

Season of Creation Poster (printing by Becky McKenna, art by Anne Osdieck)

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

September 13, 2020 Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:30 pm, Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 4:30 pm. Please RSVP at sfxstl.org.

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

Weekday Masses: 7:15 am and noon Monday through Friday, 5:15 pm Monday through Wednesday, all in main church.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:45 am through noon.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

PARISH INFORMATION

E-MAIL ADDRESS: church@sfxstl.org

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

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

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

<u>Infant Baptisms:</u> Visit the Baptism page on the SFX website, www.sfxstl.org/baptism-I, 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 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.

<u>Funerals</u>: contact Sister Carolyn McWatters at 314-977-1797 or carolyn.mcwatters@slu.edu or Fr. Dan White.

<u>Disability Access:</u> Our church has an elevator and hearing assistance system. Please see an usher for assistance.

<u>Parish Registration</u>: Available online at sfxstl.org/parishioner-registration or at the Parish Center front desk. For questions email church@sfxstl.org.

<u>Youth Faith Formation:</u> 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.

<u>Liturgy of the Word for Children:</u> Suspended until further notice due to the pandemic. Contact Terry Edelmann at terry@sfxstl.org.

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

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor Daniel White, S.J. 314-977-7300 frdan@sfxstl.org

Associate Pastor
Matt Stewart, S.J.
314-977-7301
associatepastor@sfxstl.org

Parish Administrator Katie Jansen Larson 314-977-1954 katie@sfxstl.org

Parish Life Angela Pancella 314-977-7304 church@sfxstl.org

Christian Initiation, Adult
Formation, & Marriage Ministry
Joe Milner
314-977-7305
joe@sfxstl.org

Office Manager Joyce Miller 314-977-7300 joyce@sfxstl.org

Youth Faith Formation
Terry Edelmann
314-977-7319
terry@sfxstl.org

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

Joanna Boyd-Wilhite 314-977-7318 Joanna@sfxstl.org

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

Outreach Coordinator Tess Sanders 314-977-7311 outreach@sfxstl.org

Outreach—Vista Volunteer Sheltoria Love 314-977-1950 sheltoria@sfxstl.org Wedding Ministry Sandy Hauck 314-977-7303 sandy@sfxstl.org

Choir Director, Music Ministry
Ray Sherrock
rsherrock@desmet.org

<u>Director of Wedding Music</u> <u>& Accompanist, Music Ministry</u> Sue Martin 314-977-7313 susan.martin@slu.edu

Pastoral Council Chair Lisa D'Souza

ljdsouza@yahoo.com

<u>Deacon</u> Jim Griffard james.griffard@slu.edu

Coordinator of Liturgy
Sister Carolyn McWatters, RSM
314-977-1797
carolyn.mcwatters@slu.edu

Pastoral Ministry
Bridget Brennan
joy@canainstitute.org

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Mary Lou Ampleman
Bruce Blattenberger*
Mary Bruemmer*
Linda Castillon*
Diane Flynn
Monica Gunn
Jessi Haselhorst
Paul Hanson*
Mary Jane and Butch Henning*
Christina Bah Ireland
Terry Kippenberger*
Pat March*
Mark Marsh

Nancy Partridge* & Glider Ruthann Redmon

Ruthann Redmo Mark Roddy*

Karena Menard

Dennis Saunders*

Jennifer Saunders*

Family of Candace Sexton

Art Taylor*

Jacob Verghese

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."

Join our intercessory prayer group on Zoom,

Friday mornings at 9 am: Contact Bridget Brennan at ioy@canainstitute.org for info.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Pope Francis began the Season of Creation 2020 with a brief reflection for the entire Church. I want to highlight some themes in his address over the next few weeks I find especially helpful.

He begins by stating this is a time to remember who we are. Francis writes, "We exist only in relationships: with God the Creator, with our brothers and sisters as members of a common family, and with all of God's creatures within our common home." It is astonishing how often we forget something so fundamental. Each of us is in relationship to all that is. None of is can step outside of these intimate relationships, though we often act that way.

This inter-related existence is at the heart of our care for creation. We are aware that we cannot sooner exist apart from God, one another and our world. This connection binds us together. Christians believe all that is shares in the salvation of Jesus Christ.

The trick is to remember that truth. We need to practice the act of remembering. Pope Francis invites us to consider how damaging a skewed sense of independence is not only creation, but to ourselves. If we forget who we really are, how can live as we should?

Human beings can only flourish and thrive when we recognize we are embedded, not separate, in God's loving, creative action.

