



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

**March 14, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Lent
Laetare Sunday**

LITURGY SCHEDULE

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

Funerals: contact Sister Carolyn McWatters at 314-977-1797 or 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 or at the Parish Center front desk. For questions email 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 or Julie Kilian at 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.

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

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

PASTORAL STAFF

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Choir Director, Music Ministry

Ray Sherrock
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Director of Wedding Music & Accompanist, Music Ministry

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Deacon

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Sister Carolyn McWatters, RSM
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Pastoral Ministry

Bridget Brennan
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PRAY FOR THE SICK

Mark Amen
 Mary Lou Ampleman
 Michael Anderson
 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*
 Kunjunjamma Jacob
 Laura Kaiser and Family
 Terry Kippenberger*
 Carlita Logan
 Karena Menard*
 Suzanne Mondello
 Nancy Partridge* & Glider
 Lyn Pickel
 Mark Roddy*
 Dennis Saunders*
 Jennifer Saunders*
 Fr. Gary Seibert, SJ*
 Louis M. Sherrock
 Colleen Starkloff
 Judy Taylor*
 Julia Williams
 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.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Almsgiving is the third traditional Lenten practice along with prayer and fasting. Put simply, it is the material support of those in need. Almsgiving is most often a monetary gift to the poor.

One might be surprised to learn in Scripture and the Church's tradition almsgiving is an act of penance. An important way to seek reconciliation with God and one another is the financial support of the poor. The context of the Lenten season can focus our need to make amends.

Almsgiving is not just charity but an expression of our desire to change our sinful ways.

The notion is not that we "purchase" God's mercy by giving away some surplus cash. Rather, it is a practical reminder that our sins always impact the larger Body of Christ. The wounds of sin are not confined to a single individual but ripple outward touching the lives of many. Almsgiving recognizes our need to make amends through something very near and dear to us, our pocketbook.

The practice of giving alms is directed towards the poor. When we have acted contrary to Christ's Body, it makes perfect sense to seek to heal it through the most vulnerable and forgotten parts of His Body. A true desire to be reconciled with the Lord will elicit from us a concern for the least of our sisters and brothers.

Lenten Scrutiny Rites

The season of Lent invites all Christian to reflect upon Baptism. For those to be baptized, the church offers special prayers on the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent to assist them in looking into their hearts so that they may surrender more fully to God. The scrutiny rites have a two fold purpose: First, they are to "uncover then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful." We pray that they may have a clear self-understanding so that they may know their need for God. Secondly, the rites are "to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good." These prayers also ask God to help them recognize the gifts and virtues that are within them.

This year we have three people who are ready to receive the sacraments of initiation: Jennifer Koskie, Karli Williams, and Bernie Lu. Please pray for them and join them on their journey toward baptism in reflecting on your baptism as we move toward Easter.

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.

So far, we have contributed toward their food pantry and two student scholarships.

Winter items are available, including soups, cornbread, hot cocoa, and baking cocoa, in addition to our on-going sales of chocolate, tea, and coffee!

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.

Pick-up at College Church (orders of any value): 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.

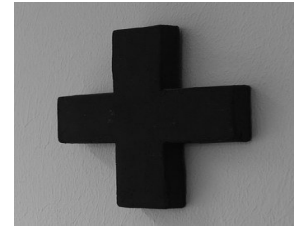


The deadline for ordering delivery or pick-up for the 1st and 3rd Sunday is the Tuesday before. Please contact Christine at christine@sfxstl.org with any questions and thank you in advance for your support!

Thank you for supporting Fair Trade and our Sister Parish!

The Disciplines of Lent

Jesus said, "Whoever wishes to be my follower must deny his very self, take up his cross each day, and follow in my steps." (Lk 9:23)



In response to this call, the Church for centuries has invited Catholics to make the season of Lent one of repentance for sin and a renewal of our baptism. **Baptism and penance** are the two foci of the season. We journey with our catechumens as they prepare to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. We embrace the traditional spiritual practices of **prayer, fasting and almsgiving** in order to deepen our own discipleship.

