



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



June 25, 2023
Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:15 pm, Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am.

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

Weekday Masses: 7:15 am and noon Monday through Friday, all in main church. (7:15 am Mass only on national holidays.)

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Mondays through Fridays, 10:30 am through 11:45 am.

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the members of St. Francis Xavier College Church, form a welcoming Jesuit parish community. As followers of Jesus Christ, we praise God, love our neighbors as ourselves, celebrate liturgy and the sacraments, engage in lifelong formation and proclaim God's reign of justice, mercy and peace.

PARISH INFORMATION**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** church@sfxstl.org

The Parish Center is closed if St. Louis City Schools are closed due to bad weather. Activities and events are also cancelled.

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Saturday we are closed & Sunday: 8:30 am to 1:00 pm.

Bulletin Notices: must be submitted to church@sfxstl.org by noon on Thursday, ten days before the bulletin date. Holidays require additional time.

Infant Baptisms: Visit the Baptism page on the SFX website, www.sfxstl.org/baptism-1, for information on infant baptisms and required preparation class. Baptisms are celebrated on the first and third Sunday of the month, at 12 pm. Contact 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

Katie Jansen
314-977-1954
katie@sfxstl.org

Canonical Pastor

Tim McMahon, SJ
314-977-7300
frtim@sfxstl.org

Stewardship

Angela Pancella
314-977-7304
angela@sfxstl.org

Christian Initiation, Adult Formation, & Marriage Ministry

Joe Milner
314-977-7305
joe@sfxstl.org

Liturgy

Mary Seise
mary@sfxstl.org

Office Manager

Joyce Miller
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Youth Faith Formation

Julie Kilian
314-977-7302
julie@sfxstl.org

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jennifer@sfxstl.org

Social Ministry

Christine Dragonette
314-977-7309
christine@sfxstl.org

Regional Access Coordinator

Madeline Powers
314-282-7205
madeline@sfxstl.org

Director of Wedding Ministry, Young Adult Faith, and Marriage Preparation

Sandy Hauck
314-977-7303
sandy@sfxstl.org

Choir Director, Music Ministry

Ray Sherrock
rsherrock@desmet.org

Director of Wedding Music & Accompanist, Music Ministry

Sue Martin
314-977-7313
susan.martin@slu.edu

Pastoral Council Co-Chairs

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

Pastoral Ministry

Bridget Brennan
joy@canainstitute.org

**Online Giving
Reminder**

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



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Anonymous Faculty member
 Margaret Baughman
 Samuel Belk
 Leigh Burkhardt
 Maureen Carney*
 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
 Rea O'Neill
 Nancy Partridge* & Glider
 Fr. Dick Perl, SJ*
 Mark Roddy*
 Jennifer Saunders*
 Mark Segovia
 Fr. Gary Seibert, SJ*
 Jean Steely
 Greg Stephen
 Colleen Starkloff
 Bill Tucker
 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.

Reflection from Fr. Tim McMahon, SJ

In this Sunday's selection from the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus says to the Twelve: "What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light; what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops."

What words would Jesus have us speak to the world today? We live in a broken world where we can often be tempted toward discouragement. Sin, both personal and social can steal our joy, our plans can be ruined, our dreams shaken. We can become discouraged. Perhaps the words most needed are words of Christian encouragement. The author of the Letter to the Hebrews urges us, "... encourage one another daily, as long as it is called 'Today,' so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness." Without encouragement people can feel unloved, unimportant, useless, and forgotten. This kind of encouragement isn't just about complimenting someone's hairstyle or telling them how good their homemade spaghetti sauce tastes. That can be important, but real encouragement points out evidences of grace at work in another's life to help them see that God is using them. It restores hope and lifts someone's heart toward the Lord.

Hearing Jesus' words today, I ask Him to give me a heart that loves others and to know how to show it. I ask Him to help me be more attentive to His grace at work in others and the world and to grow in a desire to build others up. I ask the Lord to make encouragement a habit. I pray that the love the Lord whispers to me in the dark quiet of my own prayer will help me to see His grace at work in others and celebrate and share it, "proclaiming it from the rooftops."

