
314-977-7300  
[joyce@sfxstl.org](mailto:joyce@sfxstl.org)

Youth Faith Formation

Julie Kilian  
314-977-7302  
[julie@sfxstl.org](mailto:julie@sfxstl.org)

Jennifer Quick

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

Social Ministry

Christine Dragonette  
314-977-7309  
[christine@sfxstl.org](mailto:christine@sfxstl.org)

Regional Access Coordinator

Madeline Powers  
314-282-7205  
[madeline@sfxstl.org](mailto:madeline@sfxstl.org)

Outreach Coordinator

Cynthia Enghauser  
[outreach@sfxstl.org](mailto:outreach@sfxstl.org)

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

Sandy Hauck  
314-977-7303  
[sandy@sfxstl.org](mailto:sandy@sfxstl.org)

Choir Director, Music Ministry

Ray Sherrock  
[rsherrock@desmet.org](mailto:rsherrock@desmet.org)

Director of Wedding Music & Accompanist, Music Ministry

Sue Martin  
314-977-7313  
[sue@sfxstl.org](mailto:sue@sfxstl.org)

Pastoral Council Co-Chairs

Jen Hahn-Petruso and Aimee Wittman  
[sfxpc@sfxstl.org](mailto:sfxpc@sfxstl.org)

Pastoral Care Ministry

Bridget Brennan  
314-313-0613  
[joy@canainstitute.org](mailto:joy@canainstitute.org)

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Anonymous Faculty member  
 Margaret Baughman  
 Samuel Belk  
 Maureen Carney\*  
 Tara Chandler  
 Tom Engelhardt  
 Dick Fleming  
 Steve Frank\*  
 Sue Griffard  
 Joanie Hasser\*  
 Butch Henning\*  
 Yvonne Jayasuriya  
 Laura Kaiser and Family  
 Terry Kippenberger\*  
 Uly Labilles  
 Donna Leach-Heimos  
 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](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.

**Hope and Sadness**

*By Angela Pancella (Director of Stewardship)*



As some of you know, I'm a big fan of the band U2. By the time you are reading this, I will have just gotten back from seeing them in concert. I've been looking forward to this for weeks and weeks, so the hope and anticipation emphasized in the season of Advent fits in well with my general mood.

You can probably think of events in your own life that have great expectations placed upon them: a wedding day, seeing beloved friends or family after a long absence, or graduation day. Sometimes sadness follows events that are so joyful, even if they were everything we'd hoped for. We're sad that such a peak experience is now finished and we're back to ordinary life.

It seems that our loving God has formed us in such a way that no joy we experience can keep us content for long. St. Augustine's famous quote names both the cause and the cure of our dissatisfaction: "You have made us for Yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You."

The readings today give glimpses of a coming joy that is so great, no hint of sadness can be part of it. That is a joy worth hoping for! Let's pray for each other that we will enjoy the good things that come our way, weather the bad times, and all the while keep our hearts ready for the arrival of Jesus.

**PRAY FOR THE DECEASED**

With the hope of the Resurrection, we ask that you remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, including:

Joe Gudiswitz, uncle of Laura Greiner  
 Paul Pestello, brother of Fred Pestello

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



*Advent Materials*

Following the Sunday morning masses, 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. We will also be selling College Church socks and ornaments. Come down to the ballroom and find something to inspire you during Advent.



*Meditation (10:30 a.m.): instrumental*

### CONCLUDING RITE


*Recessional: Comfort, Comfort O My People*

*Gather 413*

*Recessional (10:30): Prepare, Prepare*

*Gather 398*

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.



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Walking Together**  
**A Discussion on the State of Our Parish**  
**Sunday, February 4, 2024**  
11:30 am - 1:00 pm (Immediately after 10:30 Mass)  
College Church Ballroom

Every member of SFX Parish is invited to participate in this important discussion about our journey to become a synodal parish. Join other members of the SFX family to hear updates on our priorities and progress, express your views and questions, and enjoy fellowship. More details about the meeting and how you can help to shape its content will be announced soon.

