

St. Francis Xavier Church

The First African American Catholic Community in the Country
Founded 1793

Served by the Josephites since 1871

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Holy Days: 10:00 AM & 7:00 PM

except when the Holy Day falls on a Monday

Holiday, Mass and Novena will be at 8:00 AM only

Weekdays

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00 AM

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Wednesday: 10:00 AM followed by Bible Study

OTHER SCHEDULED EVENTS

Confessions

Before Masses or by appointments

Marriages

Notify the rectory at least 6 months in advance

Baptisms

*The Sacrament of Baptism is conferred
on the Fourth Sunday, at 2 PM.*

Notify the rectory at least 1 month in advance

Funerals

*Please notify the rectory before making
arrangements with funeral homes.*

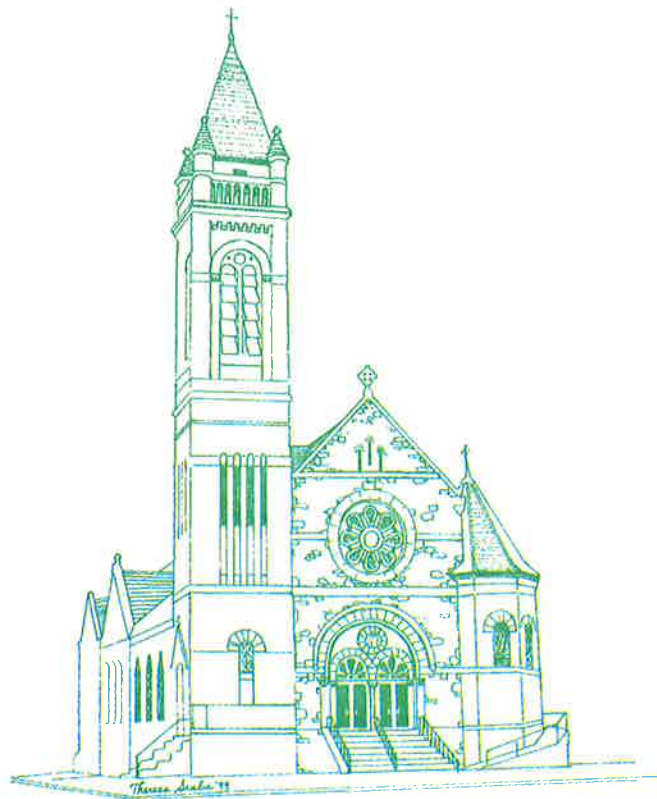
Rev. Xavier Edet, S.S.J.,

Pastor

Religious Education

Joslyn Alexander, Director

SVD-SFX Head Start Center (410) 685-7288



THE JOSEPHITES

"Glorious St. Joseph, faithful follower of Jesus Christ, to you do we raise our hearts and hands to implore your powerful intercessions in obtaining from the benign Heart of Jesus all the helps and graces necessary for our spiritual and temporal welfare, particularly the grace of a happy death, and the special favor we now implore of men and means for our seminary, college and novitiate. Guardian of the Word Incarnate, we feel animated with confidence that your prayers in our behalf will be graciously heard before the throne of God.

Amen"

Mission Statement for St. Francis Xavier Church

In the tradition of the oldest African-American Catholic Church in the United States, St. Francis Xavier is committed to meeting the spiritual, educational and social needs of our parishioners and our surrounding community.

1501 E. OLIVER STREET • BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21213

Rectory (410) 727-3103

Fax (410) 625-9587

Website - <http://www.HistoricFrancisXavier.org>

REFLECTION

"If your brother sins against you"

What's the best way to repair a damaged relationship? Jesus offers his disciples spiritual freedom and power for restoring broken or injured relationships.

Don't brood over an offense - speak directly and privately
What can we learn from Jesus' instructions about how to mend a damaged relationship (Matthew 18:15-20)? If you feel you have been wronged by someone, Jesus says the first step is to speak directly but privately to the individual who has done the harm. One of the worst things we can do is brood over our grievance. This can poison our mind and heart and make it more difficult to go directly to the person who caused the damage.

Seek the help of wise Christians

If we truly want to settle a difference with someone, we need to do it face to face. If this fails in its purpose, then the second step is to bring another person or persons, someone who is wise and gracious rather than someone who is hot-tempered or judgmental. The goal is not so much to put the offender on trial, but to persuade the offender to see the wrong and to be reconciled. And if this fails, then we must still not give up, but seek the help of the Christian community. Note the emphasis here is on restoring a broken relationship by seeking the help of other Christians who hopefully will pray and seek a solution for reconciliation based on Christian love and wisdom, rather than relying on coercive force or threat of legal action, such as a lawsuit.

Pray for the offender - for healing and reconciliation

Lastly, if even the Christian community fails to bring about reconciliation, what must we do? Jesus seems to say that we have the right to abandon stubborn and obdurate offenders and treat them like social outcasts. The tax-collectors and Gentiles were regarded as "unclean" by the religious-minded Jews and they resorted to shunning them. However we know from the Gospel accounts that Jesus often had fellowship with tax-collectors (as well as other public sinners), ate with them, and even praised them at times! Jesus refuses no one who is open to receive pardon, healing, and restoration.

