

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

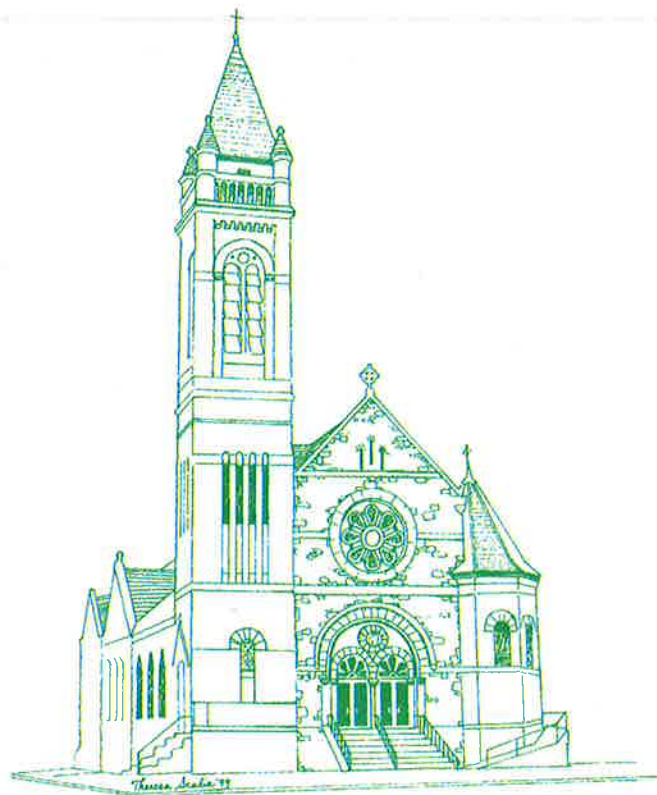
*Please notify the rectory before making
arrangements with funeral homes.*

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

Pastor

Religious Education

Joslyn Alexander, Director



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"

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

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

The Lord Jesus can make me clean

Do you seek the Lord Jesus with expectant faith? No one who sought Jesus out was refused his help. Even the untouchables and the outcasts of Jewish society found help in him. Unlike the people of Jesus' time who fled at the sight of a leper, Jesus touched the leper who approached him and he made him whole and clean. Why was this so remarkable? Lepers were outcasts of society. They were driven from their homes and communities and left to fend for themselves. Their physical condition was terrible as they slowly lost the use of their limbs and withered away. They were not only shunned but regarded as "already dead" even by their relatives. The Jewish law forbade anyone from touching or approaching a leper, lest ritual defilement occur.

This leper did something quite remarkable. He approached Jesus confidently and humbly, expecting that Jesus could and would heal him. Normally a leper would be stoned or at least warded off if he tried to come near a rabbi. Jesus not only grants the man his request, but he demonstrates the personal love, compassion, and tenderness of God in his physical touch. The medical knowledge of his day would have regarded such contact as grave risk for incurring infection. Jesus met the man's misery with compassion and tender kindness. He communicated the love and mercy of God in a sign that spoke more eloquently than words. He touched the man and made him clean - not only physically but spiritually as well.

How do you approach those who are difficult to love, or who are shunned by others because they are deformed or have some defect? Do you show them kindness and offer them mercy and help as Jesus did? The Lord is always ready to show us his mercy and to free us from whatever makes us unclean, unapproachable, or unloving towards others.

Lord Jesus, inflame my heart with your love and make me clean and whole in body, mind, and spirit. May I never doubt your love nor cease to tell others of your mercy and compassion."