Widows and Widowers

The next meeting of Widows and Widowers will be this Sunday, June 25th, at 9:15 a.m. in the break room on the first floor of the Parish Center. Interested in attending? Contact Val Rutterer at vrutterer@gmail.com or 314-393-8986 for questions or more information.

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

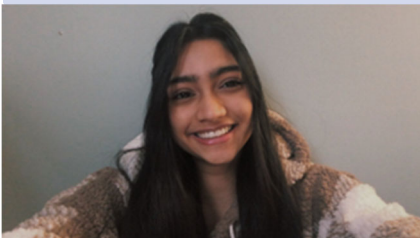
The next meeting of our Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group will be this Sunday, June 25th at Noon in the Parish Center. For more information, please contact Ann Steffen, 314-313-0158.

State of the Parish Meeting

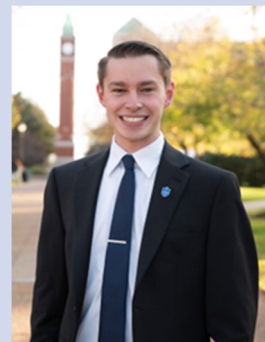
Please join us today, **Sunday, June 25th**, at 9 am in the Ballroom for a presentation and discussion on our parish goals for 2023-2024. All are invited!

2023 Outreach Program Summer VISTA Volunteers

The ID and Birth Certificate Program is grateful to host two eight-week Summer Associate Americorps VISTA volunteers this year. This is a shared role with SLU Campus Kitchen for their eight weeks of service. Welcome, Inchara and Darren!



“My name is Inchara Shetty and I am a rising sophomore majoring in Public Health and minoring in Biology and Nutrition here at SLU. I'm super excited to make an impact in my city's community and work with y'all this summer!”



“Hi there! My name is Darren and I am a recent graduate of Saint Louis University. I am excited to be volunteering with the St. Francis Xavier parish this summer as an Ameri-Corps VISTA and I am eager to meet you and serve you during my time here!”

COMMEMORATION OF ADVOCACY!

Thirty years ago, College Church pioneered the St. Louis region's first Birth Certificate and ID Program. We witnessed a deep, unmet community need and Catholic Social Teaching challenged us to take action. In those three decades, our unique program has assisted tens of thousands of people with getting their official identification and the need continues. We're always looking for support — your help can come in many ways. Join Christ's call to social justice by volunteering, donating, spreading the word or advocating for issues that impact our program guests. For more information, visit sfxstl.org/outreach.



Outreach Volunteers Mary McDevitt, Joe Linhares and Susan Buse

Prisoner Visitation and Support

Prisoner Visitation and Support provides social visits to people incarcerated in federal and military prisons throughout the United States. If you would be interested in visiting people incarcerated at the federal prison in Greenville, Illinois, please call Denise at 314-223-8284, or apply online at www.prisonervisitation.org/become-a-visitor.



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.

Being Fully Inclusive

As our parish engages in the work of becoming an anti-racist church, we recognize that not only do we need to communicate and confirm a sense of belonging to people of all races, we must be more inclusive of people who experience discrimination based on other aspects of identity. That includes people who identify as LGBTQ+. Responding to what we are called to by faith, we welcome the conversations, perspectives, and reflections of those from all points along the journey.

A Reflection

By Grant Hartley

When I was taking steps to formally enter the Roman Catholic Church three years ago, one of the things that attracted me to it was the liturgy. The ritual was a comfort; it allowed me to rest in a rhythm of worship, rather than forcing me to drum something up within me when I had nothing to give. I was tired. Perhaps a part of this exhaustion was due to my long-term involvement in a faith tradition and context that tended to distrust ritual, placing an emphasis on the affective and emotional—but a larger part was due to years of feeling cross-examined and condemned as an openly gay person in religious spaces. Countless invasive questions, policing my language, relentless theological arguments, declaration after declaration of all the ways in which I did not belong—these drained me. As I told friends at the time (and yes, I know this sounds awful), a small part of my reason for becoming a Catholic was that I just wanted religious people to leave me alone; I wanted to be able to sit in a pew in the back row, be carried along by the Liturgy of the Word, receive the Eucharist, and leave.

