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

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday: 5:15 p.m. Anticipation of Sunday Saint Louis University Campus Ministry:
Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Sunday: 9:00 p.m. (when the University is in
Weekday: session)
Monday—Friday
Saint Louis University Campus Ministry:
Monday—Friday: 7:15 a.m., Noon, 5:15 p.m. in the Chapel of Our
Sacrament of Reconciliation Lady located in the lower level. (There are
Monday—Friday: 10:45 a.m. through Noon
no 5:15 p.m. Liturgies on holidays)
Saturday: 4:00 p.m. through 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 7:15 a.m. in the Chapel of Our Lady located in the lower-level.

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
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 milnerjv@slu.edu on Thursday, ten days before the bulletin date. Holidays require additional time.
For Infant Baptisms, contact Fr. Quang Tran, SJ at 314-977-7301 for scheduling and preparation information at least 45 days in advance. Baptisms are celebrated on the first and third Sunday of the month, at 12:00 noon.
For Christian Initiation of Adults, contact Joe Milner at 314–977-7305 or milnerjv@slu.edu
Marriages contact Sandy Hauck at 314-977-7303 for scheduling and preparation information.
For Funerals, contact Fr. White, SJ or Fr. Tran, SJ
To notify the parish that a member of your family has passed away and the funeral is 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. Sunday 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  
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Associate Pastor  
Quang Tran, SJ  
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Director of Parish Life  
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Director of Liturgy, Adult Formation, & Marriage Preparation Ministry  
Joe Milner  
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Director of Religious Education & Family Life  
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Ray Sherrock  
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Director of Music  
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Outreach Service Coordinator  
Emily Anderson  
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Pastoral Council Chair  
Wade Baughman  
314-307-0535  
mwadebaughman@juno.com
Deacon  
Jim Griffard  
griffardjm@slu.edu  
314-977-7318

Pray for the Sick

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

Names will remain on the list for two weeks unless notified. Call Joe at 314-977-7305 to add or remove names.
From the Pastor's Desk

I was associate pastor for three years at St. Francis Xavier parish in Kansas City right after my ordination. A tapestry was hung in the sanctuary during the Advent season. It was a depiction of Mary looking nearly nine months pregnant. To be honest, it was not a great piece of art. Yet, I found the image striking as it is infrequent to see an obviously pregnant Mary bearing the Christ child.

The wider culture smothers Christmas in sentiment. The holiday season is insufferably cute. A simple cure for such claptrap is to ask any mother how “cute” her last few weeks of pregnancy were. Now, imagine what it was like for a young woman 2000 years ago in Judah.

Our faith is rooted in the central belief that God became one with humanity. None of the sufferings of our human condition were unknown to Jesus. That goes for His mother as well. Christians have the audacity to claim that the Lord came into the world in the same way as every single person: vulnerable, weak and utterly dependent. The devotion we show to Mary flows from the care she showed her

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This Week At College Church</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dec 20</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00—12:15 Spirituality Materials and CDs Ballroom</td>
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<td>9:00 and 11:30 Book signing with Dennis Lane Ballroom</td>
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<td>9:15—10:15 Centering Prayer Room 14</td>
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<td>9:30—10:20 Dialogue With the Word Room 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45—1:00 Decorating Church and Chapel for Christmas</td>
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<td><strong>Dec 24</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 pm Christmas Eve Family Mass Church</td>
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<td>10:30 pm Choir Prelude Church</td>
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<td>11:00 pm Christmas Mass during the Night Church</td>
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Lynda Eileen Palazzolo
died on December 9 following a battle with cancer. Lynda had 9 siblings who were all able to be with her as she died. She had served as the College Church Liturgy Coordinator, recruiting and scheduling ministers, organizing the Sunday liturgies and caring for the vestments for the last 8 years. More recently she had assumed responsibility for the parish bulletin. Lynda had served at the Catholic Health Association in various roles for 46 years. She was also an associate of the Sisters of Mercy. We will miss her smile and warmth, her ability to recognize the untapped gifts of individuals and her great love of the liturgy.
Eternal rest grant to her O Lord and may she rest in peace!