Stewardship Reflections

2 Corinthians 9:6-11

Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

Mass Intentions



Saturday

5:00 P.M. God's healing mercy for S.P. req. by Sandy

Sunday

8:00 A.M. People of the Parish

11:00 A.M. In Loving Memory of Napoleon Sykes, a phenomenal husband, dad and Pop-Pop, req. by Brenda and Children

Tuesday

8:00 A.M. God's blessings and Happy Birthday to Paige Bailey Cooper and Kai Massey, req. by Auntie Pia

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. Blessings and good health for John Rutkowski, req. by John Rutkowski

Thursday

8:00 A.M. God's Blessings and healing mercy on Vincent Soares, req. by Aunt Dottie

Friday

8:00 A.M. Loving Memory of my husband Joe, req. by Dottie

Today's Readings

First Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:11:1
Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

Next Week's Reading

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-15
Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22
Gospel: Mark 1:12-15



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.	February 12, 2018	Mark 8:11-13
Tues.	February 13, 2018	Mark 8:14-21
Wed.	February 14, 2018	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
Thurs.	February 15, 2018	Luke 9:22-25
Fri.	February 16, 2018	Matthew 9:14-15
Sat.	February 17, 2018	Luke 5:27-32

Unsung Black Catholic Woman Award

African History Month is the time of year that we celebrate our dynamic women of St. Francis Xavier Church. The CDA Court 2257, Education Committee is sponsoring the "Unsung Black Catholic Woman Award". Please nominate a woman who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to her family, church and community. The person submitting the form must complete detailed biography of the women, emphasizing her talents and contributions in the areas above. A picture must accompany the form. Forms are located in the rear of the church. Please leave nominations in a sealed envelope in the CDA Mailbox in the Rectory by February 12, 2018. Pictures will be returned. The celebration will be held on Sunday, February 25, 2018 at the 11:00 a.m. Mass. A reception will follow in the undercroft. For questions please contact Regent Valerie Grays, (410) 967-1695. Email: Vga40@gmail.com.

CDA Court #2257 's Education Committee

CDA Court 2257 will be collecting payments for the trip to The Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, April 7, 2018. The cost of the trip is \$30.00 per person. Members of The Education Committee will be in the back of the church after 11:00 Mass. For more info. contact Marsha Powell@ 443-467-2841.

SPECIAL NOTICES

Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule

Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2018, there will be a 10:00 a.m. Mass and 7:00 p.m. Distribution of ashes will be at the end of both Masses.

Stations of the Cross Devotions



Will be celebrated each Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. during the Lenten Season. Parishioners are encouraged to make the Stations of the Cross as part of their Lenten Devotions. Many graces are given for those who walk the final hours of Jesus' life on earth. Confessions during lent will be held on Friday evening from 6:00 pm-7:00 pm. and also after Stations of the Cross. Stations of the Cross will be led by the different organizations in the Church.

Schedule for the Stations of the Cross

- Friday, February 16, 2018- Holy Name & Sodality of BVM
- Friday, February 23, 2018-KPC Ladies Auxiliary and Knights of Peter Claver
- Friday, March 2, 2018-New Horizon of Men and Women
- Friday, March 9, 2018-CDA #2257 of SFX
- Friday, March 16, 2018-Mass Choir
- Friday, March 23, 2018-Lectors, Eucharistic and Hospitality Ministers
- Good Friday -March 30, 2018- Youth Ministry

New Horizons of Men and Women

Deposits are due now for the Williamsburg, Va. trip. The first deposit is \$100.00. The trip is scheduled for August 16th-20th.

**The Ministers of Hospitality
Are seeking new members!**



WE WANT YOU!

Special Notices

Religious Education

February

11th Class

14th Ash Wednesday

18th Class

24th First Penance 10:00 a.m.

25th Class- Student Retreat 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Confessions grades 3-9

March

4th Class

11th Class

18th Class-Community Service Project

25th Class-Palm Sunday

29th Holy Thursday

Special Thanks

Thank you to the Sunday school children, teens, parents, family members, and catechists for your support of our Black History Month Program last Sunday. We especially thank Mr. Randolph Smith for his creativity and artistic direction. Our entire faith community appreciated and enjoyed this event.

Retreat

Sunday, February 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. we will have our Annual Lent Retreat for the Sunday school students. Parents and guardians please support our Retreat Day by allowing your child to experience the extended day, we have an exciting day planned. Please pray for success of our Retreat.

Children's Envelopes

Envelopes have been distributed to all Sunday school children. Start your child on a lifetime path of stewardship practice by using their envelopes weekly.

