

Just a few of the 27 men who participated in the College Church Men's Retreat at the White House this year. Please save the date for next year: February 13-16, 2025. This year's Women's Retreat will be at the White House September 16-19, 2024.

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 25th, 2024 Second Sunday of Lent

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

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.

<u>Bulletin Notices:</u> must be submitted to <u>church@sfxstl.org</u> by noon on Thursday, ten days before the bulletin date. Holidays require additional time.

<u>Infant Baptisms:</u> Visit the Baptism page on the SFX website, 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 with questions.

Christian Initiation of Adults: contact Joe Milner at 314-977-7305 or 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 or 314-977-7300.

Disability Access: Our church has an elevator and hearing assistance system. Please see an usher for assistance.

<u>Parish Registration</u>: Available online at sfxstl.org/parishioner-registration or at the Parish Center front desk. For questions email church@sfxstl.org.

<u>Youth Faith Formation</u>: 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 or Julie Kilian at julie@sfxstl.org for more information.

Safe Environment Program Compliance contact Terry Edelmann at terry@sfxstl.org.

To reach the Pastoral Council, email sfxpc@sfxstl.org.

PASTORAL STAFF

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<u>Pastoral Council Co-Chairs</u> Jen Hahn-Petruso and Aimee Wittman sfxpc@sfxstl.org

Pastoral Care Ministry Bridget Brennan 314-313-0613 joy@canainstitute.org

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Anonymous Faculty member Winnie Agniel Mary Kate Agniel Dave Ampleman Margaret Baughman Maureen Carney* Tara Chandler Madeline Dames Tom Engelhardt Steve Frank* Sue Griffard Ioanie Hasser* Butch Henning* Yvonne Jayasuriya Terry Kippenberger* Uly Labilles Donna Leach-Heimos Tom McDermott Eddie McDevitt Angie Menard* Karena Menard* Barb Michael Rea O'Neill Terry O'Toole Mark Roddy* Alicia S. Mikell S. Mark Segovia Fr. Gary Seibert, SJ* Vicki Simon Ned Spencer Greg Stephen Robert Wilmott * Long-term

Prayer requests to: <u>church@sfxstl.org</u> Or visit 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 for info.

God Provides

By Angela Pancella, Director of Stewardship

Today's first reading is probably the Biblical story that fascinates me the most. In Hebrew, it's called the *Akedah*, the binding of Isaac.



It's a heart-wrenching, complicated and confusing story, and my space here is limited, so I would like to talk about just one aspect of it. God directs Abraham to "the land of Moriah." After God's messenger stops Abraham from killing Isaac and he spots a ram to sacrifice instead, Abraham calls the place *Yahweh-yireh*, "The LORD will provide."

Before I moved back home to St. Louis in 2020, I lived in Norwood, Ohio, a citywithin-the-city of Cincinnati. There I worked with neighbors who started a pizza restaurant. We grew the ingredients for the sauces and toppings all within a few blocks, often in the front and back gardens at friends' houses. The restaurant opened on Friday nights, served pizza by the slice, and had no prices on the menu: everyone who came was asked to pay what they could.

The name of the restaurant? "Moriah Pie," in honor of Abraham's trust in God's provision. It was an act of trust to set an envelope down in front of a customer after their meal without a set expectation of how much money they'd pay. We also had to trust that the gardens would yield the tomatoes, onions, peppers and all other produce we needed.

Every year, I watched the jars of tomato sauce dwindle, then run out-just as the new tomato harvest would start coming in. And though some customers (often unhoused folks) might only contribute a few pennies, others would give extravagantly at the end of their meals. We always had enough.

Lent is a good opportunity to reflect on the way God provides what we need, and even perhaps to step out in faith a bit more, trusting that what God will give will be enough.



DATE | February 25-29, 2024 TIME | 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM Central Time [US/Canada] FEE | \$50 USD [Financial assistance available] Our very own Joe Milner will be offering one of the presentations at this online retreat, hosted in collaboration with the Office of Ignatian Spirituality for our Jesuit Province (Central and Southern) and Bridges Foundation.

Please reserve the evenings of Sunday, February 25 – Thursday, February 29, 2024, for "AN ACCEPTABLE TIME," when OIS Director Hung Pham, SJ and Bridges Executive Director Steve Givens will once again team up to facilitate rich spiritual conversation among friends and collaborators across the world.