In searching for a place to begin my exploration of the Catholic Church, St. Francis Xavier College Church had been recommended as a place that would be safe for me as a gay person. Getting to know the community, it was easy to see why. Over the course of several months, this church became a refuge for me—and it wasn't because I saw rainbow flags waving or heard people express their love for LGBTQ+ people out loud (although I heard such expressions of love, and those signaled safety for me). At its core, I think it was something much simpler: I sensed that this community, like the liturgy, was focused on Jesus

Christ and the peace on earth he came to bring. No one was going to stand as an obstacle to my relationship with Jesus. I could belong here because I was drawn to the person of Jesus Christ, because I longed to encounter him in word and sacrament—and in fellow parishioners (I soon no longer wanted to quietly slip out after receiving the Eucharist).

I get the feeling that when many people hear phrases like “LGBTQ+ pride,” they tend to understand this pride as the opposite of humility—and rightly resist a celebration of a deadly vice. But this is not at all what LGBTQ+ people mean by “pride.” We mean it as the opposite of humiliation and shame; as a confident awareness and acknowledgment of our dignity; even as magnanimity, or “greatness of soul.” There are a lot of forces in the world—and unfortunately, in many churches—that end up humiliating, shaming, and “shrinking the souls” of LGBTQ+ folks. A welcoming parish, focused on Jesus Christ, allows our souls to expand so that we are able to not only embrace our own belovedness by God, but also the belovedness of all God's children—and even enables us to better comprehend “what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God” (Ephesians 4:18-19 NRSVUE). In the same month in which we celebrate the Sacred Heart of Jesus, full of passionate love for humanity, we can celebrate that love for those for whom it has often been obscured. We can create a community in which our souls, along with those of Mary the Mother of God and all the saints, can “magnify the Lord” (Luke 1:46-47 NRSVUE).

Grant Hartley is a parishioner at College Church, a theology student, speaker, and freelance writer. To read his article in America Magazine (March, 2021), go to tinyurl.com/2u24xrmk.

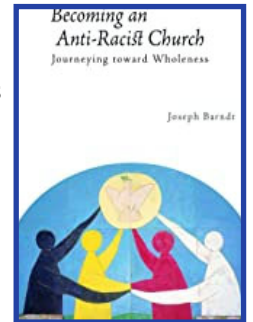
Becoming an Anti-Racist Church: Journeying Toward Wholeness

One of the sources of information and inspiration that continues to guide the work of the Antiracism Team is the book *Becoming an Anti-Racist Church: Journeying Toward Wholeness* by Joseph Barndt. The author is a

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Lutheran minister and founder of Crossroads Antiracism Organizing and Training with whom we are partnering for our parish racial equity review. In this book, Barndt lays a foundation for both personal and institutional change. He explores the history of racism in the Christian church, describes how racial injustice became institutionalized in the church in America, and sets out methods for appraising and addressing systemic racism within congregations.



You are invited to participate in a group study and discussion of this book. It will be facilitated by parish leaders Lisa D'Souza and Amy Sanders and will meet on three consecutive Sundays— July 9, 16, and 23 from 9:15–10:15 am. Copies of the book will be available for \$21.60. You may register through this link: tinyurl.com/438euaxk. You may also contact Lisa Burks at lmburks60@gmail.com or Winnie Sullivan at penultim@swbell.net to register or to obtain further information.

Significant Figures in Racial History This Week

Venerable Pierre Toussaint – Born into slavery, on June 27, 1766, in Haiti, Toussaint was brought to New York by his owner. Freed upon her death, he became a successful businessman/philanthropist. Called the “father of Catholic Charities” in NYC, he raised funds for the first Catholic orphanage and began the city’s first school for Black children. During a Yellow Fever epidemic most of the city’s leaders fled to healthier climates, but Toussaint stayed and cared for the sick and dying. He died on June 30, 1853, at age 87. His cause for canonization was introduced in 1968, and he was declared “Venerable” in 1997.

