



2021 First Communicants

## 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 2, 2021**  
**Fifth 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.

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\*  
 Maureen Clever  
 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  
 Tom Mulvihill, Sr.  
 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**

Confirmation is upon us once again. We welcome Archbishop Rozanski to College Church for the very first time. We are delighted to have him with us to confirm our young people. It is an important reminder of our connection to the Church in St. Louis and throughout the world.

This year of preparation, as you might expect, has not been easy. Inside this bulletin, you'll find a photo that indicates the primary means of gathering for our class. I want to especially thank Hope Johnson for her dedication and labors in shepherding the *confirmandi*.

This weekend's bulletin contains the faith statements that have long been a part of the final preparation of the class. I would encourage you to read them carefully. They are full of wisdom and insight. We seem to have some budding theologians in our midst. The faith statements remind all of us of the ways we respond to the Spirit. The gifts we have received are to be shared for the good of all.

### **Glennon Sunday Weekend is Coming June 5-6**

*A Message from SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital:*

When SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital opened its doors as the nation's first free-standing Catholic pediatric hospital, a promise was made to the community that any child in need of care would be welcomed, whether their parents could afford to pay for care or not. That promise still holds true today.

We rely on the generosity of our friends in the faith community to help uphold our mission of faith-filled health care services, delivered by some of the region's best caregivers: Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God.

St. Francis Xavier, please join us in helping make miracles possible by making a gift during Glennon Sunday weekend, June 5-6, online at [glennon.org](http://glennon.org). On behalf of our patients and families, may God bless you for providing hope, healing, faith and compassion to every child who walks through the doors at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon.

## Statements of Faith

As part of the preparation for Confirmation, our students were asked to write a "Statement of Faith," expressing why they wanted to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, along with some aspect of their faith journey. These reflections were read by the students at the a special ceremony April 16. We are making these Statements of Faith available to our entire parish community and hope that you will read them and be inspired by the heartfelt, honest and thoughtful reflections of our young people. Please join our parish family in celebrating their full initiation into the Church today.

### Evelyn Bishop

My faith is like a flower because over time it grows. When I had first started to learn about my faith, I knew nothing and had no idea what it would mean in my life. As time went on, I understood more! But, when I had moved from a private school to a public school I became farther from god, never praying or caring. And it felt as if the flower had died. But, when we went to our retreat, I felt even closer with god. We had spent time to realize what our religion was to us. And I spent time to notice how it hasn't been much of my life. Allowing the flower to grow. When it was time to start looking for a saint, I was searching and searching until I found the right one. When I found a saint that really connected to my interests, I felt very accomplished to know I found one I didn't know anything about and had also connected to me. Thinking about me in my religion as a flower I know I will feel closer to god than I have been as time grows just like the petals of a flower.

Confirmation Sponsor: Stella Bishop

Confirmation Name: Genesis

### Finn DeStefano

There have been many opportunities for me to become stronger in my faith. My parents have played a big part in my faith journey. They have allowed me to attend a school where faith is important and a part of everyday class. They also have given me the chance to be raised in a strong, faith filled family and house. These chances and opportunities have allowed me to become the man I am today and to continue to grow in my faith.

Confirmation Sponsor: Isabel DeStefano

Confirmation Name: Sebastian

### Katie Gasper

To me, faith is like a symphony. Symphonies are comprised of many parts. The mood and theme change from movement to movement, composer to composer. Parts of the symphony are lively and energetic, filling the concert hall with a joyous clatter of cymbals and the trumpet's grand blaring. Other parts of the symphony are slow and



thoughtful, characterized by the gentle sound of violins and other peaceful string instruments. In short, to me, faith is an ever-changing thing. There are days that it is easy to follow God and pray, and there are days where it feels almost impossible. But, in the end, faith is a beautiful thing, just like the glorious sound of a symphony.

In St. Paul's letter to the Hebrews, we are given a wonderful definition of faith as "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things that appear not." In other words, it is more than trusting, beyond hoping. It is knowing, believing with a strong conviction that God not only exists, but loves us enough to sacrifice his own son for us. It is what motivates people to do good, to see every person around them as an equal according to the equal dignity all mankind has.