Prayer is the way each of us grows in our relationship with God. Consider adopting the Ignatian practice of praying with the examen (use the *Racial Justice and the Way of the Cross* booklet prepared for us this year); pray the Stations of the Cross to connect with the deep suffering of so many of our brothers and sisters today; commit to more daily prayer time. And remember to journey with catechumens and candidates throughout the Church as they prepare for full incorporation into the Easter mysteries.

Fasting helps us remember that we are ultimately dependent, not on food or ourselves, but on God.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting for those 18-59. Fasting means one full meal a day, with two smaller meals and nothing in between. Our communal fasting manifests our collective commitment to putting God first in our lives.

Almsgiving is a means for us to concretely respond to those who are in need. Giving can include material gifts as well as gifts of the spirit. Ideally, whatever we choose is given not from our excess, but in a way that is

Lenten Liturgy Schedule (RSVP on our website, sfxstl.org)

Passion Sunday	March 27-28	Masses 5:30 pm; 8:00 and 10:30 am
<u>The Sacred Triduum</u>		
Holy Thursday	April 1	7:30 pm
Good Friday	April 2	3:00 pm
Easter Vigil	April 3	8:00 pm (no 5:30 mass)
Easter Sunday	April 4	8:00 and 10:30 am

We are continuing to collect **reflections on Lent** on our website. Please submit your reflection to angela@sfxstl.org and visit <https://sfxstl.org/lent-reflection> (password: Lent) to read reflections from fellow parishioners.

Please help us celebrate Mary's month

"Month of Mary" - The month of May is traditionally dedicated to Our Blessed Mother. To help us celebrate, the Liturgy/Spiritually sub-committee of the parish's Anti-Racism team is gathering Marian images and music 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 invite parishioners to share a Marian image or song that is meaningful to you. We envision creating a brief video that includes the images and music offered by our collective parish members. Also, if you're willing to share a few words about what you submit, please let us know if you'd be open to being interviewed.

Please send pictures, music, videos, and website links to Thi Nguyen at thianguyen29@gmail.com by March 30. Thank you.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

**Racial Justice and the Way of the Cross:
A Lenten Racial Justice Journey**

Week Five



The College Church Racism & Reconciliation committee invites you to participate in a Lenten Racial Justice Journey with the theme "Racial Justice and the Way of the Cross." In addition to a daily offering of articles, podcasts, or videos to help guide your Lenten prayer and reflection, this year we are also offering reflections from College Church community members on each of the fourteen stations of the cross as they relate to racial justice. A variety of materials are offered for you to choose those that best guide your path.

Prayer cards featuring artwork from Kelly Latimore, a racial justice examen, and prayers for racial justice will be available at the back of the church at the start of Lent, as well as electronically. Visit sfxstl.org/race-reconciliation for more information or to sign up for email alerts.

Sunday March 14	Monday March 15	Tuesday March 16	Wednesday March 17	Thursday March 18	Friday March 19	Saturday March 20
<p>It's More than Racism: Isabel Wilkerson Explains America's "Caste" System</p> <p>Podcast 38:00</p> <p>https://tinyurl.com/y3gl5y6s</p>	<p>7. Jesus Falls a Second Time</p> <p>Reflection by Mike Lueke</p> <p>https://tinyurl.com/3h8sajzz</p> <p>The Urgency of Intersectionality</p> <p>Video 18:41</p> <p>https://tinyurl.com/y96dnnkt</p>	<p>Cardinal Sean's Letter to the People of the Archdiocese of Boston</p> <p>Video and text 8:47</p> <p>https://tinyurl.com/yxds9v6d</p>	<p>8. Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem</p> <p>Reflection by Ginny Schrappen</p> <p>https://tinyurl.com/y44mmr7e</p>	<p>Black Catholic Women: Voice Embodied</p> <p>Article</p> <p>https://tinyurl.com/y6b8bqoe</p>	<p>9. Jesus Falls a Third Time</p> <p>Reflection by Victoria Carlson-Casaregola</p> <p>https://tinyurl.com/vds7x76u</p>	<p>I'm A Black Doctor Who Did Not Trust the COVID Vaccine. Here's What Changed My Mind</p> <p>Article</p> <p>https://tinyurl.com/y5gquqm7</p>

Icon printed with permission of the artist: Kelly Latimore kellylatimoreicons.com

Contact Christine Dragonette at christine@sfxstl.org with any questions or suggestions. We'd also love to hear your reflections as you participate throughout Lent. Please feel free to reach out!