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. The next two will be **Monday, July 3, 2023** - to mark Independence Day on July 4th and **Monday August 9th** for the International Day of the World's Indigenous People.

Dates for September and October are to be decided.

Hope you can join us! For more information, contact: jfmc676@gmail.com



Invitation to Join the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Do you feel called to help your neighbors in need while sharing in the fellowship of other College Church parishioners? The St. Francis Xavier conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul invites you to prayerfully discern how your gifts and talents can enrich our conference and meet the basic needs of our parish neighbors. Through the first three months of this year, College Church parishioners have generously helped the St. Francis Xavier conference bring much needed care and attention to 31 College Church neighbors through home and phone visits providing \$8,000 for rent and utility assistance, and \$2,400 in food and furniture vouchers. Yet, our 5 conference members struggle to meet the increasing calls from those requesting help. Please contact Chris Deason at 636-236-9122 or mcdeason58@gmail.com to learn how you can make a difference in the lives of men and women who are too often overlooked in our community. Thank you!



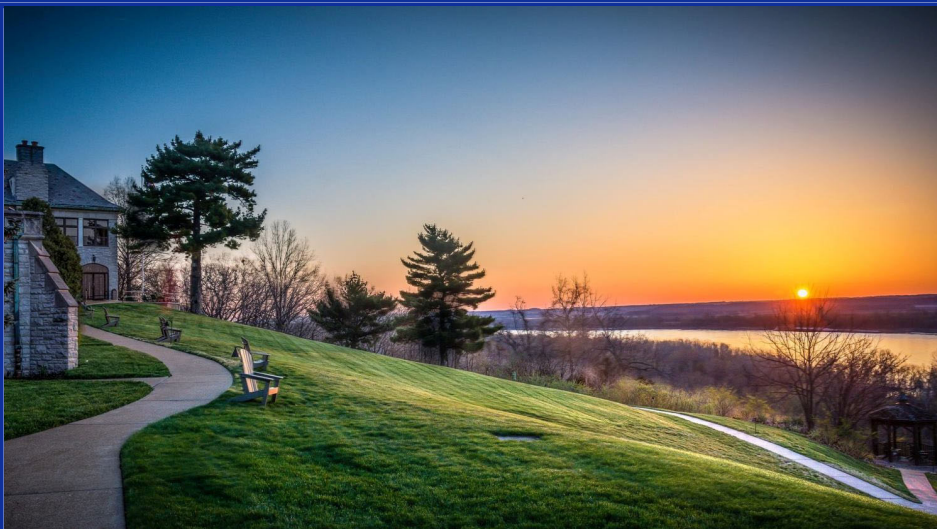
Community. Service. Faith.

Looking for connection and meaningful work? Apply as a Full-Time Assistant (Direct Support Professional) or Overnight Assistant with L'Arche St. Louis.

We are a community of people with and without developmental disabilities, where we celebrate the unique value of every person and recognize our need for one another.

Earn \$18/hour (\$20/hr for Overnights) plus benefits (health/vision/dental, PTO, 401k).

Apply at <http://www.larchestlouis.org/were-hiring> or call (314) 395-5851.



**WOMEN'S RETREAT AT
WHITE HOUSE
September 18-21**

Mark your calendars for an opportunity to get away for a few days to rest, relax, pray, reflect, and not have to cook!

September 18-21 is the week of a women's retreat at White House Retreat.

Women from College Church and a number of other parishes will be attending this retreat, which is based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

Space is limited and the retreat fills up quickly.

Register by calling: 314-416-6400, or online www.whretreat.org.

Be sure to mention you are a parishioner of SFX College Church when signing up. For any questions about format or general information, please call Tina Saunders, 314-443-4509 (c).

THE BRIDGES RETREAT

A Retreat in Everyday Life.

Bridging
Prayer, Spirituality
and Community

The *Spiritual Exercises*
of Ignatius of Loyola
The 19th Annotation

What Are The Spiritual Exercises?

At Bridges, we invite retreatants to experience the ancient wisdom of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola in a way that will transform their contemporary lives of faith. We're here to be the connection—the bridge—that helps them see and respond to the movements of God. The Bridges retreat takes place over the course of 8 months each year from September through May.

