



Confirmation 2023 (photo by Michael Burks)

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

May 14, 2023
Sixth 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/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 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 Edelmann at terry@sfxstl.org.

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

PASTORAL STAFFParish Life Coordinator

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Canonical Pastor

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Sandy Hauck
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sandy@sfxstl.org

Choir Director, Music Ministry

Ray Sherrock
rsherrock@desmet.org

Director of Wedding Music & Accompanist, Music Ministry

Sue Martin
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susan.martin@slu.edu

Pastoral Council Co-Chairs

Jen Hahn-Petruso and Aimee Wittman
sfxpc@sfxstl.org

Pastoral Ministry

Bridget Brennan
joy@canainstitute.org

PRAY FOR THE SICK**Branches on the Vine**

By Mary Elizabeth Sperry in *Give Us This Day*

Anonymous Faculty member
Margaret Baughman
Samuel Belk
Bill Bollwerk*
Maureen Carney*
Jim Costello
Bob Edler
Steve Frank*
Dave Greiner
Deacon Jim Griffard
Jessi Haselhorst
Joanie Hasser*
Butch Henning*
Jeanne Hermann*
Laura Kaiser and Family
Terry Kippenberger*
Peggy Krebs
Julianne Lister
Tom McDermott
Eddie McDevitt
Angie Menard*
Karena Menard*
Liz Moloney*
Suzanne Mondello
Rey O'Neill
Nancy Partridge* & Glider
Fr. Dick Perl, SJ*
Mark Roddy*
Jennifer Saunders*
Mark Segovia
John Seibel
Fr. Gary Seibert, SJ*
Jean Steely
Greg Stephen
Colleen Starkloff
Terry Werner
Robert Wilmott
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.

Several years ago, I visited a variety of charitable institutions throughout Kenya, including a facility that got kids off the street and provided them with a safe place to live, an education, and job skills. My young guides gave me a tour and asked me about my life. I showed them photos of me and my dog standing in front of my house. The girls asked who lived with me. I proudly informed them that it was my house—that I lived alone. These former street kids responded with pity because I had no one to share my home. My pride in my individual accomplishment faded as I saw things through their eyes.

This story illustrates the heart of John 15:1-17, one of Christianity's most countercultural claims. We live in a culture that idolizes independence and self-reliance. The media lifts up stories of "self-made men" and "do-it-all moms." Young people who fail to launch fully independent lives or those who require ongoing assistance are seen as somehow less than others who can "take care of themselves." But Jesus' teaching in the Gospels this week puts the lie to the myth of self-reliance. None of us is truly independent. None of us can go it alone. We will all perish if separated from the vine that gives us life.

The beginning of Christian life is the recognition that God is God, and we are not. No matter our skills, intelligence, or wealth, we cannot save ourselves. Instead, we are saved precisely because we are joined to the vine that is Christ...In baptism, we are conformed to Christ and we become part of his Body. As members of his Body, we share in his resurrection.

...As members of Christ's Body, we share his mission to spread the Good News to every corner of the world. We are called to help everyone we meet to encounter Jesus, who brings hope, freedom, and life. We are called to embrace our sisters and brothers, recognizing that they too draw life from the same vine.

...We reach out to share God's love through our concrete acts of service and advocacy so that the whole vine may flourish. Rooted in God's grace and the sacrificial love of Jesus, we know that we will never be alone.

Mary Elizabeth Sperry holds a master's degree in liturgical studies from the Catholic University of America. She has worked for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops since 1994 and is the author of numerous articles and books, including Scripture in the Parish. Visit her blog at maryelizabethsperry.com.

A message from Rev. Daniel Vogt, who is presiding at our Masses this weekend:

In the appeal that I am making today, I need to raise funds to continue the important ministry that has been my life for the past 35 years. Since arriving in Guatemala as a missionary I have witnessed the effects of extreme poverty on families, especially indigenous children: poor health, stunted growth, slow learning, emotional problems, among them. It has been my goal to help as many families as possible to improve their living conditions, and through Qeqchi Partners we have been able to provide Healthy Homes to hundreds of rural villagers.

