St. Francis Xavier (College) Church
The Jesuit Parish in the Heart of St. Louis
3628 Lindell Blvd. - St. Louis, MO 63108
Phone: 314-977-7300 - collegechurch.slu.edu
Follow us on Twitter @collegechrchstl

Liturgical Schedule
Saturday: 5:15 p.m. Anticipation of Sunday
Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m.

Weekday:
Monday—Friday
7:15 a.m., Noon, 5:15 p.m. in the Chapel of Our Lady located in the lower level. (There are no 5:15 p.m. Liturgies on holidays)
Saturday: 7:15 a.m. in the Chapel of Our Lady located in the lower-level.

Saint Louis University Campus Ministry:
Sunday: 9:00 p.m. (when the University is in session)

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Monday-Friday: 10:45 a.m. through Noon
Saturday: 4:00 p.m. through 5:00 p.m.

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.
Pray for the Sick

Janet Duke
Mary Jo Munkel
Al Marcus
Walter Yarbrough
Joe Matern
Deborah Kumming
John & Colin Martin
Samantha Kerwin
Carl Dehne, SJ
David Schnelt
Tom Reilly
Judy Gerstner
Brendan Wagner
Lynda Palazzolo
Elizabeth Maret
Monica Gunn
Margaret Barker
Bruce Cochran
Vivian O’Brien Harmon
Lucille Sims
Bud Vorderer
Richard D. Heeney
Joyce Pakch
Barney J. Heeney
Amanda Rice
Joan Rice
Neil Kielty
Carol Williams
Mary Beth Erickson
Meaghan Graves
Pat Darcy
Jeff & Renee Rogers
John Grossman
Gene Tichacek
Joyce Messmer
Dorothy Berndsen
Matthew Frank
Paul Rutterer
Fr Robert Weiss, SJ
Jo Schnellmann
Linda Riek
Paul Hanson
Sue DuBerry
Mary Ann Burdette
Laurie Kraft
Rick Barbieri, Jr.
Mary Lutz
Betty Will-Bower
Joseph Westhus
Jennifer Saunders

Names will remain on the list for two weeks unless notified. Call Lynda at 314-977-1797 to add or remove names.

Parish Information
Fax: 314-977-7315  E-mail Address: church@slu.edu  Hours: Monday through Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday we are closed & Sunday: 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Bulletin notices must be submitted before 4:00 p.m. by email to bulletinsfx@slu.edu on Thursday, ten days before the bulletin date. Holidays require additional time.

For Christian Initiation of Adults and Funerals contact Joe Milner at 314-977-7305 for scheduling and preparation.

For Infant Baptisms contact Fr. Quang Tran, SJ at 314-977-7301 or tranq@slu.edu.
Baptisms are celebrated on the first and third Sunday of the month, at 12:00 noon.
Call Fr. Tran for scheduling and preparation information at least 45 days in advance.

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

To notify the parish that a member of your family has passed away and the funeral is not at the College Church, please contact Mary Beth Erickson at 314-977-7304 or church@slu.edu.

Disability Access  Our wheelchair ramp is located near the Grand side entrance with an elevator to bring you to the Church level. Our church is also equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask an usher for a receiver.

Parish Registration is 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 is available for kindergarten through eighth grade. Classes meet September through May on Sunday mornings. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program for ages 3-6 years. Contact Angie Doerr at 314-977-7302 or adoerr3@slu.edu.

Liturgy of the Word for Children is celebrated weekly for children in kindergarten through seventh grade at the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Childcare is available for children ages six months through pre-kindergarten during the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the Parish Center Nursery. Contact Angie Doerr at 314-977-7302 or adoerr3@slu.edu.

Pastoral Staff

Pastor
Daniel White, SJ
314-977-7300  dwhite6@slu.edu

Associate Pastor
Quang Tran, SJ
314-977-7301  tranq@slu.edu

Parish Administrator
Katie Jansen Larson
314-977-1954  sfxadmin@slu.edu

Director of Parish Life
Mary Beth Erickson
314-977-7304  church@slu.edu

Director of Liturgy, Adult Formation, & Marriage Ministry
Joe Milner
314-977-7305  milnerjv@slu.edu

Director of Religious Education & Family Life
Angie Doerr
314-977-7302  adoerr3@slu.edu

Director of Social Ministry
Christine Dragonette 314-977-7309  dragonettecm@slu.edu

Wedding Ministry
Sandy Hauck
314-977-7303  haucks@slu.edu

Stewardship
Jim Carter 314-954-6311  jcarte54@slu.edu

Choir Director
Ray Sherrock  rsherrooc@slu.edu

Director of Music
Sue Martin
314-977-7313  martins@slu.edu

Outreach Service Coordinator
Emily Anderson
314-977-7311  sfxjvolt@slu.edu

Liturgy Coordinator & Bulletin
Lynda Palazzolo  sfxlitin@slu.edu
314-977-1797

Pastoral Council Chair
Wade Baughman  314-307-0535  mwadebaughman@juno.com

Deacon
Jim Griffard  griffardjm@slu.edu
314-977-7318
From the Pastor’s Desk

Advent takes place during the longest nights of the year. Many of us go to work in the dark and return home in the dark. Night and darkness have long been used as metaphors for fear, hopelessness and struggle. The natural world seems more ominous during December.