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. 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).

Christmas Celebrations

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>December 24</td>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>Christmas Eve Family Mass</td>
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<td>11:00 pm</td>
<td>Mass during the Night</td>
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<td>Choir prelude at 10:30 pm</td>
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<td>December 25</td>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>Christmas Day Liturgy</td>
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<td>Dec 24—Jan 2</td>
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<td>There will be no noon mass these days</td>
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<td>December 31</td>
<td>5:15 pm</td>
<td>New Year’s Day Vigil Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 1</td>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>New Year’s Day Mass</td>
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<td>Complimentary Parking in the SLU Laclede Garage</td>
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Christmas Time Activities for Families and Children

The Christmas Eve Liturgy for little ones and families will be December 24th at 4:30 p.m. Families and friends alike look forward to welcoming the Christ Child with the glow of youthful wonder. The Liturgy will include a candlelight procession, a Gospel Tableau, and the children’s choir.

Candlelight Procession

All children are invited to create a paper candle to carry in the opening procession of the 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Liturgy. Paper towels work well as the basis for these candles. The procession will begin at the baptismal font and end at the foot of the altar. After the procession, the children will return to their pews with their candles. No rehearsal is necessary and all are welcome. Please gather at the Baptismal Font at 4:25 p.m.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word and Nursery

There will be no Sunday Children’s Liturgy of the Word or Nursery on Sundays, December 27th and January 3rd due to the holidays.
**Spirituality and Reflection Materials**
Finding God in our daily lives can be a challenge. The Christmas season invites us to a deeper realization of God With Us. God is with us each day and St. Ignatius thought every one could recognize God in their lives through daily reflection and awareness of one’s experiences. There are several books to help you in this process.

*A Simple Life Changing Prayer* offers insights into praying the Examen.
*Reimagining the Ignatian Examen* presents 34 ways to approach your daily reflection.
*Charged With Grandeur* offers a daily reflection from an Ignatian perspective.
*Sacred Space of 2016* by the Irish Jesuits presents a reflection process and Scripture passage for each day.
*Through the Year With Pope Francis* offers a daily reflection from his talks.

There are Advent Calendars, cards and items for young people.

*Pope Francis: Life and Revolution* is a biography of Pope Francis by a journalist who has known him for many years.
*The Church of Mercy: a Vision for the Church* presents Pope Francis vision for the church and its mission.

There are other books on prayer and spirituality and CDs with liturgical music along with the collection of Fr. Kavanaugh’s homilies. Come down to the ballroom and find something to help you grow spiritually in the coming months.

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**THANK YOU from Social Ministry**
Thank you for your support of our annual Social Ministry Christmas Appeal the weekends of December 5th-6th and 12th-13th. Your contributions and support truly drive the work we do in Social Ministry. We are very appreciative of your continued generosity.

Merry Christmas!
Save the Date: Hot Stuff 2016
Saturday, January 23rd: 10am-1pm
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. 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 am - 1 pm More info to come on how to donate and/or volunteer. Contact Ruth Cochran with questions at cochrandr1105@gmail.com or 517-5596. Have a blessed holiday season. God bless

Pope Francis’s Year of Mercy Inspires Lenten Book Choice
Lent starts early this year, on February 10, so it’s not too early to start thinking about joining a Lenten reading group. Pope Francis declared December 8th the beginning of a Jubilee Year of Mercy. Consequently, our book choice this year will be The Church of Mercy: a Vision for the Church, by Pope Francis. It will be a rich source of personal reflection, and a chance to gain understanding of how Francis envisions the future of our Church.

“If we were to forget, even just for a moment, that mercy is 'that which God likes most,' every one of our labors would be useless because we would become slaves of our institutions and our structures, however renewed they might be,” Pope Francis says.

Father James Martin SJ praises the book as “bursting with profound spiritual insights, from a man who has quickly become one of the greatest spiritual teachers of our time.”

The book may be purchased at the bookstore in the ballroom or from Joe Milner. Sign up opportunities for book groups will begin the first week of January.