More information and registration available here:

https://bit.ly/49EUwSG

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INTRODUCTORY RITES

Gathering: I Want to Walk as A Child of the Light

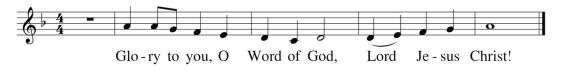
LITURGY OF THE WORD

Responsorial Psalm 116: I will walk before the Lord....

I will walk be-fore the Lord, in the land of the liv - ing.

Text: Refrain trans., *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL; verses, *New American Bible*, © 1970, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine Music: Michel Guimont, © 1994, 1998, GIA Publications, Inc.

Lenten Gospel Acclamation:

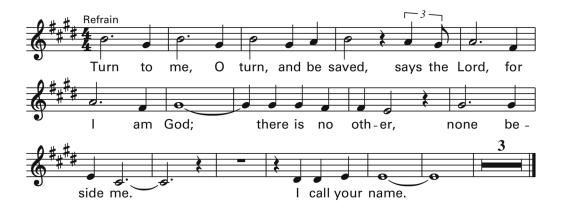


Text: ICEL, © 1969 Music: Richard Proulx, © 1975, GIA Publications, Inc.

> From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Presentation of the Gifts (10:30): Turn to Me



Text: Based on Isaiah 45:22–23; 51:12, 4, 6. Text and music © 1975, John B. Foley, S.J., and OCP. All rights reserved.



Gather 593

Guimont

Foley

Proulx

WARNER

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Acclamations: Mass of Charity and Love



Steven C. Warner Music © 1960, 2010, WLP

COMMUNION RITE

Communion: (Psalm 91) Be with Me

Meditation (10:30): Transform Us

<u>CONCLUDING RITE</u>

Recessional: There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Recessional (10:30): The House that Love is Building

1. In the house that Love is build - ing there is room e - nough for 2. In the gar - den Love is tend - ing there's a great and bound-less 3. Oh, the song that Love is rais - ing is of pure, un - end - ing end-less wel - come in her raf - ters, mer-cy sing - ing 1. all, 2. feast, where the seeds of hope are plant - ed, and the yield is 3. light in the voic es of her peo - ple, ris-ing to е-1. through her walls. ref uge for all peo - ple from Here is -2. heav - en's peace. As the field be-comes a har - vest for the 3. ter - nal skies. Now the dark - ness shall be swal - lowed by the In the house build - ina 1. ev-ery tribe and tongue. that Love is tend - ing 2. man-y hun - gry ones, in the gar den Love is 3. Liv-ing Word of God. Oh, the song that Love is rais - ing 3 1. there is room for ev - ery - one. 2. there's e - nough for ev - ery - one. 3. is а song for ev - ery - one.

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Second Sunday in Lent

Gather 644

Gather 65

Gather 878

Hart

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February 25, 2024



Fran Endicott Armstrong

Living Our Faith: Meet Fran

(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.)

I've been a parishioner for: 46 years. I joined the parish in July 1977, when I returned home to St. Louis after finishing graduate school at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

Living my faith: I've been a Choir member twice -- with a "brief" hiatus of a quarter of a century between two nonconsecutive decades of choir membership. I'm also a lector (as a girl in the 1950s, I wasn't able to read from the pulpit.)

In addition, I'm actively involved in our parish's Circle of Creation Committee. Please consider joining CCC. We need more people committed to learning about environmental justice and joining our efforts to act in the interests of our Common Home and all its inhabitants.

Why I'm involved: The Deity's holy people – saints and sinners as we all are – converge here at College Church. SFX staff and parishioners, SLU folks, neighbors and visitors alike come through our doors: the doors of the Church, the Parish Center and the Ballroom. All provide inspiration (we need to breathe), challenge, and edification (the Latin root means "the act of building"). You all keep me going!

Three words that describe SFX: Vital, Present, Holy

My neighborhood: Tower Grove Heights. My husband, Rick, and I live on Juniata Street, two blocks south of Tower Grove Park and a half block west of Grand Avenue.

