



## **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 25, 2022**  
**The Nativity of the Lord**

### **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 Edelmann 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 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

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**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Margaret Baughman  
 Russ Bley  
 Bill Bollwerk\*  
 Ann Burk  
 Maureen Carney\*  
 Alice Edler  
 Steve Frank\*  
 Jessi Haselhorst  
 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  
 Fr. Dick Perl, SJ\*  
 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.

**Reflection from Our Parish Life Coordinator**



By Katie Jansen

I lost my younger sister 10 years ago. This year I have been surprised by the strength of my feelings. I guess I thought that after 10 years I'd be mostly done grieving. I have often tried to keep grief away during what I felt were supposed to be joyful times. I would focus on something else; think happy thoughts. But this year, I'm trying to let it in. I'm making space for it. I want to honor it. Because, as someone reminded me, the reason I experience grief is because I experienced joy.

As we enter the Christmas season, I've been reflecting on (and feeling) grief. It seems inextricably linked to joy. It so often accompanies celebrations. It accompanies traditions. And it seems like I can go from feeling joy to grief or vice versa as easily as the flip of a coin.

As I unpack my sadness, I uncover memories of loving and being loved. And I can't help but be grateful even as I hurt. In fact, the more space I make for my grief, the more I experience gratitude and the more I can be present to those around me. I'm less likely to overlook or rush through opportunities to love and be loved. I'm more likely to say yes to Christmas caroling and cookie baking. And I'm grateful - for the ones I lost and the ones all around me.

So as we enter the joyful season of Christmas, let us honor the grief that may come with it.

**-Christmas Celebrations-**

**College Church will celebrate the coming of Christ with the following liturgical offerings:**

- Saturday, December 24** Christmas Eve Family Mass 4:30 pm  
 Mass during the Night at 11:00 pm; Choir prelude at 10:30 pm
- Sunday, December 25** Christmas Day  
 Masses at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
- Daily Masses (Mon - Fri, Dec 26 - Jan 2) Only 7:15 am  
 No Confessions Dec 26-Jan 2
- Saturday, December 31** Mass at 5:15 pm
- Sunday, January 1** Feast of Mary, the Mother of God  
 Masses at 8:00 and 10:30 am

For more information, call the Parish Center at 977-7300 or visit our website at: [sfxstl.org](http://sfxstl.org)

Complimentary Parking is available in the SLU Laclede Garage



## 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.

### A Christmas Prayer

O sweet child of Bethlehem,  
grant that we may share with all our hearts  
in this profound mystery of Christmas.  
Put into the hearts of men and women this peace  
for which they sometimes seek so desperately  
and which you alone can give to them.  
Help them to know one another better,  
and to live as brothers and sisters,  
children of the same Father.  
Reveal to them also your beauty, holiness, and purity.  
Awaken in their hearts  
love and gratitude for your infinite goodness.  
Join them all together in your love.  
And give us your heavenly peace. Amen

-Pope John XXIII

### Kwanzaa – A Celebration of Unity and Reflection

Kwanzaa is a pan-African and African-American cultural festival celebrated from December 26th to January 1st. Professor Maulana Karenga, who teaches African Studies at California State University – Long Beach, introduced the festival in 1966 to counter the commercialism of Christmas. Kwanzaa comes from the Swahili word meaning “first fruits.”

Seven principles comprise the celebration:

- Unity – maintaining the unity of family, community, nation, and race;
- Self-Determination – define ourselves, name ourselves, create and speak for ourselves;
- Collective Work – build and maintain our community. Make our brothers’ and sisters’ problems our problems;
- Collective economics – build and maintain our shops, stores, businesses, and profit from them together;
- Purpose – build and develop our community and restore our people to their greatness;
- Creativity – leave our community more beautiful than we inherited it; and
- Faith – believe in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders and believe in the righteousness and victory of our struggle.

As Professor Karenga said, “During Kwanzaa we study, recall, and reflect on our history and the role we play as a legacy to the future.”



During Kwanzaa seven candles traditionally are displayed on a table with three red candles on the left, three green candles on the right, and one black candle in the center. Each day one candle is lit starting with the black candle and then alternating between the red and green candles. The red candles represent the struggle, the green candle the land, and the black candle Africa.