VIETNAM WAILING WALL by Dennis Lane
Book Signing - Sunday December 20 after the 8:00 am & 10:30 am Masses.
Most of you have heard of the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem where the pilgrims place their prayer petitions in the crevices hoping that God will answer their prayers. I’ve written a novel based on my Vietnam experience. I am a decorated Vietnam Veteran and served with a combat unit for 14 1/2 months. The men in my unit painted a plywood wall white in a bunker and began writing psychedelic, raw, war graffiti on it. The wall started out as a joke. However, it soon became the revelation of our souls. Once the wall is created in the novel, the graffiti evolves and reflects the action in the novel. I copied down the thoughts from the wall the day before returning home and knew that I would tell our story. 45 years later it finally was published.

Pray for the Deceased
Please remember Lynda Palazzolo, College Church Liturgy Coordinator, and Angie Casias, mother of parishioner Deborah Casias Noonan, who died recently. May they and all the departed share in the peace and joy of God’s presence forever.
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 Marber@slu.edu

Living Marriage

The Sacrament of Marriage involves the daily living of love, care, respect and supporting one another. It takes effort and dedication to keep growing closer and to keep the relationship alive. Living Marriage will be an opportunity for couples married between one and ten years to gather, listen to a presentation and spend time in dialogue about strengthening your relationship. The first gathering will be on Sunday, Feb 7, from 12:30 until 3:30. We will explore some of the practices that strengthen marriage and invite you to reflect upon what renews your life together. For more information, contact Joe Milner at 314-977-7305 or milnerjv@slu.edu

Plan to attend and celebrate your Living Marriage.

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 milnerjv@slu.edu

Marriage Preparation

The vocation of marriage encounters many challenges in contemporary society. Diverse skills are needed to develop a strong and dynamic relationship. The earlier a couple starts developing these skills, the greater the impact can be in the relationship. The Catholic Church has long advocated for a marriage preparation process to help couples grow in their knowledge and skills for a healthy relationship.

College Church offers weekends to help couples prepare for marriage through presentations by parishioner couples who are working at deepening and developing their relationships. Couples are invited to reflect on issues together and dialogue with other couples as they seek to grow closer together.

If you are engaged or moving toward engagement, you are invited to consider attending one of these weekends. Upcoming weekends are Jan 9—10, March 5—6 and April 9 - 10. For more information, please contact Joe Milner at milnerjv@slu.edu
Looking for a way to beat the winter doldrums in January?

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

To benefit Social Ministry and Religious Education

Date: Friday, January 29th
Time: 7:00 pm (Doors open at 6:00 pm)
Where: College Church Ballroom, located at 3628 Lindell Blvd. (63108)
at 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

Special Features: Mulligans 6 for $10
Silent Auction
50/50 Raffle

Support Social Ministry When Shopping Online
Did you know you can use your eScrip card not only at Schnucks, but also when shopping online on Expedia, Amazon, Macy’s, Best Buy, and more?

To support College Church Social Ministry while doing your online shopping, first visit shopping.escrip.com. If you do not have an eScrip card already, contact Christine Dragonette at dragonettecm@slu.edu or (314) 977-7309.
During the final seven nights of advent, Dec 17—23, the church prays some ancient prayers that invite Jesus, under his Old Testament titles, to come renew the world and fulfill the deepest longings of humanity. Each prayer begins with O and together they are called the O antiphons. These are best known through the hymn, “O Come, O Come Emmanuel.” Join others throughout the world and call out to God to bring deliverance from all the pain and struggle that people face here and around the world.

O Wisdom of our God Most High: teach us to walk in the paths of knowledge.
O Lord of Ancient Israel, giver of the Law on Sinai: rescue us with your mighty power.
O Flower of Jesse’s Stem, sight of God’s love for all people: save us without delay!
O Key of David, opening the gates of God’s Kingdom: free the prisoners of darkness.
O Radiant Dawn, Sun of Justice: shine on those lost in the darkness of death!
O King of All Nations, source of unity and faith: save all mankind, your own creation!