

## ***Katie Aylmer profile***

### **Living Our Faith**

#### **Hello Katie**

*An SFX parishioner since:* 2019. I joined the parish when I was starting my career as an occupational therapist in St. Louis. Previously, while I was in graduate school, I attended Mass at SFX as well as at a few neighboring parishes. I was always drawn to the beauty of College Church, as well as to the parish community- I felt welcome even as a Wash U graduate student.

*Living my faith:* In 2019, I was sitting at Mass feeling a pull to put my faith into action. I read an item about St. Vincent de Paul in the weekly bulletin, and joined SFX's conference in 2019. (Note: The College Church Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul helps our parish neighbors by assisting with utilities, rent, furniture and food.) In 2021, I became our conference's treasurer.

I also attended a few College Church Young Professionals events after I officially joined the parish, and look forward to attending more events in the future. Sandy Hauck helped put me back in touch with the group last summer. I met Sandy when my husband, Tom, and I were planning our 2020 wedding at SFX. It was rescheduled from May to December that year due to the challenges of the pandemic, and Sandy was resourceful and wonderful to work with.

*Why I'm involved:* SVDP at College Church has provided me with an opportunity to be the face of God for others and, in turn, see the face of God in those we assist. I've learned so much about myself and how God is calling me in different ways to serve the community.

SFX celebrates community through all of the parish's ministries and worship opportunities. This is a powerful connection that I have not experienced elsewhere, and it has deepened and broadened my faith.

*Three words that describe SFX:* Welcoming, Supportive, Just

*My neighborhood:* I lived in the Central West End as a grad student and later as a new professional and College Church parishioner. In 2020, my husband and I bought a house in Chesterfield. We love the area! I'm often in Midtown for work, and I'm enjoying the mix of experiences that both the City and County have to offer.

*Fun facts:* Since graduating from Washington University I've work in the school's occupational therapy program. I love working with students, conducting research and helping patients. Giving my time and using my talents through SVDP is such a welcome opportunity. It calls on me to use a different set of skills – more administrative and numbers-focused – to assist others. In the process, I've thoroughly enjoyed the challenge and learned so much about our community, the needs of our neighbors and the many resources that are available to assist them.