



Our church as seen from the roof of Jesuit Hall. Photo credit: Br. Ken Homan, SJ

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 5, 2023
Fifth 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

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 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, 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 fritim@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 fritim@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 or at the Parish Center front desk. For questions email 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 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 STAFFParish Life Coordinator

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Choir Director, Music Ministry

Ray Sherrock
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Director of Wedding Music & Accompanist, Music Ministry

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Pastoral Council Chair

Maurice Muia
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Pastoral Ministry

Bridget Brennan
joy@canainstitute.org

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*
 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

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.

Reflection from Our Parish Life Coordinator

By *Katie Jansen*

Here is another excerpt from the Vatican document for the Continental Stage of the Synod on Synodality. The role of women in the church is one of several themes that was named in the document. It feels good to feel heard!

"From all continents comes an appeal for Catholic women to be valued first and foremost as baptised and equal members of the People of God. There is almost unanimous affirmation that women love the Church deeply, but many feel sadness because their lives are often not well understood, and their contributions and charisms not always valued. The Holy Land report notes: 'Those who were most committed to the synod process were women, who seem to have realised not only that they had more to gain, but also more to offer by being relegated to a prophetic edge, from which they observe what happens in the life of the Church;' and continues: 'In a Church where almost all decision-makers are men, there are few spaces where women can make their voices heard. Yet they are the backbone of Church communities, both because they represent the majority of the practising members and because they are among the most active members of the Church.'

"In every area of their lives, women ask the Church to be their ally. This includes addressing the social realities of impoverishment, violence and diminishment faced by women across the globe. They call for a Church at their side, and greater understanding and support in combating these forces of destruction and exclusion. Women participating in the synodal processes desire both Church and society to be a place of flourishing, active participation and healthy belonging."

The full document can be found here. <https://bit.ly/continental-stage>

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!

Spotlight on Seniors 2023 Program

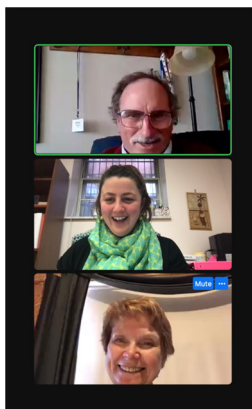
Join with us to learn, to celebrate, to grow in our faith and build friendships and community

Ballroom Lecture Series following 10:30 Mass and Donut Sunday

Next Sunday, February 12th: Wills and Healthcare Directives Presented by parishioner and attorney, Matt Perlow. He will focus on understanding and developing health care directives from a legal perspective.

A Word from Regional Access Coordinator Madeline Powers

Hello everyone! Madeline Powers, Regional Access Coordinator for Social Ministry's Birth Certificate and ID Clinic here. We continue to train and connect with new organizations across the St. Louis metropolitan region and Missouri who are starting Birth Certificate and ID clinics, and have entered an exciting new phase of our efforts. As we have gotten to know other agencies who understand the necessity of removing barriers to identification documents, it has become quite clear that access to funding would make a huge difference in many agencies' ability to offer this service. Our hope is to help eliminate that barrier for agencies so that more assistance is accessible to people. With that in mind, we applied for the 1818 Community Engagement Grant through St. Louis University. We were awarded the grant with the intention of forwarding the funds as "mini grants" to as many agencies as we could. There was a lot of interest in this opportunity and we were able to regrant to help support six different agencies - three in the St. Louis Metropolitan area and three across the state. This marks a really important shift in the scope of the work we are able to do.



One of our 1818 Mini Grant recipients is the Joplin Photo ID Project. They held their first clinic on November 16, 2022 and have been assisting with birth certificates and photo identification weekly since then. I had a chance to meet with them to hear about their efforts shortly after they were up and running. After some back and forth about the particulars about what went well and what still needs attention, I finally asked them what made them want to do this in the first place. Program coordinator, Paul Teverow, informed me of a newspaper article he read in The Joplin Globe that had inspired him about a year and a half earlier. And do you know what that newspaper article was about? St. Francis Xavier College Church's Birth Certificate and ID Program. I was delighted to hear how connected our work was. We are so grateful to continue supporting their efforts and the efforts of our mini grant partners in Kansas City, St. Joseph, Washington, and St. Louis. This is just the beginning.

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.

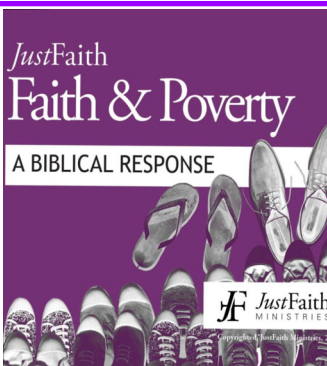
We have invited John to be our guest speaker at a breakfast honoring the volunteers who make College Church a warm, welcoming community. (You don't have to be a volunteer in one of our ministries to attend, but you just may be inspired to join one of our ministries thanks to this event!)