In conclusion, faith to me means to persevere through the dark moments of my life and to continue to pray and look to God. In this, I will treat all I come across with the equal dignity that God has given them. I shall not look for reward for my actions, only to see the light of God's face when I enter His kingdom. To quote St. Teresa of Calcutta, "Faith in action is love." That is how I want to live my faith, loving others.

Confirmation Sponsor: Steve Metzger

Confirmation Name: Teresa of Calcutta

## **Luc Giles**

For me Faith is like the foundation of a church. It is the most important and strong part of a building. The concrete are the stories of the Bible, and God is the water that activates them. This foundation helps me know there is hope for the future. In the future I know this will benefit me and improve my connection to God. In my personal life, I feel God's support when I get stressed out. This Confirmation class has taught me how to look for God's support through prayer. I look forward to having a strong connection with God.

Confirmation Sponsor: Sean Wright

Confirmation Name: Anthony

## **William Hamlin**

As a Catholic, God says you must love your neighbor. He doesn't mean the people next door, the people on your street, or even your city. He means that you should love your fellow man as you would love yourself, or a family member. In my experience, the best way to love your neighbor is to show them that you care about them. If that means being with them, sending a card, playing a board game, or even holding the door open at your local International Pancake House. One way I have learned this was through our Mary Ryder home expedition, where the residents were so happy and thankful just to have someone to talk to. Or when we served at Gateway 180, and once the kids were

done being shy, they were super excited to have someone new to play with. I think that by helping each other, we are loving God and his creation, and that is the meaning of faith.

Confirmation Sponsor: Jeep Haly

Confirmation Name: Paul

## **Brandon House**

My favorite way to see God, and where I see him most is through nature. When I see interesting landscapes or intricate systems that help living things function, I see that even the simplest things are very complex. Even just a piece of wood is very complex, originating as a living organism made of a particular set of fibers, with a unique texture. God has provided us with these intricacies in everything that we do, see, and feel. The world we live in is so vast and we have the ability to collect knowledge and solve problems for ourselves. I am grateful to God because he has given us all of these opportunities and a beautiful world. Sometimes the best time for me to pray is when I see something that I can admire or have never seen before. It can help me to connect to God because I can thank him for something that he did for me. Faith, to me, means that I will always recognize God's contribution to my life and the world around me. My faith journey begins with nature.

Confirmation Sponsor: Serena House

Confirmation Name: Vincent de Paul

## **Luke Jarboe**

### **I Find Faith in my Family**

When I first started brainstorming my faith statement and was trying to connect to God, I was having a really hard time. But, as I went through the motions of writing an organizer, I realized that my personal experience with God is clearest when I relate it to my family. When I think about my family and I think about God, I start to see the connection. My family will always love me, and God will always love me. In the same way, my family nurtures me and helps me grow, and God nurtures me and my faith. A family consists of different parts of one whole; the Trinity embodies that same idea. You may not always want to follow the family rules. You may stumble on your faith journey, but God will always be there, the guard rail that keeps you from falling off the mountain. God protects you, your guardian angel is always there. My family protects me, they are always there. Through all of this, I have come to realize that family is the direct experience of God. So, in the future, when I do stumble on the never-ending road up the mountain, I know that my family will be there for me to lean on, because God is in them.

Confirmation Sponsor: Patricia Wittman

Confirmation Name: Peter Claver

## **Sam Leonard**

For my faith, I think recognizing my privilege really helped me understand it. I am so thankful for all of my family and friends, and how lucky of a life due to god. Even just nature and being outside shows what a beautiful life god has created, and this journey through confirmation has really helped me realize that. I also know that if I am ever in need for any help, god is there to help guide me through my journey of life. I was never the most religious person, but confirmation has helped me realize my faith so much. I'm still not the most religious person, and I may zone out in church a little bit, but I still know god will always be there for me when I need it.