Stewardship Reflections

Luke 21:1-4

And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury. And He saw a poor widow putting in two small copper coins. And He said, "Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all of them;

Mass Intentions



Saturday

5:00 P.M. God's comforting arm for all people impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

Sunday

8:00 A.M. People of the Parish

11:00 A.M. God's continued blessings on our mom Alice Lewis on the occasion of her 85th Birthday, req. by her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren

Tuesday

8:00 A.M. In Memory of Edmund Martin Jr., req. by John Rutkowski and Jeff Martin

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. Help and God's blessing for all those impacted by the hurricanes, req. by Darleen Thomas

Thursday

8:00 A.M. God's continue blessings for all of our priests,

Friday

8:00 A.M. Praying for peace in our city

Today's Readings

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Next Weeks Readings

First Reading: Sirach 27:30-28:7

Second Reading: Romans 14:7-9

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35



SPECIAL NOTICES

Scriptures for Daily Meditation



"And the Scripture gives us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God's promises to be fulfilled" Rom. 15:4

Day	Date	Gospel
Mon.	9/11/2017	Luke 6:6-11
Tues.	9/12/2017	Luke 6:12-19
Wed.	9/13/2017	Luke 6:20-26
Thurs.	9/14/2017	John 3:13-17
Fri.	9/15/2017	John 19:25-27
Sat.	9/16/2017	Luke 6:43-49

100th Anniversary of the Apparitions at Fatima

Come join the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 14th, 2017 in honoring Our Lady of Fatima's Apparition of the Miracle of the Sun by reciting 5 decades of the Rosary. We will recite in church and some of us may stay for 5:00 Mass. Come and be blessed. Rosaries will be provided.



August Financials

Offering Income:: \$21,171.00

Expense: 23,086.50

Deficit: \$1915.50

Recurring expenses:

Salaries

BGE

Catholic Review

Office supplies and equipment supplies

Church supplies

Misc. expenses needed to keep our parish going

SPECIAL NOTICES

Seven Sorrows of Mary

Please join the Catholic Daughters Court #2257 SFX in honoring Blessed Virgin Mary Seven Sorrows on Friday, September 15, 2017 the feast day of the Seven Sorrows of Mary at 6:00 p.m. in church. Booklets will be provided. Come and be Blessed!



SFX Circle of Recognition

We have so many unsung heroes that give of both their time and talents. This month we are recognizing those parishioners that are the Counters:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Earnest Thames | Frederick Jones |
| Ann Brooks | Sharon Butler |
| Irene Tackett | Marvin Chambers |
| Obie Barnes | Paula Fuller |
| Janet Wiggins | Renae Pierce |
| Michelly Merrick | Cornel Johnson |
| Trinna Paris | Lewis Kearney |
| Celestia Drake | Cynthia Kane |
| Ina Parker | Rosalind Johnson |



**COUNTING
COINS**

Special Notices

Religious Education

RCIA (The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Do you know someone who is? Are you an adult Catholic who has not yet been confirmed? Perhaps you just want to learn more about the Catholic Faith, or have questions about it. RCIA is the process for preparing adults for full communion with the Catholic Church, and for instructing adults returning to their faith or who simply want to learn more. RCIA is open to anyone interested in exploring Catholicism. A new group is forming for the fall, so contact the parish office if you or someone you know may be interested.

Religious Education: Sunday school classes are held September through May from 9:30a.m. – 10:45a.m. for grades Pre Kindergarten through 9th grade. We are taking registrations for this year's Sunday school program starting September 3rd. Mark your calendars: Sunday school begins September 24!

Sacramental Preparation: The policy of the Archdiocese of Baltimore is that children undergo two years of faith formation to prepare for the sacraments. This means: Year 1 (the year immediately before the year of reception); and Year 2 (the year of reception). The usual year to receive First Reconciliation and First Eucharist is the Second Grade. This means that our children begin preparation during the First Grade. The usual year to receive Confirmation is the Ninth Grade. This means that our youth begin preparation during the Eighth Grade. If your children satisfied their requirements in Religious Education classes as a first or eighth grader last year then they should be on track to receive the respective sacraments next year 2018.

Special Notices

Religious Education (Cont'd)

If your children were not able to receive these sacraments during the usual years, it is not too late. We will help you and your children to prepare and receive the sacraments. Please contact Joslyn Alexander, Director of Religious Education if you have any questions.

Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court #323

The Knights of Peter Claver is the oldest Black Catholic organization in the country. Our goal is to encourage lay apostolic and community action. We support worthwhile causes through volunteerism and charitable contributions. Ladies Auxiliary-Mother Mary Elizabeth Lange Court #323 is seeking new members. If you are interested in joining please contact Carolyn Finney at 443-570-9577

Save The Date

TEA TIME WITH THE OBLATE SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE

Saturday, October 21, 2017, 11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart Hall, 701 Gun Road, Donation; \$35.00



Prayer Walk

St Francis Xavier Church will host Bishop Madden's Prayer walk on Wednesday September 27, 2017. Light refreshments at 5:30 p.m., the walk will start about 6:00 p.m. and end at 7:00 p.m. Please plan to come out and join us.



