



## **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](http://sfxstl.org)

**April 18, 2021**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**

### **LITURGY SCHEDULE**

Saturday: 5:30 pm, Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am. Please RSVP at [sfxstl.org](http://sfxstl.org).

Online Masses will be posted on our YouTube channel. Subscribe here: [tinyurl.com/collegechurchmass](https://tinyurl.com/collegechurchmass)

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

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](mailto: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](http://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 [associatepastor@sfxstl.org](mailto:associatepastor@sfxstl.org) with questions.

Christian Initiation of Adults: contact Joe Milner at 314-977-7305 or [joseph.milner@slu.edu](mailto:joseph.milner@slu.edu)

Marriages: contact Sandy Hauck at 314-977-7303 for scheduling and preparation information.

Funerals: contact Sister Carolyn McWatters at 314-977-1797 or [carolyn.mcwatters@slu.edu](mailto:carolyn.mcwatters@slu.edu) or Fr. Dan White.

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

Parish Registration: Available online at [sfxstl.org/parishioner-registration](http://sfxstl.org/parishioner-registration) or at the Parish Center front desk. For questions email [church@sfxstl.org](mailto:church@sfxstl.org).

Youth Faith Formation: Available for Pre-K through eighth grade. Classes meet September - May on Sunday mornings. Ages 3-6 use the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Contact Terry Edelman at [terry@sfxstl.org](mailto:terry@sfxstl.org) or Julie Kilian at [julie@sfxstl.org](mailto:julie@sfxstl.org) for more information.

Liturgy of the Word for Children: Suspended until further notice due to the pandemic. Contact Terry Edelman at [terry@sfxstl.org](mailto:terry@sfxstl.org).

Safe Environment Program Compliance contact Terry Edelman at [terry@sfxstl.org](mailto:terry@sfxstl.org).

To reach the Pastoral Council, email [sfxpc@sfxstl.org](mailto:sfxpc@sfxstl.org).

**PASTORAL STAFF**Pastor

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Pastoral Ministry

Bridget Brennan  
[joy@canainstitute.org](mailto:joy@canainstitute.org)

**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Mary Lou Ampleman  
 Michael Anderson  
 Margaret Baughman  
 Bruce Blattenberger\*  
 Mary Bruemmer\*  
 Maureen Carney\*  
 Linda Castillon\*  
 Marcie Corwin  
 Fay Efken\*  
 Diane Flynn  
 Monica Gunn  
 Jessi Haselhorst  
 Paul Hanson\*  
 Mary Jane and Butch Henning\*  
 Laura Kaiser and Family  
 Terry Kippenberger\*  
 Carlita Logan  
 Karena Menard\*  
 Suzanne Mondello  
 Nancy Partridge\* & Glider  
 Mark Roddy\*  
 Joan Rice  
 Dennis Saunders\*  
 Jennifer Saunders\*  
 Fr. Gary Seibert, SJ\*  
 Tom Shen  
 Louis M. Sherrock  
 Colleen Starkloff  
 Judy Taylor\*  
 Julia Williams  
 Lisa Zimmerer\*

\* Long-term

**Prayer requests to:**

[church@sfxstl.org](mailto:church@sfxstl.org)

Or visit [sfxstl.org](http://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](mailto:joy@canainstitute.org) for info.

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

The Paschal (Easter) candle is the great symbol of this season. This year we have a particularly striking candle. I want to thank Anita Barni and Beth Pilarski for their beautiful decoration of our paschal candle.

There is no other symbol in the liturgical year quite like the paschal candle. The origins are quite ancient. The celebration of the Easter Vigil early on references the light of the candle. It received a prominent place in the liturgical celebration of Easter. The churches of the medieval period vied with one another for the largest candle. Salisbury Cathedral in England was reported to have a 36 foot Easter candle in the late 1400s.

The candle represents the light of Christ. The light that overwhelms the darkness of the tomb. The light that, as St. John declares at the beginning of his gospel, "shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it." The light that invites us to walk always as a child of the light. The paschal candle is lit for every Catholic baptism and every Catholic funeral. It accompanies us as we begin our faith life and when it ends.

**Month of Mary**

The month of May is traditionally dedicated to Our Blessed Mother. To help us celebrate, please submit your favorite Marian image or song to share during the month of May. To help us expand our appreciation of cultural diversity, we especially welcome other cultural images of Mary which may be significant to you.

We envision creating a brief video that includes the images and music offered by our collective parish members. Also, please share a few words about what you submit and why it's meaningful to you.

Send pictures, music, videos, and website links by April 23 to Thi Nguyen at [thianguyen29@gmail.com](mailto:thianguyen29@gmail.com). Thank you.

-The Liturgy/Spiritually sub-committee of the parish's Anti-Racism team.