Fun facts: My mission in life is to create Dr. Fran's MathStrongLabs. And maybe, in half of a century or so, mathematics educators will know I am right. Dr. Fran's MathStrongLab is a self-paced, hands-on mathematics laboratory in which students use mathematics manipulatives (e.g., Cuisenaire rods, pattern blocks, pegboards) in a guided discovery mode. Knowledgeable mentors well-trained in the materials and methodology of the lab serve as coaches. The plan is to have students learn mathematics through understanding rather than attempting to do mathematics by obedience.

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. You can find past parishioner profiles at <u>sfxstl.org/living-our-faith</u>.

Pastoral Care Commission Spotlight On Seniors 2024 March 10 in the Ballroom following 10:30 Mass

Two speakers will talk about: Tips and challenges in choosing among long term care options, from independent living, assisted living, memory care and skilled nursing. Presented by Linda DeSmet and Sharon Balleau. Linda was on staff at the Alzheimer's Association for 18 years, served as Family Support Specialist at a Residential Living Home and recently moved into an independent living community. Sharon and her husband, Jeff are founders of Transitions for Senior Living, a free, hands-on referral service that helps St. Louis seniors and their families find appropriate care when living independently is no longer a safe option. Join us for an informative presentation with time for questions.

Easter Basket Project

Parishioners are invited to help with an Easter Basket project for children served by the St. Augustine/Wellston Food Pantry and Thrift Shop. After Masses on March 3 there will be a bin in the back of church where parishioners can donate items such as wrapped candy, small toys or books,, and little hygiene items such as soap, lotion and tooth brushes. These items will be sorted and packed in Easter bags by our Level III Catechesis of the Good Shepherd students on Saturday March 9, in time for the food pantry's Easter celebration. Items can also be dropped off at the Parish Center.

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Parish Stewardship Report

	Year-to-date as of December 31		
	Current Year	Current Year Budget	Prior Year
Offertory Gifts			
Offertory - Envelopes	132,800	97,300	105,600
Offertory Loose	20,200	17,800	17,700
Holy Day Offertory	10,400	١,700	1,600
Sunday Offertory-Electronic	203,500	209,300	203,200
Total Offertory Gifts	366,900	326,100	328,100
Gifts-Unrestricted	26,300	41,300	36,100
Gifts-Stock/RMD/Charitable Trust	36,000	6,200	5,000
Total Unrestricted Gifts	429,200	373,600	369,200

Thank you for your generous financial support of our many ministries - ID Program, Religious Education, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Liturgies and Music, Anti-racism and others. It is through your sustained support that our parish continues to thrive.



The 8th Grade Class invites you to join them on their Lenten Journey for Creation!

"God looked over everything God had made; it was so good, so very good!" Genesis 1:3.

A focus of this year's 8th grade Youth Faith Formation is gratitude and care for all of God's creation. During Lent, they will pray, reflect, and act on some of the themes presented during their Fall retreat. All are invited to join them on a Lenten Journey for Creation. We

can accompany them by taking some time each week to sit with the coming Sunday's Gospel reading, reflect on its connection to the goodness of creation (the people, animals, and nature around you), and build awareness and action on a theme that relates to creation each week. The weekly themes will be printed in the bulletin. Feel free to use all, part, or none of these suggestions.

Week	Gospel Reading	Creation Themes for Reflection	Awareness/Action Ideas
2/26-3/3	John 2:13-25 Read through the Gospel passage one time slowly. Now read it again. What words, images, phrases stand out to you?	• Body as a Temple How do these themes connect with the Gospel reading?	 Do or brainstorm one self care activity that limits use of natural resources Go on a walk/exercise Come up with your own idea!



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.

54th Massachusetts Black Regiment

After the Emancipation Proclamation, President Lincoln called for regiments of Black men to help fight the Civil War. The 1st Kansas Colored V



olunteer Infantry had already formed in the northern states. Governor John Andrew soon began forming the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment. The free Black community in Boston helped recruit soldiers, but Massachusetts did not have enough free Black men to fill the regiment so others from across the country traveled to Boston to join up. Recruitment was so successful that enough men enlisted to form a second Black infantry regiment, the 55th.

Recruits were trained at Camp Meigs just outside Boston. In May 1863, the 54th departed for the war front, marching through Boston. The band played "John Brown's Body," as they marched to the waterfront to begin their voyage southward. Thousands turned out to watch. The Boston Evening Transcript reported, "no single regiment has attracted larger crowds into the streets than the 54th."