SFX College Church Finance Update

Finance Committee discussions routinely involve ensuring a path forward for the sustainable financial future of College Church over the next few years. COVID-19 has been a key topic of discussion as it has presented so much uncertainty for our parish this past year and the foreseeable future. Among the challenges we have seen:

- Ability for the full parish community to participate in liturgy
- Ability to host weddings (church and ballroom)
- Imagining and implementing new ways to connect our parishioners
- Missing many of our most vulnerable who are not able to be present in person
- Impacts on giving and revenues

The Finance Committee has been in dialogue for several years with Fr. Dan, Katie and our Development Commission regarding a longer view (beyond the current fiscal year). Last spring, as we prepared the budget for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, we were faced with uncertainty associated with COVID-19. In light of this uncertainty, we established a budget with a projected operating loss of \$130,000.

As we discerned our financial future last spring, there was substantial uncertainty in how the parish would be financially sustainable during a pandemic when in-person liturgy and other events could not occur. We reviewed the option to apply under the CARES Act for a Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan and agreed this was a prudent direction to proceed. We proceeded and qualified for a loan and the monies were used to pay our staff. In February 2021, we received notification that our loan has been fully forgiven. Also, in February, we reviewed the potential for a second round of PPP loans this spring and we have determined, in conjunction with the Archdiocese, that we are not eligible for an additional loan.

In reviewing our mid-year financial statements, we want to recognize the generous response of our parishioners. Our online giving has increased and now represents 55% of our unrestricted giving. We exceeded financial expectations with our virtual gala. Thank you for your continuing financial support. With your generosity, coupled with uncertainty associated with COVID still present, we are now projecting an operating loss (excluding the forgiveness of the PPP loan) of \$50,000 for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

We are grateful for our talented, devoted staff and your financial support that enables us to keep our staffing at current levels so we can continue to support our ministries. While we encourage our staff to maintain a balance between work and home, we are aware the hours our staff commit to our parish work have increased during the pandemic. Thank you to our staff and each of you for your continuing financial support.

While not able to fully interact in person, we appreciate your continuing support. As we continue to review our finances, rest assured we will continue to update you regularly. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Carl Greiner at cgreiner.stl@gmail.com.

Circle of Creation Green Corner

Gather up your electronics stuff to be discarded recycled. Consult [Public Electronics Recycling Events: mrcrecycling.net/electronics-recycling-events](http://mrcrecycling.net/electronics-recycling-events)



on the Midwest Recycling Center website for dates, locations, schedules, what they accept, and fees which may apply to particular items.

Visit the Circle of Creation Green Corner anytime on sfxstl.org under Social Ministry or sfxstl.org/circleofcreation.

March 13-14, 2021

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

March 20-21, 2021

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

The 10:30 am Mass will be livestreamed. RSVP at sfxstl.org.

Bulletin Articles

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

Communal Lenten Formation Activity

There is a long tradition of adopting a special practice for Lent in order to make a more generous offering of ourselves to the Lord in this season. As an expression of our communal desire to be formed more deeply by the Lord—not only as individuals but as a parish—we propose that we adopt this common Lenten practice again this year *as a parish*, but through virtual means. Think of this as something you can do, not just for yourself, but for the parish, and even for the whole Church.

| What We're Proposing | The idea is to reflect together in small groups on the scriptures for the previous Sunday as a way of entering more deeply into our weekly encounter with the Lord in the Mass. Each week you will receive an email with a brief background to the scripture passages to help you better understand the passages. *What makes this gospel passage "good news"? What new horizon do these scriptures open for me personally and for our parish? How do I sense it forming me more profoundly in the love of God?*

| We invite you to sign up | Sign up by sending your email address to the Adult Faith email of sfxAdultFaithFormation@gmail.com and we will provide you with the Zoom link to join this meeting. We will meet every Monday evening at 7:00 during Lent for about 45 minutes. There will be prayer and brief introduction to the passages. The larger group will be broken down into small groups for more intimate sharing. You will be provided reflection questions each week prior to the meeting.

| Would You Like to Facilitate a small group? | If you are available to serve as a facilitator of one of these groups, please email Joe Milner joe@sfxstl.org No special expertise is required.

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