The communal feast is called Karamu and draws on the cultures of the Caribbean, Africa, and South America. The food served includes fried okra, plantains, fried chicken, black bean soup, baked ham, and gumbo. The feast is not just about the food—it is a time to sing, to pray, and celebrate African heritage.

The last day of Kwanzaa is a time for reflection. People ask themselves: Who am I? Am I really who I say I am? Am I all I ought to be?

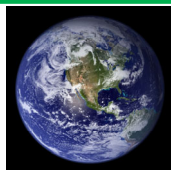
### A Conversation with Pope Francis

A recent issue of America magazine featured an interview by members of their editorial staff with Pope Francis. They noted that this was the first in-person papal interview with the magazine since its founding 113 years ago. As we read Pope Francis’s responses to questions about a wide variety of topics, it becomes clear that his focus is on the pastoral role of the Church. He emphasizes the relationship between the bishops and the people as sacramental, and says that the complex issues of our world must be addressed through this pastoral perspective, not only from a political or civic point of view.

One of the questions presented by Gloria Purvis, host of The Gloria Purvis Podcast, was related to the marginalization of Black Catholics. In response, Pope Francis expressed his love for African-American Catholics and compassion for their suffering. Recognizing the sins of racism and discrimination that remain unresolved in the global Church as well as in the United States, he calls on pastors and lay people to continue to work for justice.

To read the full interview with Pope Francis, including his responses to a variety of contemporary issues, please visit: [tinyurl.com/5aru964c](https://tinyurl.com/5aru964c)

## Circle of Creation Green Corner



For information about recycling Christmas trees, consult these sites:

St. Louis City: <https://tinyurl.com/z9yj9cw4>

St Louis County: <https://tinyurl.com/2dfj88ub>

The status of recycling by the St. Louis City Refuse Department at this time is questionable. But some things are clear:

Plastic grocery bags, bubble wrap, resealable food storage bags, and other sorts of plastic bags and film do NOT go into recycling bins anywhere. Instead these items should go to NexTrex plastic bag and film recycling via the brown bins at the grocery store (e.g., Schnucks, Dierbergs, etc.). Check out <https://nextrex.com/view/educate> for further information and the specific kinds of items NexTrex accepts and makes into composite decks and benches. Cursor down that page to More Than Just Plastic Bags Are Recyclable. This even includes ice bags, wood pellet bags, salt bags.

**The Operation Brightside Recycling Center, operated by Earth Circle Recycling, at 1660 Kingshighway is no longer in operation as of Nov. 30, 2022.**

One type of item that unequivocally can and should be recycled is ABCs, that is, Aluminum Beverage Containers. Inside Climate News provides an informative article "Want to Help Reduce PFC Emissions? Recycle Those Aluminum Cans." (<https://tinyurl.com/eecbd395>) The moral of the story is when you purchase beverages in stores, if possible, buy those in aluminum containers. Then, do what you can to be sure those Aluminum Beverage Containers (ABCs) get recycled. First, be sure they are emptied of liquid. Keep ABCs separate from trash and other possible recyclables. If it is feasible for you to do so, squash the ABCs so they take up less space for the same weight. You can then take ABCs to a metal recycler yourself (Try googling aluminum recycling near me). Or leave your ABCs in a bag on a fence post for the Alley Pickers.

Have you been following the Solving Plastic series on YouTube? Tune in to learn how we can end the plastic pollution crisis for real! <https://tinyurl.com/5brtn54v>

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.

## December 24-25, 2022

Saturday	
4:30 pm	Fr. Steele
11:0pm	Fr. Harter
Sunday	
8:00 am	Fr. Suwalsky
10:30 am	Fr. Suwalsky

## December 31 - January 1, 2022

Saturday	
5:15 pm	Fr. Armstrong
Sunday	
8:00 am	Fr. Daly
10:30 am	Fr. Daly

### This Sunday's Scripture Readings:

#### First Reading:

Isaiah 52:7-10

#### Responsorial Psalm:

Psalms 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6

#### Second Reading:

Heb 1:1-6

#### Gospel:

John 1:1-18

### 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

Click the blue bar at the top of our website, [sfxstl.org](http://sfxstl.org). Or use this QR code.



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