December 24, 2017  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

**Liturgy Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>5:15 pm Anticipation of Sunday</td>
<td>St. Francis Xavier College Church</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>5:30 pm beginning Jan. 6, 2018</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00 am, 10:30 am and 4:30 pm</td>
<td>St. Francis Xavier College Church</td>
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<td>Monday - Friday</td>
<td>7:15 am, Noon, 5:15 pm</td>
<td>In the Chapel of Our Lady located in the lower level.</td>
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<td><strong>Saint Louis University Campus Ministry:</strong></td>
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<td>Sunday: 9:00 pm (when the University is in session)</td>
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<td><strong>Sacrament of Reconciliation</strong></td>
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<td>Monday-Friday: 10:45 am through Noon</td>
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<td>Saturday: 4:00 pm through 5:00 pm</td>
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**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.

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

Tours of the Church: Contact Mary Beth Erickson at 314-977-7304 or email church@slu.edu
The Nativity story is beautiful and holy, but it is far from cute. Mary and Joseph are forced to travel because the Emperor wants a census. There is no room available so they are forced to lodge with the livestock. The first visitors to the new baby are a raggedy band of shepherds, hardly the cream of society. Next come some odd foreigners bearing gifts. Finally, the family is forced to flee the country due to the violent acts of the king, and become refugees in a foreign land.

Despite our best attempts to suffocate Christmas in schmaltz and sentimentality, the hard truth remains: salvation is revealed in the midst of suffering. Struggle and pain lie at the heart of Christ's birth. God comes among us poor and vulnerable. The light shines in the darkness. Peace on earth confronts division and violence.

Christmas brings comfort, joy and hope. But this great feast acknowledges our failing, too. The Word made flesh dwells among us in the midst of our brokenness. This appreciation allows us to cut through the cultural nonsense that has built up around Christmas. Our faith in the Incarnation is what we celebrate. That is the Truth that sets us free. Free to welcome with happiness and awe the child born to Mary.
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: 89 Forever Will I Sing

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: Ave Maria  
Gather 891

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

**Communion Rite**

Breaking of Bread: Lamb of God - Mass of Light  
Gather 102

Communion Song: Holy is Your Name  
Gather 102

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

**Concluding Rite**

Recessional Song: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
Gather 395

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**An Afternoon With the Saints in Glass**

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

**Sunday, Jan. 21 after 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.

The cost is $20 per person ($15 for registered parishioners) due before Jan. 11.  
Contact Mary Beth Erickson at 314-977-7304 or email church@slu.edu to make reservations.


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**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
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 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).

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.
If you would like to have someone bring communion to you or have a pastoral visit, please contact the parish by calling 314-977-7300.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE: sfxstl.org

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

PASTORAL CARE VISITS

If you would like to have someone bring communion to you or have a pastoral visit, please contact the parish by calling 314-977-7300.

YOUNG ADULTS: LOOKING TO VOLUNTEER?

The St. Vincent DePaul (SVDP) Young Adult group at College Church conducts home visits in our local area to provide rental and utility assistance to our neighbors in need. New volunteers are needed! Young adults ages 22-40 are invited to join us in our mission to provide person-to-person assistance with some of the greatest needs in our local community.

Meetings are twice monthly on Fridays at local restaurants or bars. Contact Michelle Schaeffler at mschaeffler@gmail.com for meeting locations or for more information.

COLLEGE CHURCH GRAND NIGHT GALA

NOVEMBER 10, 2017

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.

Thank You for Your Support of Social Ministry This Christmas
College Church parishioners were incredibly generous in providing Giving Tree gifts for our program guests, as well as donating directly to Social Ministry through our Christmas Appeal. We are also grateful to our wonderful volunteers who contribute their time and talents to this work. It is thanks to your generosity and support that we are able to continue to serve the community through our direct service programs, as well as to build up our advocacy and justice work.

Thank you for your generosity and support!
Merry Christmas!
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.

Annual Youth Group Overnight Retreat

All teens in grades 8-12 are invited to join the St. Francis Xavier Youth Group for our overnight retreat! We will explore our theme for this year - The Body of Christ - through leader talks, small-group discussions, and activities. We’ll also have plenty of games and food!

Saturday, January 21, 10:00 am - Sunday, January 22, 9:30am
For more information, contact Sam Herbig at sam.herbig@slu.edu
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
Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2017

Presiders

Dec. 30-31
Saturday
5:15 pm  Fr. Dan White, SJ
Sunday
8:00 am   Fr. Dan Daly, SJ
10:30 am  Fr. Jason Brauninger, SJ

Jan. 6-7
Saturday
5:30 pm  Fr. Mike May, SJ
Sunday
8:00 am   Fr. Jason Brauninger, SJ
10:30 am  Fr. Dan White, SJ

Weekly Readings

Monday:  Is 52: 7-10; Ps 98: 1,2,-3-3-4-5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18
Tuesday:  Acts 6:6-10, 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 & 8ab, 16bc & 17; Mt 10: 17-22
Wednesday:  Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12; Jn 20: 1a&2-8
Thursday:  Jn 1:5-2:2; Ps 124:2-3,4-5,7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18
Friday:  Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96: 1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
Saturday:  Jn 2: 12-17; Ps 96: 7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40
Sunday:  Sir 3:2-6,12-14 OR Gn 15:1-6,21:13; Ps 128:1-2,3,4-5 OR Ps 105:1-2,3-4,5-6,8-9; Col 1:13-21 OR Col 3:12-17 OR Heb 11:8,11 -12,17-19; Lk 2:22-40 OR Lk 2:22,39-40

SFX Connections

Speaker Series

“I’m Spiritual But Not Religious”

Speaker:  Dr. Daniel Finucane, PhD

Sunday, January 28
SFX Ballroom
9:15 - 10:15 am

Why the question these days? Do we need to choose between the spiritual and the religious? Might one lead to the other? Come hear Dr. Finucane discuss the relationship between the two. Dr. Daniel Finucane is an Associate Professor of Systematic Theology in the Department of Theological Studies at Saint Louis University. He and his wife Laura and their two sons are long time parishioners at College Church.

All are welcome to attend!!

You Are the Voice of the People

Sometimes the Washington DC office numbers of our members of Congress are busy. Here are their local office phone numbers:

Sen. Roy Blunt: 314-725-4484,
Sen. Claire McCaskill: 314-367-1364

Mass Time Change

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