Special Notices

CDA Court #2257 Education Committee

The CDA Court #2257 Education Committee is sponsoring the CDA Education Contest. The contest is for students in grades 4-12. The themes for 2018 are "The Lord has done great things for us, we have joy" Psalm 126 and "Finding Joy in my life." The applications can be found in the back of the church. Please contact Marsha Powell @443-467-2841 for more information.

Church Regulations Regarding Fast and Abstinence

Abstinence from meat (beast or fowl) is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent. Fasting means limiting oneself to one full meal on a given fast day. Catholics who are eighteen years of age but not yet fifty-nine are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On fast days, two additional smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength. However, the two smaller meals together may not equal one full meal. Moreover, eating solid foods between meals on fast days is not permitted.

Tune In for St Francis Xavier TV Debut!

On Friday February 16, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. on Channel 11, hosted by Barry Sims.



The Swingers of SFX Annual Bull & Oyster Roast

The Swingers are sponsoring their Annual Bull and Oyster Roast on Sunday, March 4, 2018 at Tiffany East, 4116 E. Lombard St. from 3-7 p.m., music by DJ White, donations \$55.00 (includes open bar) Please see any member of the Swingers for tickets.



SPECIAL NOTICE!

*Please Keep In Your Prayers
All sick and shut in SFX Parish*

So many of our parishioners are dealing with health issues, please remember them in your prayers. Theresa Baker, Lucretia Coates, Candice Coates, Mildred Lane, Jeanne Edmonds, Bernie Fuller, Bernadette Morgan, Mabel Smith, Miles Fitzgerald and Charles Lewis Jr.

Oblate Sisters of Providence Annual Chicken Dinner

The Oblates Sisters of Providence will have their Annual Chicken Dinner on Saturday, February 24, 2018 from 11:00 am until 3:00 pm. at St. Frances Academy Community Center. The proceeds are for the upkeep of the Motherhouse and care of our sisters. Price is \$10.00, tickets will be available soon. Volunteers will be needed. Please contact Sister Helene Therese, OSP (410) 536-5687.

SFX Easter Monday Atlantic City Trip

SFX Atlantic City bus trip is scheduled for Monday April 2, 2018. The cost is \$40.00 with a \$30.00 rebate. The bus will be leaving St. Francis at 9:00 a.m. No reservation will be taken without payment. First come first served. See Darleen Thomas or Polly Hargrove for tickets. 410-303-0952. Don't delay get your ticket today!



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 Parish office, 410-727-3103. Please also remember to contact the office 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.



**St. Francis Xavier Church
Community Faith Formation
Welcomes You to:
A Lenten Journey of Faith**

***"Monday Nite and Saturday Morning Catechism"
with Dr. Kirk Gaddy***

***Topics will include: The Sacraments, The Mass,
Old and New Testaments, Prayer and More***

7:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the undercroft

Monday, February 19, 2018

Monday, February 26, 2018

Monday, March 5, 2018

Monday March 19, 2018

Monday, March 26, 2018

10:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the School Building

Saturday, March 3, 2018

Saturday, March 10, 2018

Saturday, March 17, 2018

***Being a Catholic is a life long journey that begins with our
baptism and continues throughout our life. We invite you
to come walk with us.***

ALL ARE WELCOME



St. Wenceslaus Church Youth



Paint and Lunch



When: Saturday, February 17, 2018

Where: St. Francis Xavier Hall

1501 E. Oliver Street

Time: 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Tickets are Just \$5.00!

Includes: Lunch, Beverage and Dessert
Canvas and Paint

**COME JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN FOR THE
WHOLE FAMILY**

**G A M E S
O F
C H A N C E R A F F L E S**

**Door
Prizes**

Tickets Available at the Church Office 410-675-7304
or
Edith Pumphrey 410-488-7069.

