

Light from the stained glass windows illuminates an adoring angel at the tabernacle. Photo credit: Fr. Tucker Redding, 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

Facebook.com/sfxcollegechurch/

March 3rd, 2024 Third 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 By Katie Jansen Anonymous Faculty member Winnie Agniel Mary Kate Agniel Dave Ampleman is still planning to be a parishioner here. Margaret Baughman Maureen Carney* Tara Chandler Madeline Dames Tom Engelhardt Steve Frank* Sue Griffard Joanie Hasser* Butch Henning* Yvonne Jayasuriya Terry Kippenberger* Uly Labilles Donna Leach-Heimos Tom McDermott Eddie McDevitt it widely! Angie Menard* Karena Menard* Don Needham 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:

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 ioy@canainstitute.org for info.

From Our Director of the Work

I want to let you know that Angela Pancella has decided to return to community development, the type of work she was doing in Norwood before her move back to St. Louis in 2020. We will miss her!! But, she

Angela joined our staff at the beginning of the pandemic and immediately helped us "go virtual" in ways that kept the parish community connected. She has kept the staff updated on many important re-tweets and religious memes. And I'm afraid to think about what I won't know about the band U2 without her.

In all seriousness, she has brought creative ideas, a team atmosphere and a lot of care to our parish. She has provided wonderful support to the Social Connections Commission and the Development Commission. And, she has always been willing to help other staff members or parishioners with whatever they needed.

Angela will be going to a part-time schedule beginning March 11 as she begins her transition. Please keep her in prayer as she begins this new phase of her journey.

We will post the open position in the coming weeks. When we do, please share

Angela, we wish you all the best!

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:

> **Ginny Grace** Barb Michael (mother of Rob Garavaglia)

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



Donut Sunday Next Sunday!

Donuts, coffee, tea and cocoa will be served after the 8 am and 10:30 am Masses, hosted by our local St. Vincent de Paul conference. And stick around for a presentation after the 10:30 am Mass as part of the Spotlight on Seniors Ballroom Lecture Series! More information on page 11.

Fair Trades Sale Reminder

Don't forget fresh coffee, chocolate, tea, soup, chili, corn bread, beans, brownie mix, gift boxes, and more from your friendly College Church Fair Trade Committee, who will be selling in the vestibule after the Sunday Masses today. All proceeds directly benefit our Jesuit sister parish, St. Peter Claver, in Belize. To view Fair Trade products, or to order online, go to https://sfxstl.org/buy-fair-trade. Orders must be picked up at College Church.





Adam Rawe with his daughter, Kayleigh

Living Our Faith: Meet Adam

(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.)

An SFX parishioner since: November 2023. College Church is the Jesuit parish closest to my hometown of Jacksonville, Illinois, located approximately one hour north of Alton and a half hour west of Springfield.

Living my faith: As a new parishioner, I'm still discovering how my experiences and talents can benefit the parish community, and I look forward to identifying SFX social ministries where I can engage. I currently volunteer at Annie's Hope – The Center for Grieving Kids, in Glendale. I try to find positive aspects of grief and, drawing on personal experience, have convinced two hospice coordinators to recommend this program to young families.

Why I'm involved: I've been on a zig-zag journey to find my new spiritual home at College Church. Previously, my late wife, Kim, and I were affiliated with Holy Ghost parish in Jerseyville. I was returning back to the active practice of Catholicism after a "sabbatical," and was reflecting on why I left, and how we – now a family of three -- would transition back to the Church. Kim was in the process of converting and getting an annulment from her prior marriage so that we could marry in the Church; our daughter, Kayleigh, was baptized.

Then, a series of events and experiences challenged us and complicated our journey back. Our supportive, trusted pastor and spiritual advisor died. Kim faced a challenging cancer diagnosis. Job and parental responsibilities increased. We dealt with COVID isolation and faced vocal racism toward Asians and our mixed-race marriage. We struggled with conservative ideology in the community and the U.S. Catholic Church that seemed at odds with the social and justice teachings of Jesus.

