December 17, 2017
Third Sunday of Advent

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday
5:15 pm Anticipation of Sunday
5:30 pm beginning Jan. 6, 2018

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: 4:00 pm through 5:00 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.
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 marykay.horan@slu.edu by noon on Thursday, ten days before the bulletin date. Holidays require additional time.

Infant Baptisms: contact Fr. Jason Brauninger, 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 pm.

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 McWaters, 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 Angie Doerr at 314-977-7302 or angeline.doerr@slu.edu.

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 Angie Doerr at 314-977-7302 or angeline.doerr@slu.edu.

Tours of the Church: Contact Mary Beth Erickson at 314-977-7304 or email church@slu.edu
The rose colored vestments today (not pink, mind you) tell us this is Gaudete Sunday. This is one of two Sundays featuring the color rose. The other is during Lent known as Laetare Sunday. Both are Latin words for “rejoice”. To keep them straight just remember the L-words go together: Lent and Laetare.

Joy permeates today’s Scriptures. Isaiah tells us, “I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul.” Saint Paul commands us, “Rejoice always.” The responsorial psalm is not a psalm, but Mary’s hymn of praise, the Magnificat. We sing with her, “My soul rejoices in my God.”

This might seem a bit excessive to us. It is fair to say that in certain parts of the Church joy is viewed with skepticism, and the manifestation of it is suspect. All too often Catholics fit the description of God’s Frozen Chosen.

Pope Francis famously said, Christians must not look like they are always coming from a funeral. Yes, joy is not simply an emotion but it should make us different inside and out. If we are indeed joyful followers of Christ, our lives must reflect that reality. Gaudete Sunday requires us to throw decorum to the wind and rejoice in God’s goodness.
Welcome to College Church!

Introductory Rites

Gathering Song: Come, Emmanuel

Verse Response

Come, O come, Emmanuel.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Liturgy of the Word

Children’s Dismissal for Liturgy of the Word

Responsorial Psalm: Magnificat

Gospel Acclamation: Advent Alleluia

Intercession Response: Come Quickly, Lord

The Nicene Creed may be found on the inside cover of the hymnal

After each Intercession

Cantor:

All:

Lift up, O Church, this world to God: Come quickly, Lord, in mercy come.
Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of Gifts: My Soul in Stillness Waits  
Gather 415

Eucharistic Prayer Acclamations: Mass of Light  
Gather 361, 362, 363

Communion Rite

Breaking of Bread: Lamb of God - Mass of Light  
Gather 422

Communion Song: Gift of God

Meditation: A Time Will Come for Singing  
John Foley, SJ

Concluding Rite

Recessional Song: Awake! Awake! And Greet the New Morn  
Gather 423

Liturgical Corner

Liturgical Updates – Liturgical Updates – Ongoing liturgical education is a must for God’s people. Our Liturgical Commission has that as one of its primary goals. Last week we began a series of eight bulletin inserts called “The Mystery We Celebrate”. They are designed to both review what we may already know about the mass, as well as deepen our understanding and invite our fuller participation. Copies are available in the vestibule if you were not here last week. We hope they will be educational and inspirational.

An Afternoon With the Saints in Glass

St. Francis Xavier (College) Church  
3628 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri 63108

Sunday, January 21 following 10:30 am Mass

The afternoon will begin with a light lunch in the Ballroom followed by a tour of the historic College Church windows by our pastor, Fr. Dan White, S.J. and Aaron Frei of Emil Frei Studios.

Cost  $20.00 per person ($15 for registered parishioners) due before January 11

Contact Mary Beth Erickson at 314-977-7304 or email church@slu.edu to make reservations

**SPIRITUALITY AND REFLECTION MATERIALS**

This will be the final week for books and spirituality materials this year. Come down to the Lower Hall on Sunday morning and find something to enrich your spirit in the New Year.

- *I Want to See* is a new book by Fr. Roc O’Connor, SJ, who was with us a couple of years ago. He addresses finding joy, hope and peace through facing our blindness and fear.
- *Barking at the Choir*, is a new book by Fr. Greg Boyle, SJ, that highlights the importance of kinship.
- *Falling in Love … Finding God* by parishioners, Bridget Brennan and Jerry Shen examines the insights that Ignatian Spirituality can offer for relationships.

There are a variety of books with writings from Pope Francis and other Ignatian Spirituality materials. If you would like to reserve a copy for pickup at another time, please email Joe Milner, joseph.milner@slu.edu with the title you would like.

**DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT COLLEGE CHURCH**

Our antique note cards of College Church are available for purchase in the Parish Center. The antique note cards contain 12 cards of six different designs with a bit of College Church history on the back of each. They are $15 per box.

We also have window note cards for $10, keepsake ornaments of College Church for $20 and our Saints in Glass book for $35.

If you are interested in viewing or purchasing any of these items contact Mary Beth Erickson at 314-977-7304 or church@slu.edu

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**OPENINGS ON THE SFX PASTORAL COUNCIL:**

The St. Francis Xavier (College) Church Pastoral Council is a group composed of the pastor and twelve active, adult parishioners who meet regularly to deliberate, reflect, and make decisions on a variety of issues related to the operations, programming, and spiritual life of the parish. The Pastoral Council provides support and direction to the various parish Commissions and Committees, and is generally charged with making sure that all activities support the parish’s Mission. There will be at least two openings on the Pastoral Council starting in January 2018. Council members serve for a three-year term with the option to serve a second term. The group meets one Saturday morning per month, and also participates actively in various special events throughout the year. A parishioner may nominate another parishioner, or nominate himself/herself.

Nominees will be asked to submit a short statement explaining their interest in serving on the Council answering the following three questions: (1) What has drawn you to SFX College Church, and what are your hopes for the future of the parish? (2) What background and experience, either professional, personal, or as a parishioner, would you bring to the Council and how would you apply it? (3) Can you commit to regular attendance and participation at Council meetings and, from time to time, assisting with special projects or events?

If you are interested in serving, would like to nominate another parishioner, or would just like more information, please contact Council chair Jeff Leonard at jeff.leonard@me.com or Fr. Dan 314-977-7310, dwhite6@slu.edu.
**Suite Seats for a Sweet Cause**

Support families choosing to make the loving, and often expensive, choice to grow their family through adoption AND get or give a chance to enjoy a 2018 Cardinals game from the Mercy Suite! Raffle winner receives 10 tickets in Suite 33 (along the 1st base line) at Busch Stadium for a 2018 Cardinals' Home Game, $150 of food/drinks and one parking pass for a mutually agreed upon date. Made available through the generous donation of Mercy. All proceeds benefit the Archbishop Robert J. Carlson Adoption Fund.

Great Holiday Gift! Raffle Tickets can be delivered in a festive gift envelope perfect for the person who has everything! For more information: http://archstl.org/raffleforadoption or 314.997.7576

**Check Out Our Website: sfxstl.org**

Check the website for online bulletins, homilies, our calendar and information about upcoming events!

**Mass Time Change**

Beginning Saturday, Jan. 6, 2018 the Mass in anticipation of Sunday will change FROM 5:15 TO 5:30 pm.

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**College Church Grand Night Gala**

Last month's Grand Night Gala was truly a glorious evening. The Coronado ballroom looked wonderful. The crowd was supportive and enthusiastic. This year's Gala was, in all respects, a celebration for the entire SFX community. We raised $116,000 in support of College Church.

Susan Werremeyer and Bridget Collins, who served as this year's Gala co-chairs, were instrumental in providing the leadership we needed to organize this immense effort. Special thanks are also due to Wade Baughmann, Erin Tkachk and Kate Shaw for their hard work with acquisitions, volunteers and set up.

Below are some photos of the evening. You can find more on our website, sfx.org
Social Ministry

SAVE THE DATE

Hot Stuff will be on Saturday, February 3, 2018

Twice a year, 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. Please keep an eye out for more details and in the meantime, save the date!

Social Ministry Commission Seeking New Members in 2018

Do you consider social justice an integral part of your faith? Are you interested in helping our parish move forward in our service, justice, and peacemaking efforts? The Social Ministry Commission invites you to consider applying for membership.

We are especially interested in people who are interested in our four current goals (summarized here):

♦ Build a culture of anti-racism in our parish
♦ Participate with community partners in the creation of a regional plan for State ID and birth certificate access, while continuing advocacy work in the realm of photo ID requirements for voting
♦ Maintain and grow partnerships that allow us to better carry out the work of Social Ministry
♦ Partner across College Church ministries to help engage children, families, and young adults in service and justice work

For more information about being a part of the Social Ministry Commission, or to request an application, please contact Christine Dragonette at christine.dragonette@slu.edu or 977-7309.

Applications will be due in mid-January.