Our human world appears even darker. It feels as though much is unraveling for us, both at home and abroad. The violence of war and terrorism, the refugee crisis, conflict among peoples, and the absence of compassion has shocked us. We have the sense things are spinning out of control. The world has always been a hard place but it feels more so day by day.

Our faith, however, offers a different perspective. John’s Gospel tells us, *the Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.* We do not ignore the night or try to glibly explain it away. It is very real. Yet, we refuse to give it the last word. This is because we know there is nothing more powerful than God’s love.

Our desire to embrace the light means we must confront the temptation to fear. Feeding the darkness is not an option. More than ever, what is needed is the courage to respond that love is greater than evil, and compassion stronger than vengeance.

Fr. Dan White, SJ

This Week At College Church

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<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>9:00—10:30</td>
<td>Advent Materials</td>
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<td>Noon—1:00</td>
<td>Our Living Faith</td>
<td>Adult Faith Room</td>
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<td>Dec 7</td>
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<td>Anticipatory Holy Day Mass</td>
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<td>Young Adult Advent Reflection</td>
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<td>Dec 8</td>
<td>7:15 AM</td>
<td>Holy Day Mass</td>
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<td>Holy Day Mass</td>
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<td>Dec 12</td>
<td>3:45 PM</td>
<td>Advent Penance Service</td>
<td>Church</td>
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<td>Dec 13</td>
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<td>11:30—12:15</td>
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<td>Noon—1:00</td>
<td>Individual Confessions</td>
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<td>9:00AM—2:00PM</td>
<td>Fair Trade Christmas Market</td>
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OUR LIVING FAITH

Our Living Faith is a group discussion of key elements of living our faith. The next gathering is today, Dec 6 in the Adult Faith room. Our focus will be the sacraments. If you have questions about Catholic belief or practice, please join us. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Joe Milner, milnerjv@slu.edu or 314-977-7305.

Advent Reflection Materials
The season of Advent begins next week. It is a time of reflection and preparation for our celebration of God With Us. There are several books and booklets available to assist you on your journey. *Sacred Space for Advent* and *Sacred Space of 2016* by the Irish Jesuits presents a reflection process and Scripture passage for each day. There are Advent Calendars, cards and items for young people. *Waiting in Joyful Hope* by Glen and Kodell examines one verse from the daily readings to help us live in hope. *A Year With Pope Francis* offers a daily reflection from his talks.

*Pope Francis: Life and Revolution* is a biography of Pope Francis by a journalist who has known him for many years. There are also collections of his homilies to challenge you to deeper discipleship.

Additionally, books on Ignatian Spirituality, prayer and many other options are available in the Lower Hall on Sunday mornings today. If you would like to reserve a copy for pick up during the week, please contact Joe Milner at milnerjv@slu.edu

Advent and Christmas Celebrations
The College Church will celebrate the coming of Christ with the following liturgical offerings:

- **December 8** Immaculate Conception Holyday
  7:15 am in the Chapel of Our Lady
  Noon and 5:15 pm in the Church

- **December 12** Advent Penance Service 3:45 pm

- **December 13** Sunday morning confessions 9:15 am

- **December 24** Christmas Eve Family Mass 4:30 pm
  Mass during the Night at 11:00 pm
  with Choir Prelude at 10:30 pm

- **December 25** Christmas Day Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

- **December 31** Vigil Mass for the holy day
  5:15 pm in the Church

- **January 1** Feast of Mary, the Mother of God
  10:30 am in the Church

For more information, call the Parish Center at 977-7300 or visit our website at: collegechurch.slu.edu

Complimentary Parking is available in the SLU La Clede Garage

Advent Communal Penance
God's love and mercy are immense gifts to us. As part of the human family, each of us has known brokenness and sin. Deep within our hearts there is the desire for wholeness and reconciliation with God, with ourselves, with others, and even the world around us.

Next Saturday afternoon, December 12 at 3:45 pm there will be a communal Penance service with multiple confessors for individual confession. Fr. Quang Tran, SJ, will preside and preach at the service. Please plan to join us as we pray with and for one another.
Christmas Eve Liturgy
Children’s Tableau

The Christmas Eve Liturgy for families will be held on Dec. 24th at 4:30 p.m. We will once again involve our children in the dramatization of the Gospel.