My spiritual reflection continued. Conversations with a local priest and his interest in my history of growing up with Dominican and Loretto sisters, diocesan priests, and Jesuits piqued my interest in my unique Catholic family. Last summer, at a family reunion, my aunts and my uncle discussed Father John C. Rawe, a Jesuit and my great uncle, focusing on Jesuit philosophy and spirituality. "Jesuits are different," they said. I decided to learn more. I joined national Jesuit organizations, such as the Office of Justice and Ecology. I listened to Jesuit podcasts. I read about Pope Francis. After talking to Father Tim, I knew that SFX needed to be my spiritual home and the place where I could find healing and learn forgiveness.

Three words that describe SFX: Diverse, Welcoming, Nonjudgmental.

My neighborhood: Jacksonville is a small city of 19,000 people in the corn fields of west central Illinois. (Add 62650 to the many zip codes represented by the SFX community.) Jacksonville's claim to fame is Illinois College, the Illinois Schools for the Deaf and Visually Impaired, and Ferris wheel manufacturing.

Fun facts: I lived on campus at St. Louis College of Pharmacy in the Central West End before changing majors and moving on to study biology, environmental biology and ecological studies, and geology at Illinois College and Western Illinois University. My focus in graduate school at the University of Illinois in Springfield was environmental risk assessment and general science. I now work as a Resource Planner for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

College Church feels like home and is the Church of my youth and family. I have ties to SLU and SFX through aunts, uncles and cousins who attended undergraduate and graduate school at SLU. My Jesuit great uncle was educated at Boston College and SLU, spent time in St. Louis and other missions, and was an advocate for the Roman Catholic rural life movement. His funeral Mass was held at SFX, with burial at St. Stanislaus Seminary.

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>.



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.

Ella Baker

March is Women's History Month. Here we present a woman who fought for civil rights often behind the scenes.



Ella Baker was born in 1903, in

Norfolk, VA. Growing up, she developed an appreciation for social justice while listening to her grandmother's stories about life in slavery. Her grandmother's resilience despite racism and injustice inspired Baker's whole life. As a student at historically black Shaw University, Baker challenged unfair policies. After graduating as class valedictorian, she moved to New York and began joining social activist organizations, among them the Young Negroes Cooperative League which sought to develop black economic power. She also became involved with several women's organizations.

Eventually, Baker was hired by the NAACP as field secretary, travelling throughout the South, spreading the message of civil rights for all. Later, as National Director of NAACP Branches, she helped the organization build its network. However, she left the NAACP over disagreements with its tactics, believing it should expand its outreach.

Inspired by the Montgomery bus boycott, Baker cofounded an organization called In Friendship to raise funds for fighting Jim Crow laws. She then moved to Atlanta to help inaugurate the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). There she was charged with organizing the Crusade for Citizenship to help Black citizens register to vote. But soon she felt the same frustrations she experienced at the NAACP male-dominated organizations that didn't do enough grassroots organizing.

Baker left the SCLC to assist student activists working for civil rights. She called together a meeting of student leaders from which emerged the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). Its members joined activists from the Congress of Racial Equality to organize the 1961 Freedom Rides. Baker believed voting was key to freedom, so the SNCC helped create Freedom Summer, an effort to focus national attention on Mississippi's racism and to register Black voters. With Baker's guidance, the SNCC became a strong advocate for voting rights.

Ella Baker was nicknamed: "Fundi," a Swahili word meaning "person who teaches the next generation." A quiet, unassuming woman, she was at the center of the civil rights struggle alongside some of its giants. Baker influenced the fight for civil rights until the very day she died: her 83rd birthday.

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 lmburks60@gmail.com.