### **The Giving Tree 2023: 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 17th**

... 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 and neighbors supported by our St. Vincent DePaul Society.



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



Maureen Ebenhoh

### Living Our Faith: Meet Maureen

(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](mailto:angela@sfxstl.org).)

**An SFX parishioner since:** 2007. We joined the parish when we were looking for a place to help our kids learn about God. A friend told us about the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program at SFX, which she described as a way to invite children to “fall in love with God.” That sounded beautiful to us and was something we wanted to share with our kids. So, my husband, Dave, and I joined with our daughter, Grace, who was two at the time. Our son, Jonah, arrived in our family and the parish in 2009.

**Living my faith:** When we were newly married, Dave and I helped with the Marriage Prep program and continued this work after we joined the parish. I also served on the Antiracism Team for a few years as it formed and began its work. Most recently, I helped create and began leading the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Religious Education Ephesians program. You may see me most Sundays at the 10:30 Mass in my blue Ephesians t-shirt with “How Wide, How Long, How Deep” on the back, reflecting our guiding scripture and prayer for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade year: Ephesians 3:16-18.

**Why I’m involved:** My faith has ebbed and flowed through some dry times and some rich times. The parish has been a steady presence for my kids when I was struggling with my faith. It’s been amazing to watch them grow here, from being the littlest ones in our arms, then the tiny ones coming back from Atrium time during Mass, ready for hugs, all the way to proclaiming readings at Mass as teens. College Church has also been a place where I have felt God stir in my heart during Mass, homilies and music when I needed it. I’ve felt God’s patient presence while I’ve grown, and have recognized the invitation to be a partner in God’s unfolding work in this community. I consider my time with the 7<sup>th</sup> graders and my Ephesians team to be sacred work: proclaiming each week that we are loved by God no matter what.

**Three words that describe SFX:** Steady, Inspired, Growing

**My neighborhood:** I live in the Franz Park neighborhood of St. Louis City. Our home is literally on the city-county line of the City and Maplewood. I love the old homes and big trees in our neighborhood and how close we are to so many fun places around Maplewood and Forest Park.

**Fun facts:** I’ve been a speech-language pathologist for 22 years. I love helping little ones (and some big ones) communicate and find more ease and connection in their lives. Outside of work, I’ve tried some adventurous things like skydiving, rappelling, backpacking and rafting. While those activities were amazing, my favorite things are long conversations with dear friends, time with my family, watercolor painting, curling up with a book, cooking and soaking in the smell of trees and flowers on hikes.

*St. Francis Xavier’s parish family represents diverse backgrounds, with many immensely talented, deeply engaged, warm and welcoming parishioners. Learn more about how to become involved by calling (314) 977-7300 or visiting [sfxstl.org](http://sfxstl.org).*

### Society of St. Vincent de Paul Corner

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is seeking adoption of families in need this Christmas.

Please prayerfully consider assisting one of following families with delivery by to parish center by December 19th.

Please contact Chris Deason at [mcdeason58@gmail.com](mailto:mcdeason58@gmail.com) .

T. is a single mom seeking toys and warm winter clothing for her BOY age 10, Twin BOY and GIRL age 9, and clothing and diapers for her baby GIRL.

M. is a single mom in need of diapers 3-6 month for her NEWBORN.

J. is a single mom seeking clothes for her 18 month old BOY and 5 year old GIRL.

S. is a single grandmother seeking clothing for her 10 year old granddaughter GIRL size ladies large, petite.

## INFINITE POSSIBILITIES BORN OF FAITH The Social Ministry Christmas Appeal Continues



Thirty years ago, witnessing a deep and unmet regional need, our parish created the region's first ID and Birth Certificate Program. Still today, Christ's call for compassion to those in need of this special service remains great.