Social Ministry Annual Christmas Appeal Continues This Weekend

Last week at Mass, you heard parishioners share their experiences volunteering with College Church Social Ministry and request financial support for our programs. The majority of funding goes to our Outreach Program, which is the only program in the region providing ongoing and large-scale assistance with State ID cards and birth certificates. This and our other programs rely on your support in order to continue and grow. The second collection this weekend will again go directly to Social Ministry. Please consider making a year end donation to support our work.

If you are not prepared to contribute during Mass, but would still like to support Social Ministry, you may either send a check made out to St. Francis Xavier with “Social Ministry appeal” in the memor to the Parish Center at 3628 Lindell OR you may give online at www.osvonlinegiving.com/714 and select “Social Ministry Christmas Collection.”

Thank you for your generosity and support!
ADULT FAITH FORMATION

CENTERING PRAYER GROUP

We invite those who are interested in joining fellow parishioners in silent reflective prayer while gathered with others. We meet through the Contemplative Outreach of St. Louis and meet the third Sunday of the month. The next meeting is TODAY Sunday, Dec. 17 at 9:15 am in Room 14 in the Parish Center. Interested in discovering more? Please join us! For more information, contact Mary Fitzgerald 314-223-0316.

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, 314-977-7305 or milnerjv@slu.edu

SCRIPTURE AND MY LIFE – DEVELOPING A REAL RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST JESUS

Were you a student of the Baltimore Catechism? Do you know about Jesus, but have been wondering how to get to really know Jesus? A small group meets each Sunday to discuss the Sunday scriptures and how they develop this relationship. It’s called “Dialogue with the Word,” and it takes place on Sundays after the 8:00 Liturgy (about 9:30) to about 10:20. This way folks can do this after the 8:00 or before the 10:30 Liturgies. No preparation needed. Just come as you are! Teens welcome, folks fresh from RCIA welcome! Facilitators are Lea Koesterer, Steve Gilbert, and Carla Mae Streeter, OP. Contact Carla Mae Streeter, OP (Coordinator) for more information at streeter@slu.edu or 314-256-8882.

WHITE HOUSE JESUIT RETREAT PRESENTS

A 3-Day Co-Ed Discernment Retreat in St. Louis, MO
"A HUNGRY HEART" DISCERNING GOD’S WILL IN EVERYDAY CHOICES

Making choices, big and small, are all occasions for connecting with God. Making use of Saint Ignatius’s rules of discernment, Fr. Jeff Putthoff, S.J. will explore with you how the senses and imagination reveal God’s presence in our daily lives, thus guiding us to greater unity with God’s will.

WHERE: WHITE HOUSE JESUIT RETREAT

WHEN: CHECK IN MONDAY JANUARY 22 AT 11:30 AM, CHECK OUT THURSDAY JANUARY 25 AT 12:00 PM

COST: A $50 DEPOSIT IS REQUIRED AT REGISTRATION. A FREE WILL OFFERING CAN BE MADE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE RETREAT IF YOU WISH
ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT COLLEGE CHURCH

The weekday mass schedule will change due to Christmas break. Please note there will not be a 5:15pm Mass in the chapel beginning Wednesday, December 20. The evening mass will resume on Monday, January 8. The 7:15 am and noon liturgies will be celebrated as normal.

December 24
- Christmas Eve Family Mass 4:30 pm (Presider: Fr. Dan White, SJ)
- Children’s Choir Prelude 4:00 pm
- Mass during the Night at 11:00 pm (Presider: Fr. Jason Brauningher, SJ)
- Choir prelude at 10:30 pm

December 25
- Christmas Day Liturgy 10:30 am (Presider: Fr. Dan White, SJ)

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

Christmas Time Activities for Families and Children
The Christmas Eve Liturgy for little ones and families will begin with a Candlelight procession Dec. 24 at 4:30 pm. 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 touching Tableau and the children's choir. Please contact Angie at angeline.doerr@slu.edu if you have any questions regarding these activities.

Candlelight Procession
All children are invited to create a paper candle to carry in the opening procession at the 4:30 pm. Christmas Eve Liturgy. Paper towel rolls 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 pm.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word
There will be no Children’s Liturgy of the Word on Sunday morning, Dec. 24.

Nursery Schedule
There will be no babysitting available during the Christmas Eve and Day Liturgies or on Sunday morning, Dec. 24.

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 Laclede Garage
**Parish Men’s 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”, Feb. 8 - 11. 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](http://www.whretreat.org) or please call Dave Schnelt (314-791-0227), John Webster (636-394-2770), John Hartung (314-918-1950) or Deacon Jim Griffard (314-619-5700).