



## **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**

**February 12, 2023**  
**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### **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/collegechurchlivestream](https://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](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).

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**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

- Margaret Baughman
- Bill Bollwerk\*
- Maureen Carney\*
- Alice Edler
- Steve Frank\*
- Dave Greiner
- Jessi Haselhorst
- Butch Henning\*
- Jeanne Hermann\*
- Campbell Hodge
- 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\*
- 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*



Today I'd like to share with you a reflection on synodality from Casey Stanton, co-director of Discerning Deacons.

**Building Our Synodal Muscle**

The USCCB has been working in concert with the Canadian Catholic Bishops to carry out 10 virtual sessions (only a few remaining!) and formally consult with bishops and lay delegates during the continental stage of the global synod. The USCCB will also host a listening session for national organizations that are contributing to the process in "Region XVI" – and I hope you join me in rejoicing as Lisa Amman and Ellie Hidalgo represent Discerning Deacons in that gathering.

I heard many reactions – and I myself initially felt – that the process in the continental stage was feeling narrow. How could we – as parishioners in local churches – still participate and build momentum for the seismic transformation that Pope Francis and the Synod Process seems to call for?

Reading Synod-expert Rafael Luciani's recent book helped me catch a deeper vision. Luciani emphasizes that this synod is about beginning a process of synodalization: a time of becoming synodal at every level in the life of our beloved Church! There is not only one way for the people of God to be protagonists in the global synod.

The formal pathways and gatherings anchor the process – they provide a kind of skeleton. But we are all part of building the muscle to listen and to walk together. This muscle has atrophied in parts of the institutional life of the Church.

Here's the mystery: it takes every baptized human being, the whole *sensus fidelium*, to build the synodal muscle. Together we participate as the Body of Christ, walking in communion, wounded, yes, but also a living sign of resurrection, a refuge, an embrace of mercy for all of humanity.

Synodality is not an event. Or even a few events. It can't be reduced to formal gatherings. It's a constitutive dimension that allows for renewal of the Church in every generation.

**PRAY FOR THE DECEASED**

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

Francis Steffen, father of Ann Steffen  
Betty Schnorbus



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

**Ash Wednesday Schedule**

Ashes will be distributed at each of the masses on Ash Wednesday, February 22, as we mark the beginning of Lent. Our masses will be at **7:15 am, Noon, and 5:15 pm**. All of these celebrations will be in the main Church. The Noon and 5:15 masses will have music.

**Reminder: Donut Sunday and Ballroom Lecture Series**

This Sunday, February 12th, we will be offering donuts after the 8 am and 10:30 am Mass. Enjoy a sweet visit with your fellow parishioners!

Following donuts after the 10:30 am Mass, parishioner and attorney Matt Perlow will offer a presentation on **Wills and Healthcare Directives**. He will focus on understanding and developing health care directives from a legal perspective.

### Anointing of the Sick

Healing was one of the central aspects of the ministry of Jesus. He was moved with care and compassion for each of the people who sought his assistance. The church extends this ministry of Jesus into our time and place through visitation of the sick, bringing communion to those in institutions and who are homebound, and through the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. Today, we will celebrate the sacrament communally at each of our Sunday liturgies.

Communal celebrations allow the whole community to express their connection to the sick and help overcome any sense of isolation. It allows us to focus our prayer for them, express our support, and affirm their dignity as our sisters and brothers in Christ.

Following the homily, all who have a serious illness, who are preparing for surgery, or who are experiencing the challenges of advancing age are invited to receive the sacrament. The rite begins with intercessory prayers for those who wish to be anointed. All who are near them are invited to hold their hand, touch their shoulder or extend a hand toward them.