A Healthy Home consists of providing 1. Clean drinking water using durable and low cost filters we make, 2. Concrete floors replacing dirt and 3. Flush latrines replacing traditional outhouses or open air human waste disposal. The effects of these improvements are sharp reductions in intestinal and respiratory illness, reduction of malnutrition and child hunger, and reduction of parasitic infections and mosquito or fly borne illness like malaria and dengue. Also, a Healthy Home offers a safer and cleaner environment for child mental and emotional development as well as a reduction in adult depression and illness.

We need YOU to help us. A donation of \$50 allows us to make and install a clean water filter in a rural home, thereby providing clean drinking water. A donation of \$300 allows us to provide a concrete floor for a family home. For a \$400 donation we can provide a flush latrine for a family. Please remember your little sisters and brothers in Guatemala, and respond today. See our website www.qpworks.org and make your donation.

May God bless your generosity. ~ Rev. Daniel Vogt, Co-Founder of Qeqchi Partners

RE and CGS 23-24 Class Registration

It's time to sign up for the RE & CGS programs for the 23-24 school year. Our registration deadline is tomorrow, May 15, 2023. Cost increases \$25/student for late registrations in August.

Please visit <https://sfxstl.org/yf-registration-confirmation> for more information and to register. Interested in being a Catechist or classroom assistant? Please contact Julie at julie@sfxstl.org or Jennifer at jennifer@sfxstl.org.

Mercy Conference and Retreat Center Programs

Awaken to the Divine: Contemplative Reflections to Transform Your Spirit, a 5-day silent guided retreat led by Paul Coutinho, July 5-9 at Mercy Center, St. Louis. Commuter: \$350 Overnight: \$500. Register by June 23 at www.mercycenterstl.org. 9:00 AM check-in Wednesday through departure Sunday afternoon. Paul Coutinho is a recognized international scholar who blends spirituality and psychology and brings an Eastern flavor to Western spirituality.

Summer Silent Directed Retreat at Mercy Center, St. Louis. Two options: 6 full days, August 12-17, \$700 or 4 full days, August 12-15, \$425. More information and registration at www.mercycenterstl.org. Choose from directors listed on the flyer. This retreat allows you to withdraw from the busyness of life and to reflect on and deepen your relationship with God. A daily session with a spiritual director is included.

Creative Summer Art Camp—Punta Gorda, Belize

Do I believe in the benefits of the creative arts?

Am I open to working with diverse cultures?

Do I want to make a global difference by working with others?

Consider volunteering in Punta Gorda, Belize!

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 11th year, the summer camp serves 200+ children, and has expanded to include a 2nd camp in the Mayan 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.

What if I don't really work with children?

That's ok too! With a teamlike approach, volunteers work directly with Belizean teachers OR children. Camp Creative has a local coordinator & Belizean teachers that return year after year to volunteer. The community sees this camp as a local effort and American volunteers are able to work up front, or behind the scenes, as they'd like. This culturally sustainable approach also helps to create a more immersive experience for all of our volunteers. We become one awesome team - not two teams coming together.

A willingness to be flexible is a must! Camp is a half day and there are many opportunities for small town, jungle, archeological, cultural, and ocean exploring. We come prepared with all art supplies for the children attending camp, as well as backpacks, school supplies, and classroom items for the teachers. Camp Creative provides a unique opportunity for school age children to experience hands-on art projects, while also supplying classrooms with future resources.

There are two date options, with flexibility in the travel dates. Camp 1 (in Punta Gorda): the week of 7/3-7/7 **OR** Camp 2 (Mayan village 30 min. outside town): the week of 7/10-7/14.

For any additional questions, contact Julie Kuhnert, 314-614-3354 or kuhnertj@hotmail.com. Kuhnert Family Belize Mission Facebook page has some great posts and pictures from past camps and activities—to paint a better picture of what to expect while volunteering.



The Pentecost Potluck Returns: Signups are Open!

On **Sunday, May 28th** 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!

Sign up to bring a dish and/or to volunteer here: tinyurl.com/sfxpentecost



Middle School Social Justice Camp

Parents of rising 6th, 7th, & 8th graders: Please register at this link for middle school social justice camp: <https://sfxstl.org/youth-group-registration>. We anticipate spots will fill up fast, so please register soon.

