



St. Francis Xavier (College) Church

The Jesuit Parish in the Heart of St. Louis

3628 Lindell Blvd.

St. Louis, MO 63108

314-977-7300



December 23, 2018 Fourth 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@slu.edu

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 marybeth@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 Fr. Dan White, SJ at 314-977-7315 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 Mary Beth Erickson at 314-977-7304 or church@slu.edu.

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

Parish Registration: Available online at collegechurch.slu.edu or at the Parish Center front desk. For questions, contact Mary Beth Erickson at 314-977-7304.

Religious Education: Available for kindergarten through eighth grade. Classes meet September - May on Sunday mornings. Ages 3-6 use the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Contact Karen Weber at 314-977-7302 or karen@sfxstl.org

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 Karen Weber at 314-977-7302 or karen@sfxstl.org.

Safe Environment Program Compliance contact Terry Edelmann at marietherese.edelmann@slu.edu.

PASTORAL STAFFPastor

Daniel White, SJ
314-977-7300
frdan@sfxstl.org

Social Ministry

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

Pastoral Council Chair

Lisa D'Souza
314-571-9973
ljd Souza@yahoo.com

Associate Pastor

Tom Cwik, SJ
314-977-7301
associatepastor@sfxstl.org

Wedding Ministry

Sandy Hauck
314-977-7303
sandy@sfxstl.org

Deacon

Jim Griffard
314-977-7318
james.griffard@slu.edu

Parish Administrator

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

Choir Director

Ray Sherrock
raymond.sherrock@slu.edu

Safe Environment Program Director

Terry Edelmann
314-712-4216
marietherese.edelmann@slu.edu

Parish Life

Mary Beth Erickson
314-977-7304
marybeth@sfxstl.org

Director of Wedding Music & Accompanist

Sue Martin
314-977-7313
susan.martin@slu.edu

Liturgy & Music

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

Christian Initiation, Adult Formation, & Marriage Ministry

Joe Milner
314-977-7305
joe@sfxstl.org

Outreach Services Coordinator

Emily Edwards
314-977-7311
outreach@sfxstl.org

Coordinator of Religious Education

Sam Herbig
314-977-7318
sam.herbig@slu.edu

Religious Education

Karen Weber
314-977-7302
karen@sfxstl.org

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Dave Munsell
 Howard family
 Sr. Elizabeth Kolmer, ASC
 Nancy Partridge & Glider
 Laura Finucane
 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
 Mary Beth Erickson
 Joe Lynne
 Tom Reilly
 Monica Gunn
 Campbell Hodge
 Pat Darcy
 Linda Riek
 Paul Hanson
 Mary Geary Dunn
 Alice Edler
 Dan Trueman
 Katherine Mansfield
 Jeanne Hermann
 Bruce Meadows
 Melissa Belk
 James H. Stebbings
 Sue Geile
 Mark Roddy
 Dave Schnelt
 Bill Anderson
 Dennis Saunders
 Ramona Lynch

Call Mary Beth at 314-977-7304 to add or remove names.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The Christmas story is nothing if not resilient. Despite our best efforts to drown it in a sea of sentimentality, the story retains its hold upon us. It engages our imagination at the deepest level. The scripture, prayer, song and ritual of these days draws us in to encounter God.

Like all vibrant, living traditions the story of Christmas is elastic and inclusive. Though the basic outline comes from Luke's Gospel, we also borrow heavily from Matthew (The Magi and Flight into Egypt) as well as John's images of light and darkness. As the centuries have rolled on popular Christmas customs like the tree, the crèche and beloved carols have entered our consciousness. Perhaps more than any other season of the liturgical year Christmas is wonderfully participatory. It is our best reminder that custom, prayer, feasting, and worship act as an integrated whole in the life of the Christian community.

The Christmas story is beautiful and holy, but it is not cute. Perhaps the profound resonance it elicits comes from the awareness that the long-awaited Messiah comes to us in the most vulnerable way possible. The Nativity, rightly understood, shocks us to the core. It is a shock, however, rooted in joy. It is the wonder and awe that comes over us when we begin to comprehend the presence of Emmanuel, God with us.