**For the anointing they will be invited to step out into the aisle and stay by their pew. The priest will come to them.** Those who are unable to stand should raise their hand as the priest comes down the aisle. He will anoint you on your forehead and the palms of your hands with the words:

*Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen  
May the Lord who frees you from sin, save you and raise you up. Amen*

### The Triumphant Return of the Youth Faith Pancake Breakfast!

Lent is on its way, but you know we have to have a last hurrah before the season of fasting...that is why on **Sunday, February 19th, from 9 am to 1 pm**, you can join us for a veritable Pancake-a-palooza!

All proceeds benefit College Church's Youth Faith Formation programs.

Visit <https://sfxstl.org/pancake-breakfast-1> to become a sponsor or to purchase tickets and raffle tickets online!

### Xavier Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast With Special Guest Speaker John O'Leary Saturday, February 25th

All parishioners are invited to this free event, but reservations are required because space is limited. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/xaviervolunteer> to reserve your ticket.

In 1987, John O'Leary was a curious nine-year-old boy. Playing with fire and gasoline, John created a massive explosion in his home and was burned on 100% of his body. He was given less than a 1% chance to live.



This epic story of survival (first showcased in 2008 with his parents' acclaimed book *Overwhelming Odds*) has never felt more relevant than as we live through the COVID-19 pandemic together.

We have invited John to be our guest speaker at a breakfast honoring the volunteers who make College Church a warm, welcoming community. (You don't have to be a volunteer in one of our ministries to attend, but you just may be inspired to join one of our ministries thanks to this event!)

This event takes place in our Ballroom in the lower level of the church. Street parking and parking in the Laclede Garage will be available. Childcare will be available (please see the "Ticket for Childcare" option).



## 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 Baseball Great Hank Aaron

Henry “Hank” Aaron – one of the greatest hitters in the major leagues – was born February 5, 1934, in Mobile, AL. In those days life was difficult for African Americans in the segregated South. His journey to the homerun record was not pleasant. He was targeted with increasing hate mail as he approached Babe Ruth’s record of 714, much of it because he was Black. “If I was white, all America would be proud of me,” Aaron once said. “They call me every bad word you can come up with. This is just the way things are for black people in America . . . you battle it all of your life.”

Aaron and his wife became Catholic in 1959, through friendship with a priest who was a pioneer for racial justice. Aaron kept *The Imitation of Christ*, by Thomas à Kempis, in his locker.

When Aaron hit his record-breaking homerun in Atlanta, aware of the cultural significance, sportscaster Vince Scully proclaimed, “What a marvelous moment for the country. A Black man is getting a standing ovation in the Deep South for breaking a record of an all-time baseball idol. It is a great moment for all of us, particularly for Henry Aaron.”

### The Seeds of Justice Network

The Seeds of Justice Network (SOJN) was founded in 2017 by a group of Catholic individuals with a broad goal of promoting the principles of Catholic Social Teaching and social justice in the St. Louis area and beyond. You may be familiar with their weekly emails that notify subscribers of upcoming events. Incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 2021, SOJN has developed a strategic plan that includes goals to 1.) promote Catholic Social Teaching as a foundation of faith formation, 2.) facilitate engagement on Catholic Social Teaching and justice issues by supporting parishes to develop justice ministries, 3.) support the voices and issues of individuals and groups who are marginalized by social injustice, and 4.) build its organizational capacity to support the implementation of these initiatives.

As one step toward putting these goals into action, the Seeds of Justice Network recently gathered representatives from thirty parishes to nurture the growth of their justice ministries. Participants learned of many ways these faith communities are engaged in meeting the diverse needs of the people in their areas, and ideas for mutual support were exchanged.

Integral to the work of SOJN going forward is an emphasis on justice as an extension of charity and education that leads to action and advocacy. Some of the primary efforts just under way include a manual for parishes that will provide guidance in developing ministries related to justice, the development of youth-focused curriculum and instruction in Catholic Social Teaching, as well as a website that will house resources to support the work of justice within parishes and beyond. For more information and to subscribe to their weekly email, go to <https://www.seedsofjusticenetwork.org/>.

