



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

April 28th, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter

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.

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 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.

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 Jennifer Quick at jennifer@sfxstl.org or Julie Kilian at julie@sfxstl.org for more information.

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

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

PASTORAL STAFFDirector of the Work

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Choir Director, Music Ministry

Ray Sherrock
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Director of Wedding Music & Accompanist, Music Ministry

Sue Martin
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Pastoral Council Co-Chairs

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
 Harry M. Byrne, O.P.
 Maureen Carney*
 Tara Chandler
 Madeline Dames
 Tom Engelhardt
 Virginia Fister
 Steve Frank*
 Joanie Hasser*
 Butch Henning*
 Yvonne Jayasuriya
 Terry Kippenberger*
 Uly Labilles
 Donna Leach-Heimos
 Jack Malone
 Tom McDermott
 Eddie McDevitt
 Kathy Mayer
 Angie Menard*
 Karena Menard*
 Don Needham
 Rea O'Neill
 Terry O'Toole
 Mark Roddy*
 Alicia S.
 Mikell S.
 Art Schierhoff
 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 joy@canainstitute.org for info.

The Synod Continues

By Katie Jansen, Director of the Work

It's been two and a half years since the start of the global listening process – For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission. Through the Synod, the Pope is reminding the church that each of us is called by God to serve, to love, in a unique way. And that we as the universal church need to listen in love to those callings and be changed in love by what we hear! We are called to speak boldly for the good of our church. And we are called to listen with hearts wide open.



One question that we as the People of God are invited to discern: **Is the Holy Spirit prompting us to renew the permanent diaconate so that it can be a ministry of men and women that serves a synodal Church?**

From the Document for the Continental Stage of the Synod: *After careful listening, many reports ask that the Church continue its discernment in relation to a range of specific questions: the active role of women in the governing structures of Church bodies, the possibility for women with adequate training to preach in parish settings, and a female diaconate.*

If you would like to contribute to the discernment of a renewed diaconate, I invite you to take part in *Discerning Diaknoia*, a focused synodal encounter with a listening presence from voting synod delegates. This will include a conversation in the Spirit to expand and deepen the discernment. <https://bit.ly/discern-diakonia>



Widows' and Widowers' Group meeting on April 28th, 9:15 a.m.

The Widows' and Widowers' Group meets on the 4th Sunday of the month in the lunchroom of the parish office. Our next meeting will be on Sunday, April 28 at 9:15 after the 8:00 Mass.

Please contact Valerie Rutterer vrutterer@gmail.com (314-494-8986) or Phyllis Nolan pgnolan@swbell.net (314-772-5595) for more information.

We are a small group that centers itself around discussions about books on grief.

Thank you for your support of College Church.

@collegechurchsfx



venmo

COMMUNION RITE

Communion Hymn: Ubi Caritas

Gather 696

Meditation (10:30): I Will Be the Vine

Gather 872

CONCLUDING RITE

Recessional: Baptized in Water

Gather 903

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**SFX Community Parties
Tickets on Sale!**

Check out all the amazing opportunities to meet fellow parishioners and support College Church!



- Does a **Pool Side Cookout** sound good to you?
- Or a **Backyard Barbeque with Fr. Dan**?
- Or a **Mario Cart Tournament**?
- Maybe a **CITY SC Game at Urban Chestnut**?
- How about a **Bourbon Tasting**?
- Or **Murder Mystery Party**?
- Or **Dinner and a Sing-along**?

Use the QR code to purchase tickets or go to <http://bit.ly/sfxpartytix>.



Pentecost Approaches—Time for a Potluck!

On Sunday, May 19th after the 10:30am Mass, we will once again come together for a Pentecost Potluck.

As Pentecost celebrates the birthday of the Church, when people of many different languages all heard the Good News, we will celebrate the many cultures present in our community with all different varieties of food!