All children, ages 5 and up, are invited to participate. We will need children to play the roles of the manger animals, shepherds and angels. We have a limited number of costumes so you may need to provide your own. Participants will be asked to attend two rehearsals, both held immediately following the 10:30 a.m. liturgies on December 13th and 20th.

If your child is interested in participating, please contact Angie at 314-977-7302 or adoerr3@slu.edu.

Preparing the Church for Christmas

On Sunday, Dec 20, following the 10:30 Eucharist, members of the Art and Environment Committee will gather in the church to decorate for Christmas. It takes many hands to prepare the Crèche, and arrange the flowers in both the church and the Chapel of our Lady. If you would like to lend a hand and meet some fellow parishioners, plan to join us around 11:45 am on Dec 20. Please gather in the sacristy (behind Mary’s shrine. If you plan to join us or have questions, please contact Joe Milner, milnerjv@slu.edu, or call 314-977-7305.

Fr. John Kavanaugh, SJ, was a long time professor of Philosophy at Saint Louis University and one of the regular celebrants at College Church. He died in November, 2012.

He received the Great Preacher Award from Aquinas Institute of Theology and his homilies touched and motivated many. His family members and friends have complied 32 of his homilies that were given at College Church over the years and the homily given by Fr. Vincent Hovley, SJ at Fr. Kavanaugh’s funeral Mass. Proceeds will go toward establishing a scholarship in his name at Saint Louis University. They are available at the Xavier Book table on Sunday morning and at the Parish Center during the week. for a donation of $25. You may reserve a copy by emailing Joe Milner at milnerjv@slu.edu. Consider giving a set to support someone’s faith and supporting the scholarship fund. Thank You.
**Children’s Choir and Instrumentalists for Christmas Eve Mass**

All young people in Grades 2-12 who like to sing are invited to participate in the Christmas Eve Family Mass on December 24 at 4:30pm. We also invite participation from instrumentalists in Grades 6-12 who have had at least two years of study on their instruments. Please contact Sue Martin at martins@slu.edu or 314-977-7313 if you're interested in participating. Music selections and rehearsals will be determined based on the response received, so please respond by December 1!

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**Fair Trade Christmas Market**

Sunday, December 13th, 9AM-2PM  
College Church Ballroom

Shop for beautiful and unique hand-crafted items, plus coffees, teas, and chocolates! Soup, chips, cookies, coffee, tea, and hot chocolate provided (good will offering appreciated).

Raffle tickets available for gift card baskets from local St. Louis businesses.

**Vendors:** SFX Fair Trade, Zee Bee Market, Plowsharing Crafts, Partners for Just Trade, MacroSun, Seeds of Blessing, Soluna, City Seeds, Earth Connections, City Greens

**Proceeds will benefit our Guatemalan Sister Parish of La Natividad**

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**Christmas and Antique Note Cards Now Available!**

We have new Christmas Cards and Antique Note Cards of the College Church available for purchase in the Parish Center!

The boxed Christmas cards contain fifteen cards of three different designs; two from our beautiful Nativity window and one of our crèche. The cost for the Christmas cards is $20/box. The antique note cards contain twelve cards of six different designs with a bit of College Church history on the back of each. The cost is $15/box.

If you are interested in viewing or purchasing these hot off the presses new cards...contact Mary Beth Erickson at 314-977-7304 or email church@slu.edu.
Second Sunday of Advent

Social Ministry Annual Christmas Collection

Over 20 years ago, St. Francis Xavier (College) Church committed to filling an unmet need in our community. Since we opened the doors of our Documentation Assistance (Outreach) Program in 1993, we have remained the only ongoing, large-scale program in Missouri helping homeless and transient members of our community to obtain their birth certificates and Missouri state identification cards. With a birth certificate and photo ID, our program guests are then able to access employment, housing, education, and needed social services. Thus far in 2015, the Outreach Program has served close to 3,000 guests, assisting with 2,037 birth certificates and 1,826 Missouri State ID cards.

The Outreach Program, in addition to our other direct service programs and advocacy committees, is our parish’s response to the Gospel call to love and serve our neighbors. We need your help to continue and grow our Social Ministry.

December 5-6 and December 12-13 are our annual Social Ministry Second Collections. The weekend of December 5-6, you will hear a personal testimony from an individual involved in Social Ministry. We will be asking for your support to continue our work. If you wish to give by check, please make payable to St. Francis Xavier Church with “Social Ministry” on the Memo line. If you wish to give by cash, please place in an envelope marked “Social Ministry,” or place in the basket during the weekend of December 5-6 and December 12-13.