### The Spiritual Work of Racial Justice

*A Month of Meditations with Ignatius of Loyola* by Patrick Saint-Jean, SJ

The practices and perspectives of Ignatian Spirituality are a way of being that deepens our life of prayer, provides a pathway for discernment, and leads to discovery of how God calls each of us to be part of healing work in the world. Through his book, *The Spiritual Work of Racial Justice*, Patrick Saint-Jean offers us an opportunity to draw closer to God through daily readings, prayers, and questions for personal reflection. Saint-Jean uses the 4 weeks of the Spiritual Exercises as a framework to help us explore the ways Christ calls us to and supports us in the work of racial justice.

You are invited to use the daily meditations for this year’s **Lenten Racial Justice Journey**. Books will be available at a discounted price by purchasing through College Church. Look for additional details soon.

### Upcoming Events

**February 18, 2023 3:00 pm.** The Community Gospel Choir of St Louis, including some SFX choirs members, will join The Legend Singers in presenting a Festival of African American Spirituals at the Second Presbyterian Church 4501 Westminster Place.

**February 24, 2023 7:30 pm.** The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and IN UNISON Chorus will perform its annual concert at Powell Hall—Lift Every Voice: A Black History Month Celebration. All seats are \$28.

**February 25, 2023 1:00 pm.** The Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary’s Subcommittee on Racism

are hosting a free webinar on *Ways to Dismantle Systemic Racism in America*. Distinguished panelists include Sr. Eva Lumas, Rev. Michael Pflieger, Theresa Wilson Favors, and Erin Michael Taylor. Register is requested at: [www.kofpc.org/race](http://www.kofpc.org/race).

**February 26, 2023 12:00pm.** St. Alphonsus Liguori (Rock) Church is hosting a screening of the movie, *Till*. This film focuses on the activism of Mamie Till-Mobley in the wake of her son's brutal murder. All are welcome to attend the lunch, screening, and discussion. Admission is free.

**February 26, 2023 3:00 pm.** The St. Charles Lwanga Center is hosting a screening of the PBS special *The Black Church: This Is Our Story. This Is Our Song*. Email [Lwangastil.extra@gmail.com](mailto:Lwangastil.extra@gmail.com) by 1:00 pm on Friday, February 26th to RSVP for this free Zoom event. Email [info@lwangacenter.org](mailto:info@lwangacenter.org) for additional information.

### Lenten Opportunities: Spiritual Readings, Reflections, and Conversations

Lent is a season of repentance and renewal during which we are drawn to spiritual practices that can deepen our relationship with Jesus and one another. Faith Enrichment Commission, the Racism and Reconciliation Committee, and the Antiracism Team are collaborating to offer these opportunities for this Lenten season.

#### OPPORTUNITIES TO JOIN SMALL GROUPS

- 1) **Read and reflect** on *The Spiritual Work of Racial Justice: A Month of Meditations with Ignatius of Loyola* by Patrick Saint-Jean, SJ
- 2) **Read and reflect** on the Sunday Lenten readings and Gospels to develop a deeper encounter with Scripture and a more intentional preparation for Sunday Mass.
- 3) **Guided quiet spiritual prayer reflection** (with optional moments of sharing)

The small groups will begin the week of February 26th. Please register using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/8h4zff2p>. There you can choose one or multiple small groups and let us know which proposed meeting times are most convenient for you. *Please sign up no later than February 17th* so we have time to coordinate the groups. If you need additional information about the small group offerings please contact: Christina Ryan at [christinaryan1995@gmail.com](mailto:christinaryan1995@gmail.com).

### Lenten Books and Materials

The season of Lent begins on Feb 22. Lent comes from the old English word for springtime, a time of new beginnings and new life. Christians are invited to return to their roots, their baptismal relationship with God. This can be done through prayer, reflection, and self-sacrifice that lead to conversion of mind and heart.

There are several resources available online that offer daily prayer or reflection materials. Loyola Press offers a daily email. Signup is available at <https://tinyurl.com/yckxnrb5>.