Please use this link to sign up to volunteer and/or bring food: <https://tinyurl.com/sfxpentecostpotluck>



The Voss Family

Living Our Faith: Meet Ben

An SFX parishioner since: 2020, although my history with College Church went back for several years. I attended SLU for undergrad, and loved the 10 p.m. Mass on Sunday. After a long day of studying in the library as I was trying to get into medical school, the Sunday night Mass provided relief and a sense of calm. The music, the stained glass, the Jesuit wisdom during the sermons and the community were just what I needed as a college student. I'll never forget on 9/11 when an emergency, all-campus Mass was held and the pastor preached forgiveness. We hadn't even had time to process what had happened, but the call to forgive was clear. The same rings true now, 20 years later. The weekly homily provides just what our family needs as we strive for faith, justice and solidarity.

Living my faith: My wife, Jenna, and I enjoyed our previous local parishes and our kids were baptized there. We attended Mass weekly and said hello to a few of our neighbors, but something was missing. As COVID and racial inequity ravaged our country, we realized we needed more from our Church, and had to diversify our children's faith education. We came to College Church and instantly knew this is where we were meant to be. The wonderful community, thoughtful leadership structure, social justice mission, and honesty about past mistakes made College Church feel authentic to us. Jenna enjoys lecturing and volunteering for many things. Mikey, Frankie and Ramona enjoy their Mass "pregame" in Religious Education and participating in the children's Mass. And, I even once helped serve Tang at a pancake breakfast!

Why I'm involved: To lead by example for our kids. Building relationships with other parishioners, engaging with spiritual leaders and serving the community is (we hope) showing our kids there is more to our faith journey than just showing up on Sunday.

Three words that describe SFX: Thoughtful, Beautiful, Welcoming.

My neighborhood: We live in Glendale about 15 minutes from SFX. We drop Mikey and then the twins off at Religious Education at 9:30, pick up Jenna's sister, Sara, and then meet Chris and Abby Roetheli for coffee each week before Mass. Then, we occasionally enjoy the Foundry for lunch after Mass before driving home. It's a wonderful tradition.

Fun fact: When I'm not swimming, biking or running, I'm doctoring professional football players. First, the (formerly known as St. Louis) Rams, and now, the Battlehawks. KaKaw!

St. Francis Xavier's parish family represents diverse backgrounds, with many warm and welcoming parishioners. Learn more by calling (314) 977-7300 or visiting sfxstl.org. You can find past parishioner profiles at sfxstl.org/living-our-faith.

College Church is Hiring! Director of Faith Formation

The Director of Faith Formation is a full-time salaried position. The Director of Faith Formation oversees the religious and spiritual formation of children and adults in the parish and supports parish family life informed by our identity and values as a Jesuit parish in the City of St. Louis.

For more information, scan QR code or go to sfxstl.org/job-postings





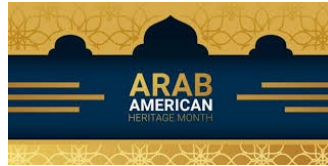
Antiracism at College Church

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.

Invisible No More

April is Arab American Heritage Month, during which we celebrate the many contributions of that community to the life of our nation.

Members of the Arab American community had their spirits buoyed on April 11, when the White House



Office of Management and Budget announced new standards for the collection of racial and ethnicity data, including the addition of a Middle Eastern/North African (MENA) category to the ten-year census. The change had been sought by Arab Americans for decades, as their numbers were essentially erased because of the previous requirement to identify as white. As a result, though the nonprofit Arab American Institute estimates a population of approximately four million, there has been no accurate count of that community, leading to continued underrepresentation. Official counts determine how federal funds are allocated, how congressional districts are drawn, how health care research is conducted, and how racial discrimination laws are enforced.

Arab Americans had resisted being considered Asian, even though the Middle East is on the Western edge of the Asian continent, because discriminatory immigration laws excluded Asians from becoming U.S. citizens until the mid-twentieth century. A 1909 case extended citizenship to Lebanese, Syrians, and all Arabs. In late January of this year, a federal working group recommended that a new MENA category be recognized on official government documents because “many in the MENA community do not share the same lived experience as white people with European ancestry, do not identify as white, and are not perceived as white by others.”