Significant Figures in Racial History

Blessed Concepcion Cabera de Armida – died March 3, 1937, in Mexico City. Married at a young age, she had 9 children. When her husband died, she began to have mystical visions on the Eucharist, prayer, and the spiritual life. She is the first lay woman from Mexico to be beatified by the Church.

Blessed Maria Antonia de Paz Figueroa – died March 7, 1799, in Buenos Aires. Figueroa taught children and cared for the poor and sick. When the Jesuits were expelled from Argentina, she promoted the Spiritual

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Third Sunday in Lent

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Exercises by offering Ignatian retreats. Figueroa will be Argentina's first native-born female saint.

Upcoming Events

April 3 at **5:00pm** Rachel L. Swarns will discuss her book, The 272: The Families Who Were Enslaved and Sold to Build the American Catholic Church. The event will be at the SLU Center for Global Citizenship on the West Pine Mall. She will do a book signing at 5:00 p.m. and her talk will begin at 6:00 p.m. For more information, email <u>CASDEI@slu.edu</u>.

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



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
3/4-3/10	John 9:1-41 Read through the Gospel passage one time slowly. Now read it again. What words, images, phrases stand out to you?	* Light of The World How do these themes connect with the Gospel reading?	 Be a "Light" in the world: Find a way to volunteer and help out in your community! Have a conversation with your family about light conservation at home and consider a plan for switching to LED light sources. Turn off lights at home when they are not needed Come up with your own idea!

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.

Sign up for

Roundtable Conversations

Now through Sunday, March 17, 2024

In-person and online options

As part of our 2024 focus on parishioner engagement, we will be holding Parishioner Roundtables at a variety of locations and featuring a variety of hosts. The Roundtables will be an opportunity for parishioners

to get to know one another better as well as share with each other about your experiences at College Church. We hope that each of you can attend one of these gatherings.

Sign up here: https://bit.ly/sfxroundtable

Please share this link with other parishioners so we can get the word out to everyone!

Lenten Liturgical Celebrations

The St. Francis Xavier (College) Church parish family invites you and your friends to celebrate with us these important liturgical celebrations, and the Sacred Triduum of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. March 17 (Sunday) Communal Penance Service, 9:15 a.m. Confessions are available Monday through Friday from 10:30 until 11:45.

<u>Holy Week</u>

- March 23 Passion (Palm) Sunday (Vigil) 5:15 p.m.
- March 24 Passion (Palm) Sunday 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
- March 28 Holy Thursday 7:30 p.m.
- March 29 Good Friday 3:00 p.m.
- March 30 Easter Vigil 8:00 p.m. (No 5:15 p.m. Mass)
- March 31 Easter Sunday 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

(The College Church Choir will sing at both Easter Liturgies) For more information, please call the Parish Center at 977-7300 Complimentary parking is available in the Laclede garage.

Social Justice Camp this Summer

Registration is now open! The Social Justice Camp sponsored by the College Church Youth Faith Formation program will be held June 24 – 28 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Young people who will be entering grades 6, 7, and 8 in the fall are invited to attend. The week's schedule will include engaging group activities and participation in a variety of community service events. We will explore ways God calls us to build a just society and use our gifts to help others. Camp fees are \$350 per camper and include all program materials and daily snacks. Campers bring their own lunches. Scholarships are available.

Reserve your spot by registering through this link: sfxstl.org/youth-group-registration. Please contact Jennifer Quick jennifer@sfxstl.org or Julie Kilian julie@sfxstl.org for more information.





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 assisted living memory care community 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.

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: http://tinyurl.com/2yu6wnnd

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

Adult Atrium THIS Sunday, March 3rd

You are invited!

The catechists from the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) at College church invite you to an hour of quiet enjoyment, contemplation and discussion of the mysteries of our faith before the 10:30 liturgy. CGS catechists have discovered that this approach to faith formation nurtures our spirituality, as well as the child's, and we're excited to share it with you!