Virtual Parish Assembly

If you were unable to tune in to the Virtual Parish Assembly we hosted via Zoom on August 30th, you can view it on our YouTube channel. Here is the link:

https://youtu.be/U3qAUqVvuCc

You can also continue to send in comments and questions via our Leadership Feedback page:

https://sfxstl.org/parish-leadership-feedback

Thank you for being part of this parish!

Second Sunday of the Season of Creation

September 13, 2020 | 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SCRIPTURES Sirach 27:30-28:9 Ps. 103:1-4, 9-12 Romans 14:7-9 Matthew 18:21-35

On the 1st Sunday of the Season of Creation, the scriptures called us to accept our prophetic responsibility in love to invite each other to conversion and care for creation in these times of ecological crisis.



The readings today remind us not to let our prophetic call to others turn into anger or vengeance against them. If we do not forgive each other, we cannot expect God to forgive us.

We are invited to reflect with gratitude on all the failings, sins, and abuse of creation that God has forgiven us and is now calling us to confront, heal and transform.

The call to be prophetic, yet patient, non-judgmental and forgiving with each other if we hope God to forgive us extends to all the dimensions of the "integral ecological conversion" which Pope Francis identifies as the prophetic word of God to our world at this time: the interconnected environmental, economic, and social dimensions.

Points for Reflection on the Scriptures

Reading from the Book of Sirach. The mission of relaying God's call to "integral ecological conversion" in these times can lead to frustration and anger when people refuse to listen, deny the truth and evidence, resist acting, and even actively oppose the work of caring for and healing Earth and all its Web of Life.

When crises are as urgent and destructive as the ecological/climate crises today, it is hard to be patient and gentle with those causing them who do not see the truth and the need or are not willing to change. When we watch families starve, the Amazon burn, floods ravage, arctic regions melt, and crucial waters evaporate in rising heat, anger about the thoughtlessness and destruction seems just and called for. When people we love suffer from the changing climate, the desire to strike out against those responsible rises quickly. The human costs: to those alive now and to future generations can be devastating. Earth is even now going through the Sixth Great Extinction with costs to all life that are massive.

Still, Sirach warns that clinging to anger and vengeance will bring God's anger and vengeance upon us. We must forgive others' injustice if we hope to have God forgive our own.

Legitimate righteous anger, on the other hand, can provide energy and courage to speak out and work for change, but this kind of anger seeks conversion and reconciliation, not vengeance or destruction. It does not become bitter.

Visit our Season of Creation page on our website for more: https://sfxstl.org/season-of-creation



Living The Word

God is present to us through the words of Scripture that are proclaimed in the liturgy each week. We are challenged to allow these words to find a home in our hearts and to be a light for our lives. Through the insights that we gain, we are invited to deepen our relationship with God and integrate God's ways into our words and deeds. Understanding the message clearly can be challenging since the authors lived in a different culture and at various times in history.

To provide context and background, Joe Milner will offer a weekly reflection group titled, **Living The Word.** These sessions will explore the background and context of the upcoming Sunday Scriptures, the virtues and values that are expressed, and ways to put these into practice in our lives. Sessions will have a presentation to introduce the scriptures, dialogue about their meaning for Christian living, and time for prayer.

Sessions will be offered via Zoom on Tuesday evening from 7:00 until 8:00, starting on Sept 22. Registration is requested. To register, please email Joe at: **joe@sfxstl.org**

Join us in exploring the scriptures and striving to live more fully for Christ.

Season of Creation Challenge

In a time of quarantine, digital learning, racial injustice, intensifying storms, and mass migration, holding space to act on climate change can feel overwhelming. This Season of Creation, the Ignatian Solidarity Network invites you to start simply with one new daily habit for a healthy planet.

Step one: Choose ONE daily action to repeat each day throughout the 34 days that will renew your relationship with creation or that will allow you to explore a radical new way of living with creation.

Step two: Take the pledge to commit to ONE action repeated daily throughout the 34 days of the Season of Creation to build a new environmental habit you've been meaning to get around to but haven't made time for.

Step three: Form and track your healthy habit for the planet! If desired, the ISN will send a daily email or text message reminder to keep you motivated. Find out more at: https://tinyurl.com/yxr8rkwu

Interested in Learning about the Catholic Faith?

If you would like to learn more about the Catholic Church, its beliefs and practices, you are invited to join our inquiry sessions. These offer an opportunity to ask questions about Catholic beliefs and practices. They are informal and focus on the issues which the participants deem important.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Joseph Milner, (314) 977-7305 or joseph.milner@slu.edu.



YOUTH FAITH FORMATION NEWS

All Youth Faith Formation Parents are Invited to the Mass of the Holy Spirit, Sunday September 20 at noon (new time).