Confirmation Sponsor: Kristin Kupper

Confirmation Name: Louis IX

## **Reagan Matteotti**

I believe God created this amazing world we live in today. I believe he created the people, plants, and animals. I also believe Jesus died on the cross for us. And that God has a path for each and every one of us. I saw this quote, "to one who has faith no explanation is necessary, to one without faith no explanation is possible."-by Thomas Aquinas. Now, this quote stuck with me because when I look at the ocean or a beautiful day, think only God could have created such beauty. As I live the rest of my life, I look forward to learning what God's plan is for me.

Confirmation Sponsor: Mary Lindmark

Confirmation Name: Mary Magdalene

## **Martin O'Connell**

I believe God is love.

I believe that when we love, we live in harmony with God.

I believe love means caring for myself, for others and for the world we live in.

I believe caring means doing whatever I can to make life better right here and right now.

I believe Jesus is God and that he teaches us how to truly care.

I believe Jesus' love is greater than any evil...even death.

I believe that Jesus helps us to understand and live out his teaching through the Holy Spirit.

I believe that the church does its best to follow Jesus and make life better right here and right now.

I believe we fail at love sometimes, and that when we do, we should forgive each other and accept God's forgiveness.

I believe that I see God's love all around me and I want others to see it too when they look at me.

I believe I want others to feel the same love that I feel from God.

I believe that God wants us to be truly happy.

I believe that God wants us to be together with him forever.

I believe I want that too.

I love God.

Amen.

Confirmation Sponsor: Simon O'Connell

Confirmation Name: Francis of Assisi

## **Quinn Piskorowski**

I feel over the years I have learned what faith is to me. I look at Blessed William Joseph Chaminade as an example. Father Chaminade kept his faith through his darkest days of teaching the catholic faith. Chaminade needed God for guidance all through his life and when he was struggling and to me that is what faith is. It is easy to be faithful whenever everything is going right, and things look up. Faith to me is when even when things are going terribly, and you are going through hard times, you still know that God and Jesus love and look out for you. That is why I feel it is important for me to do the same. I feel its my responsibility to be there for people Because God has always been there for me. And especially after a year like we have had, I have felt like faith has kept me in good spirits throughout it and why I should help people who are not in good spirits. My faith has not just allowed me to be loved by God. But has allowed me to Love others the same.

Confirmation Sponsor: Owen Piskorowski

Confirmation Name: William Joseph  
Chaminade

## **Quinn Reynolds**

For my entire life I've been close to two things, religion and soccer. I've been playing soccer since I was three years old. The problem was, I wasn't connecting the two. Religion was for church and class only. During the Saint Project, I found out that Saint Sebastian is the patron saint of soldiers and athletes. This appealed to me in two ways. The first was him being the patron saint of soldiers. This appealed to me because my



Confirmation is like me being called as a soldier for Christ. The other was him being the patron saint of athletes. I could finally implement my faith into my daily life. I could finally connect the two.

Confirmation Sponsor: Maureen Scheve

Confirmation Name: Sebastian

## Mary Romer

I would like to express my faith statement in the form of an acrostic poem using the word Confirmation.

**C** is for Cecilia. I chose Cecilia as my Saint because she is the Patron Saint of music.

Music has always been a part of my life and a gift I have so I felt connected to her.

**O** is for original. I am unique. There is no one exactly like me and together we all make

up one body of Christ.

**N** is for nourishment. Through the Word and Communion we are fed.

**F** is for forgiveness. God is all forgiving and merciful.

**I** is for inspire. I am inspired by the people of faith in my life including my family and teachers.

**R** is for Reconciliation. Through this Sacrament my sins are forgiven and I can go in peace.

**M** is for me. I am on a journey, learning and growing.

**A** is for always. God is always by my side. I am never alone.

**T** is for trust; the firm belief in the reliability, truth, ability or strength of someone or something.

I trust in the Lord.

**I** is for Initiation. Confirmation is the third sacrament of Initiation following Baptism and Eucharist.

**O** is for oneness. Through our Baptism we are one with God.

**N** is for now; to live in the moment, to be my best self, and to be guided by the Holy Spirit.

Confirmation is a time to learn and grow. This is my journey.