Free Billiken Basketball Tickets

Saint Louis University has generously offered the College Church a limited number of free tickets to the Billiken game VS Saint Joseph's on Friday, January 18th at 6:00 pm in Chaifetz Arena.

Tickets must be requested prior to Thursday, January 3rd by calling Mary Beth Erickson at 314-977-7304.

Tickets will be distributed on a first come first serve basis and will need to be picked up at the Parish Center receptionist area during office hours before January 16th once you receive notice they came in.

When reserving tickets please indicate if you have a child in 7th through 12th grade with your request. SLU requires a special form to be completed to comply with NCAA guidelines.



Welcome to the College Church!

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Cantor: Drop down dew from above, ye heavens, and let the clouds rain the Just One;

Assembly: Let the earth be opened and bring forth a Savior!

Fourth Advent wreath candle is lit.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Advent Gathering Song: Come, Emmanuel

Tony Alonso

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 80—Lord, Make us Turn to You

Janet Sullivan Whittaker

Gospel Acclamation: Advent Alleluia

Luke Mayernik

THE NICENE CREED MAY BE FOUND ON THE FIRST PAGE OF THE HYMNAL.

Intercessions Response (10:30 am): Come Quickly, Lord

Gabe Huck, Tony Alonso

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of Gifts (10:30 am): Mary Hymn

John Kavanaugh, SJ

Eucharistic Acclamations: Mass of Light

Gather 361, 362, 363

COMMUNION RITE

Breaking of the Bread: Lamb of God

Gather 391

Communion Hymn: Creator of the Stars of Night

Gather 420

Meditation (10:30 am): Lo, How a Rose

Gather 451

CONCLUDING RITE

Recessional Song: People, Look East

Gather 409



Christmas Mass Schedule:

December 24 - 4:30 pm Family Mass;
 11:00 pm "Midnight" mass
*Prelude music for Christmas will begin at 4:00 pm
 and 10:30 pm.*

December 25 - 10:30 am

*PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO 4:30 pm
 MASS ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER
 23 TO ENABLE US TO COMPLETE
 OUR DECORATIONS FOR
 CHRISTMAS.*



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, 314977-7305 or milnerjv@slu.edu

Invitation to Surviving Divorce

"I'm furious. What can I do with this anger?" "If God is good, why did He allow this divorce?" "Why does it hurt so much?" Find the answers to these questions and more in a new ministry to Catholics who have suffered from divorce: **The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide.**

The 12-week DVD program features Catholic experts who present Church teaching along with lay men and women who share their challenges on the way to true healing. Immaculate Conception Parish – Dardenne is hosting the program beginning January 10, 2019.

There is a \$25 fee which will cover all materials needed. (*Scholarships are available for anyone*). Contact Debi at debijo@att.net for more information.

Just in Time for Christmas!

College Church Hoodies \$30.00
(mens sizes Small to 3X)

We are also ordering pint glasses for \$10 each

Call Mary Beth at 314-977-7304 to place an order!



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:
sfxstl.org

Check the website for online bulletins (current and archived), homilies, upcoming presidors, a link to daily readings, our calendar & information about upcoming events!

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Thank you for your support of our Social Ministry this Christmas!

Thank you for supporting our annual Christmas Appeal for Social Ministry by donating to the second collections the weekends of 12/8-9 and 12/15-16. We are so grateful for your support of our service and justice work at the parish. Remember that all new or increased donations go toward our Brown Sisters Foundation challenge grant goal of \$15,000 in the next year. Thank you so much for helping us to reach this goal! We will share the total funds raised as soon as the numbers are in.



If you missed the opportunity to give during the second collections the past two weekends, it's not too late. You may still send a check to the parish center made out to "St. Francis Xavier" with "Social Ministry Christmas Appeal" in the memo. Please feel free to reach out to Christine at (314) 977-7309 or Christine@sfxstl.org with any questions.

Our Outreach Program guests are also grateful for your support of the Giving Tree, which provided guests with needed warm clothing items for the cold weather. Thank you so much for your generosity and support of Social Ministry in so many ways!