Sacred Space has daily reflections from the Irish Jesuits: <https://www.sacredspace.ie/>

Pray as you Go is an audio reflection from the British Jesuits: <https://pray-as-you-go.org/home/>

Reflection materials are available in the Lower Hall after the Sunday morning masses. These include: the Little Black Book with a scripture verse and a reflection on a person, event or practice that invites us to deeper faith; Daybreak is a series that presents passages from the writings of particular authors arranged for reflection during Lent. Each booklet features a different author. These include Fr. John Kavanaugh, SJ., Fr. Ronald Rolheiser, OMI, and Sr. Diane Bergant, CSA. The Lent and Easter Wisdom series offer reflections from Pope Francis, St Ignatius, Thomas Merton and Henri Nouwen. There are booklets for children including the Little Purple book, reflections for teens, and some designed for seniors well. To reserve an item or for more information, please contact Joseph Milner at [joseph.milner@slu.edu](mailto:joseph.milner@slu.edu).

Self-sacrifice is about making room for God. In giving up something, one makes time, energy, and resources available for something greater. If one saves money from eating less, it can be used to assist someone or some cause. If one gives up time on the computer or television, there is time to spend with family or to call an elderly or lonely person. Giving up some activity can also make room for prayer and reflection. Take the opportunity of Lent to deepen your relationship with God, with loved ones, or yourself.

## Circle of Creation Green Corner



**Just what you have been waiting for:** the opportunity to meet with the members of the College Church Circle of Creation Committee (CCC) and consider joining. The next in-person meeting (feel free to wear mask, if you like, Fran will) is scheduled for noon on Sunday, March 26, in the SFX Ballroom (below the Church). In general, CCC will meet at noon on the fourth Sunday of the month. Our purpose is to provide educational opportunities for the parish to learn about and act in the interest of environmental justice. Please see the Green Corner on the parish website.

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) has opened the [Howard Wood St. Louis Urban Outreach Office \(https://tinyurl.com/3jwncmxy\)](https://tinyurl.com/3jwncmxy) in St. Louis City at 4640 Shenandoah Avenue, 63110, two doors down from Brightside St. Louis near MO Botanical Garden. The MDC office in the City will serve as a central hub for MDC staff with expertise in urban wildlife, fish, forestry, and conservation education. Free publications on a variety of conservation topics are available to visitors. Also, hunting and fishing licenses are available for purchase.

### Opportunity to Volunteer

Brightside St. Louis needs volunteers to sow Blitz Blooms seedlings on Saturday mornings in February and March. Information and registration are provided at <https://tinyurl.com/58dr937d>.

**Public Electronics Recycling events sponsored by Midwest Recycling Center (MRC):** <https://mrc-recycling.squarespace.com/electronics-recycling-events>

February 25, 8:00 – 11:00 AM  
Wohlwend Elementary School  
5966 Old Telegraph Road  
St. Louis, MO 63129  
hosted by **Wohlwend Elementary School**

March 4, 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM  
3964 Castleman Ave  
St. Louis, MO 63110  
hosted by **St. Margaret of Scotland/Troop 110**

March 4, 8:00 AM to Noon  
2505 South Brentwood Boulevard  
Brentwood, MO, 63144  
hosted by the City of **Brentwood**

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. <https://sfxstl.org/circleofcreation>

## February 11-12, 2023

Saturday  
5:15 pm Fr. Armstrong, SJ  
Sunday  
8:00 am Fr. McMahon, SJ  
10:30 am Fr. McMahon, SJ

## February 18 - 19, 2023

Saturday  
5:15 pm Fr. McMahon, SJ  
Sunday  
8:00 am Fr. Reale, SJ  
10:30 am Fr. Mueller, SJ

### This Sunday's Scripture Readings:

#### First Reading:

Sirach 15:15-20

#### Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34

#### Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

#### Gospel:

Matthew 5:17-37

### 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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