



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



December 15th, 2019
Third Sunday of Advent

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:30 pm Anticipation of Sunday

Sunday 8:00 am, 10:30 am and 4:30 pm

Monday - Friday

7:15 am, Noon & 5:15 pm

In the Chapel of Our Lady located in the lower level.

Saint Louis University Campus Ministry:

Sunday: 9:00 pm (when the University is in session)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday-Friday: 10:45 am through Noon

Saturday: 4:30 pm through 5:30 pm

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 FAX: 314-977-7315 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 jaerickson31@gmail.com 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 Fr. Dan White, SJ at 314-977-7310 with questions.

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

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

Funerals: contact Fr. Dan White, SJ or Sister Carolyn McWatters, RSM. To notify the parish of a funeral for a family member not at the College Church, please contact Katie Jansen Larson at 314-977-1954 or Katie@sfxstl.org.

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, contact Katie Jansen Larson at katie@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 Edelmann at terry@sfxstl.org or Julie Kilian at Julie@sfxstl.org for more information.

Liturgy of the Word for Children: Celebrated weekly for children in kindergarten - seventh grade at 10:30 am Sunday Mass. Childcare is available for children ages six months through pre-kindergarten during the 10:30 am Mass in the Parish Center Nursery. Contact Terry Edelmann at terry@sfxstl.org.

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

PASTORAL STAFFPastor

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Parish Life

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Christian Initiation, Adult Formation, & Marriage Ministry

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Director of Wedding Music & Accompanist

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Safe Environment Program Director

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Youth Faith Formation

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Pastoral Ministry

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PRAY FOR THE SICK

Mary McDevitt
 Dennis Roach
 Russ Bley
 Terry Kippenberger
 Beverly & Al Marcus
 Carl Thenhaus
 Donald Webre
 Jeffrey Foster
 Mark Indelicato
 Len Stagoski, Sr.
 Judy Webre Livaudais
 Allen Abernathy
 Elaine Walker
 Betty Schnorbus
 Katie Mansfield
 Howard family
 Sr. Elizabeth Kolmer, ASC
 Nancy Partridge & Glider
 Margaret Barker
 Mikaela Chatman
 Jennifer Saunders
 Joan McLean
 Bob Powers
 Leslie Matula
 Diane Williams
 Patrick Pasierb
 Kandice Draper
 Lula Chatman
 Don Berg
 Greg Fiudo
 David Byrnes
 Paul Byrnes
 Pam Orbin
 Art Taylor
 Mary Bruemmer
 Lisa Zimmerer
 Pat March
 Liz DeRum
 Wayne and Tuck Loui
 Joe Lynne
 Monica Gunn
 Campbell Hodge
 Pat Darcy
 Linda Riek
 Paul Hanson
 Mary Geary Dunn
 Alice Edler
 Katherine Mansfield
 Jeanne Hermann
 Bruce Meadows
 Melissa Belk
 Mark Roddy
 Dave Schnelt
 Bill Anderson
 Dennis Saunders

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The painting on the cover of the bulletin is Caravaggio's *John the Baptist in the Wilderness*. It hangs in the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City. If you need a reason to visit K.C. besides the barbeque, this is it.

The artist depicts John as a teenager alone in the wild. There is little to indicate who he is besides a reed staff. The Baptist is caught in a moment of deep introspection. There is a brooding quality, or even melancholy, that permeates the painting. This is not the wild-eyed prophet with the strange clothes and even stranger diet so familiar to us. This is different.

I think this is the John we encounter in today's Gospel. The selection is from chapter 11 of St. Matthew. The scene takes place well into the public ministry Jesus after John has been imprisoned. He asks Jesus a simple question, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we wait for another?"

Israel had been plagued for so long by fake messiahs and false prophets. John by his words and as Caravaggio paints him is wondering if Jesus is more of the same. I see in the painting a person struggling with doubt, and yearning to not be disappointed.

Jesus does not answer John's question but simply reports what is taking place. He encourages John by pointing to the work of the Kingdom. This is the Good News that is being enacted. Not a king or judge but rather the Messiah of God's compassion, mercy and justice

Advent and Christmas Celebrations

College Church will celebrate the coming of Christ with these liturgical offerings:

December 21st Parish Reconciliation Service-4 pm

December 24th Christmas Eve Family Mass -4:30 pm

Children's Choir Prelude Music-4pm

Mass During the Night-11pm

Choir Prelude Music 10:30 pm

December 25th Christmas Day Mass 10:30 am

January 1st Feast of Mary, Mother of God Vigil Mass 5:15 pm in the Chapel and 10:30 am in the Chapel

Complementary parking available in SLU Laclede Garage

Spirituality and Reflection Materials

As you look forward to the New Year, consider ways that you can continue to deepen your relationship with God. There are a variety of ways to grow in prayer and understanding of the Sunday readings, Ignatian Spirituality, and prayer.

At Home With The Word has the scripture readings for each Sunday, insights into the readings, questions for reflection and a suggestion about practicing a virtue.

