



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

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April 26, 2020
Third Sunday of Easter

LITURGY SCHEDULE

No public Masses until further notice to help protect the health of our parishioners.

Online Masses will be posted on our YouTube channel. Subscribe here: tinyurl.com/collegechurchmass

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 Fr. Matthew Baugh, SJ associatepastor@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 Sister Carolyn McWatters at 314-977-1797 or carolyn.mcwatters@slu.edu or Fr. Dan White.

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: Available for Pre-K through eighth grade. Classes meet September - May on Sunday mornings. Ages 3-6 use the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Contact Terry Edelmann at terry@sfxstl.org or Julie Kilian at julie@sfxstl.org for more information.

Liturgy of the Word for Children: Celebrated weekly for children in kindergarten - fourth grade at 10:30 am Sunday Mass. Childcare is available for children ages six months through pre-kindergarten during the 10:30 am Mass in the Parish Center Nursery. Contact Terry Edelmann at terry@sfxstl.org.

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

PASTORAL STAFFPastor

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Sue Martin
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Deacon

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Liturgy & Music

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Pastoral Ministry

Bridget Brennan
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PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ted Agniel
 Bruce Blattenberger*
 Mary Bruemmer*
 Linda Castillon*
 Edgar & Ingrid Canavan
 Ben, Michelle and Bryan
 Chappell
 Justin Lee Coy
 Monica Gunn
 Jessi Haselhorst
 Paul Hanson*
 Mary Jane Henning*
 Terry Kippenberger*
 Pat March*
 Mark Marsh
 Joan McLean*
 Karena Menard
 Nancy Partridge* & Glider
 Bob Powers*
 Ruthann Redmon
 Mark Roddy*
 Dennis Saunders*
 Jennifer Saunders*
 Family of Candace Sexton
 Art Taylor*
 Jacob Verghese
 Sr Mary Ann Wachtel
 Donald Webre*
 Tracy Anthony Whitlock
 David Williams
 Julia Williams
 Lisa Zimmerer*

* Long-term

Prayer requests to:

church@sfxstl.org

Or visit our website, sfxstl.org,
 and find the form under "Parish
 Life."

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

A sense of loss permeates our existence in these days. The suffering and deaths of so many. The lost jobs and economic devastation, especially for those living on the edge in the best of times. The absence of physical connection to loved ones and friends. The deep uncertainty about what lies ahead of us.

There are other absences, clearly less tragic, but still significant for us. The normal human interaction that is essential to our flourishing: sharing a meal with one another in a favorite restaurant, cheering on the Cardinals at Busch Stadium, attending movies or concerts, etc. Historians and sociologists have highlighted that previous social calamities like wars or depressions have relied upon societies banding together for support. A pandemic requires the solidarity of absence.

It is a great challenge to imagine how our solitary actions have a positive impact on the whole. Fortunately, our Christian tradition has long embraced the truth that our individual acts benefit not just ourselves, but the entire faith community. The need to fast from what is inherently good has ripple effects beyond us. We remain in communion even when apart.

Our faith tells us this present reality is not something we simply "white-knuckle" our way through while hoping for the best. The loss we feel is real. However, the desire to enter into the absence is where God's grace calls us to be.

For today's Mass, our cantor will be Carol Webster.

Our lectors will be Lily Reinert and Fred Hanlon.

Post Resurrection Musings

Anyone acquainted with yoga knows that a central focus of any effective practice is awareness of one's breath. Over and over the admonition is given, "Focus on your breath". "Breathe into the area of tightness or resistance". "Hold the pose for five breaths." "Breathe!" Doing otherwise makes for tight muscles and poor poses. Breathing with peaceful awareness allows for fluidity and flow.

In my own life I know the difference deep breathing has on my body. If I am full of fear or anxiety I become small and self-focused; my body and my spirit tighten and the psychological space in my world diminishes. I can't think of much besides me and my own concerns. This is likely the experience of the disciples after Jesus' death. They were paralyzed with fear, overwhelmed by the loss of their master and friend. What would they do now? When would it be their turn to suffer the same kind of hatred and violence that Jesus had experienced?

In last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus visits the apostles a second time after his resurrection. Into their chaos and uncertainty Jesus came, calming them with his message of "Peace be with you". And he **breathed** on them, giving them the gift of his Spirit. This gift was to serve as their power and peace. It was only in receiving that breath, being willing to breathe with him, that his peace could take hold in their hearts. Only this breath could release them from the stranglehold of fear. This Spirit-breath would keep them supple and strong, enlarging their hearts and their worldview and enabling them to face the future with boldness and faith.