Save the Date: Hot Stuff will be on Saturday, February 2nd, 2019



College Church parishioners host members of our community in our ballroom for a meal, seasonal clothing, and fellowship. Please save the date and consider volunteering and/or donating items to help make this event successful.

Beginning in the new year, we will start to collect warm clothing items for men, women, and children, as well as put out a link for volunteer signups. We will collect new underwear and socks, new or gently used pants, shirts, hats, gloves, scarves, any warm clothing. Please keep an eye out for more details and in the meantime, save the date!



Xavier Winter Inn—Volunteers Needed!

Every winter, College Church hosts a Winter Inn, offering emergency shelter to homeless men on Wednesday and Thursday nights from Dec.-Feb. The Winter Inn is run entirely by volunteers and provides hospitality on nights when temperatures drop below 20 degrees.

If you are a new volunteer who missed the training dates, it's not too late! Volunteer positions include Setup, Greeters/ Hosts, Innkeepers, Cleaners, Dinner Cooks and Laundry Drivers. We have a particular need for innkeepers to stay overnight on nights our shelter is open. Innkeepers are typically men over the age of 20 or women with social work experience.

If you are interested in volunteering in any capacity, please contact Emily Edwards at outreach@sfxstl.org.

October Offertory Report

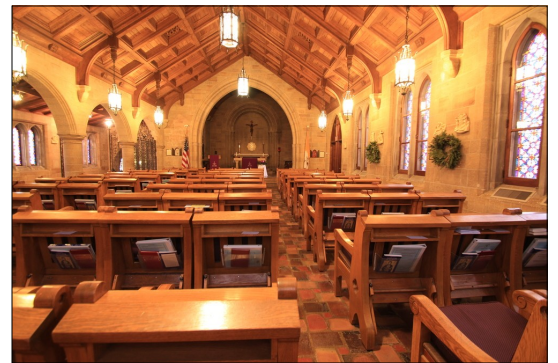
	Oct. 7	Oct. 14	Oct. 21	Oct. 28	Total	Budget
Offertory: Envelopes	\$6,090	\$6,700	\$2,220	\$5,011	\$20,021	\$18,610
Offertory: On-Line	\$4,130	\$6,065	\$5,005	\$7,245	\$22,445	\$21,335
Offertory: Loose Cash	\$1,205	\$1,570	\$1,000	\$900	\$4,675	\$4,910
Offertory: Holy Day	\$0	\$0	\$275	\$0	\$275	\$60
TOTALS	\$11,425	\$14,335	\$8,500	\$13,156	\$47,141	\$44,855

White House Retreat

The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola is the manual for discerning how God is calling us to follow Him. The “White House” Jesuit Retreat Center in South St. Louis County applies the Spiritual Exercises to our daily lives to develop our faith, deepen our peace and increase our gratitude. You are personally invited to prayerfully consider joining a group of men from our parish to make a retreat at the “White House”, February 7th-10th.



The beauty of the natural setting, the prayer and liturgies and the comfort of the accommodations combine to make this a spiritually renewing and rewarding experience. Reservations can be made online at www.whretreat.org or please call David Schnelt (314-791-0227), John Hartung (314-918-1950), John Webster (636-394-2770) or Deacon Jim Griffard (314-619-5700).



College Church Seminars

Sundays 9:15 to 10:15 am in the Adult Faith Room

Open seminar meetings on the Infancy Narratives in chapters one and two of Matthew and Luke. College Course-like meetings but no tests or homework QUESTIONS LIKE:

Are these stories historical facts? Or are they just symbolic stories? Was Jesus really born in Bethlehem? Do Matthew and Luke contradict each other? Was there ever a universal census? Were all Bethlehem children killed? Why weren't Mary and Jesus' family disciples of Jesus before his Resurrection? Why did they think that he was crazy? ANSWERS LIKE: The true messages of the Infancy stories. The real meaning of

Virginal Conception of Mary. The evolution of the gospels' understanding of who Jesus was. What saying Jesus is the Son of God means. What the real meanings of Magi and Shepherds and other details are. WE WANT EVERYONES' INPUT AND EVERYONES' QUESTIONS. PLEASE COME. For further information, contact Dr. Nichols at nicholfw@slu.edu. Bringing a Bible is desirable but not essential



Spotlight on Social Ministry

First a bit of history... College Church's Social Ministry began in 1975 with a goal of expanding the parish's reach to serve members of our community experiencing poverty, homelessness, and contact with the legal system. Our cornerstone program, the Documentation Assistance (Outreach) Program, began in 1993 to assist with Missouri State ID cards and birth certificates for people with low incomes. The Outreach Program began because assistance with IDs and birth certificates was a largely unmet community need. Today our Outreach Program provides the only consistent, large scale identification assistance in the region.