## YOUTH AND FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

### Celebrate our First Communicants

This year 15 of our young parishioners will receive the Eucharist for the very first time. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers. The special First Communion Mass is Sunday, April 25 at 12:30 pm,

Our Communicants are: Hazel Elizabeth Bishop, Brennan Brown, Benjamin Walter Cirrito, AmariLouise Coleman, Agnes Sayer Dunn, Elizabeth Wittman Jarboe, Kiersten Kelting, Patrick Thomas Langenberg, Maxwell Benjamin Moehle, Isaac Paul Montgomery, Kate Anh Quynh Nguyen, Harry Thomas Posnanski, Eva Claire Talsky, Owen George Taylor and Josephine Grace Weaver.

A special thank you goes to catechists: Amanda Taylor, Alicia Timko, Adel Leonida, Mona Vespa, Tracie Simpson and Julia Kreiser.

### First Communion Offertory Procession: What is it that we bring to the Altar?

What is it that we bring to the altar? In preparation for First Communion this year, we have spent time with the children reflecting on this question. The “simple” answer is bread and wine. And yet, when we begin to ponder the bread and wine, the richness of these gifts unfolds.

One of the insights that we have come to this year in our preparation is that all of creation is a gift from God to us, but that creation is not finished yet. It is a part of God’s plan that human beings have a special role in the on-going work of creation, in the transformation of creation. By the work of our hands, we take the gift of wheat and make bread; we take grapes and make wine. Our work brings the creation of the earth to a new place. The bread and wine represent all the gifts that we’ve received from God that we transform “by the work of our hands” - our cooking, our cleaning, our drawing, our skating, our playing sports, our befriending, our reading, our studying, our loving. We present our whole lives to God at the altar and ask God to transform them, to fill them—that God’s presence may shine through them.

As part of our celebration of First Communion, the children who are celebrating have each brought a symbol of “the work of their hands;” these will be placed near the altar as a visible image of what the offering of bread and wine represent to them: the offering of their daily lives on behalf of God’s gifts.

#### The work of our hands:

Paintbrush: the paintbrush represents my gift of art. “I love to paint, draw, imagine, create, and bring beauty into the world.” - Hazel

Writing project: “I used the gift of my hands to write it.” - Harry

Hand-made heart pillow: “I’m offering kindness to the world.” - Max

Hand-made necklace for my friend, Ina: “To make her happy.” - Aggie

Baseball “It is a way to exercise your body and a talent you can share with other people.” - Isaac

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Photo of my friends: "God gave me people and I transformed them into friends. It's one of the gifts God gave me that I'm grateful for the most." - Kate

Sculpture she made of a dancer: "Because God has gifted me with a talent for art and a love of dance." - Eva

Candy bar: "God has given me the gift of sweetness. I am a sweet girl. I chose a candy bar to show as my gift because Crunch bars are my favorite candy. They are sweet and I am sweet." - Kiersten

Flower: "I am giving a flower because I really like to be outside, playing with friends and thinking by myself." - Owen

Robot: "I chose a robot that I built because I like inventing things and I am really good at it." - Patrick

Stuffed cat: "I'm bringing my stuffed cat Blanket because he helps me feel safe when I go to sleep." - Brennan

Blue Belt from Karate class: "Because it is a talent that I got from God and I am good at it." - Ben

Potted plant: "I am grateful for beautiful flowers, blossoming trees, and God's gift of nature." - Elizabeth

Hand-made paper flowers: "I chose paper flowers as my gift because I made them myself for a school science assignment, they were fun to make, and they remind me of all the pretty colors we find in nature." - Amari

Drawing of my family: "Drawing is a gift that God has given me that I do with my hands and I drew a picture of family because it shows our love for each other." - Josie

### **Reflections on Jesuit Spirituality and the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

The Ignatian Spiritual Exercises are core to Jesuit spirituality and I had been curious about them for some time. Could they help me to relate to God in a new and deeper way? There were wonderful opportunities in the St. Louis area to spread them out over the course of a year, but I knew with the crazy unpredictability of my schedule, I would likely become distracted and fail to follow through on the pattern of daily prayer that the Exercises require. So for my 50<sup>th</sup> birthday present to myself, I packed my bags and flew to Montana and lived in the guesthouse of the Jesuit community that serves St. Francis Xavier Church in Missoula for the full thirty-day retreat. It was a remarkable experience and certainly deepened my relationship with God. But were the Exercises new?

As I proceeded through the retreat what struck me was how *familiar* so much of the spirituality behind the Exercises already was, not because I had done a lot of advance reading on Ignatian thought, but because I had been a catechist with the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd movement for so many years. Up until that point, I hadn't understood how many of the practices we embrace in the CGS "atrium" are based on Jesuit concepts, albeit adapted for children.