Here's what is involved:

The opportunity to have a full experience of the Spiritual Exercises over an 8-month period, as envisioned and created by St. Ignatius, the founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits).

- A commitment to about an hour of prayer each day, following a modern translation of the original text.
- Personalized, one-on-one guidance from an experienced, trained prayer companion.
- Weekly or monthly small community meetings at several locations throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area;
- An online option for those outside the area or those who need a virtual experience;

Using the wisdom of St. Ignatius and a daily commitment to prayer and scripture, each retreatant is given the opportunity to learn different forms of prayer and discover their own prayer style, while being supported and gently challenged by their prayer companion. Above all, they are drawn into a more intimate relationship with God through scripture and the life, ministry, passion and resurrection of Christ.

MORE THAN A PROGRAM OR A COURSE

The genius of the Spiritual Exercises is that, although there is a common tradition and text, no two people experience it in exactly the same way. Rather, through the guidance of the prayer companion and the work of the Holy Spirit, each person's experience will be uniquely theirs. They receive the graces they need depending upon their personal spiritual needs, their openness to the ongoing wisdom inherent in the Exercises, and their awareness of the work of God within them.

Because of this flexibility, Christians of many different denominations and traditions have found the Bridges experience of the Spiritual Exercises to be life-changing and faith-enriching.

To find out more about the Bridges Retreat, please visit www.bridgesfoundation.org. The site includes the dates and times of free summer information sessions. You may also contact Bridges Executive Director Steve Givens at: executive.director@bridgesfoundation.org or (314) 401-2072.

2023-24 BRIDGES LOCATIONS

Webster Groves Christian Church

1320 W Lockwood Ave, St. Louis, MO 63122
Wednesday morning weekly group meetings, 10 a.m.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church Valley Park

17 Ann Ave., Valley Park, MO 63088
Tuesday evening weekly group meetings, 7 p.m.

St. Louis University High School

4970 Oakland Avenue, St. Louis, MO, 63110
Saturday morning monthly group meetings on first Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon

St. Matthew the Apostle Catholic Church

2715 N Sarah St, St. Louis, MO 63113
Saturday morning monthly group meetings on second Saturdays.

Online Site meets weekly on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. (CT).

Due to a limit of the number of prayer companions available, participation is limited.



Circle of Creation Green Corner#



In case you missed it, an article in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* concerning recycling in the city of St. Louis: <https://tinyurl.com/stlnotrecycling>
Contamination in recycling is relevant to other areas besides the City.

A major type of contamination in the recycling bins is plastic bags and plastic film that should instead be put into the brown bins at your local grocery or retail store. NexTrex is the company that recycles some kinds of plastic bags and plastic film into composite decks. You can view the specific information at <https://tinyurl.com/CCnextrex>

Cornell Lab of Ornithology provides a short video: Bring Birds Back—Use Less Plastic: <https://youtu.be/F9AVRT2YQLk>

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 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, August 26, 2023**

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

July 15, 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM
359 Old Meramec Station Road
Manchester, MO 63021
hosted by City of **Manchester**

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>

June 24-25, 2023

Saturday
5:15 pm Fr. May, SJ
Professor of Mathematics, SLU

Sunday
8:00 am Fr. Rozier, SJ
Assistant Professor and Department Chair of health management and policy, SLU

10:30 am Fr. Rozier, SJ

July 1-2, 2023

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

Sunday
8:00 am Fr. Daly, SJ
Province Treasurer, UCS Province

10:30 am Fr. Daly, SJ

This Sunday’s Scripture Readings:

First Reading:
Jeremiah 20:10-13

Responsorial Psalm:
Psalm 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35

Second Reading:
Romans 5:12-15

Gospel:
Matthew 10:26-33

Bulletin Articles

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

Fair Trade Next Sunday

Next Sunday, July 2nd, after the 8 am and 10:30 am Masses, Fair Trade products will be sold to benefit our sister parish, St. Peter Claver, in Belize. Our Fair Trade team will be in the vestibule.

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.