Some facts...

- The Outreach Program provides twice-weekly assistance with Missouri State ID cards and birth certificates from any state to people experiencing poverty and homelessness, with a special focus on people who were previously incarcerated. In FY 2017-18, our program served 3,462 clients, assisting with 2,249 Missouri State ID cards and 2,560 birth certificates.
- Xavier Winter Inn is part of a network of emergency winter shelters in St. Louis, providing shelter, food, and fellowship to 14 men a night on Wednesdays and Thursdays when the weather is projected to be dangerously cold. This past winter we served 112 homeless men over the course of 8 nights.
- Other direct assistance programs we provide include: St. Vincent DePaul Society, Casseroles to the St. Patrick Center, Sandwiches for Karen House.
- Social Ministry includes an anti-racism committee, environmental justice committee, and fair trade committee, membership in Metropolitan Congregations United.

Somethings we are very proud of! Director of Social Ministry Christine Dragonette was a witness on behalf of St. Francis Xavier in the case against Missouri's photo ID law for voting. Not only did the judge in that case essentially block the photo ID law in order to make it easier and less confusing for Missourians to vote, he also specifically cited the impressive work of our Outreach Program.

"Of the 177 Department of Revenue license offices in Missouri, 83 have not issued any nondriver licenses for voting; 30 offices have only issued one, 17 offices only two, and 13 offices only three. The Downtown DOR license office in St. Louis stands out as the singular exception as it has issued 863 free nondriver licenses for voting, which accounts for 62% of the total number of free nondriver licenses issued statewide. The credit for the St. Louis office's numbers belongs to a local Social Ministry group that has been proactive in assisting voters to obtain the necessary documentation."

Thanks to the parish's financial support of social ministry and an outstanding team of parishioners who volunteer to write grants with Christine, our Outreach Program is actually expanding! In 2019 we will digitize our processes in order to make providing services more efficient. That will also allow us to consider expanding to new locations to provide this incredibly important service to even more people.

Impressive Staff and Amazing Volunteers!

Emily Edwards coordinates our Outreach Program and Winter Inn. She is an MSW student that we are able to have on staff part-time for 2 years thanks to a partnership with the School of Social Work.

Christine Dragonette is the Director of Social Ministry who started as the coordinator of the Outreach Program in 2013 and then transitioned to director when she graduated from SLU's MSW program in 2015.

We are incredibly lucky to have this talented, dedicated staff and team. And, of course, social ministry would not function without the passionate commitment of 37 parishioners who work with Outreach guests on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 87 volunteers who help with Winter Inn, 11 parishioners on the Social Ministry Commission and many others who run our other services and committees.



Spiritual Reflection Materials

One good way to begin the new year is find a resource that will help you deepen your relationship with God, Xavier Books offers daily reflection books and other resources to help you.



Through the Year with Pope Francis offers a paragraph from one of his homilies and a reflection on how to put it into practice in life.

Anchors for the Soul is a compilation of reflections from Joyce Rupp to guide your search for the Holy One.

Bread for the Journey is a collection of daily meditations from the writings of Henri Nouwen which reflect his personal map of faith.

There are additional materials on prayer, Ignatian spirituality, and many other options are available in the ballroom on Sunday morning. If you would like to reserve a copy for pickup at another time, please email Joe Milner, joseph.milner@slu.edu with the title that you would like.

