



## **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 5th, 2021**  
**Second 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 [associatepastor@sfxstl.org](mailto:associatepastor@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. Dan White at [frdan@sfxstl.org](mailto:frdan@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.

Liturgy of the Word for Children: Suspended until further notice due to the pandemic. Contact Terry Edelmann at [terry@sfxstl.org](mailto:terry@sfxstl.org).

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**Pastor

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Ray Sherrock  
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Director of Wedding Music & Accompanist, Music Ministry

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Bridget Brennan  
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**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Mary Lou Ampleman  
 Michael Anderson  
 Margaret Baughman  
 Bill Bollwerk\*  
 Kathy Bookstaver  
 Mary Bruemmer\*  
 Sheila Byrnes  
 Maureen Carney\*  
 Linda Castillon\*  
 Maureen Clever  
 Marcie Corwin  
 Fay Efken\*  
 Steve Frank  
 Monica Gunn  
 Jessi Haselhorst  
 Paul Hanson\*  
 Mary Jane and Butch Henning\*  
 Jeanne Hermann\*  
 Laura Kaiser and Family  
 Terry Kippenberger\*  
 Julianne Lister  
 Carlita Logan  
 Jim Martin  
 Tom McDermott  
 Sr. Mary Kay McKenzie  
 Karena Menard\*  
 Mary Mondello  
 Suzanne Mondello  
 Tom Mulvihill, Sr.  
 Nancy Partridge\* & Glider  
 Mark Roddy\*  
 Dennis Saunders\*  
 Jennifer Saunders\*  
 Mark Segovia  
 Fr. Gary Seibert, SJ\*  
 Louis M. Sherrock  
 Vicki Simon  
 Greg Stephen  
 Colleen Starkloff  
 Judy Taylor\*  
 Brent Thompson  
 Patricia Wittman  
 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.

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**



The Gospel according to St. Luke will be proclaimed throughout the new liturgical year. I would like to highlight at various times the themes and notions that are prominent in his telling of the Jesus story.

Advent is a perfect way to enter Luke's Gospel because it provides the most context to celebrate the birth of Jesus. It is fair to say that when we pray through Advent and Christmas we are guided primarily by Luke. It is in Luke's Gospel that we encounter the Annunciation to Mary by the angel Gabriel, the journey to Bethlehem because of the census, and the shepherds who receive the message of angels and worship Jesus in the manger. In many ways the Christmas story is the story of Luke.

But there is even more than that. Only in Luke do we have the first annunciation of Gabriel to the priest Zechariah. We hear of the birth of John the Baptist who will proclaim the coming of the messiah. It is Luke who recounts the visitation of Mary to Elizabeth which occasions the Magnificat the great proclamation of God's favor to his people. Also, Luke gives us the story of the holy elders, Simeon and Anna, who receive Jesus in the temple.

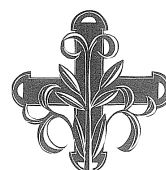
Luke's expanded description of the birth of Jesus enables us to meditate on all the various people who welcome him. It connects us to the long waiting that is brought to fulfillment by God. It reminds us that the birth of Jesus is proclaimed first to the least: a childless couple, a young woman, and a pair of faithful old people.

**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:

Allen Abernathy

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



### College Church Young Adult Faith Group

In Pope Francis' "Christus Vivit" he encourages young people to make their voices heard (see quote below).

Are you between the ages of 22 and 30 something? Are you hungry for a faith-based community of young adults? We are in the process of reigniting our Young Adult Faith Group here at College Church. We are inviting you to happy hour where we would like to pick your brain and see what kind of programming you would be interested in getting involved with.