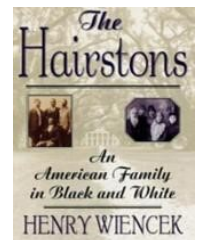
Some in the MENA community, while welcoming the new category’s addition, caution that the change, which won’t go into effect until 2030, is a first step only. The new standards deny the racial diversity of the Arab American community by excluding Black Arabs and defining MENA without one of its largest populations, Armenian Americans. Thus refinement of racial and ethnic descriptions and categorization is required.

The Hairstons—An American Family in Black and White

Our SFX lending library currently holds 48 books on Racial Justice. This one was recently donated, and I decided to review it before placing it on the shelf for others to read. D.W.

In the South, the Hairston family (pronounced “Harston”) was a true dynasty, running 100 plantations over four states and controlling approximately 10,000 enslaved workers in their plantation system. This well-researched book tells the story of plantation life from interviews of descendants, census documents, marriage records, and slave registries. It unfurls the complicated process that interwove the races during the slavery era.

Few descendants of plantation owners admit that racial mixing occurred on plantations. Yet property listings for plantations usually included children and grandchildren of plantation owners among its enslaved workers. Some plantation owners showed favoritism toward certain enslaved women and their children, even bequeathing property to them. Modern descendants of those plantation owners recognize those overtures but deny that any Black workers were ever true “heirs” to their white ancestors. Yet today there are as many Black Hairston family members as there are white members!



As the U.S. moved into the post-Civil War industrial age formerly enslaved individuals could make more money in factories than they could sharecropping land that was not theirs. Plantations were thus left without sufficient workers to make them profitable. Yet, white identity was so entrenched in the prestige of their plantations that losses after Emancipation often destroyed the cohesiveness among what was left of the white families. Today, annual reunions gather both white and black branches of the Hairston family, hoping for some degree of reconciliation. Yet each group harbors vastly different memories from that period – the “glory days” among white members; torture and lack of human dignity among Black members.

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At times tough to read about how enslaved persons were treated, this book is enlightening and relatively fast reading. It helps one grasp more deeply the emotional trauma embedded in the historical memory of their ancestors that our Black sisters and brothers continue to carry. Those scars are long-lasting so it may take many more generations for true reconciliation.

- David Werthmann

Significant Figures in Racial History

Bessie Coleman – died April 30, 1926, in Jacksonville, FL. Coleman was the first African American/ Native American female pilot in history. Born to a sharecropping family, young Coleman worked in the cotton fields while attending a segregated school. Her interest in flying was squelched as women of color had no place to train in the U.S. So, she saved up and earned her pilot's license in France. Coleman flew in U.S. air shows and planned to open a flight school for African American pilots, but her life was cut short in a plane crash at age 32.

Jordan Neely – died May 1, 2023, in New York, NY. Neely developed a mental illness after his mother was murdered when he was 14. He was known as a Michael Jackson impersonator. Homeless, and on the city's list of "people with the greatest needs," 34-year-old Neely was killed by a white person who put a choke hold on him when he became "erratic" in the NYC subway.

John Berry Meachum – born on May 3, 1789, in Goochland County, VA. Meachum founded the First African Baptist Church in St. Louis, the oldest Black church west of the Mississippi River. He also operated a school in the church basement when it was illegal to teach Black children.

Upcoming Events

May 11 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 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 information about additional community programs see the calendar of events at Seeds of Justice Network:

seedsofjusticenetwork.org/

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

The Next Chapter Retreat

The Next Chapter is a program grounded in Ignatian Spirituality that has been offered in the St. Louis community for the past seven years. It is a six-month guided journey in a group setting for people who are approaching retirement or who are recently retired. The ultimate goal of the program is to assist one to discern how he or she wants to live the next chapter of life. For more information, go to www.nextchapterprogram.org.

The next session of the program begins in October of 2024. The first step for participating in the program is to attend an information session. The sessions will be held at 6:30 pm on May 13 and June 5 at the Mercy Conference and Retreat Center, 2039 Geyer Road. To RSVP please email Tom at thomas.auffenberg@slu.edu and indicate which session you will attend.