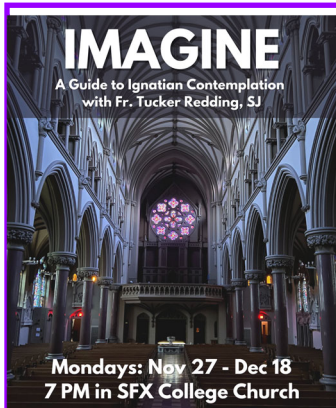
In 2022, College Church helped 3,705 people, including children, from 100 ZIP codes obtain 3,111 birth certificates and 2,636 Missouri State IDs.

As you look at those numbers, ponder this: a recent survey indicated the top two reasons our guests came to us were the basic needs to establish a home and get a job. Basic human needs. According to the same survey, almost one-third of those guests had been living without identification *for more than a year — and trying unsuccessfully for the same amount of time to regain them.*

**The Social Ministry Christmas Appeal continues this weekend. The second collection at Masses this weekend will go to Social Ministry. You can also give anytime by sending in a check made out to St. Francis Xavier with "Social Ministry Appeal" in the memo or visiting: [bit.ly/SocialMinistryAppeal](https://bit.ly/SocialMinistryAppeal) (case sensitive link).**

The impact of our ID and birth certificate program is clear as we celebrate our 30th anniversary. Each Tuesday, before the doors open to serve our guests, our volunteers gather in prayer — and the following, from Saint Theresa of Avila, could not be more appropriate. Join us as we reflect on the infinite possibilities born of faith:

"May there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into our bones and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there — for each and every one of us."



### Imagine: A Guide to Ignatian Contemplation with Fr. Tucker Mondays of Advent, 7 pm in College Church

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. We'll pray through the stories of Advent, including 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](mailto:sfxFaithEnrichment@gmail.com)

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



## 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.*

### Introduction

Entering the holiday season, and sharing the article that follows on the festival of Chanukah—the Festival of Lights—we must begin by acknowledging that our world is troubled. The Middle East is war-torn; our own nation, by extension, is beset with strife; and the conflict in Ukraine grinds on. Confronting these realities calls to mind a practice that members of our parish antiracism groups engage in before every meeting—a recitation of agreements, guidelines that set the tone and define expectations when grappling with issues that are often painful and always complicated. Those guidelines urge us to reject either/or—the binary—and to embrace both/and, realizing the importance of listening with a frame of justice to the full story in all of its complexity; they encourage us to act from a place of forgiveness. Chanukah commemorates the miracle of light, a small amount of oil providing immeasurable illumination, and a rededication to ideals. As we prepare for our own experience of Light breaking into human history, may we each, in our own way, be the oil that fuels peace.

### Celebrating Chanukah

Our Jewish sisters and brothers are currently participating in the Festival of Chanukah. That Hebrew word means “dedication,” and celebrates the rededication of the Temple. In the second century BCE, Syrian-Greeks ruled the Holy Land and tried to force Jewish people to accept Greek culture and beliefs. Against all odds, a small band of Jews led by Judas Maccabeus reclaimed the Temple in Jerusalem. But when they tried to light the Temple's Menorah (candelabra) only a single cruet of olive oil had not been contaminated by the Greeks. They lit the Menorah anyway, and miraculously that small supply of oil lasted for eight days. The festival of Chanukah was instituted to commemorate this miracle.

In the Jewish calendar Chanukah is a minor celebration compared to the major feasts of Passover and Rosh Hashanah or Jewish New Year. Although sometimes spelled Hanukkah, it is pronounced with a guttural “kh” sound: kha-nu-kah. The centerpiece of the festival is the Menorah. Every household displays one in their front window. Special blessings are recited, and traditional songs are sung as each night an additional candle is lit until all eight are glowing on the final night. Thus,

Chanukah is also known as the Festival of Lights.

Since the festival lasts eight days, there are plenty of opportunities to eat! Jewish people have lived all over the world and adopted foods from many countries. In America, Jewish food usually comes from the “Ashkenazi” tradition of Eastern Europe. That’s where bagels, borscht, brisket, smoked fish, stuffed cabbage, and latkes originated. Jews from Spain and Portugal are called “Sephardic,” and their cuisine includes a spicier diet using cumin, turmeric, cardamom, cilantro, fresh mint, saffron, and cinnamon, with rice taking the place of potatoes.