This year, Camp is based on the Beatitudes, specifically focusing on "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness..." leading us to experiential learning at food service agencies and food insecurity change-makers in STL. We are grateful for our coordinating team, College Church staff, along with college and high school students who will help us facilitate small groups of middle school campers and accompany us to our local sites. Please contact Jennifer@sfxstl.org with questions.

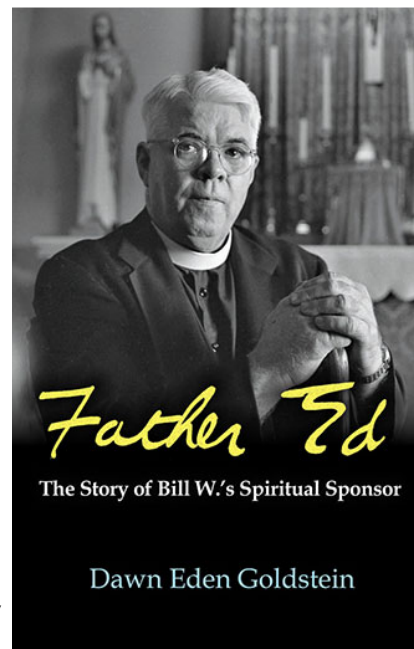
The Next Chapter

The Next Chapter is a program grounded in Ignatian Spirituality that has been offered in the St. Louis community for the past six 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.

New Book Group on the St. Louis-based Spiritual Sponsor of A.A., "Father Ed," Starting on May 21

Interested in learning more about the connections between the spirituality of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) and Saint Ignatius? Join us on Sunday, **May 21st at 9.15am** in the Adult Faith Room as we discuss the biography of Fr. Edward Dowling, a St. Louis-based Jesuit priest who was the spiritual sponsor to the founder of A.A., Bill Wilson.

A.A. has not only helped millions of alcoholics transform their lives, but has also developed a distinctive form of pragmatic spirituality for people who are imperfect, don't have their lives together, and don't "fit in" well within organized religion (i.e., most people). Father Ed, who celebrated Mass at College Church numerous times, and whose funeral Mass was held at College Church in front of a packed house on April 2nd, 1960, not only helped develop the spiritual foundations of A.A., but was also an early champion of civil rights and social justice in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.



Come join us and learn more about Fr. Ed, his life, and the spirituality of A.A. and St. Ignatius. Copies of the book are available for \$23. For a copy or for more information, contact Joe Milner, joe@sfxstl.org.



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.

May is Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month

In 1979, Congress established Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. On May 14, 1991, George H. W. Bush expanded that recognition by signing into law the first Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month. Continuing the celebration of Asian/Pacific Americans' contributions to society, this legislation also recognized significant dates within the month. May 7, 1843, marks the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants to the United States. On May 10, 1869, the transcontinental railway was completed—a feat largely accomplished through the work of Chinese immigrants.

As we honor the many contributions made by people of Asian/Pacific Island descent, it is important to note that this term, created in 1990 as part of the US census, represents numerous countries of origin, languages, and distinct cultures. This month we will highlight some of the individuals from these communities and the related events that enrich our nation and our Church.

Senator Mazie Hirono, Inspired by Her Mother

Mazie Hirono is a woman of many firsts. She was the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate from Hawaii; the first Asian American woman in the Senate; and the first Japanese-born senator. But before achieving all these things, she overcame several significant hardships.



Hirono was born in Japan in 1947. Seven years later her family was split apart as her mother sought to escape her abusive husband. Mazie and one of her brothers came to Hawaii with their mother in the steerage of a battleship. Unfortunately, another son had to be left behind in Japan because he was too young to go to school and Mazie's mother knew that she

would not have enough money to pay for childcare in America. This heartbreaking experience shaped much of Hirono's life. She once told an interviewer, "I always tell my mom there is nothing I can do . . . harder than what she did." It became the impetus for her as an adult to speak out against family separation policies.

When Hawaii became a state in 1959, Hirono automatically became a U.S. citizen. As a student at the University of Hawaii she became interested in politics and very much enjoyed working on political campaigns. Upon completing a degree in law at Georgetown University, a legislator she had once campaigned for called upon her to run for his seat. She served over a decade in the Hawaii State House and then as Lieutenant Governor. In 2006 she was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, and in 2012 became a U.S. Senator.

