Dear Parishioners, Friends, and Community:

"Faith and justice; it is never one without the other. Human beings need food, shelter, love, relationship, truth, meaning, promise, hope. Human beings need a future in which they can take hold of their full dignity; indeed they need an absolute future, a “great hope” that exceeds every particular hope. All of these things are already present in the heart of Christ’s mission, which, as was particularly evident in his healing ministry, was always more than physical. In healing the leper, Jesus restored him to the community, gave him a sense of belonging.”

-G35, Decree 2 A Fire that Kindles Other Fires

When reflecting on this past year in Social Ministry, this paragraph from the G35, Decree 2 written by Fr. Pedro Arrupe, S.J. exemplifies the mission of Social Ministry within our parish and the three pillars of Social Ministry—Service, Formation, and Advocacy.

The Social Ministry Commission rewrote our mission statement in August 2011. After reflecting on our 3 pillars and the active programs of social ministry, they wrote the following statement:

"Guided by the teachings of the Church on social justice, we serve others by promoting justice for the disenfranchised through advocacy, direct service, and formation, thereby creating partnerships with those who promote human dignity."

Through the call of our mission and the parish’s mission, Social Ministry continues to strive to create a community that is rooted in Ignatian Spirituality, Catholic Social Teaching, and Catholic Christianity.

This year Social Ministry focused on maintaining our current programs, re-organizing the Advocacy Committee, strategically evaluating our sister parish relationship, and broadening our community relationships to offer new formation programs, and connect with our Midtown community.

This year, we welcomed a new young adult group to the parish that serves those in-need in the Midtown Neighborhood. The young adult conference provides assistance to those living in our parish boundaries for a variety of needs. Our Outreach Program started offering our services on-site at Gateway 180. Gateway 180 is our largest referral source to our Outreach Program. With services on-site, their guests are able to access our services easier and have one less trip to make as they work towards securing permanent housing with the staff at Gateway 180.

We began a new formation partnership with the Ignatian Spirituality Project to coordinate and host weekly faith-sharing groups that include individuals who are in recovery from homelessness and addiction. Social Ministry and Loyola Academy began a collaboration to support their reading program.

The Advocacy Committee began meeting in February 2012. They spent the last few months of the year identifying their purpose and role to guide their functions within the parish community. They are still developing their communication and involvement plan. Look to the Fall for the Advocacy Committee to have an active role within the parish.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our parish and Social Ministry!

We look forward to sharing the next year with you!

Blessings,

Jennifer Mohan
Director of Social Ministry

In March 2012, a group of parishioners and I visited La Natividad, our sister parish, in Santa Maria Chiquimula, Guatemala. The visit was an opportunity to learn about the parish and their ministries. Fr. Ignaico Blasco and I had an opportunity to reflect together on our relationship and discuss the future. As we enter this next year, Social Ministry will be working with the entire parish and all the ministries to identify how we can work to create a relationship of Apostolic Collaboration and live out the commitment to the Jesuit Global Vision that our parish is called to.

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Blessings,

Jennifer Mohan
Director of Social Ministry

“En todo amar y servir”
“In all things, to love and serve”

-St. Ignatius Loyola
College Church Vision

“We are a Eucharist-centered, spirit-filled people who choose to form parish community and to experience spiritual growth through life-giving liturgies in a worship space of beauty and reverence. Out of a long history of spiritual leadership from the Society of Jesus, we are challenged with the Gospel values of love, compassion, and social justice. As a worshipping community, we extend hospitality and fellowship. We enrich our faith through prayer, diversity of membership, attention to family life and social ministry.

Social Ministry Mission

“Guided by the teachings of the Church on social justice, we serve others by promoting justice for the disenfranchised through advocacy, direct service, and formation, thereby creating partnerships with those who promote human dignity.”

Goal

To bring to living reality the Ignatian call to build a community where God’s presence radiates in our work, our relationships, and personal presence. It is a response to the call to minister “in the spirit, from the heart, practically” (Michael Holman, S.J. The Tablet, Dec 2006).

Social Ministry Program accomplishes this through, direct service, formation, and advocacy.