Your support truly drives the work we do in Social Ministry. Thank you for your continued generosity!

The Front Cover is From The Social Ministry Annual Christmas Collection.
“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.”

Donations Needed for The Giving Tree 2015 and Hot Stuff 2016

Once again Social Ministry is sponsoring a Giving Tree. In late November, there will be a Christmas Tree near the front of the south aisle decorated with paper ornaments. To participate, simply take an ornament and buy the suggested gift, wrap it, and bring it to the Parish Center by Sunday, December 13. Please do NOT leave it under the tree in church. These gifts will be distributed to the guests who come to the Outreach Program in mid-December.

We are requesting gifts for adults because many of our guests are homeless or very close to it and lack warm clothing for winter. Warm clothing is a necessity for them as the weather grows colder. Christmas is a great time to provide them while they are in stock in local stores. Please consider checking out the Giving Tree in these next couple of weeks. These practical gifts will do much to warm not only the heads, hands, and feet of our guests, but their hearts as well. Don’t be surprised if your own hearts are warmed, too. Contact Christine Dragonette with any questions at dragonettecm@slu.edu or 977-7309.

Additionally, as the holiday season comes pressing in on us and we are thinking turkeys and tinsel, let’s not forget that Hot Stuff is not far behind.

In the cold of late January we open the Ballroom doors to hundreds of men, women and children, offering them food and warm clothing items.

In addition to the Giving Tree, please think of Hot Stuff over the holidays. Watch for men’s white socks, size large boxers, t-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, gloves, hats, heavy coats, winter pants and gently used shoes and boots. The same goes for women and children. And don’t forget blankets – items to fend off the St. Louis winter cold, whether on the street or in a house where the insulation is non-existent or the gas bill too high to pay.

So let’s be thankful for what we have, cherish those we love, but never forget those who are less fortunate than we. Stock up along the way for Hot Stuff – Saturday, January 23, 2016 – 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. More info to come on how to donate and/or volunteer. Contact Ruth Cochran with questions at cochranr1105@gmail.com or 517-5596.

Have a blessed holiday season. God bless us everyone!

Upcoming Opportunities for Young Adults

Young Adult Advent Reflection

Monday, December 7th at 7pm
College Church Parish Center
3628 Lindell Blvd, St. Louis MO 63108

Come join other young adults for an Advent reflection. Please RSVP to sfxccyoungadults@gmail.com if you plan to join.
Looking for a way to beat the winter doldrums in January?

Join us for a First Annual Trivia Night at St. Francis Xavier College Church

Date: Friday, January 29th
Time: 7:00 p.m. (Doors open at 6:00 p.m.)
Where: College Church Ballroom, located at 3628 Lindell Blvd. (63108) at corner of Grand and Lindell on Saint Louis University Campus
Cost: $25 person, $200 to reserve a table with a maximum of 8 participants per table
Arrangements: Beer, soda, water and light snacks will be provided. Participants are invited to bring additional food and beverages, if desired.
Parking: SLU Garage located at Grand and Laclede; entrance is on west side of Grand on Laclede Ave.
To make a reservations: Contact Arlene at 314-623-0412 or email at kulade5@yahoo.com
Presiders

Dec. 5th & 6th, 2015
Saturday
5:15 p.m. Fr. Tran, SJ

Sunday
8:00 a.m. Fr. White, SJ
10:30 a.m. Fr. Padberg, SJ

Dec. 12th & 13th, 2015
Saturday
5:15 p.m. Fr. White, SJ

Sunday
8:00 a.m. Fr. Mercier, SJ
10:30 a.m. Fr. Tran, SJ

Readings For The Week

Sunday:
Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-2,2-3,4-5,6 (3)
Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Monday:
Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14;
Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday:
Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 (1a);
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 & 10;
Mt 11:23-30

Thursday:
Is 41:13-20;
Ps 145:1 & 9; 10-111, 12-13ab
Mt 11:1-15

Friday:
Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, & 6

Saturday:
Zec 2:14-17;
or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;
Judith 13: 18bcd, 19; Lk 1:26-38

Sunday:
Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4-5, (6);
Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:101-18

Listed below are the offertory totals for the month of Oc-
tober. A reminder: offertory is roughly 70% of our reve-
nues.

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<tr>
<td>Offertory</td>
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<td>On-Line</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christmas</td>
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YTD Surplus/(Deficit) ($14,460.00)

Advent Individual Reconciliations
In Church
Sunday, December 13th
9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

On Sunday, December 13th from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. we will have ten gentle confessors available for individual Confessions. Come and prepare for Christmas with this wonderful sacrament of God's love and mercy. All are invited to participate!!!

Come and prepare for Christmas with this wonderful sacrament of God's love and mercy!!!