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For example:

- One of the primary forms of prayer in the Exercises is “contemplation” of scripture texts by immersing yourself in the story sensorially. When reflecting on a passage, one not only seeks to *hear* the text, but see, taste, touch, and smell the scene. In CGS, children contemplate scripture through engaging hands-on materials that help them to enter biblical scenes. And, just as Ignatius encouraged returning over and over again to the same texts from different angles, children in the atrium can work over and over again with the same materials for years, allowing God to continue to reveal new insights through them.
- The Exercises begin with Ignatius’ “Principle and Foundation” that each of us is created to make a unique contribution to God’s plan for history, or as one translation of the Exercises states, “to bring all creation together into one magnificent conscious loving union.” If one were to look at CGS materials for 6-12 year old children, one would discover Ignatius’ Principle and Foundation undergirds the entire “curriculum” for that age group. Everything in the atrium is designed to help children discover God’s plan in history and to discern what their own individual role in that plan might be.
- The Exercises end with a beautiful meditation called “*Contemplatio ad Amorem*” in which one reflects anew on how God loves us by way of giving us gifts. One is asked to consider all of the gifts that one has received in life with ever deepening awe of how each gift was given just at the right moment. One is moved to want to respond to these gifts—loving God as God has loved us. The entire theology of CGS is also grounded in the theology of “gift and response.” Indeed, a favorite work of the atrium for 6-9 year old children is a vast hands-on timeline called “The History of the Gifts.”

Before retreat, I had always thought it was simply good luck that CGS was able to become part of College Church’s religious formation efforts for families twenty years ago. I thought it was merely a question of the right people being in the right place at the right time. But coming home from Missoula, I realized that the hand of God had been intimately involved in bringing this way of forming children to College Church. I understood that it was a way of helping to steep our children in the distinctively Jesuit charism of our parish community. God is so sneaky...and so, so good.

- Ann Garrido (*Ann has been a CGS catechist at College Church now off and on since 1999, working with children in all three levels of the atrium.*)

**If you are interested in learning more about our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program, please contact Julie Kilian at [julie@sfxstl.org](mailto:julie@sfxstl.org). We are always seeking interested folks and support in many different ways!**



**COLLEGE CHURCH - FAIR-TRADE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
ST. PETER CLAVER, PUNTA GORDA, BELIZE**

**PROGRAM BEGINNINGS**

The Student Scholarship Program at St. Peter Claver parish began in 2013 when Lou McCabe, SJ was the Pastor. Fr. McCabe developed the Program as a way to recognize and repay the parish catechists who provided so much time and talent to the Parish with no compensation. As a solution to this, he created a scholarship program for the children of the catechists who completed 8th grade and wanted to go on to high school but did not have the financial means. This priority of selection for the high school Scholarship Program continues today, now through the Pastoral leadership of Fr. Matt Ruhl, SJ and the Program Coordinator, Ms. Olive Woodeye, a parishioner volunteer.

There are currently 27 students receiving scholarships, 2 of them through the recent sponsorship of our Fair-Trade sales at College Church. All of our funds for the current two scholarships come through the proceeds from our Parish Fair Trade sales. In addition to these two parish scholarships, we are now extending the opportunity for direct sponsorship of students by parishioners.

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION & GUIDELINES**

The Scholarship Program is coordinated through our Sister Parish of St. Peter Claver in Belize and through the supervision of Ms. Olive Woodeye. 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 each quarter and Ms. Olive monitors and advises them on grades and other needs they may have. If they don't fulfill the terms of the student can no longer participate nor receive scholarship funds.

Overall, it costs \$225 USD to sponsor one student per year. Of that total, \$200 goes for school fees, books, uniforms and supplies; \$25 goes for food and drinks for lunch. There are a few variances per year, i.e. Form 1 students have a registration fee, need 2 new uniforms and sometimes new books that cannot be recycled; Form 4 requires a graduation fee.

To sponsor a student for all 4 years of high school costs \$900 USD. This would be used for the same boy or girl 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! School typically begins in August but this year due to Covid they hope to start by mid Sept. in 2021. Scholarship interviews and selection takes place over the summer.

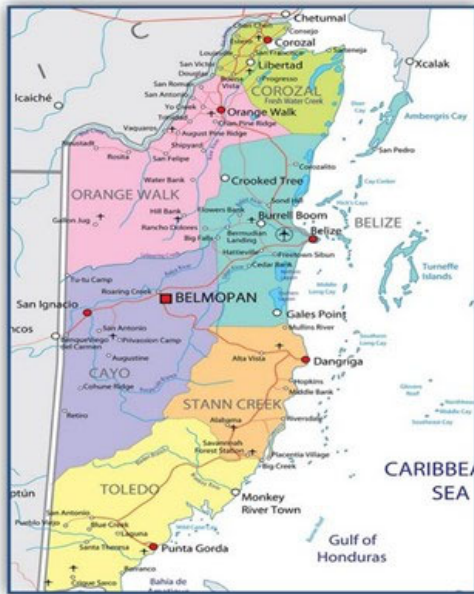
If you are interested in sponsoring a student or have questions about the scholarship program, please contact committee chair Lisa DeLorenzo at [delorenzo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:delorenzo@sbcglobal.net).