We'll meet 6 times during the spring semester. You are welcome to come for one session or for as many as you like. please sign up using the link, the QR code, or emailing Julie at julie@sfxstl.org

www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4FABAD28A0F85-47047208-adult

St. Vincent de Paul Neighbor Request and Upcoming Meeting

We share a request for employment for our neighbor JH.

JH is a single mother of 3 sons who all attend college. JH was a seven-year employee of the LaSalle Charter Middle School that closed suddenly in December 2023. JH was not offered any severance or financial assistance.

JH is looking for full-time employment in office administration, accounting, bookkeeping or healthcare. JH also has prior certification and job experience as a radiology technician.

If you have any potential employment leads for JH, please contact Chris Deason at mcdeason58@gmail.com.

Our next in-person meeting is this Sunday, March 3 from 9-10 am in the Ignation meeting room. Please join us!

ILOVE TO TELL THE STORY

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Saturday, March 16 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. St. Timothy's Episcopal Church 808 N. Mason Road, Creve Coeur, MO 63141

In the midst of a polarized election year, the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri invites everyone to come together to share stories, worship, and make connections to help bridge the divides in our society. Healing in the Heartland will feature local, national, and international speakers from a variety of backgrounds to help us find common ground through our faith. "Our communities of worship have a unique role to play in healing the divisions we see around us," said the Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson, Bishop of the Diocese of Missouri. This event is also open to other denominations and the general public. We will also be livestreaming this event, but you must register to get the link. Register by March 8 to attend in-person or virtually.



Speakers:

The Rev. Naomi Tutu - Advocate, educator, daughter of the late Archbishop Desmond Tutu The Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas - Interim Dean of Episcopal Divinity School, New York The Rev. Jack Danforth - Episcopal priest and former U.S. Senator from Missouri The Rev. Traci Blackmon - Theologian, author, activist



Learn more & RSVP: www.diocesemo.org/ healing-in-the-heartland



GUIDED LENTEN RETREAT featuring "The Chosen"

facilitated by CAROLYN HELD and SR. DANIELLE WITT

retrent 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM

ार्ड्र \$40 INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS \$175 FOR THE SERIES

Register on our website: mercycenterstl.org Each retreat day will start with the viewing of a particular episode of "The Chosen" which will lead us into reflection, prayer and discussion on a specific element or quality of our own faith journey. Each day will also include a light lunch (quiet or conversational) and craft activities that correspond to the theme, as well as access to the labyrinth, outdoor walking paths, and Stations of the Cross.

February 27 "I Have Called You by Name"

March 5 "Re-Forming Our Image of Jesus"

March 12 "All That I Longed For"

March 19 "Control - Our Default M.O."

March 26 "Longing to be Whole"

MERCY CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER 2039 NORTH GEVER ROAD - SAINT LOUIS MO 63131 - 314-966-4686 - MERCYCENTERSTLORG

Detailed Financial Performance for the First 6-Months

Revenue Details:

Unrestricted Revenue and Restricted Offerings & Gifts: We have seen a promising increase in unrestricted revenue, outperforming both our budget and the previous year's figures. This uplift was influenced by higher-thananticipated donations in December and a generous one-time gift of \$20,000. This was offset somewhat by a decrease in restricted donations.

Grant Revenue: Grant revenue presented a mixed picture in the first half of the year. While lower than expected in the first 6-months, we are optimistic about exceeding our annual budget. This optimism primarily stems from the delayed receipt of a grant from Catholic Charities, intended for Social Ministry, which arrived in January rather than the expected earlier timeline. Further, we received an unbudgeted grant from SLU for office space repairs and a grant from the Lutheran Foundation.

Other Revenue: The Gala and weddings have been bright spots, with revenues exceeding expectations by \$12,500 and \$15,000, respectively. These successes contribute positively to our financial outlook for the fiscal year. **Expense Insights**:

Personnel Costs: A notable positive variance in our expenses has been lower personnel costs, thanks to a benefits holiday provided by the Archdiocese in October.