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).

Parish Men's White House Retreat, February 9-12, 2023

The upcoming retreat at the White House Jesuit Retreat Center is a great opportunity to study and apply the Spiritual Exercises, in a beautiful quiet setting with an excellent Jesuit retreat director. Accommodations are excellent and meals are delicious.

The retreat begins Thursday, February 9th with 7:00 pm dinner and concludes on Sunday the 12th at about 1 pm following lunch. For more information, just call John Hartung (314-326-6018), Bill Morrison (314-991-8599) or David Schnelt (314-791-0227). You can also get info/register by contacting White House directly at 314-416- 6400 or at www.whitehouseretreat.org.

**Faith and Poverty: A Biblical Response--Catholic Version, Part I.**

Virtual program

Facilitator: Tyler Timm & (College Church Parishioner) Mary Ann Moore

9 Consecutive Mondays

Starting February 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

This program explores God's call to respond to poverty in our local communities. Participants explore these two questions:

(1) What tools does my Catholic faith have to offer regarding huge questions around poverty and injustice? (2) In light of poverty and other forms of human suffering, what is the Good News of the Gospel? The materials include *Poverty: Responding Like Jesus & Laudato Si*. Register online: justfaith.org



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Revival**

The bishops of the United States have invited everyone to enter on a journey of deeper understanding of and participation in the celebration of the Eucharist from 2022 through 2024. Each diocese and each parish has been invited to develop ways to help people learn and grow in their praying of the Eucharist. The Second Vatican Council, in the document on the Liturgy stated: the sacred liturgy is the "summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; and the same time, it is the fountain from which all her powers flow." (SC 10)

To deepen our understanding of the mass, College Church will offer a series of five presentations on different parts of the mass. These will be offered online on Monday evenings starting Feb 6. These will explore the historical background, the scripture readings, the Eucharistic prayer, and communion. There will be background information, presentation, and time for discussion each week. To join us, please send an email with your name to joe@sfxstl.org.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick continues the ministry of Jesus through the church in offering strength, healing, and renewal to all who are sick, who are preparing for surgery, or who have experienced the diminishment of life through advancing age.



It is available individually throughout the year to anyone who is in need. February 11th is the World Day of the Sick. On February 11 and 12, at the 5:15 mass on Saturday and at the 8:00 and 10:30 masses on Sunday, the sacrament will be offered after the homily of the Sunday Eucharist. If you or someone you know would benefit from prayer for healing and strength, please plan to attend.



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 History Month: Meet Charles and Marian Oldham



During the month of February, Black History Month, we will share the stories of St. Louisans who were racial justice trail blazers, but whose names may be a bit less familiar.

Charles and Marian Oldham were the civil rights power couple of their day. Charles, a white attorney who specialized in civil rights and employment discrimination law, argued dozens of cases on behalf of black clients. Marian, an African American teacher, had personally experienced the sting of racial injustice, as her application for admission to the graduate education program at the then-segregated University of Missouri was denied. Together, they were civil rights pioneers who helped to lead the 1963 Jefferson Bank protest and opened the doors of several St. Louis retailers to African Americans.

Charles Oldham was born in Kansas City, Missouri, on November 7, 1922, and grew up in Marceline, Missouri. He attended Central Methodist College and the University of Missouri. Following military service during the Second World War, Oldham resumed his studies at Washington University, where he obtained a law degree in 1948. While at Washington University, Oldham became involved in the Civil Rights Movement, advocating for the admission to the university of African Americans students.

Marian O’Fallon Oldham was born in St. Louis on March 31, 1927. She was a graduate of Stowe Teachers College who, following her rejection by the University of Missouri, went on to obtain a Master’s degree in education from the University of Michigan. She became an educator and counselor in the St. Louis Public Schools. The Oldhams married in 1951 in Detroit, Michigan, because of Missouri’s miscegenation laws.

Charles Oldham was a founding member—and later chairman—of the St. Louis chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), and he and Marian were active participants in the organization’s campaigns. Those protests included sit-ins at the lunch counters of several St. Louis businesses, among them Stix, Baer, and Fuller and Famous-Barr department stores. The couple was charged with contempt of court and arrested for engaging in civil disobedience in response to the race-based employment discrimination at the Jefferson Bank. After months of

protest, the bank finally relented, initially hiring six African American tellers, and later, 35 to 40 black employees. Fearing similar demonstrations, other St. Louis financial institutions and businesses followed suit.