When: December 9th at 6pm

Where: The Church Ballroom

Beer, Wine, Soft drinks and Munchies will be provided

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

In the words of Pope Francis:

*Dear Young People, make the most of these years of your youth. Don't observe life from a balcony. Don't confuse happiness with an armchair or live your life behind a screen. Whatever you do, do not become the sorry sight of an abandoned vehicle! Don't be parked cars, but dream freely and make good decisions. Take risks, even if it means making mistakes. Don't go through life anesthetized, or approach the world like tourists. Make a ruckus! Cast out the fears that paralyze you, so that you don't become young mummies. Live! Give yourselves over to the best of life! Open the door of the cage, go out and fly! Please, don't take an early retirement (No. 143).*

### Welcoming Divinity Amongst Us: The 'Son of Man' Texts in the Gospels

The faith and the tradition of the Church, our Creeds, in the homilies we hear at Mass, all of these have proclaimed Jesus as the Son of God. Yet, when we return to the Gospels, we discover that the manner in which Jesus spoke of himself most frequently was as 'Son of Man.' In this Advent season Scripture study, we will look at how the 'Son of Man' was understood in apocalyptic literature, and how this apocalyptic 'Son of Man' informs how Jesus was received in the Gospel narratives. Was the 'Son of Man' a comment on Jesus's humanity? Or was it a revelation of his divinity?

This Scripture study is meeting every Sunday in Advent in the Lower Adult Faith Room after the 10:30 am Mass.

### This Sunday's Scripture Readings

#### First Reading:

Baruch 5:1-9

#### Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6.

#### Second Reading:

Phillipians 1:4-6, 8-11

#### Gospel:

Luke 3:1-6

### *Advent Books*

A variety of spirituality and reflection books are available in the ballroom after the Sunday morning masses. There are materials on Ignatian spirituality and from the writings of Pope Francis. There are also a few Advent booklets still available. Come down and find something to enrich your spirit.







## Antiracism at College Church

### Our Parish Racial Equity Review: A Commissioning

The month of November marked the formal beginning of the College Church racial equity review—an effort undertaken to redress the wrongs of systemic racism as reflected in our parish history, structures, and services. Since the orientation to the review process, facilitated by representatives of Crossroads on November 3 and 4, members of the review team have begun a thorough analysis of our parish history. But because these activities are set within the context of a religious institution, and are conducted for and on behalf of a faith community, our equity review also required a spiritual initiation. That initiation occurred on Sunday, November 21, when Father Dan White asked the congregation at the 10:30 Mass to send forth and bless the review team, whose members are directly involved in conducting the review.



Throughout the year-long course of the review, parishioners will be asked to offer support and to pray that the process yields fruitful information, enabling our movement toward becoming an affirming, antiracist parish. If you have questions or would like to talk further about the parish racial equity review, contact Carl Greiner, [carlgreiner.stl@gmail.com](mailto:carlgreiner.stl@gmail.com). Questions about the work of antiracism at College Church can be directed to Lisa Burks, [Imburks60@gmail.com](mailto:Imburks60@gmail.com) or Winnie Sullivan, [penultim@swbell.net](mailto:penultim@swbell.net), co-chairs of the Antiracism Team.

### Hiding in Plain Sight: The Reality of Everyday Racism

As our country and our communities continue to confront racial inequity and social injustice, we often find ourselves asking, “How did we get here?” “What keeps us from making greater progress?” We know that racism is a barrier to fully living the call of the Gospel, and we seek ways to remove all that separates us from the Beloved Community God intends for us.

The next session will be held on Tuesday, December 7 from 7:00 – 8:45 pm.

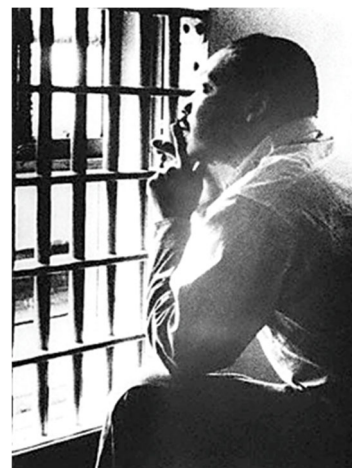
Environmental Racism, presented by Myisha Johnson and Jeanette Mott Oxford Metropolitan Congregations United The event is free. Please click to register: <https://tinyurl.com/metropolitancongregations>