Camp Creative

Camp Creative was founded by St. Louisan, Julie Kuhnert, while she and her family were missionaries at St. Peter Claver parish in Belize. Now, in its 12th year, the summer camp serves 200+ children, and has expanded to include a 2nd camp in the Maya village of Big Falls. Camp Creative is looking for volunteers to spend time in Punta Gorda Belize, working with the local community, to assist at a week-long summer day camp. There are two date options, with flexibility in the travel dates. **Camp 1** (in Punta Gorda): Travel **6/28-7/9 OR~ Camp 2** (Maya village): Travel **7/12-7/21**. For any additional questions, contact Julie Kuhnert, 314-614-3354 or kuhnertj@hotmail.com.



COLLEGE CHURCH - SISTER PARISH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM DEADLINE: APRIL 29, 2024

For the last three years, we have extended the opportunity for College Church parishioners to sponsor students at our sister parish St. Peter Claver in Belize. Thanks to your generous response, our parish community currently sponsors the high school education of **50 students** in Belize. We hope to sponsor **fifteen additional students this year**.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION & GUIDELINES

The Scholarship Program is coordinated through our Sister Parish St. Peter Claver in Belize and through the supervision of Ms. Olive Woodye. It is well organized and has specific requirements and guidelines for scholarship application and for retention. It is designed for boys and girls in all four high school years, Forms 1-4. The parents are interviewed and have an application process and a contract that they must sign for their child to participate. They also require 20 hours of service from each student each year. Their report cards are reviewed regularly and Ms. Olive monitors and advises them on grades and other needs they may have.

To sponsor a student for all 4 years of high school costs **\$900 USD (or \$225 per year)**, which can be paid as one lump sum or annually. The cost covers school fees, books, uniforms, supplies, and lunches. This would be used for the same child all four years as long as they meet all the program requirements annually. If a student does not complete all four years, the sponsor would be informed and a new student in need would be selected and benefit from their sponsorship.

There are 30 schools in the Toledo district where St. Peter Claver is located, the poorest district in Belize. There are many students awaiting sponsorship for high school! Scholarship interviews and selection takes place over the summer, and school begins in August.

QUESTIONS OR INTERESTED IN SPONSORING A STUDENT?

Please contact committee chair Mary Linhares at marytlinhares@gmail.com. The deadline for sponsorships is **Monday, April 29th, 2024**.

Social Connections Commission Announcement

The Social Connections Commission (aka The Parish Party People) is trying to do our part in caring for our creation and being environmentally responsible by doing what we can to decrease the landfill resulting from our events. If you have reusable, lightweight 8" or 5" plates or small bowls or stainless utensils that you are no longer using, we would love to add to our collection. Please email (butmomwhy@gmail.com) or text Maureen (314-420-1650) for more information. Please do not just drop off at the Parish Center. Thanks!

Duffle Bag and Backpack Donations Needed: Donations Accepted Through May 26th

St. Francis Community Services seeks new or gently used duffle bags or sturdy backpacks for clients in or traveling through St. Louis. The bags should be fairly durable and comfortable for travel.

Please drop off donated bags by Sunday, May 26th in one of the following ways:

- After Mass in one of the large bins that will be placed in the vestibule of the church every weekend throughout the month of May
- Monday-Friday from 8:30am-12pm or 1-3pm to the College Church parish center at 3628 Lindell Blvd.

Feel free to reach out to Christine at christine@sfxstl.org with any questions. Thank you so much for your consideration!

Openings on the SFX Pastoral Council

The St. Francis Xavier (College) Church Pastoral Council is a group composed of the Parish Life Coordinator (Director of the Work) and twelve active parishioners who meet regularly to deliberate, reflect, and make decisions on a variety of issues related to the operations, programming, and spiritual life of the parish. The Pastoral Council provides support and direction to the various parish Commissions and Committees, and is generally charged with making sure that all activities support the parish’s Mission. There are **four openings** on the Pastoral Council for the term starting in August 2024. Council members serve for a three-year term with the option to serve a second term. The group meets one Saturday morning per month, and also participates actively in various special events throughout the year.