In 2017, she was diagnosed with stage four kidney cancer, but she did not slow down. In fact, her illness just encouraged her to fight for more affordable health care for all. She also advocates for consumer protections, public education, affordable housing, and digital literacy. She has written about her remarkable story in the book, *Heart of Fire: An Immigrant Daughter's Story*, which was published in 2021.

Asian Americans / Pacific Islanders in History Filipino American Farm Laborer, Philip Vera Cruz (1904-1994)

Vera Cruz immigrated to the U.S. in 1926 and although he attended Gonzaga University for one year, he worked most of his life as a farm laborer in California. In 1948, he participated in his first strike to expose the deplorable conditions in labor camps, and eventually joined the National Farm Labor Union. In the 1970s, Vera Cruz protested against the dictatorship of Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos. Because of that, Philippine President Corazon Aquino presented Vera Cruz an award for his work among Filipinos in America. In 1992, he received an award for being a pioneer among Asian/Pacific Islander Americans in the Labor movement.

Japanese American Architect, I. M. Pei (1917-2019)

Pei graduated from MIT with a degree in architecture. He then received a master's degree from the Graduate School of Design at Harvard. Pei created urban projects such as the Mile High Center in Denver, Colorado. He later founded his own architectural firm, I. M. Pei & Associates, and designed the John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City, the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library at Harvard, and the Louvre Museum in Paris. In 1993, he received the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Undoing Our Knots

The webinar *Undoing Our Knots*, presented by Dr. Maureen O'Connell on March 30th, is now available for viewing on the College Church YouTube channel. In this talk, Dr. O'Connell tells the stories of her Irish Catholic family's history, sharing some of the choices her relatives made that reinforced racial segregation and inequity, often with the encouragement of a complicit church hierarchy. She further explores some of the spiritual practices of our Catholic faith that help us to undo our own knots and free us to create more inclusive Catholic communities. If you were unable to attend or would like to review, please visit: youtube.com/watch?v=h_A3-njwx40.

Copies of her book, *Undoing the Knots—Five Generations of American Catholic Antiracism*, are available for purchase. If you would like a copy, please contact Lisa Burks at Imburks60@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

The Museum of Contemporary Religious Art is exhibiting the work of artists Vicente Telles and Brandon Maldonado whose work is extending the Spanish tradition of creating santeros—or images of saints. The collection displayed explores this religious and artistic expression within our contemporary social experiences. The exhibit may be viewed through May 21st. For more information, see the MOCRA website: slu.edu/mocra/exhibitions/cuentos-nuevos-mexicanos.php

May 18 6:00 – 8:00 pm Author Shelly Tochluk will share ideas from her new book *Being White Today—A Roadmap for a Positive Antiracist Life*. The presentation and discussion will be at the Phyllis Wheatly Heritage Center 2711 Locust St. 63103. Admission is free; registration is requested. For more information and to register, go to ywcastl.ywca.org/site/Calendar?id=108146&view=Detail

May 21 6:00 – 7:00 pm The Racism and Reconciliation Committee is resuming the Racial Justice Vigils for this summer. This is an opportunity to witness, reflect, and pray for an end to racism. This year the vigils will be held once monthly instead of weekly as in past years. It is our hope that more of our parishioners will take part if it is just once a month. We have chosen dates that coincide with national dates of significance. May 21st, a Sunday evening, will be our first Vigil this year. This coincides with World Day of Cultural Diversity. We will gather on the front steps of College Church to witness for Racial Justice with prayers, signs (your homemade or ours) and silence in between prayers. PLEASE JOIN US! If you wish to provide a prayer, please contact Joan McGinnis at jfmc676@gmail.com

SFX Racial Justice Vigils

This year, the Racism and Reconciliation Committee will be organizing monthly racial justice vigils from 6-7pm on the front steps of College Church. The vigils will feature signs as testaments to our racial justice awareness, prayers, and silence.