SUPPORT THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE



RESTORE THE CHURCH BUILD THE FUTURE

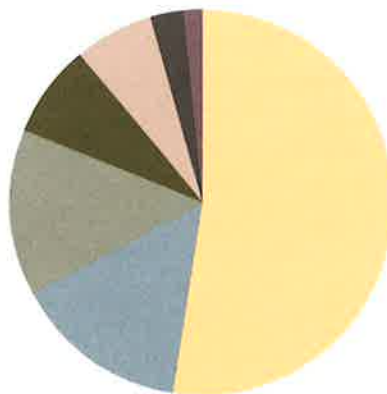
Our shared faith is deeply present in the cultures of Central and Eastern Europe, but this faith was severely tested over the course of the previous century. Countries in this region were under communist rule for 40 to over 70 years. During this time, bishops, priests, and church leaders were arrested and martyred. Churches were confiscated, communities broken, and people were forced to practice the faith in secret. Despite this religious persecution, the faithful of Central and Eastern Europe today are rebuilding and renewing what was lost—and you can help. With your support of the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe (CCEE), you aid those who strive to rebuild their faith communities.

The country of Albania is nestled north of Greece on the Adriatic Sea. This small country suffered greatly under communist rule. In the capital of Tirana, located in the middle of the country, the Church is continuing to restore not only its structures but also the spirituality of the faithful after years of oppression. In 1996, the congregation of sisters known as the Company of Mary Our Lady founded a kindergarten, the first Catholic school in the entire capital city. Since then, they have opened a school for grades 1-9 and a daily activity center for children. The sisters are now serving over 700 children daily from all different backgrounds, faiths, and ethnic groups. With your support of CCEE, these sisters will be able to make critical repairs to their building to maintain their ministry. Your support helps the sisters to continue teaching children and equips the congregation to provide a space to build peaceful communities.

Please be generous to the collection. Your assistance will provide vital resources to build faith, to educate children, and to help restore communities in Central and Eastern Europe. More information about the collection and the projects it supports can be found at www.usccb.org/ccee.

2016 DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS

Total Number of Grants Approved: 239
Total Amount Approved and Paid: \$7,069,646



PROGRAM AREA

- Construction and Equipment
- Operational Support
- Poverty Outreach and Miscellaneous Programs
- Scholarships
- Education, Formation, and Evangelization
- Vehicle Purchase
- Communications Programs



Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe

OFFICE OF NATIONAL COLLECTIONS

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON, DC 20017-1194

202-541-3400 • FAX 202-541-3460 • WWW.USCCB.ORG/NATIONALCOLLECTIONS

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ALBANIA • ARMENIA • AZERBAIJAN • BELARUS • BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA • BULGARIA • CROATIA • CZECH REPUBLIC • ESTONIA
 GEORGIA • HUNGARY • KAZAKHSTAN • KYRGYZSTAN • LATVIA • LITHUANIA • MACEDONIA • MOLDOVA • MONTENEGRO • POLAND
 ROMANIA • RUSSIA • SERBIA • SLOVAKIA • SLOVENIA • TAJIKISTAN • TURKMENISTAN • UKRAINE • UZBEKISTAN

Saint Wenceslaus Church

Annual

Lenten Fish Fry



February 16th and 23rd -----March 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd

Fish Dinner Donation \$12 each includes:

Soda, fish, cornbread, and choice of two sides

Fish Sandwich Donation \$7.00 on white bread

Sides are:

String Beans, Potato Salad, Macaroni and Cheese.

Additional side donations \$1.00

Orders are take-out only. Please place orders in advance using the attached form or call Bridget Holley

443-802-3228

All proceeds benefit Saint Wenceslaus Sunday School.

Name _____ Pick-up Time _____

Order 1 string beans _____ potato salad _____ mac & cheese _____

Order 2 string beans _____ potato salad _____ mac & cheese _____

Order 3 string beans _____ potato salad _____ mac & cheese _____

Order 4 string beans _____ potato salad _____ mac & cheese _____

Order 5 string beans _____ potato salad _____ mac & cheese _____

Order 6 string beans _____ potato salad _____ mac & cheese _____

Order 7 string beans _____ potato salad _____ mac & cheese _____

Order 8 string beans _____ potato salad _____ mac & cheese _____

Order 9 string beans _____ potato salad _____ mac & cheese _____

Order 10 string beans _____ potato salad _____ mac & cheese _____