Process

Interested parishioners can submit a short statement explaining their interest in serving on the Council answering the following three questions: (1) What has drawn you to SFX College Church, and what are your hopes for the future of the parish? (2) What background and experience, either professional, personal, or as a parishioner, would you bring to the Council and how would you apply it? (3) Do you foresee any obstacles that would prevent you from regularly attending Council meetings and, from time to time, assisting with special projects or events? Are there scheduling or other accommodations that would make participation easier for you? Katie Jansen or another council member will meet with each applicant to discern with the nominee whether or not they would be a good fit for the council.

Interested?

Please fill out this form
<https://bit.ly/SFX-Council>



or reach out to one of our Council Co-Chairs
Jen Hahn-Petruso
jenpetruso7@gmail.com
Aimee Wittman
aimeewittman@gmail.com
Or Katie Jansen
 314-977-1954, *katie@sfxstl.org*.

Current Leadership

CO-CHAIRS
 Jen Hahn-Petruso & Aimee Wittman

SECRETARY
 Amy Sanders

MEMBERS
 Martha Daly
 Carl Greiner
 Mary Lenihan
 Deepan Rajaratnam
 Winnie Sullivan
 Grace Teofilo



Youth Faith Formation Registration: Registration for our 2024-25 Youth Faith Formation programs is now open! We offer Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for children ages 3-12 years-old and a traditional classroom model for children in Kindergarten through 8th Grade. You can register on our website. Please reach out to Jennifer at jennifer@sfxstl.org or Julie at julie@sfxstl.org with any questions! Our registration deadline is June 1st.

Circle of Creation Green Corner

The Circle of Creation Committee was pleased that many were able to join us on April 14 for a 15-minute clip from the video "Seeding Change: The Power of Conscious Commerce" and the fruitful discussion led by Sr. Cheryl Kemner OSF, Coordinator of Franciscans For the Earth. If you would like to view the entire 50-minute video, go to www.seedingchange.com/purchase to see how you can watch for free or on your favorite streaming platform.

One way you can recycle the solar glasses you used for eclipse watching is through Astronomers Without Borders [Solar Glasses Recycling and Distribution](#).

[astronomerswithoutborders.org/programs/solar-glasses-distribution#collection_node]. A local collection partner is Schillers Camera at 9240 Manchester Rd 63144. You may also turn in solar glasses into a bag held by an usher before or after the Saturday evening and the Sunday morning Masses. There is also a bag for solar glasses in the Adult Faith Room in the Parish Center.

A provocative article regarding Earth Day (Every day is Earth Day), "Celebrate Earth Day by Skipping the 'Green Consumerism' Fads" by Stephanie Feldstein is provided through [Sierra](#), the magazine of the Sierra Club.

But for things you DO need to buy, you may find help concerning which companies to support via your purchases through [Better World Shopper](#) [betterworldshopper.org].

You can also put your money where your values are. This article from Project Drawdown may help. "[SAVING \[FOR\] THE PLANET](#)" [drawdown.org/publications/saving-for-the-planet].

OPEN SPACE STL offers [community stewardship volunteer opportunities](#) through the metro area. [volunteer.openspacestl.org]

[Revamp the Riverfront](#) clean-up events are to prevent plastic pollution from entering the Mighty Mississippi and eventually our oceans! [https://interland3.donorperfect.net/]

The next volunteer event is Wednesday, May 29, from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM at Mural Mile at 601 S Leonor K. Sullivan Blvd 63102.

Public Electronics Recycling events. See the schedule of events at mrc-recycling.squarespace.com/electronics-recycling-events

May 4, 9:00 AM to Noon
10333 Clayton Court Drive
Frontenac, MO, 63131 | hosted by Redkey Realty Frontenac

Thursday, May 9, 9:00 AM to Noon
12777 Olive Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63141 | hosted by St. Louis Realtors

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

April 27th-28th

April 20
5:15 pm Fr. McMahon, S.J.

April 21
8:00 am Fr. Redding, S.J.

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

May 4th-5th

May 4
5:15 pm Fr. Redding, S.J.

May 5
8:00 am Fr. McMahon S.J.

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

This Sunday's Scripture Readings

First Reading:

Acts 9:26-31

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32

Second Reading:

I John 3:18-24

Gospel:

John 15:1-8

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.