SPECIAL NOTICE!

Please Keep In Your Prayers

All sick and shut-in parishioners of SFX



THANK YOU

On behalf of the SFX Annual Family Parish Picnic Committee, we would like to thank everyone that participated. We had an awesome time! I would like to say as special "Thank You" to Kimberly Cun (Justin Alton's friend), who volunteered as a Life Guard and Suzonne Vickers for volunteering to drive St. Ann's van. Let's look forward to getting together again approximately the same time at the same place next year. Know that you are "Blessed" on purposed." Wy Chambers, Chair

Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary Annual Christmas Shopping Trip

Sodality's Annual Christmas Shopping trip, Saturday, December 16, 2017, at Reading, PA outlets and Rockvale outlets in Lancaster, PA. Tickets will go on sale in September; the cost will be \$50.00. Contact any Sodality member for tickets or Martha Lewis Dorsey for tickets (410 668-1258. Tickets have to be purchased by November 1st, 2017.



New Horizons of Men and Women Travel to Williamsburg, Va.

Next year, August 16th-20th the New Horizon will be going to Williamsburg Virginia for their convention. We will open the trip up to those persons interested in traveling with us. More details will follow after we confirm the hotel and costs. It will be double occupancy and we will offer a payment plan. If you think this is something you will be interested in, please let any member of the New Horizons know. Thank You.

For Your Information

Please Note:

If you are sick at home or in the hospital, or if you know of someone who is, Please Contact the Rectory, 410-727-3103. Please also remember to contact the Rectory to advise us when to remove your name from the Sick and/or Shut-in Listing.

Mass Intentions

The normal donation for a Mass Request is \$5.00 and must be paid at the time of request. We will no longer take Mass requests over the telephone. Mass requests envelopes are located on the table in the rear of the church.

Address changed?

Please notify the office if you have moved for address changes.

Proper Church Etiquette

No cell phones or other electronic devices should be left on while in Church, especially during Mass. Also, please do not chew gum, eat or drink at anytime while you are in Church, especially when receiving Holy Communion our mouths should be free from all food items. Parents please do not bring potato chips or other foods to give your children during Mass. Food is being found in the Pews. Please give them snacks before Mass. If you cannot hear the Lector or other Ministers from the Altar, please raise your hand and do not yell out in Church, this is very disrespectful. We ask your full cooperation in adhering to these rules of etiquette.

Parish Membership/Census Update:

The use of Church envelopes is the responsible way to support your Parish. Parishioners are requested to register at the church office, Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or complete the following form:

Name _____

Street _____

Phone _____ Zip _____

- Moving out of Parish
- Want Envelopes
- Change of telephone number/address
-

Please cut out and drop in the Collection Basket or mail to the Rectory.

Catechetical Sunday 2017



This year, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 17, 2017. The 2017 theme will be "Living as Missionary Disciples." Those whom the community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

Please pray for and thank our amazing parish catechists and assistants who give of themselves so generously to pass on our faith and love of Christ to our youth and adults. Below is a listing of our catechists, and assistants.

Valerie Grays (Pre-Kindergarten)

Natalie Hare (Kindergarten)

Wye Chambers (1st Grade)

Stacey Samuels (1st Grade)

Beryl Graham (Reconciliation/ First Communion)

Janet Wiggins (Reconciliation/ First Communion)

Deborah Woods (3rd Grade)

Donna Booth (4th Grade)

Mary Watties (5th Grade)

Joyce Logan (6th Grade)

Lynette Richardson (7th Grade)

Howard Kane (8th Grade)

Larry Woods (8th Grade)

Randolph Smith (Confirmation)

Frederick Jones (Confirmation)

Dr. Bianca Smith (RCIC)

Arnetta Boyd (Upper Sacramental)

Nadine Harris (Upper Sacramental)

Edna Aiden (Substitute)

Gwen Williams (Family Catechesis)

Avis Butler (RCIA)

Renee Terry (Office assistant)

Joslyn Alexander (Director)

Sr. Magdala Marie Gilbert, OSP (Director Emeritus)

A Catechist's Prayer

Father of all families, you have called me to serve the family in truth and love as a catechist. May I be faithful to this call, rooted in your Word, and open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

May I use these gifts, especially the gifts of faith, hope, and love, to serve the family as a witness to you, who are love and life and the source and destiny of all families.

Let your Spirit enlighten my mind and strengthen my heart so that I can be a path of Christ's love to families, especially those in need, the home bound and aged, the disabled and disheartened.

Through the intercession of Mary and Joseph, I pray for the Church, the Bride of Christ, whose mission to build a civilization of love passes through the family. Amen.