The regiment fought battles in Charleston, SC, including the famous Second Battle of Fort Wagner on July 18, 1863. In that skirmish 270 of their men were killed, captured, or wounded—roughly 40 percent of the unit, including the unit's color guard. Sgt. William Carney scrambled to catch the flag from the dying man. Despite serious gunshot wounds, Carney kept the Union flag flying high as he crawled up the hill toward Fort Wagner. He held the flag in the sand at the base of the fort until his nearly lifeless body was rescued. Because of these heroic efforts, the 54th inspired the enlistment of over 180,000 more Black soldiers. Lincoln realized this was essential to end slavery throughout the country.

The battle of "the 54th" at Fort Wagner became one of the most famous episodes of the Civil War. It has been memorialized in artwork, poetry, and song. More recently, the 54th gained notoriety through the 1989 film "Glory." The unit was reactivated in 2008, to serve as the Massachusetts Army National Guard ceremonial unit to render military honors at funerals and state functions.

Update on Racial Equity Review

For the last two years, members of the College Church Racial Equity Review Team have been engaged in a journey of learning, reflection, and inquiry in pursuit of our goal to identify the policies and practices within our parish that uphold systemic racism. We often use the term "scrutiny" to describe our process. It has been a close, loving look at our parish community– revealing the gifts and grace in our midst, as well those aspects that are in need of healing. We have been examining all aspects of our parish using evaluative tools provided by Crossroads Antiracism Organizing and Training–our partners in this journey.

A next step in this process will be to capture the impressions, observations, and experiences of people within the parish community. One of the ways we will be collecting this information is through a survey. Detailed information on this process will be shared in the coming weeks. We hope all members of the College Church community will participate.

For more information about the parish racial equity review, contact Winnie Sullivan at penultim@swbell.net or Lisa Burks at <u>Imburks60@gmail.com</u>.

Significant Figures in Racial History

Clarence Avant - born February 25, 1931, in Climax, NC. Considered the "Godfather" of Black music, Avant was a music executive and film producer. He acquired the first African American-owned FM radio station in Los Angeles. Avant sought equitable treatment and compensation for African American entertainment artists. He was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2021.

E. D. Nixon – died February 25, 1987, in Montgomery, AL. Nixon was a union organizer and civil rights leader who played an important role in the Montgomery bus boycott of 1955. He also served as president of the local chapter of the NAACP, the Montgomery Welfare League, and the Montgomery Voters League.

Trayvon Martin – died February 26, 2012, in Sandford, FL, at age 17. Martin was shot to death by a neighborhood watch coordinator while he was visiting relatives with his father. The shooter plead self-defense and was acquitted in a jury trial.

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William H. Carney - born into slavery on February 29, 1840, in Norfolk, VA. During the Civil War Carney joined the Massachusetts 54th Black Volunteer Infantry. When the company's flag bearer fell in battle Carney picked up the flag despite his own injuries and led the troops. He was promoted to sergeant for his heroism and was awarded the Medal of Honor but did not receive it until 37 years later!

Upcoming Events

February 25 12:00 pm St. Alphonsus Liguori (Rock) Church and the SFX Racism and Reconciliation Committee are hosting a screening of the documentary film, *Crown*. The movie explores the racism and discrimination experienced by Black women in schools and the workplace based on the style of their hair. After viewing the film, a discussion will be led by St. Louis Alderwoman Shameem Clark Hubbard, who sponsored Board Bill 222, establishing our local "Crown Act." All are

welcome to attend the lunch, screening, and discussion which will be held at the Rock Church. Admission is free. Donations for lunch are appreciated. Please contact Wilma Locke to R.S.V.P <u>wa08locke@yahoo.com</u> 314-725-3576.

March 2 10:00 am to 1:00 pm Fr. Gerry Kleba will be hosting a bus tour of Black History in St. Louis. The tour will leave from and return to St. Cronan's Catholic Church at 1202 S. Boyle Ave. You are invited to bring a lunch and stay after the tour to discuss the experience. The cost is \$10 per person payable the day of the event. To reserve a spot, please email Paul Loida at Paul.loida@bayer.com and provide the tour date, your name, email, and phone

number. Space is limited, so reserve your seat today!