The Oldhams continued their racial justice activism for the rest of their lives. Charles persevered in his practice of law, and Marian, in 1977, became the University of Missouri’s first black female curator, serving for eight years and actively championing, during that time, an affirmative action program at the school. The university’s St. Louis campus eventually recognized her with an honorary doctorate and established a scholarship in her name for minority students. Marian passed away in 1994 at the age of 66, followed by Charles in 2006 at the age of 83. Both fought courageously to make racial equality a reality in St. Louis.

Our Lady of China

Thank you to Sr. Marguerite Tran for sharing her reflection on Our Lady of China. Sr. Marguerite is a member of the Congregation of Mary, Queen. She is a member of the College Church community and often serves as a Eucharistic minister on Sundays at 8:00 a.m.



Our Lady of China – Pray for Us

This drawing of our Lady is on silk, given to me by a Chinese friend around 20 years ago. I have this in my room and pray to her often, for the conversion of China, all sinners, especially my own heart. The words are written in Chinese. They read

from right to left and top to bottom, not the way we do in English writing and reading. The meanings in English are:

Holy
Pray Mother
For us Of God
All.

Mary is special to God, mother of Jesus, mother to us all. She is so special that every nation and people would want to claim her as their own. In Vietnam, my birth country, we have Our Lady of Lavang.

Mary is my spiritual Mother, she is my model in holiness; following her example, I carry God’s will every single day of my life.

Continued from previous page

She loves me, I believe, and I call her Mama.

The prayer I often recite: Hail Mama, full of grace, the Lord is with Mama.

Her heart is huge, can hold the whole wide world of people, and present them to God as her beloved children.

Thank you Mary, our Mother and our model for holiness, we love you. Amen

Upcoming Events

February 8, 2023 6:30 – 8:00 pm. The bi-monthly meeting of Social Justice Leaders will be held at the Rigali Center. Tyler McClay, Director of Advocacy for Catholic Charities, and Bernie Sammons, Co-chair of the Voice of the Poor Committee of St. Vincent de Paul, will discuss their efforts to address the challenges of workers who face loss of benefits due to small increases in income—thus discouraging accepting promotions or seeking higher paying jobs.

February 26, 2023 12:00 pm. 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.

Donations for lunch are appreciated.

SAVE THE DATE

March 30, 2023 College Church is hosting a webinar featuring theologian, Christian ethicist, and author Maureen O'Connell. She will discuss her book, Undoing the Knots—Five Generations of American Catholic Anti-blackness, and share ideas about working toward freedom from the entanglements with racism.

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/yckxnrbs>.

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 will be available in the Lower Hall after the Sunday morning masses starting Feb 12. 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

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



Did you know? Foam Products Corporation (www.fpcfoam.com) is accepting Styrofoam for recycling, non-food packaging only. FPC is at 2525 Adie Road, Maryland Heights 63043. Outdoor bins are accessible 24/7 on the north end of the building, the side that faces Page Avenue.

One way to avoid single-use take-out packaging is to take advantage of Kind Box, a reusable container program for Green Dining Alliance (greendiningalliance.org) restaurants in the St. Louis area that allows consumers to lessen their waste. Among other benefits, choosing Kind Box reusable containers will remove single-use containers from the waste stream, removing them from landfills, streets, waterways, and incinerators. Visit this Kind Box link and see how this works: kindboxstl.org

Wine Cork Recycling: The Wine Cellar Outlet Sappington Plaza | 1553 Gravois Rd, St. Louis, MO 63126 collects natural corks only (no synthetics). You can drop them off with an employee just inside the doors anytime during store hours.

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 NextTrex plastic bag and film recycling via the brown bins at the grocery store (e.g., Schnucks, Dierbergs, etc.). Check out <https://nexttrex.com/view/educate> for further information and the specific kinds of items NextTrex 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.

Public Electronics Recycling events [sponsored by Midwest Recycling Center \(MRC\): https://mrcrecycling.net/](https://mrcrecycling.net/)

February 11, 8:00 AM to Noon
900 TR Hughes Boulevard, O'Fallon, MO, 63366
hosted by the City of O'Fallon

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

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 4 - 5, 2023

Saturday
5:15 pm Fr. McMahon, SJ

Sunday
8:00 am Fr. Daly, SJ
10:30 am Fr. Daly, SJ

February 11-12, 2023

Saturday
5:15 pm Fr. Armstrong, SJ

Sunday
8:00 am Fr. McMahon, SJ
10:30 am Fr. McMahon, SJ

This Sunday's Scripture Readings:

First Reading:

Isaiah 58:7-10

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Gospel:

Matthew 5:13-16

Bulletin Articles

Email bulletin articles to Angela Pancella at angela@sfxstl.org before Thursday at noon 10 days before the bulletin date.

Online Giving Reminder

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