Monthly Racial Justice Vigil Schedule:

Sunday, May 21, 2023 - in coordination with World Day of Cultural Diversity

Monday, June 19, 2023 - in coordination with the federal holiday of Juneteenth, established in 2021 to commemorate the emancipation of enslaved people in Texas.

Sunday, July 3, 2023 - to mark Independence Day on July 4th.

Dates for August, September, and October are to be decided. Hope you can join us! For more information, contact: jfmc676@gmail.com



OPENINGS ON THE SFX PASTORAL COUNCIL

There will be two openings on the St. Francis Xavier (College) Church Pastoral Council starting in August 2023. 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. A parishioner may nominate another parishioner or nominate himself/herself.

If you are interested in serving, would like to nominate another parishioner, or would just like more information, please contact Council Co-Chairs Jen Hahn-Petruso jenpetruso7@gmail.com, Aimee Wittman aimeewittman@gmail.com or Katie Jansen 314-977-1954, katie@sfxstl.org.

Circle of Creation Green Corner



Spring Volunteer Opportunities are sponsored by [Open Space STL](https://volunteer.openspacestl.org/) (volunteer.openspacestl.org/, formerly the Open Space Council) and [Great Rivers Greenway](https://greatriversgreenway.org/stewardship-opportunities/) (greatriversgreenway.org/stewardship-opportunities/) in collaboration with other groups. Earthday365 cosponsors [Environmental Justice Days of Action](https://earthday-365.org/environmental-justice-days-of-action) (earthday-365.org/environmental-justice-days-of-action) in cooperation with various organizations.

St. Louis Aquarium Foundation in collaboration with Great Rivers Greenway sponsors Revamping the Riverfront to prevent plastic pollution from entering the Mighty Mississippi and eventually, our oceans. Events coming up are on June 8, July 1, August 23, and September 25. For more information and to register, visit: <https://www.stlaquariumfoundation.org/events/revamp-the-riverfront/>.

Save the Date: **Operation Clean Stream** is scheduled for August 26, 2023

Subaru retailers nationwide are proud to partner with TerraCycle® to help keep hard-to-recycle trash out of local landfills. TerraCycle® converts this trash into useful new goods for the community. Subaru dealers have placed Zero Waste Boxes™ in their showrooms to collect the following specific hard-to-recycle trash, and they invite their customers to bring in their own hard-to-recycle waste to be part of this ongoing effort.

- Candy and snack wrappers
- Disposable cups, lids, and straws
- Coffee, tea, and creamer capsules

REI Co-op is no longer accepting candy wrappers and snack bags to be recycled.

BatteriesPlus stores accept free for recycling any rechargeable batteries and also any lead batteries (e.g., car batteries). For the recycling of alkaline batteries, they charge \$4 per pound. They also recycle fluorescent light bulbs of various sizes for modest charges. A BatteriesPlus store opened in June of 2022, not far from the College Church, at 4493 Forest Park Ave.

St. Louis City Recycles suggests 5 Sustainable Lifestyle Changes that are doable: <https://stlcityrecycles.com/5-sustainable-lifestyle-changes-to-make-this-earth-day/>

Public Electronics Recycling events sponsored by Midwest Recycling Center (MRC): <https://mrc-recycling.squarespace.com/electronics-recycling-events>

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: <https://sfxstl.org/circleofcreation>

May 13-14, 2023

Saturday
5:15 pm Fr. Vogt
Missionary in Guatemala

Sunday
8:00 am Fr. Vogt
Missionary in Guatemala

10:30 am Fr. Vogt
Missionary in Guatemala

May 20-21, 2023

Saturday
5:15 pm Fr. Armstrong, SJ
Provincial Secretary Jesuits of the Central and Southern Province

Sunday
8:00 am Fr. Stewart, SJ
Pastoral Director St. Louis University High School

10:30 am Fr. Stewart, SJ
Pastoral Director St. Louis University High School

This Sunday's Scripture Readings:

First Reading:
Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

Responsorial Psalm:
Psalms 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20

Second Reading:
1 Peter 3:15-18

Gospel:
John 14:15-21

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

Click the blue bar at the top of our website, sfxstl.org. Or use this QR code.



Fair Trade Sales next week!

Support our sister parish in Belize by buying fair trade items after our Sunday Masses May 21st.