Confirmation Sponsor: Susan Boden      Confirmation Name: Cecilia

## **Lauren Ruth**

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. Psalm 138:14. When my Sponsor shared this verse with me, I connected to it immediately. This verse reminds me of myself. It reminds me that I am exactly who God intended I would be. I am who I am on purpose, and I was brought into this world for a reason. Whenever I feel lost in life, I look to this verse, and remember that I am fearfully and wonderfully made. This is important to my faith because it shows that I am always learning new things and growing my faith.

Confirmation Sponsor: Sarah Brown

Confirmation Name: Francis of Assisi

## **Jack Taylor**

St Maximilian Kolbe said “No one in the world can change Truth. What we can do and should do is to seek truth and to serve it when we have found it. The real conflict is the inner conflict. Beyond armies of occupation and the catacombs of extermination camps, there are two irreconcilable enemies in the depth of every soul: good and evil, sin and love. And what use are the victories on the battlefield if we are ourselves defeated in our innermost personal selves?” I believe that this quote shows a lot about my plans for my faith, for example, I wish to have as little conflict as possible. As he said, the things you gain in the outside world do not matter compared to what happens inside. Dealing with your inner conflicts and finding inner peace can influence your actions in the outside world. To help love win on the inside of your heart you need to try to find the source of those conflicts and try to resolve them, or you can find sources of love in the world around. I believe that God's plan for me is to try and be my best self. I feel inner peace and love when I am with family and friends, when I am in prayer, and when I am serving as a lector. I want to grow closer to the things that bring me inner peace in order to live out God's plan for me.

Confirmation Sponsor: Julie Kilian

Confirmation Name: Maximilian Kolbe

## **Robbie Winter**

To me faith is like music. Music builds community. Faith also builds community. I was given the chance to join the music community by playing an instrument. I will join the Catholic community through faith. When you work together as a community, you can make something bigger than just yourself. Much like how musicians together make a band, or a group of Christians make a church. Whether you are praying or playing an instrument by yourself, or in a group, faith allows you connect with God. Some of my fondest memories have been in communities like bands and my life has taken a turn for the better because of it. I hope my faith community much like my music community will have a big positive impact on my life. I am excited to see where my faith journey will take me.

Confirmation Sponsor: Patrick Barlow

Confirmation Name: Patrick

## SOCIAL MINISTRY

## St. Peter Claver Parish Updates

Update on our Sister Parish St. Peter Claver in Punta Gorda, Belize, Fr. Matt Ruhl, S.J., pastor.

Like our Sister Parish on Facebook at St. Peter Claver Parish, Punta Corda, Belize. View Fr. Matt video updates at <https://fb.watch/4X-dAcDyrs/>

St. Peter Claver, our sister parish, is a Roman Catholic Church located in Punta Gorda, Belize. The Jesuits at St. Peter Claver minister to the town of Punta Gorda and 36 villages with Catholic Churches in the Toledo District of Belize.

**Capital Improvements:** In recent months, St. Peter Claver demolished four old derelict school buildings on their property in Punta Gorda. With the assistance of parishioners, they planted trees and flowers, created gardens around the primary school campus, and erected fencing. An outdoor basketball court was also constructed for the school children, which will be available for use once the pandemic is under control in the community. The next big undertaking is a sea wall that has become necessary to protect the parish center, church, and school buildings from rising sea levels. The staff at St. Peter Claver is working on obtaining grants to help with the estimated cost of \$86,000. They hope to have the sea wall in place by July to prevent flood damage and the loss of property.



**Food Bank / Church Ministries:** Given an increase in food insecurity in the parish as a direct result of the pandemic, St. Peter Claver, in conjunction with their emergency food bank, recently established a St. Vincent DePaul Society, which current feeds 100 families per month. St. Peter Claver is also excited to welcome two Sisters of Charity this summer to help with parish ministries. St. Peter Claver's music ministry is also proud to report it has established a Mass Choir, which will be fully active once Covid-19 regulations permit. Parishioners are back to Mass-in-person following pandemic protocols.



**Partnership with St. John's College:** St. Peter Claver and St. John's Community College (SJC) in Belize City have initiated a collaborative agreement to bring some higher education classes to Punta Gorda and Corazon communities. The goal is not to rely heavily on online courses since many of the parishioners do not have adequate Internet access or access to technology in the home, but to establish satellite campus with in-person education. The long-term goal is to have fully functional satellite campuses in both Punta Gorda and the Village of Corazon.