A typical Chanukah meal might start with matzoh ball soup, followed by brisket or roasted chicken as the main course with latkes on the side. Any food fried in oil can symbolize the miracle of the oil – the most famous is the “latke” or potato pancake. The meal may conclude with savory jelly doughnuts and children are usually given chocolate and other sweets.

In 2023, Chanukah started at sunset this past Thursday, December 7 and continues throughout this coming week until sunset on Friday, December 15.

### Philip Berrigan - Lifelong Commitment to Justice, Nonviolence, and Peace

Philip Francis Berrigan, remembered this month on the anniversary of his death, was an American anti-war activist and Catholic priest. He engaged in nonviolent protests in the cause of racial justice, peace, and nuclear disarmament. In his lifetime, he spent nearly 11 years in jail or prison for more than 100 acts of civil disobedience. Berrigan wrote several books about his experiences in prison and his support for the anti-war movement. His actions were compelled by his Christian faith and he challenged us to examine the responsibility we all share for poverty, violence, and war.

In 1943, Philip Berrigan was drafted and served combat duty in World War II. He was deeply affected by the racism he observed during boot camp in the South and his exposure to the violence of war.

*Continued from previous page*

After his military service, he entered the Josephite Fathers Seminary—a religious society of priests dedicated to serving Americans of African descent. He served as a teacher at a Black Catholic high school and earned a degree at Xavier University—a Black Catholic institution. Berrigan became active in the Civil Rights movement, preaching and marching for desegregation and participating in sit-ins and bus boycotts. He was ordained a priest in 1955.



Wholly committed to peace and nonviolence, Father Berrigan also protested the war in Vietnam and the use of nuclear weapons. He took radical steps to bring attention to these causes. One of the most widely known events took place in 1968 when Philip, his brother Daniel Berrigan, SJ, and seven other Catholic activists entered the Selective Service office in Catonsville, Maryland, seized hundreds of draft files and, using homemade napalm similar to what was then being dropped on Vietnamese villages, burned them in the parking lot. He also helped to organize incidents that involved entering facilities that housed nuclear weapons, hammering on those weapons, pouring blood on documents, and offering prayers for peace. Berrigan called such protests "Plowshares actions," after the biblical description of nations turning swords into plowshares. Since then, there have been over seventy Plowshares actions against weapons of war around the world.

Philip Berrigan's final Plowshares action was in December 1999, when he and others banged on warplanes in an anti-war protest at the Warfield Air National Guard Base in Baltimore. He was convicted of malicious destruction of property and sentenced to thirty months in prison. Released in 2001, Philip Berrigan died of cancer a year later. His wife, Elizabeth, remained active in Plowshares

actions through 2018 and was imprisoned until 2020. She now lives in New York. The work for peace continues with their children, Frida, Kate, and Jerry, and many others who are dedicated to justice and peace.

### Significant Figures in Racial History

Archie Moore – born on December 13, 1913, into great poverty in Benoit, Mississippi. Moore's father deserted the family, so his mother sent Archie to live with her uncle and aunt in St. Louis where he attended Lincoln High School. As an adult Moore became the longest-reigning World Light Heavyweight Boxing Champion of all time (10 years). After retiring, he coached Muhammed Ali and George Foreman. He also was involved in civil rights work.

David Ruggles – died December 16, 1849. Born free, Ruggles became the country's first full time Black activist. He organized the New York Committee of Vigilance, an abolitionist organization that battled slave catchers, kidnappers, and slave traders — and aided hundreds of self-liberated people. Among those he helped was Frederick Douglass, with whom Ruggles formed a close friendship.

### Current and Upcoming Events

**December 14** 5:30 – 8:00 pm The Missouri History Museum presents Stained Glass STL. This celebration of all things stained glass in St. Louis will include historians, a "tools of the trade" touch table, contemporary stained-glass artists, and pop-up presentations. Learn about traditional artists including Emil Frei Art Glass—creator of the beautiful windows at College Church—as well as some of the new perspectives of contemporary artist Cbabi Bayoc. For more information, go to [mohistory.org/thursday-nights](http://mohistory.org/thursday-nights).