Fees & Services and Occupancy Costs: These categories have seen higher-than-anticipated expenses due to the timing of payments for the Outreach Coordinator and unexpected construction costs. These expenses, particularly the construction costs, will be partially mitigated by the SLU grant noted above.

	Actual 6-	6-Month	Actual 6-
	Month	Ended	Month
	Ended	12/31/2023	Ended
6-Month YTD ANALYSIS	12/31/2023	Budget	12/31/2022
Unrestricted Revenue	\$ 429,233	\$ 373,586	\$ 369,173
Restricted Offerings & Gifts	63,227	83,310	78,921
Program Fees	8,286	3,122	10,683
Investment Income	2,207	1,667	321
Grant Revenue	68,830	84,553	$26,\!687$
Other Revenues	222,018	188,767	182,415
Merchant Account Fees	(8,631)	(9,000)	(8,971)
TOTAL INCOME	785,170	726,005	659,229
Personnel Costs	374,019	392,954	360,204
Supplies	23,494	18,373	26,515
Fees & Services	124,480	92,810	108,100
Occupancy	132,822	124,482	128,486
Tfrs Other Parishes/Diocese	63,881	64,224	63,752
TOTAL EXPENSES	718,696	692,843	687,057
ORDINARY INCOME	66,474	33,162	(27,828)
Other Income/Expense	(7,628)	-	-
NET INCOME	\$ 58,846	\$ 33,162	\$ (27,828)

March 3, 2024

Circle of Creation Green Corner

This week's 8th Grade Lenten Journey for Creation Theme For Reflection is "Light of the World." To supplement ideas from the 8th graders, here are some ideas from the CCC:

1. Be a "Light" in the world. You could volunteer along with some CCC folks and hopefully many other parishioners, family members, and friends for a trash-bash/cleanup at the <u>Greenwood Cemetery</u> located at 6571 St. Louis Avenue, 63121. Do read the History section about this cemetery that was organized in 1874 to serve the needs of the growing black population of post-civil war St. Louis City and County. Let's get lots of able-bodied helpers for this event on Saturday, March 23, from 8:00 AM to Noon.

2. Be a "Light" to someone in your life: Take time to read a book to or do a puzzle with a younger

- sibling or surprise your parents by doing some household chores without being asked!
- 3. Think twice before you judge someone (as the Pharisees did). There may be more to their story than you know.
- 4. Can you recall a time when your "eyes were opened" and you thought about something in a different way? If so, write down how that "aha" moment felt and how it made you think differently. Did you act differently?

Franciscans For Earth Eco-Series for March is a virtual event. Registered participants will be able, via Zoom, to view and discuss the film "To the End--Four Young Women Fight for Green New Deal" on Tuesday evening from 6:30 – 7:30 PM on March 12. Additional information and registration are <u>here</u> [franciscansisters-olph.org/events/mar-12-ffe/].

A relevant article for this time of the year, Lent, and this time in human history, climate change, is "<u>Fasting from Carbon for Lent</u>" by Thomas Reese in EARTHBEAT, a Project of National Catholic Reporter.

Bad news: **The Subaru Free Recycling Program is closing** March 31, 2024. If you want to get your snack wrappers or other acceptable items to a Subaru dealer by that deadline, you should check first to be sure that the Subaru dealer of your choice is accepting these items for recycling via <u>Terracycle</u>

Good news: <u>Partners for Native Landscaping Spring Series</u> has three parts, the first of which is virtual and done in cooperation with the St. Louis County Library. Information and registration for each part is at the above link.

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/</u>

Visit the College Church Circle of Creation Committee's Green Corner at <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.

<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.	

March 9-10

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Sunday 8:00 am	Fr. Redding, S.J.	
10:30 am	Fr. Redding, S.J.	

This Sunday's Scripture Readings

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 19:8, 9, 10, 11

Second Reading:

I Corinthians 1:22-25

Gospel: John 2:13-25

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.