Sacred Space for 2020 offers a scripture passage each day and a way to pray with it so that you can grow in your relationship with God.

Through the Year With Pope Francis presents thoughts from his homilies selected for each day along with a question to ponder that day.

We Need Each Other: Responding to God's Call to Live Together by Jean Vanier challenges us to never think of ourselves as better but to always see the dignity of each person around us.

Falling in Love ... Finding God by parishioners Bridget Brennan and Jerry Shen invites readers to grow in intimacy with each other with practical practices. Through insights from the Spiritual Exercises, couples can come to greater love and intimacy with each other and with God.

Other books offer insights in the Examen prayer, working through grief, and ways to destress from the busyness of life.

Come to the ballroom after the 8:00 or 10:30 masses today or next Sunday.

CHRISTMAS AT THE COLLEGE CHURCH FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



The Christmas Eve Liturgy for families will be December 24th at 4:30 pm. This liturgy includes a candlelight procession, a touching Tableau and the children's choir. Please call Terry Edelmann at 314.712.4216 or Julie Kilian at 314.698.9268 if you have any questions about these activities.

Candlelight Procession

All children are invited to create a paper candle to carry in the opening procession for the liturgy. Paper towels work well as the basis of the candle. All children and parents who want to process should gather at the Baptismal Font at 4:25. They will process in before the celebrant and stand at the foot of the altar. Once the celebrant is on the altar they will return to their pews. No rehearsal is necessary, but children must bring their own paper candles.

Christmas Tableau

Our children will participate in a dramatization of the Gospel. During the reading of the Gospel the children will come to the altar and present a moving depiction of the beautiful words of St. Luke.

Children's Liturgy of the Word and Babysitting

There will be no Children's Liturgy of the Word or babysitting on Sundays Dec. 22, 29 and January 5. All activities will resume January 12.

Bulletin Articles

email bulletin articles to jaerickson31@gmail.com.
before Thursday at noon

Christmas Poinsettias Donations

We would be pleased to accept donations for Christmas poinsettias in honor of the living and deceased members of the parish or your family. Please mark your donations for POINSETTIAS and list the name(s) of those you wish to remember. You may place your donation in the collection basket or give to Sister Carolyn. At the end of the Christmas season, those who made donations are welcome to take some flowers home. Suggested donation: \$10

Please print clearly:

In HONOR or MEMORY of: _____

Donated by: _____



Ignatian Young Adult Advent Reflection

Comfort My People: The Advent of God's Light in Israel's Darkness and Our Own



When: TODAY, Sunday, December 15th after the 4:30 mass (5:30)

Where: College Church Ballroom (under the church)

Who: Any young adult age 21-39 with an interest in Ignatian Spirituality

Join Ignatian Young Adults as we reflect together after the 4:30 mass on the scripture of the Advent Season. Fr. Matthew Baugh, Associate Pastor, will lead us in reflecting on our own lives along with Israel's painful experience of exile and the almost unimaginable good news of God's promise to restore them to their native land.

Advent Reconciliation Service

One of the Gospel calls we hear both from John the Baptist and Jesus in our Advent Scriptures is the call to repentance. True repentance can only come when we take our eyes off of ourselves and place them on Jesus, who reminds us that only in humbly keeping our hearts open to grace can we recognize our deep need for ongoing conversion and transformation. Our parish communal Service of Reconciliation will be held on **Saturday, December 21**

at 4:00 pm.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Social Ministry Christmas Appeal 12/7-12/8, 12/14-12/15



Last weekend you heard about the work of College Church Social Ministry and an opportunity to financially support our programming through the Annual Christmas Appeal. The Christmas Appeal continues this weekend! The majority of appeal funding goes to our Outreach Program, which is the only program in the region providing ongoing and large-scale assistance with State ID cards and birth certificates. This and our other programs rely on your support in order to continue and grow.

The second collection this weekend will go directly to Social Ministry. If you prefer, you can also send a check to the parish center made out to "St. Francis Xavier" with "Social Ministry Christmas Appeal" in the memo. Please consider making an end of year donation to support our work.

Thank you for your generosity!

The Giving Tree

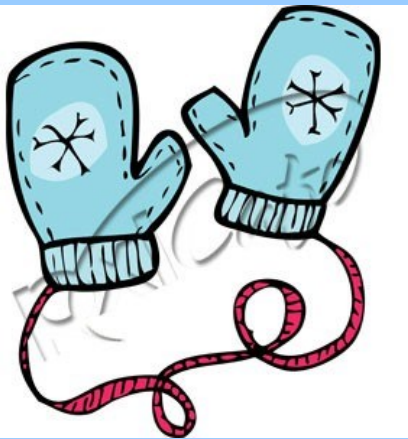
Thank you for your support of the Giving Tree for our Outreach Program guests! Please note that **today is the final day** to take your wrapped gift to the parish center, with the paper ornament attached. **Please do NOT leave your gift under the tree in church.**

These gifts will be distributed to guests who come to the Outreach Program.