Progress on Parishioner Feedback from Parish Assembly

Social Ministry identified several areas where we could play an active role in helping achieving some of the feedback from parishioners at the parish assembly in 2011.

Social Ministry focused on 5 areas identified by parishioners this past year to work on developing and or strengthening.

Improve and clearly communicate a system for those that would like to volunteering

Social ministry runs volunteer opportunities each week in the bulletin and on the website with volunteer opportunities, contact information, and description of volunteer work.

Continue to publish and improve a pamphlet or brochure for our Church that described what we are about and who we are in simple and understandable terms

Social Ministry publishes an annual report, updated their brochure, is creating a monthly e-newsletter, maintains their section of the website to keep it up-to-date, and started using a standard bulletin page layout focusing on service, formation, and advocacy.

Affiliate with local parish, including St. Matthew’s or another parish in North St. Louis, and encourage relationship with Loyola Academy

Social Ministry and Loyola began collaborating in April 2012 to support Loyola’s Reading Program through a book drive and reading tutor volunteers. Social Ministry gathered information on starting a community garden with Loyola. A group of parishioners took this on as a parish project. Social Ministry continues to look for opportunities to collaborate with St. Matt’s and or other parishes in North St. Louis. There were no opportunities available this year to collaborate or create.

Continue to create new and improved formal methods of welcoming and orienting new parishioners and maintaining personal relationships with them

Social Ministry developed a new parishioner welcome letter this year to send after the official letter from the parish is sent. Social Ministry followed up with every stewardship card and individual who signed up for information at Festival of the Ministries. Social Ministry sent every new parishioner from June 2011-June 2012 an invitation letter to participate in JustFaith.

Establish an online presence using Facebook and other social mediums, as well as using advertisement of our Church in local newspapers

Social Ministry keeps their section of the website up-to-date. Social Ministry publicized Living Justice Speaker Series in all local newspapers. Social Ministry started exploring e-newsletters, and brainstorming ideas for the role of an online presence of Social Ministry on Facebook and other social mediums.

As we end this year, Social Ministry will continue to work on these 5 areas throughout the next year and anticipate continued parishioner feedback.

“Service is what prayer looks like when it gets up off its knees and walks around the world.”

Michael J. Graham, S.J.
Looking Forward...

### Goals for 2012-2013

After reflection on the past year, parishioner feedback from the 2011 and 2012 Parish Assemblies, and the goal of the pastoral council, the Social Ministry Commission identified the following seven goals to focus on for the next year.

- Strengthen communication concerning social ministry within the parish
- Align Living Justice Speaker Series Topics with focus areas of the parish advocacy committee and other community partners to promote collaboration and broader audience
- Increase parishioner engagement with Social Ministry
- Increase communication and support to Social Ministry groups and promote parishioner leadership and coordination within all social ministry activities

Service: Highlights

**Outreach Program**
- Served 3,581 guests
- Provided assistance for 2,511 birth certificates and 2,173 Missouri State ID
- Religious Ed program made 1,200 sandwiches
- Provided 1,727 hygiene kits
- Provided 1,530 bag lunches
- Provided 1,150 guests with emergency clothing
- Provided 2,022 guests with emergency food and or food referrals
- 25 volunteers served a total of 1,692 hours on Tuesdays and Wednesdays

**Xavier Winter Inn**
- 85 volunteers
- 2 Open Nights
- 28 Guests

**St. Patrick’s Casserole Program**
- 288 Casseroles made by SFX Parishioners

**Sandwich Program**
- 3,840 sandwiches made for Karen House

**Legal Clinic**
- Served 30 guests over 12 Wednesdays throughout the year.

**Loyola Book Drive**
- Donated 30 books from April-June

Service: New Programs

**St. Vincent de Paul Young Adult Conference**
The Young Adult conference started forming in April 2011 at College Church. This past year the Conference took on an active role in meeting the needs of our parish boundary community. Through one-on-one home visits, our Conference provided assistance with rent, utility bills, food, clothing, furniture, home-wares, medical expenses, and many other needs. To learn more about the Conference or join, visit Social Ministry section on our website.