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**Belize Church-State Relationship:** St. Peter Claver Parish depends heavily on financial support from Jesuit communities and donors. Because of the pandemic, they have lost over \$200,000 in revenue. Despite this significant loss, St. Peter Claver has worked hard to ensure there would be no layoffs or salary reductions for their 17 parish employees. To the frustration of Fr. Matt, St. Peter Claver primary school has experienced teacher layoffs and pay reductions in an administrative structure that does not provide school staff with health insurance. School administration is the responsibility of the government of Belize, even though



Fr. Matt

the school is Catholic. Unlike the U.S., there is a partnership between religious organizations and the State to provide primary education, where the state retains control over school administration. Fr. Matt has put together “a very bright and exuberant committee that is investigating other options to this church-state educational system which quite frankly does not work for us.”

**Supporting St. Peter Claver Parish:** You can support our sister parish by purchasing our Fair Trade items, for sale online at: <https://sfxstl.org/buy-fair-trade>

Parishioners are also invited to make direct donations on this website or consider sponsoring high school scholarships for our St. Peter Claver Parish primary school children. High Schools in Belize are not supported by the government so high schools charge tuition. Because of this, most students are forced to end their education at 8th grade.

**Deadline for sponsoring a sister parish child for high school is Sunday, May 23rd for the 2021-2022 school year.** It roughly costs \$225 a year with a 4-year commitment for a high school education in Belize. For more information, contact Lisa DeLorenzo at [lisa.c.delorenzo@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.c.delorenzo@gmail.com).

### Give STL Day: May 6th

Thank you so much for your ongoing generosity toward our Outreach Program for ID and birth certificate assistance. Thanks to your support, in the past year we served over 3,000 individuals despite being closed for three months at the beginning of the pandemic.

Our program acknowledges the community’s great need for vital documents and the barriers that can keep low-income or unhoused St. Louisians from accessing our services. As we look toward program expansion to help meet this need, the Outreach Program is again participating in Give STL Day on May 6th and would appreciate your continued support.



To donate early or learn more about our program, please visit our Give STL Day page: <https://www.givestlday.org/collegechurch>

Thank you, Outreach supporters, for your support and belief in our program’s mission.



# YOUTH AND FAMILY FAITH FORMATION



## Confirmation

This Sunday, eighth grade Religious Education Students from the College Church will be Confirmed at the 10:30 Mass. Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski will celebrate Mass and confer the sacrament. Please pray for our students as they take this next important step in their faith journey.

The Confirmandi are Evelyn Rose Bishop, Finnian Marcus DeStefano, Kathleen Rose Gasper, Luc Theodore Giles, William Ambrose Hamlin, Brandon Arthur House, Luke Wittman Jarboe, Samuel Butler Leonard, Reagan Marie Matteotti, Martin Patrick O’Connell, Quinn Noonan Piskorowski, Quinn Joseph Reynolds, Mary Bonn Romer, Lauren Kathryn Ruth, Jack Hampton Taylor, Robert Rudolph Winter.

Despite restraints from Covid 19, students had a vigorous and meaningful preparation for the sacrament, conducted by lead catechist Hope Johnson and assisted by Scott Jarboe and Richard Baugh.

## Bilingual Readers for Pentecost

Once again we would like to have the intercessions on Pentecost Sunday read in languages which reflect the diversity of cultural heritages represented by College Church parishioners.

If you can speak another language and would be able to translate an intercession and read it in that language during Mass on May 22-23, please contact Sister Carolyn - [carolyn.mcwatters@slu.edu](mailto:carolyn.mcwatters@slu.edu).

Thank you!







## Antiracism at College Church

### Tuesday Night Vigils for Racial Justice Resume May 4th

After a hiatus during the winter months, weekly Tuesday night vigils for racial justice will begin again on Tuesday, May 4th, and continue each week from 6–7 p.m. You are invited to join on the steps of College Church to stand in prayer and hold signs calling for racial justice locally and nationally.