In this coronavirus moment we can surely identify with the psychological state of the disciples. And we can also be assured that just as Jesus tenderly and lovingly took care of his friends, so is he constantly attentive to us and our needs. He continues to appear to **us** today, consoling us with his presence and his peace. He is with us in every moment.

I share with all of you the weirdness, uncertainty and angst of these weeks. I have my ups and downs, too. I am encouraged by the connections we have made, online and by phone. Let us continue to slow down... breathe deeply...to remember how important we are to one another ...and walk forward together in courage and faith.

Sister Carolyn McWatters

Catholic Social Teaching in the Time of Coronavirus

The following is part of a series of reflections that will touch on the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching. Please contact Christine with your own reflections on “Catholic Social Teaching in the Time of Coronavirus” at christine@sfxstl.org.



Week Three: Care for Creation, Catherine Swanstrom
Listening Under the Gaze

In the Gospel of John, a heart-broken Mary of Magdala peers into an empty tomb before dawn. As we ourselves often experience, Mary enters with a mixture of emotions: sheer grief, hope, fear, helplessness. In her bewilderment, she has the courage to peer into the unknown.

On the first Easter morning, Mary models for us *an attitude of listening and response*. To her (and our own!) utter surprise, she hears Jesus call her name. Mary knows this voice because her heart has become attuned to its whisper. Mary responds to her risen Lord, "Teacher!"

As we peer in with a mixture of emotions to the acute suffering in our world now, how is the Risen Lord teaching our hearts to *know his voice, to listen, and to respond*? We might begin by naming what breaks our hearts - in our own lives and in our world. Like Mary, we will come to embrace our discipleship under the gaze of the risen Lord and Teacher.

With Mary, we too are transformed in Encounter with the Risen Jesus. We, too, are called to respond by "telling the brothers and sisters."

In his encyclical *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*, Pope Francis calls us away from "rapidification" - the fast-paced demands on the earth and the poor - to a slower pace that allows our earth to breathe. In the midst of the sorrows of the Covid-19 pandemic we are somehow being given this quiet space.

Jesus is teaching me. How might I enter, listen, and respond in this pause by asking myself

What would it feel like to lack food or health insurance for my family?

What is the panic of a community facing Covid-19 with an inadequate or even non-existent medical structure?

What is it like to not have access to clean water to wash my hands?

What is like to live in loneliness?

With Mary of Magdala, I hope to have the courage in this time to enter...to listen and respond in love under the gaze of our Teacher, the Risen Lord.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Green Corner

“Opt to Act” for Earth

REI Co-op is sponsoring Opt to Act, 52 simple weekly challenges to reduce your impact on the Earth, get active, and leave the world better than you found it. This well-researched website (Just Google REI Opt to Act Plan), actually helps with information on why and how to take these steps.



This week's tip:

April 26 to May 2: Unplug home appliances you rarely use to save energy.

April 26th, 2020

10:30 am Fr. White, S.J.

May 3rd, 2020

10:30 am Fr. Baugh, S.J.

Bulletin Articles

email bulletin articles to church@sfxstl.org before Thursday at noon 10 days before the bulletin date.

Parish Immersion Trip to El Paso, TX: Thursday 10/22/20-Tuesday 10/27/20



College Church still has plans for a border immersion trip to El Paso, Texas and Juarez, Mexico with the Jesuit ministry ‘Encuentro Project’ in October 2020. The purpose will be to facilitate learning and awareness about immigration through direct experience, with a goal of then taking action for immigration justice. The trip has a capacity of 14 people (adults only). All trip participants MUST have a valid passport. The total cost of the trip is expected to be approximately \$850 per individual.

Examples of Potential Activities:

- Meeting parishioners and staff of *El Sagrado Corazon* (Sacred Heart), a Jesuit parish founded in 1893, located 3 blocks from the Texas/Mexico border. Visit participants and instructors in Social Ministries adult education program. Participate in Sunday liturgy.
- Border Patrol's information tour.
- Diocese's office for immigration legal assistance (DMRS) overview presentation of immigration law.
- Mass with detainees at ICE Detention Center in El Paso. Meet detainees.
- Visiting Annunciation House, a hospitality house for migrants and refugees.
- Presentation on border environmental concerns, given by university professor from Cd. Juarez.
- Programs for the impoverished in Cd. Juarez, Mexico. Meet the people and the leaders (a passport is required); or other U.S. option.
- Eucharists and end-of-day reflections. Common meals in the evening.

For more detailed information or to register, contact Dean at mrlama51@gmail.com.

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