For more information, or to become part of antiracism ministries, contact Winnie Sullivan penultim@swbell.net or Lisa Burks Imburks60@gmail.com.

Encounters on the Way to the Cross 2024 Lenten Offerings

Imagine: A Guide to Ignatian Contemplation is a form of prayer in which we use our imagination to see and interact with various scenes from scripture. Fr. Tucker will lead a weekly guided contemplative exercise on the Mondays of Lent at 7 pm in College Church. Audio recordings will be made available.

Reading and Reflecting on *Our Parish Racial History* Examining and discussing the racial history of College Church brings home the ways in which we can, in our own faith community, follow Jesus's example of inclusion. To join a **Spiritual Conversation Group**, register here: <u>tinyurl.com/sc9zh8xw</u>

Stations of the Cross are available at 12:30 (after the noon Mass)

Weekly updates for

- * Imagine: A Guide to Ignatian Contemplation, the audio recordings (available Tuesday evenings),
- * Our Parish Racial History, the recommended readings and reflection questions
- All may be found here: <u>http://tinyurl.com/2yu6wnnd</u>

For additional information, please contact: sfxFaithEnrichment@gmail.com

Lenten Books and Materials



Reflection materials will be available in the Ballroom after the Sunday morning Masses. These include: the <u>Little Black Book</u> with a scripture verse and a reflection on a person, event or practice that invites us to deeper faith; <u>Daybreak</u> is a series that presents passages from the writings of particular authors arranged for reflection during Lent. Each booklet features a different author. There are booklets for children including the Little Purple book, reflections for teens, and some designed for seniors well. To reserve an item, please contact Joseph Milner at joseph.milner@slu.edu

February 25, 2024

Circle of Creation Green Corner

The Circle of Creation Committee applauds the 8th graders in their choice to embrace the theme of Care For Creation throughout their Confirmation year and

especially during their Lenten Journey. These young leaders have invited the entire SFX Parish community to accompany them on this journey. They have chosen weekly themes based on the Gospel readings and related awareness/action ideas to implement each week, as found elsewhere in the Bulletin.

This week's Theme For Reflection is "Clothing Sustainability." To supplement ideas from the 8th graders, here are a few ideas from the Circle of Creation Committee:

I. Think before you throw a favorite item of clothing into the laundry! If it is not dirty or smelly, hang it up or fold it and put it away. Your item will last longer and you will help save water and energy!

2. Offer to help a sibling, friend, or neighbor sort and dispose of clothing to be donated or recycled.

3. Cut favorite torn or stained items into square or varied shapes and use fabric glue to mount them on cardboard to create art for your room!

4. Plan a clothing exchange/swap with friends, neighbors, or extended family.

Earth Friendly Tips provides an article on Easy Ways to Reduce Paper Towel Use [https://earthfriendlytips.com/easy-ways-toreduce-paper-towel-use/] and also explains why this is so important, including major savings of water and trees from the manufacture of paper towels and minimizing methane release from used paper towels in landfills. When clothing is too worn or dirty to donate, cut it up into rags which can be used for cleaning around the house instead of paper towels or disposable disinfecting wipes. To avoid cross contamination, you could even designate rags for different parts of the house, e.g., green for kitchen countertops, red for the bathroom, white for dusting furniture, etc.

Volunteer Opportunities

Back to Nature: Tree Planting on Woodland Slopes on Saturday, March 16, 9:00 AM – Noon Ages: 12 and up; Caution: Steep creek banks Crestwood Park 9739 Meadowfern Dr St. Louis, MO 63126 Information and registration <u>volunteer.openspacestl.org/need/</u> <u>detail/?need_id=892302</u>

Visit the College Church Circle of Creation Committee's Green Corner <u>sfxstl.org/circleofcreation</u> on the Parish website to keep up to date on resources related to caring for creation, including public electronics recycling events.

February 24-25

Saturday 5:15 pm	Fr. McMahon, S.J.
Sunday 8:00 <i>am</i>	Fr. Redding, S.J.
10:30 am	Fr. Redding, S.J.

<u>March 2-3</u>

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

This Sunday's Scripture Readings

First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19

Second Reading:

Romans 8:31b-34

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Bulletin Articles

Email bulletin articles to Camille Smith, at 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.

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