JUST FAITH @ COLLEGE CHURCH & THE IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY PROJECT OF ST. LOUIS

invite you to a special presentation by Ann Rotermund, Senior Director of Mental Health Services at the St. Patrick Center (retired) and Delnita McGhaw as they describe the importance of Spirituality in Recovery and Homelessness



When: Wednesday, January 9th, 2019 @ 7:00 pm

Where: The Adult Faith Room of the Parish Center, St. Francis Xavier College Church
3628 Lindell Blvd. (Free Parking is available in the Laclede Ave garage)

A free will donation will be taken to support the mission work of the Ignatian Spirituality Project in St. Louis

Go to ispretreats.org for more information about this vital mission.

Mercy Conference and Retreat Center 2039 N. Geyer Frontenac, MO 63131 314-966-4686

Navigating White Water: Resilience Series January 13, February 10, March 3, April 7 1:30 - 3:45 pm
This series of 4 interactive workshops will explore how spirituality and research based Psychology can be used to enhance resilience at home and at work. You may attend any or all of the sessions. Facilitated by Dr. Tom Wagner, PhD For more information, please visit <http://www.mercycenterstl.org>

“With All We Are: Mission, Purpose & Transformation” at Mercy Center February 2, 2019 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. A day of reflection intended for those who have a role of service and leadership in an agency, school, family or ministry. Attendees will learn how to clarify and align the mission of organizations, large and small; apply several simple models for leading change in groups; serve in a leadership role with optimism and without resentment; understand the meaning of "calling" in our lives. Facilitated by Don Eggleston, MEd, M.Div. For more information, please visit <http://www.mercycenterstl.org>

YOU ARE THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Sometimes the Washington DC office numbers of our members of Congress are busy. Here are their local office phone numbers:

Sen. Roy Blunt: 314-725-4484

Sen. Claire McCaskill: 314-367-1364

Rep. Lacy Clay (MO 1st District):
314-367-1970

Rep. Ann Wagner (MO 2nd District):
636-779-5449

White House Comment line
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>

Eucharistic Ministers Needed VA and SLU Hospital

Veterans' Administration Healthcare and St Louis University Hospital are both in need of persons who can bring the Eucharist to patients at their locations. This is a ministry that assists people in their healing process and feeds the minister's heart and soul as well.

VA- ministers are needed to take Communion on Sundays. Volunteers would be scheduled on a rotating basis, and serve no more than monthly. SLU – Scheduling would be flexible: daily, weekly or every other week.

If interested, please contact: SLU: Pastoral Care Department – 314-577-8066 or Chaplain Tom Sanger or Administrative Asst Alice Kim; VA: Chaplain Stu King 314-894-6566.

Bulletin Articles

email bulletin articles to bulletin@sfxstl.org.

Mercy Center Opportunities

Time of Quiet Prayer for Immigrants and Refugees:

Wednesdays, 5:30-6:00 pm. We invite all to join us in quiet prayer for Immigrants and Refugees. Mercy Center Chapel.

For more information, contact Cathy Modde at 314-909-4646 or email modde@mercycenterstl.org.

Presiders

December 22 & 23, 2018

Saturday

5:30 pm

Fr. Tueth, S.J.

Sunday

8:00 am

Fr. Daly, S.J.

10:30 am

Fr. White, S.J.

December 29 & 30, 2018,

Saturday

5:30 pm

Fr. White S.J.

Sunday

8:00 am

Fr. White, S.J.

10:30 am

Fr. White, S.J.

4:30 pm

Fr. White, S.J.

College Church Tours

Our wonderful College Church Docents would be happy to offer tours of our beautiful 176 year old Church.

Please contact Mary Beth Erickson at 314-977-7304 or email church@slu.edu with a date and time to schedule a tour for your group.

Have you considered
Including College Church in your estate
planning? If so, we'd love to
hear from you!

Please contact
Katie at katie@sfxstl.org

Bulletin Advertisers Needed

Please consider supporting our bulletin by purchasing an ad on the back page. J.S. Paluch Company provides the bulletin to our parish every week free of charge.

If you can help this effort, please call Mary Ottenberg at 314-757-7598, or email ottenbergm@jspaluch.com.

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Fourth 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

St. Francis Xavier (College) Church

3628 Lindell Blvd.

St. Louis, MO 63108

PHONE

314-977-7300 (Church)

CONTACT PERSON

Mary Beth Erickson

Marybeth@sfxstl.org

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS (for production)

FedEx