Thank you so much for your participation and generosity!



Save the Date for Hot Stuff: Saturday, January 25th, 2020



As the holidays approach and cold weather is upon us, please begin to save the following items for Hot Stuff:

- New underwear and socks
- New or gently used pants, winter hats, gloves, scarves, coats, blankets
- New or gently used shoes, belts
- Other warm clothing items

Keep an eye on the bulletin for a more detailed article with volunteer and food donation signups. Thank you for your generosity!

A Lukan Lessons & Carols

presented by

*The Society:
a Jesuit Music Co-op*

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER COLLEGE CHURCH

3628 LINDELL BLVD
ST. LOUIS, MO 63108

DECEMBER 21ST @ 7:00PM
FREE ADMISSION



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 come to 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, 977-7305 or joseph.milner@slu.edu

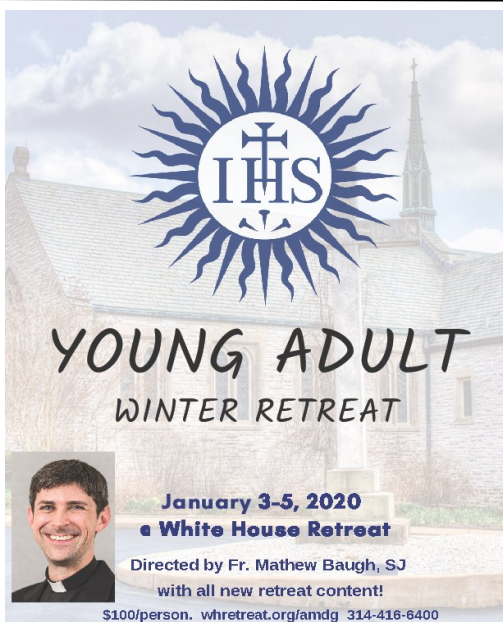


Coming Soon! JustFaith Module: Faith and Racial Equality

Faith and Racial Equality: Exploring Power and Privilege is an 8-wk module that awakens groups to the economic systems, public policies, cultural norms and hidden bases that empower some and oppress others. The first half uses a framework for understanding and recognizing racial disparities in power and privilege. The second segment explores issues of power and privilege, including affirmative action, the school-to-prison pipeline, and the criminal justice system.

College Church will offer this program on **Tuesday evenings from 6:30-9:00 pm beginning January 14**. It involves readings, videos, prayer, group discussion, one Saturday retreat and an immersion experience. The cost is \$50.

Registration is now open! Please contact Sister Carolyn at Carolyn.mcwatters@slu.edu or 314-977-1797 to register or for more information.



President's Schedule

December 14th & 15th, 2019

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

December 21st & 22nd, 2019

Saturday	
5:30 pm	Fr. White, S.J.
Sunday	
8:00 am	Fr. White, S.J.
10:30 am	Fr. Mercier, S.J.
4:30 pm	Fr. Baugh, S.J.

Statement of Revenue and Expense as of September 30, 2019

	<u>Jul 19– Sep 19</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
1	Offertory/Gifts/Contributions	\$170,300	\$170,500	(\$200)
2	Social Ministry Gifts & Grants	\$33,400	\$33,000	\$400
3	Religious Education & Adult Faith	\$23,100	\$21,700	\$1,400
4	Weddings & Events ¹	\$55,100	\$60,700	(\$5,600)
5	Maintenance & Repair	\$4,000	\$3,600	\$400
6	Beyond Sunday ²	\$5,700	\$5,400	\$300
7	Fundraising	\$2,200	\$2,800	(\$600)
	Total Income	\$293,800	\$297,700	(\$3,900)
Expense				
8	Personnel Costs	\$179,900	\$177,500	(\$2,400)
9	Prof Services: Music, RE, Janitorial	\$23,000	\$24,000	\$1,000
10	Supplies	\$14,300	\$18,800	\$4,500
11	Social Ministry Outreach Program	\$23,000	\$18,200	(\$4,800)
12	Buildings and Equipment	\$54,600	\$63,500	\$8,900
13	Archdiocese Assessments	\$31,500	\$31,300	(\$200)
14	Other (Card Transaction Fees)	\$2,700	\$2,800	\$100
	Total Expense	\$329,000	\$336,100	\$7,100
	Net Income	(\$35,200)	(\$38,400)	\$3,200

1. Wedding and Events are below budget primarily due to timing of events.

2. We receive 40% of Beyond Sunday contributions made by our parishioners. Thank you for your donations to this campaign!

Sign up for on-line giving on our website sfxstl.org.
Click on the online giving bar at the top of the page.

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Third Sunday of Advent

INFORMATION SHEET

Number of Bulletins Printed: 900

**PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE INSERTS IN THE MIDDLE OF OUR BULLETIN.
THEY SHOULD BE SENT SEPARATELY.**

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

238900

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FedEx