**Spirituality & Recovery Groups**
Ignatian Spirituality challenges us to find God in our everyday lives and experiences. In collaboration with the Ignatian Spirituality Project, parishioners and local ISP volunteers started hosting weekly faith sharing groups with men in recovery from homelessness and addiction. Groups met at College Church and St. Patrick’s Center for 8 weeks. We are anticipating the start of a women’s group and resuming the men’s groups. Over the next year, we will work on expanding groups and training former participants to become facilitators. Check out the website for more information.

“To whom this may concern:
I'd like to express my appreciation to your church for giving me the money voucher. I was able to get my state id and find housing. Thank you for you help.”

Sincerely, RLB
Service: New Programs

Loyola Academy Book Drive
In April 2012, Social Ministry Commission and Loyola Academy began a collaboration to enhance the reading program at Loyola. This collaboration exemplifies the mission each strives towards and furthers the mission of the Jesuits. It is also an opportunity to engage in local apostolic collaboration through supporting the programs of Loyola Academy through books and volunteers. The main component is a monthly book drive hosted by the College Church. An additional opportunity is for parishioner volunteers to serve as reading tutors for their reading program.

Formation: Living Justice Speaker Series

Fall 2011 Series:
St. Louis Stories of Our Immigrant Brothers and Sisters
Panel Series
Social Ministry Commission collaborated with Nine Network of Public Media to host a panel discussion on immigration in October 2011. Two immigrants from St. Louis shared about their experience of immigrating to the United States, most specifically St. Louis. Our panelists spoke on legal, healthcare, employment, demographics, and sociological issues and perspectives in relationship to immigration.

Javier Orzoco, Director of Hispanic Ministry from the Archdiocese moderated the panel.
Dr. Joel Jennings, Associate Professor at SLU, Lara Fallon, MSW with International Institute, and Ken Schmitt, Attorney at Law with Legal Solutions served as panelists.

Living Room Conversations
Our conversation about immigration continued with Living Room Conversations. Vanessa Crawford with MIRA and Dr. Ness Sandoval, Associate Professor at SLU, facilitated a discussion about trends with demographics and sociology in immigration in Missouri and locally in St. Louis. Ken Schmitt facilitated a conversation about the legal aspects of immigration and shared about the various immigration visas, standins, and legal procedures immigrants face when living in the United States.

The series wrapped up with an advocacy day in Jefferson City, MO in March 2012. Ten parishioners traveled to Jefferson City as part of the MIRA Immigration Advocacy Day.

“Maybe I’m not making a big change in the world but if I have somehow helped or encouraged somebody along the journey then I have done what I’m called to do.”

Thea Bowman

Formation: Highlights

Just Faith
The parish took a sabbatical this year from offering the JustFaith program after hosting 9 consecutive classes. We look forward to offering JF starting in September 2012.

Engaging Spirituality
Because of limited interest in Engaging Spirituality, the program was not offered during 2011-2012. We hope to have enough interest this coming year.

Loyola Academy Book Drive

Spring 2012: Death Penalty
Sr. Helen Prejean and Panel Discussion
Over 400 parishioners, students, and community members welcomed Sr. Helen Prejean as part of our spring series for our topic on the death penalty. Sr. Helen Prejean shared about her spiritual awakening, her journey of involvement with death penalty, and the challenge the death penalty presents to us, as Christians. SLU Campus Ministry, Center for Service and Community Engagement, and Theology Club co-hosted the event with SFX. On April 22, we hosted a panel discussion on the theological perspective of the death penalty and current local and national advocacy efforts. Tobias Winright, Associate Professor at SLU, Rita Lindhart, Senior Staff Associate at Missouri Catholic Conference, and Colleen Cunningham, State Campaign Coordinator with Equal Justice USA served as panelists. Sandy Spencer, parishioner and Spiritual Director with St. Louis Consultation Center moderated the panel.

Engaging Spirituality
Advocacy

Advocacy Committee
The Committee underwent reorganization under the guidance of the Social Ministry Commission during the past year. The committee designed new organization and purpose to their role in the parish.