Join Father Dan and other Youth Faith Formation families in an outdoor Mass on the SLU campus for the Jesuit tradition of an opening Mass of the Holy Spirit for an academic year. Please bring chairs or a blanket. The space, behind the fountain, is ample and allows for maximal social distancing. Masks will be required.

Please contact Terry Edelmann at 314.712.4216 or Julie Kilian at 314.698.9268 if you are planning to attend. We need a count for hosts, and for individually wrapped snacks you can take with you when Mass is over. In case of inclement weather the Mass will be cancelled. We will contact you if this occurs.

Youth Faith Classes Resume September 27

College Church Youth Faith Formation Classes will begin Sunday, September 27. In an abundance of caution they will begin virtually, with a commitment to return to live classes as soon as it is safe.

Both RE and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd virtual classes will replicate the in-person classes as closely as possible. Classes for children in sacramental years will concentrate on sacramental preparation. There will be times when students in those years come together outside or in the ballroom for activities specific to that preparation.

There will be opportunities to come together even as we learn virtually. We will have Class Masses with seating in designated areas of the Church, and we will come together for penance services.

We will offer opportunities and suggestions for service work, either done independently at home, or in safe gatherings in the ballroom or outside.

It is all our hope and prayer that this is a very temporary situation. In the meantime we feel this structure will allow you and your family to maintain and nurture the role of faith in your life and keep a connection with our YFF family.

If you have questions please contact Terry Edelmann, 314.712.4216, or Julie Kilian at 314.698.9268.

Link for Registration:

https://www.cognitoforms.com/CollegeChurch1/YouthFaithFormationRegistration20202021

New Classrooms for Atrium Levels I and II.

When students return to their Atrium classes, they will have a dedicated space which is much more easily accessible. Level I and II classrooms will all be in a large area behind the Ballroom in the space of the former Chapel.

All the rooms are larger than the current ones, and they will have a dedicated entry, down the ramp on the southside of the church. There are no steps so monitored entry and social distancing will not present a problem. Parents can park in the Laclede garage, which is free on Sunday, and just make a short trip through the campus to the Atrium door.

Purchase Fair Trade Products and Support our Sister Parish



Sales of fair trade products have resumed **online only** to benefit St. Peter Claver in Punta Gorda, Belize. Because of the pandemic, as well as a series of fires which destroyed farms in the community, unemployment in the area has increased dramatically. All the proceeds from our Fair Trade sales go directly to St. Peter Claver to help with their current Food Pantry needs.

To purchase go directly to SFX website at: http://www.sfxstl.org/buy-fair-trade

There are two options for receiving your items, which you will specify upon placing your online order. Both options occur twice a month on 1st and 3rd Sundays:

Hand Delivery (only for orders of \$20 or more): One of our volunteers will deliver your products to your porch or in front of your home. If requesting delivery of orders which contain chocolate, please plan for immediate retrieval of your package in order to protect chocolate from melting. Volunteers will ring your doorbell/buzzer or knock on your door when dropping off items.



<u>Pick-up at College Church (orders of any value)</u>: Pick-ups at the College Church will be pre-collected into bags with the buyer's name displayed on the outside of the bag, available from 9-10:15am outside of the Ballroom (below the church) on the designated Sundays. We ask that parishioners wear a face mask and continue to practice social distancing during pick-up.

The deadline for ordering delivery or pick-up for the 1st and 3rd Sunday is the Tuesday before. Please contact Christine at christine@sfxstl.org with any questions and thank you in advance for your support!

PRAY FOR THE DECEASED

With the hope of the Resurrection, we ask that you remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, including:



Bob Powers

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

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:

Week 43 (September 20-26): Save money and water by installing water-efficient fixtures. Water-efficient fixtures can be used in toilets, urinals, showerheads and faucets to reduce the flow of water, allowing you to use at least 20 percent less water than conventional fixtures, according to the EPA.

September 19-20, 2020

Saturday 5:30 pm

Fr. White, S.J.

Sunday

8:00 am Fr. Daly, S.J. 10:30 am Fr. White, S.J. 4:30 pm Campus Ministry

September 19-20, 2020

Saturday

5:30 pm Fr. Stewart, S.J.

Sunday

8:00 am Fr. White, S.J. 10:30 am Fr. Stewart, S.J. Campus Ministry

The 10:30 am Mass will be livestreamed, and will have Outdoor Communion. RSVP at sfxstl.org.

Bulletin Articles

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

Laudato Si Quote of the Week

Disinterested concern for others, and the rejection of every form of self-centeredness and self-absorption, are essential if we truly wish to care for our brothers and sisters and for the national environment. (#208)

The full encyclical can be read here:

 $\frac{http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html}{}$



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