**For more information, or to become part of antiracism ministries, contact Winnie Sullivan [penultim@swbell.net](mailto:penultim@swbell.net) or Lisa Burks [Imburks60@gmail.com](mailto:Imburks60@gmail.com).**

### Advent and Christmas Celebrations

St. Francis Xavier College Church will celebrate the coming of Christ with the following liturgical offerings:

**Daily Masses** (Mon—Fri, Dec 4—Dec 22)

7:15 am & Noon

Confessions (Mon—Fri.) 10:30 until 11:45

**Sunday, December 10** Youth Advent Penance Service  
9:15 am

**Saturday, Vigil Mass, Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Dec 23, 5:15 pm**

**Sunday, December 24, Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Sunday masses 8:00 and 10:30 am

**Sunday, December 24 Christmas Eve**

**Family Mass** 4:30 pm

**Mass during the Night** at 11:00 pm

with Choir prelude at 10:30 pm

**Monday, December 25 Christmas Day**

Mass at 10:30 a.m.

**Daily Masses** (Tuesday—Fri, Dec 26—Jan 1) Only 7:15 am

No Confessions or Noon Mass Dec 26—Jan 1



**Circle of Creation  
Green Corner**



[Earth911](https://earth911.com) [earth911.com] provides a helpful article "[How to Entertain Sustainably During the Holiday Season](#)"

At your St. Louis Public Library branch, look for the STL Recycles display and get a voucher for a FREE in-home blue recycling bin and a STL City Recycles bookmark.

ONESTL is promoting the [November 28, 2023 Sustainability Lab @ T-REX](https://onestl.org/news/648-november-28-2023-sustainability-lab-t-rex) [onestl.org/news/648-november-28-2023-sustainability-lab-t-rex] which will provide information on home energy rebates, incentives from Ameren, and tax incentives for climate action. More information about [Funding and Incentives for Climate Action](https://onestl.org/get-involved/regional-climate-action/take-climate-action) [onestl.org/get-involved/regional-climate-action/take-climate-action] is provided for individuals, businesses, and local governments.

The issue of dumping of tires has become a serious environmental and health concern. Metropolitan Congregations United (MCU) is asking Missourians to sign their petition 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. You can help make a difference by signing and also asking friends and family in Missouri to sign [secure.everyaction.com/vead3y8I7UaTKbzqV15ICw2](https://secure.everyaction.com/vead3y8I7UaTKbzqV15ICw2)

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 [vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_exhortations/documents/20231004-laudate-deum.html](https://vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/20231004-laudate-deum.html)

Open Space STL lists opportunities for volunteer service through various organizations, providing information and registration [volunteer.openspacestl.org/need/](https://volunteer.openspacestl.org/need/)

Great Rivers Greenway lists events at various Greenway locations. You can look at [greatriversgreenway.org/events/](https://greatriversgreenway.org/events/) for volunteer opportunities.

**Visit the College Church Circle of Creation Committee's Green Corner**

[sfxstl.org/circleofcreation](https://sfxstl.org/circleofcreation) on the Parish website to keep up to date on resources related to caring for creation, including public electronics recycling events.

**December 9-10, 2023**

Saturday  
5:15 pm Fr. McMahon, SJ

Sunday  
8:00 am Fr. Redding, SJ

9:15 am Youth Advent Penance Service

10:30 am Fr. Redding, SJ

**December 16-17, 2023**

Saturday  
5:15 pm Fr. Redding, SJ

Sunday  
8:00 am Fr. McMahon, SJ

10:30 am Fr. McMahon, SJ

**This Sunday's Scripture Readings**

**First Reading:**  
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

**Responsorial Psalm:**  
Psalms 98:9-10, 11-12, 13-14

**Second Reading:**  
2 Peter 3:8-14

**Gospel:**  
Mark 1:1-18

**Bulletin Articles**

Email bulletin articles to Camille Smith, at [bulletin@sfxstl.org](mailto: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.