Purpose
“Guided by the teachings of the Church on social justice, we advocate through education, promote opportunities for social action, and strive for partnerships that enhance human dignity for all God’s creation.”

Areas of Focus
The Committee identified 3 main areas to organize issues of social justice for advocacy efforts. From issues endorsed by USCCB, the Church, and parishioners, the three areas of focus are Poverty, Discrimination, and Criminal Justice. Within each area, there are specific social justice issues of concern identified. For detailed information, check the Advocacy page on the Church website.

Commitment to Jesuit Global Vision

What
Jesuit Global Vision identifies a need for universal engagement and uniting ourselves to work in a spirit of oneness, faith, and justice. The Jesuit Global Vision contributes to the understanding and integration of the Catholic, universal nature of the Church.

Why
Our identification as a Jesuit parish commits us to this global vision. This Vision challenges us as a parish community to unite ourselves beyond our parish boundaries, our neighborhoods, local community, and country. It challenges us to work across borders uniting ourselves in a spirit of oneness, faith, and justice and contributing to universal engagement.

Peace Vigils
Fall ’12 marks 10 years from when parishioners held the first peace vigil on the steps of Church at 7PM on Sundays. The Peace Vigils exemplify a call to advocate through prayer. All are welcome to join in praying for peace on at 7PM on the steps of the College Church.

How
As a parish, the Jesuit Global Vision comes to life by challenging our parish community to unite ourselves in oneness, faith, and justice. It is a call beyond an act of service. Our parish engages in a Twinning Relationship with another Jesuit Parish in Guatemala. Our parish hosts Fair Trade with the proceeds supporting the ministries of the Jesuit Parish in Guatemala.

Throughout the next year, Social Ministry will be working with the parish to deepen our commitment and parishioner engagement through opportunities for sharing our faith, building community, and understanding culture.

Twinning Relationship: History

Since 1949, the Missouri Province and the Central American Province have cooperated under a twinning agreement. This agreement seeks to foster a mutual sharing of human and spiritual resources between the two provinces. It also recognizes the need to support the ministries of the Central American Province. The current agreement commits the Missouri Province to continue its financial assistance for the support of apostolic works of the Central American Province—Honduras, Belize, and Guatemala and the formation of young Jesuits. A great need lies in supporting the rural ministries of the Jesuits in Guatemala especially its schools, parishes, health clinics, and rural ministries. The works in Central America are integral to the Missouri Province of the Jesuits and form the nucleus of the Jesuit commitments.

In Fall 2007, St. Francis Xavier 'College' Church and La Natividad de La Virgen Maria entered into 'Twinning' Relationship as a sign of commitment to the Jesuit global vision of universal engagement and uniting ourselves to work in a spirit of oneness, faith, and justice. This relationship strives to contribute to the Jesuit global vision, to support the rural ministries of the Jesuits, and to foster a mutual sharing of human and spiritual resources. Its goal is Apostolic Collaboration.
**Twinning Relationship: Apostolic Collaboration & Support**

**Apostolic Collaboration**

Apostolic Collaboration is a collaboration of sharing faith, building community, and understanding culture. This upcoming year, Social Ministry will be working with the parish to identify how these 3 areas will come alive in our parish as part of our Twinning Relationship with La Natividad.

**Support of Ministries**

College Church supports the ministries of La Natividad. Our support allows the parish to continue offering their health clinic, women and children's health development program, and provide quality education at Nim Ja. Nim Ja is the secondary school and boarding school for La Natividad. Nim Ja focuses on providing students with a holistic education complemented with vocational training. The education at Nim Ja consists of Math, Literature, Religion, Spanish, English, K'iche, Geography/Social Studies, Science, Music, Dance, and Computer and Audiovisual. It also includes the farm school where students learn agricultural skills and participate in vocational training in welding, carpentry, and cooking. College Church's financial support allows La Natividad to employ certified teachers offsetting the cost of education for the students. It is difficult to maintain certified teachers because other schools in larger towns and cities offer competitive salary. Our support allows La Natividad to compete with employing certified teachers to offer quality, holistic education to the students. Without College Church's financial support, La Natividad would not be able to offer the level of education they currently provide.