Originally hosted by the Jesuit scholastics in summer 2020 after the killing of George Floyd, the vigils became a weekly witness, growing to encompass a larger group of St. Louis Catholics. As racial violence continues, as most recently seen in the deaths of Daunte Wright and Adam Toledo, among others, the College Church Racism and Reconciliation Committee wants to continue this public witness and invites all to join in both participation and planning. The Racism and Reconciliation Committee will host the first Tuesday vigil on May 4th. If you or your group would be interested in hosting one or more weekly Tuesdays, please contact Joan McGinnis at [jfmc676@gmail.com](mailto:jfmc676@gmail.com).

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

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, Closing the Wealth Gap, will be held on Thursday, May 13, from 7:00 – 8:45.

Presenter: Ray Boshara  
Facilitator, Senior Advisor for the Institute for Economic Equity at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Mr. Boshara also serves as a commissioner for the Peace and Justice Commission of the St. Louis Archdiocese.



The event is free. Please register here: [tinyurl.com/RayBoshara](https://tinyurl.com/RayBoshara).

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

### Antiracism Team Update

We are approaching the third anniversary of the initial gathering of the Antiracism Team at College Church. In that time, members of the group have deepened their understanding of systemic racism and our individual, as well as collective, complicity in maintaining it. All have completed introductory training through Crossroads Antiracism and Training, and we continue to discern opportunities to share this work throughout the entire parish community. Recently, committees have been formed to provide spiritual and liturgical experiences related to antiracism, to offer programs to increase awareness of systemic racism, to develop and complete a parish-wide antiracism review, and to keep the parish connected to the work through ongoing communication. We ask the Holy Spirit to guide our path as we continue to journey toward becoming an antiracist parish. Your prayers, questions, and suggestions are most welcome; contact Winnie Sullivan ([penultim@swbell.net](mailto:penultim@swbell.net)) or Lisa Burks ([lmburks60@gmail.com](mailto:lmburks60@gmail.com)), co-chairs, for more information.

## Circle of Creation Green Corner

Kiss the Ground is a 2020 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 watch the trailer here and the 95-minute documentary is available on Netflix. There is hope.  
[youtube.com/watch?v=3iknWWKZOU8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3iknWWKZOU8)



Concerning plastic pollution, here are links to three YouTube videos of varying lengths.  
 A brief history of plastic, TED-Ed, 5:40 (5 min 40 s) Sept. 10, 2020  
[youtube.com/watch?v=9GMbRG9CZJw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9GMbRG9CZJw)

Can Chemical Recycling Solve the World's Plastic Problem? CNBC 13:35, Aug. 29, 2020  
[youtube.com/watch?v=LPllpwMuV9Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPllpwMuV9Y)

Plastic Wars – FRONTLINE, 53:15, March 31, 2020  
[youtube.com/watch?v=-dk3NOEgX7o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-dk3NOEgX7o)

### May 1-2, 2021

Saturday  
 5:30 pm Fr. White, S.J.  
 Sunday  
 8:00 am Fr. White, S.J.  
 10:30 am Most Rev. Mitchell T. Rozanski  
 (Confirmation)

### May 8-9, 2021

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

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



In John 15:1-8, Jesus said to His disciples: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so it bears more fruit...Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me." We seek to perform His will, and in doing so we grow within our faith and our collective faith shines upon the world, showing the Lord's mercy to all those who seek it.

And so, united as one Church, eager to follow God's will, our support of the Annual Catholic Appeal allows us to provide His love and mercy to so many when they need it most. The outreach and support provided by our ministries has been needed more than ever during the difficult times we've experienced over the last year. But thanks to your generosity, the Appeal was able to bring hope and healing to our entire community by providing funding that helped our parishes reopen for public worship and keep us united with our faith.

Please, prayerfully consider a gift to the Appeal. You can mail a check to our Parish Office or donate online by visiting [aca.archstl.org](https://aca.archstl.org). There you can also learn more about how your gift can help impact the lives of so many. We also have a special page for the Appeal on our website; visit [sfxstl.org/annual-catholic-appeal](https://www.sfxstl.org/annual-catholic-appeal) to learn how the ACA impacts College Church and the North City Deanery.

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