### Parish and Community

Thank you to all who contributed their time and talent to help us to better know some of the members of our parish and community during Black Catholic History Month. We are happy to offer one more interview in this special series highlighting the contributions of Black Catholic leaders in the St. Louis area. Use this link to find the interview with Stefani Weeden-Smith, Director of St. Louis Anchor Action Network. [youtube.com/c/StFrancisXavierCollegeChurch](https://youtube.com/c/StFrancisXavierCollegeChurch)

### Lift Every Voice

The Office of Racial Harmony in the Archdiocese of St. Louis will be hosting a discussion forum on Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s “Letter from a Birmingham Jail.” Writing in response to the “Call for Unity” from eight white clergymen who criticized the Civil Rights demonstrations, Rev. Dr. King’s compelling words continue to challenge and inspire us, as people of faith, to take action in bending the “long arc of the moral universe toward justice.”



You are invited to participate in four weekly sessions: January 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Held through Zoom, each session will include excerpts from the letter, a brief reflection, and small group discussion.

Registration is required. Please contact Joyce Jones in the Office of Racial Harmony to enroll and to receive the Zoom link: [joycejones@archstl.org](mailto:joycejones@archstl.org)

Link to "A Call for Unity" AND "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" (PDF)

[tinyurl.com/callforunitybirminghamletter](https://tinyurl.com/callforunitybirminghamletter)

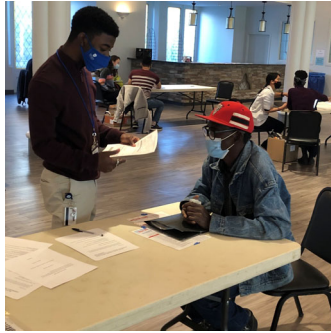
YouTube Video: Reading of the letter from a Birmingham jail

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_\\_cT397uOak](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=__cT397uOak)

## SOCIAL MINISTRY

### Christmas Appeal

Every year at Christmas, we reach out to our parish community for specific support that helps to sustain our work over the coming year through the Social Ministry Christmas Appeal. This year is no different. As the cornerstone program of Social Ministry, the Outreach Program for ID and birth certificate assistance particularly relies on your end of year contributions.



We are proud that our program offers a unique service, providing the only large scale, consistent identification assistance in the region. This year, we are also grateful to have hired a Mobile Outreach Coordinator who is exploring ways to make IDs and birth certificates more accessible in the region as a whole. Your donation will ensure the sustainability of our onsite program each Tuesday, as well as build the groundwork for expansion of identification access in St. Louis.

The second collection on the weekends of December 5th and 12th will go to Social Ministry. You can also give online anytime by visiting: <https://bit.ly/socialministryappeal>.

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!

### Happy Holidays from the Sister Parish / Fair Trade Committee!

Our committee will be selling in-person after the 10:30 Sunday mass through Christmas.

This year we're offering our fresh roasted coffee, tea, chocolate bars, soup gift boxes, cornbread mix, brownie mix, and so much more. Proceeds go to our sister parish St. Peter Claver in Belize. We are sponsoring several high school students for the next four years of school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Wishing you a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas.

### Giving Tree 2021

Please consider supporting our Social Ministry Outreach Program guests through the Giving Tree. We have a Christmas tree near the front of the south aisle decorated with paper ornaments.

To participate, take an ornament and purchase the listed gift, wrap it, attach the paper ornament to the gift, and drop it off to the bins located in the center vestibule of the church or the parish center office by Sunday, December 12th.

With the cold approaching, program guests will appreciate your gift of warm winter items such as socks, gloves, and scarves. Thank you for your support!

### 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 nearly a decade and this will be our second year during the pandemic offering shelter in a COVID-safe environment for both volunteers and guests.

Winter Inn relies on volunteer support each year. Thank you for considering plugging into this initiative! Please contact Jasmine Brown at [outreach@sfxstl.org](mailto:outreach@sfxstl.org) or (314) 977-7311 to learn more about volunteering.