La Natividad operates the only health clinic that speaks Kiche and is the only clinic within a 1 hour radius of Santa Maria Chiquimula. The staff includes a full-time certified nurse (similar to a nurse practitioner), a full-time pharmacist, and a part-time doctor. The health clinic offers basic health care, tests and a small pharmacy. College Church's financial support allows La Natividad to employ a highly qualified, full time certified nurse and support some clinic operation costs allowing the health clinic to operate 6 days a week and offer access to health care to the parish community and Santa Maria Chiquimula community. The health development program serves expectant women, mothers, children, and women widows in the surrounding 37 communities. The health team visits each community 1 time a month. They check the growth of children and offer educational programs on various topics related to caring for infants, children, and healthcare needs. For example, they educate on dental hygiene, bathing, and nutrition. As part of this program, the women are able to receive nutritional food and supplements at a subsidized cost. A typical food package includes rice, canned salmon, beans, dry nutritional milk, and other nutritional supplements. Most communities are at a minimum 45 minutes away from town by car in the mountains. This program allows families who live in the rural highland areas access health care and health development as well as nutritional food and supplements.
Networks & Collaborations

Our work and community involvement is not possible without the support, assistance, and collaborative efforts of many agencies, organizations, schools, and businesses.

For 2011-2012, Social Ministry had the privilege of working, supporting, and collaborating with:

- Gateway 180
- St. Gerard Majella
- Campus Kitchens
- City Hall Department of Revenue
- Northside Department of Revenue
- City Hall Vital Records
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- Criminal Justice Ministry
- St. Louis Continuum of Care
- Religious Education at SFX
- St. Louis Winter Outreach Group
- St. Louis University—Service and Justice Committee
- Cross Cultural Center, Student Volunteers, Speakers for IJSS, Campus Ministry, Human Resources
- Midtown Catholic Charities
- St. Patrick’s Center
- Karen House Catholic Worker
- Loyola Academy
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul Young Adult Conference
- Nine Network of Public Media
- Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty
- Plowshing Crafts
- Macro Sun
- Partners for Just Trade
- La Natividad de La Virgen Maria
- Ignatian Spirituality Project

Noteworthy

Thank You, Erin!

Erin Murphy served as the Outreach Program Coordinator as Jesuit Volunteer this past year. Erin also served as a coordinator for Xavier Winter Inn and participated in one of the Spirituality and Recovery Groups. Erin is from Rochester, NY. She graduated from LeMoyne College with a B.S. in Psychology. Erin is currently serving a second year with Jesuit Volunteer Corps at the Harry Thompson Center in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Save the Dates

- September 15
  Night of Music with Javier Mendoza
  Benefiting La Natividad

- September 28
  College Church Mouse Races
  Benefiting the SVDP Young Adult Conference

- October 14
  Living Justice Speaker Series

- November 10
  Social Ministry Assembly

Welcome Marty!

Marty Sellers will serve as the Outreach Coordinator through the Vincentian Mission Corp for the next year. Marty graduated from University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a B.A. in Economics and History. He spent the past year serving as an AmeriCorps Volunteer on the St. Louis Emergency Response Team. We are excited to welcome Marty for the next year and have him apart of our parish community!

Social Ministry Commission Membership Updates

Colleen McCluskey completed her 2 year term as Chair and Lisa Portell complete her 3 year term as a member of the Social Ministry Commission serving the last 2 as Co-Chair. Under the guidance of Colleen and Lisa, the Commission successfully implemented policies and procedures for the Social Ministry Commission and developed Membership recruitment procedures and policies in addition to providing guidance and support to Social Ministry.

In January 2012, Tony McDonald and Peggy Sullivan assumed the positions of Chair and Co-Chair, respectively. Both will serve a 2 year term as Chair and Co-Chair. We are grateful to Tony and Peggy for their willingness to serve the Commission and the Parish in these roles.

The Commission welcomed Anne Chilson and Steve Frank to 3 year terms on the Commission. We are excited to have them join the commission. Both are long time parishioners and actively involved in the ministries of College Church.