(See next page for Toledo Educational Facts and a map)



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### Toledo Educational Facts & Map



Punta Gorda is the main town and capital of the Toledo District.

Education in Belize is compulsory between the ages of 6 and 14 years for primary education. In 2001, 93.2 percent of children ages 5 to 14 years were attending school. Secondary schools and apprenticeship and vocational programs can only accommodate half of the children who complete primary school.

About three-fourths of primary school students do go on to secondary schools, though not all graduate.

Some of the more needy schools, with untrained teachers and few books or equipment, are in the far south. One study found that lack of supplies was a major problem for schools in Toledo, and that about one-half of the teachers in the district had no educational training beyond high school.

### Hiding in Plain Sight: The Reality of Everyday Racism

As our country and our communities continue to confront racial inequity and social injustice, we often find ourselves asking, “How did we get here?” “What keeps us from making greater progress?” We know that racism is a barrier to fully living the call of the Gospel, and we seek ways to remove all that separates us from the Beloved Community God intends for us. As individuals and as a parish, we search for ways to make that a reality.

The Antiracism Team at College Church is hosting a virtual series of awareness sessions designed to open our eyes, minds, and hearts ever wider; to help us more fully understand how racism persists; and to guide us on the path to creating greater equity and justice. Participants will share prayer, benefit from the expertise of a guest speaker, and exchange perspectives in small groups. Please join us as we seek to provide a space in which to listen, reflect, and learn to increase our individual and collective awareness of how systemic racism continues to permeate our societal structures and influence our daily interactions. There will be time for questions and answers, and participants will receive resources to aid in continuing the journey.

The next session will be held on Thursday, April 15 from 7:00 – 8:45 pm.

Race, Policing and Criminal Justice  
 Presenter: Blake Strode  
 Executive Director – ArchCity Defenders

The event is free. Please click to register: [tinyurl.com/blakestrode](https://tinyurl.com/blakestrode)

New topics will be presented each month. Please look for information about upcoming sessions on racism as experienced in financial insecurity, health care, food insecurity, and education.

For more information, please contact Carl Greiner at [carlgreiner.stl@gmail.com](mailto:carlgreiner.stl@gmail.com).





## Circle of Creation Green Corner

### April is Earth Month!

Kiss the Ground is a new film about how regenerating the world's soils has the potential to rapidly stabilize Earth's climate, restore lost ecosystems, and create abundant food supplies. You can screen it virtually, for FREE, from April 10 through 26 by registering.



Find the registration link at our Circle of Creation Green Corner page on our website: [sfxstl.org/circleofcreation](https://sfxstl.org/circleofcreation).

**Earth Month 2021 schedule from Earth Day 365**  
<https://earthday-365.org/earth-month-2021/>

**Great Rivers Greenway Confluence Trash Bash 2021**  
<https://greatriversgreenway.org/event/save-the-date-confluence-trash-bash/>

### April 18, 2021

Saturday	
5:30 pm	Fr. Stewart, S.J.
Sunday	
8:00 am	Fr. Stewart, S.J.
10:30 am	Fr. White, S.J.

### April 25, 2021

Saturday	
5:30 pm	Fr. White, S.J.
Sunday	
8:00 am	Fr. White, S.J.
10:30 am	Fr. Stewart, S.J.

The 10:30 am Mass will be livestreamed. RSVP at [sfxstl.org](https://sfxstl.org).

### Bulletin Articles

email bulletin articles to [church@sfxstl.org](mailto:church@sfxstl.org) before Thursday at noon 10 days before the bulletin date.



### 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal

The *Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA)* provides our Church with the opportunity to come together and share in God's blessings. With your prayerful support, we can carry out God's will to bring faith, hope and love to our brothers and sisters throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Your gift to the *Annual Catholic Appeal* will help sustain vital ministries and services, helping those most in need and impacting the lives of the suffering, sick and vulnerable.

We have resources about the *Annual Catholic Appeal* on our website, [sfxstl.org](https://sfxstl.org), or you can visit the ACA website directly (and make your donation!) at [aca.archstl.org](https://aca.archstl.org).

For information about making a planned gift to the ACA, please contact the Roman Catholic Foundation at 314-918-2890.

Special thanks to this year's ACA Committee at College Church: Margery Al-Abodi, Howl Bean, and Theresa Orozco.

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