## YOUTH AND FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

### Children invited to “Candlelight Procession” at 4:30 Christmas Eve Mass.

All children attending the 4:30 Christmas Eve Mass are invited to participate in a “Candlelight Procession” at the beginning of the Liturgy. The lector will invite children to the back of church to assemble. Candles can be made at home, using the cardboard center in a paper towel roll, and decorating it with colored paper and designs. Tissue paper can be inserted in the roll to look like a flame. There will be some premade candles available at church. If you have any questions contact Terry Edelman at [terry@sfxstl.org](mailto:terry@sfxstl.org). (Pictured: paper towel roll candles before being decorated.)



### Children’s Choir and Christmas Tableau

As a reminder, our Children’s Choir for the Christmas Eve Family Mass will practice **Sunday, December 12, 12-1:30 in the ballroom and Saturday, December 18, 9-12:30 in the church.**

Our Christmas Eve tableau will also return this year! This is a simple visual of the Gospel narrative of Jesus’ birth and we are seeking angels, shepherds, and even a few animals. Costumes are provided. There will be two brief rehearsals after Mass on December 12 and December 19. Please email Terry at [terry@sfxstl.org](mailto:terry@sfxstl.org) if your child is interested in having a part.

### Parish Men’s White House Retreat, February 10-13, 2022

Thanks to College Church’s leadership, staff and many parishioners, we have ongoing opportunities to study The Spiritual Exercises, created by the Jesuits’ founder, St. Ignatius. One excellent opportunity is a retreat based on the Spiritual Exercises, at the White House Jesuit Retreat Center in South County.

The retreat has fabulous presentations by a Jesuit retreat director, daily liturgy, many opportunities to meet individually with a priest, ample silent time for prayer and reflection in a beautiful natural setting,



comfortable accommodations and delicious meals. The retreat can help us apply the Spiritual Exercises to our daily lives to develop our faith, deepen our peace and increase our gratitude. The retreat begins Thursday, February 10th with 7:00 pm dinner and concludes on Sunday the 13th at 2 pm following lunch.

We invite you to prayerfully consider participating. More information (including COVID precautions) and registration is available at [www.whretreat.org](http://www.whretreat.org) or by calling John Hartung (314-326-6018), Bill Morrison (314-991-8599) or David Schnelt (314-791-0227).

### Circle of Creation Green Corner

A virtual class titled “Winter Walks on Greenways” in St. Charles County is brought to you by St. Charles City County Library via Great Rivers Greenways. Free (no matter where you live) but registration is required.



Dec. 9, 7-8:00 PM CST.

If you miss the class, note that registrants will receive an email with the link to the recording after the class.

<https://greatriversgreenway.org/event/st-charles-wintery-walks-on-greenways/>

Visit [sfxstl.org/circleofcreation](https://sfxstl.org/circleofcreation) for more resources.

### December 4-5, 2021

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

### December 11-12, 2021

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

### Bulletin Articles

email bulletin articles to [church@sfxstl.org](mailto:church@sfxstl.org) before Thursday at noon 10 days before the bulletin date.

### Widows and Widowers Meeting

Are you Interested in connecting with other College Church members who have lost a spouse? The next Widows and Widowers meeting will be Sunday, December 12th. Sharing and reflection in the Lower Level Adult Faith Room at 9:15 a.m. For more information contact Val Rutterer at [vrutterer@gmail.com](mailto:vrutterer@gmail.com) or 314-494-8986.

### Online Giving Reminder

Over the past several years (even before the pandemic!), we’ve been inviting our parishioners and friends to consider supporting College Church through online giving. If you set up weekly or monthly gifts, it saves the trouble of writing out checks, and it means our ministries can better rely on stable funding.

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](https://sfxstl.org). We wanted to make it more convenient to reach this site, so we have made a QR code for it.

Thank you for your support!



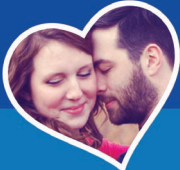


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