

# 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

### *The foolish will miss heaven's wedding feast*

Are you missing out on what's most important in life? Being unprepared can lead to unnecessary trouble and even disaster! What good is a life-jacket left on the shore when the boat is sinking? Jesus' story of ten single ladies waiting for a wedding procession in the middle of the night seems strange to most westerners today. But Jesus' audience knew all too well how easily this could happen to them.

**Don't miss the most important engagement of all**  
Wedding customs in ancient Palestine required extra vigilance and preparation for everyone involved. (Some near eastern villages still follow this custom.) The bride and groom did not go away for their honeymoon, but celebrated for a whole week with their family and friends. It was the custom for the groom, in company with his friends, to come at his discretion and get his bride and bring her to their new home. They would take the longest route possible so that many villagers along the way could join in the wedding procession. Once they arrived and closed the doors, no one else could be admitted. If the groom decided to come and bring his bride at night, then lights were required by necessity to guide the travelers through the dark and narrow streets. No one was allowed on the village streets at night without a lamp!

To show up for a wedding party without proper attire and travel arrangements is like trying to get into a special event today that requires a prearranged permit or reservation. You just don't get in without the proper pass. Can you imagine the frustration travelers might experience when going abroad and finding out that they can't get into some country because they don't have the right visa or a valid passport.

**The consequences of being unprepared to meet the Lord**  
Jesus warns us that there are consequences for being unprepared. There are certain things you cannot obtain at the last moment.

### **Stewardship Reflections**

Acts 20:35

"In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

## Mass Intentions



### Saturday

5:00 P.M. Happy 86<sup>th</sup> Birthday to our Mom and Grandmother Beverly Allen, req. by children and grandchildren

### Sunday

8:00 A.M. (1) God's healing mercies on Sinesta Brown, req. by the Holy Name

(2) Happy Repose of the soul of Mark Brown

11:00 A.M. People of the Parish

### Tuesday

8:00 A.M. (1) Loving Memory of my husband Joseph Mello, req. by Dottie Mello

(2) May God continue to bless our sister Ann Elizabeth Walker on her 63<sup>rd</sup> Birthday, req. by the Family

### Wednesday

10:00 A.M. God's continued Blessings on Bernadette Morgan, req. by Dottie Mello

### Thursday

8:00 A.M. Asking for prayers and God's continued blessings, req. by Joseph Issi

### Friday

8:00 A.M. God's healing mercy for Theresa Baker and all of the sick in our parish, req. by Darleen Thomas

## Today's Readings

**First Reading:** Wisdom 6:12-16

**Second Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 or 4:13-14

**Gospel:** Matthew 23:1-13

## Next Weeks Reading

**First Reading:** Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

**Second Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

**Gospel:** Matthew 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21



## 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*

<b>Day</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
Mon.	November 13, 2017	Luke 17:1-6
Tues.	November 14, 2017	Luke 17:7-10
Wed.	November 15, 2017	Luke 17:11-19
Thurs.	November 16, 2017	Luke 17:20-25
Fri.	November 17, 2017	Luke 17:26-37
Sat.	November 18, 2017	Luke 18:1-8

### Prayer Walk for Peace

Please join the members of our “sister churches” St. Ann, (located at Greenmount Ave & 22<sup>nd</sup> St. and St. Wenceslaus (located at 2111 Ashland Ave) with Bishop Denis J. Madden, Auxiliary Bishop of Archdiocese of Baltimore. For Our Prayer Walk for Peace, Wednesday, November 29, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. To take place in the “Middle East” neighborhood of Baltimore immediately surroundings St. Wenceslaus Church and in the “shadow” of Johns Hopkins Hospital.

We will begin with a light meal served in the St. Wenceslaus Lyceum (2100 Madison St.) Please park on the church parking lots). We will then walk together for about an hour, during which time we will stop to pray at significant sites where such prayer is so much needed! The prayer is scheduled to conclude by 7:30 p.m. All of our Neighbors and friends are cordially invited and encouraged to join us for the Walk!

### Breakfast with Santa

Junior Catholic Daughters CDA will host Breakfast with Santa on Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 6:00 a.m. -12 p.m.



## 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 members of St Vincent DePaul Society and our Corporators.*

### St. Vincent De Paul Society

Gracie Ferguson  
Vanda Chambers  
Venia Cheatham  
Darleen Thomas  
Sharon Butler

### Corporators

Lawrence Mello  
Sharon Butler

*We would like to recognize each church ministry, please make sure that the office has a roster of your ministry.*



### Lady Sodality Bake Sale

Get your Thanksgiving Deserts on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 after 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses in the church undercroft.





# Special Notices



## Family Faith Formation

The Sacramental Catechists and I thank the parents, grandparents and guardians of children preparing for Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation who attended the Family Faith Formation session on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Thank you to Dr. Kirk Gaddy for his generosity and time for preparing and presenting the Catechism class to our families.

The next class will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in the basement of the school building. The November 18<sup>th</sup> class will not be held due to the Office of Black Catholic Ministry event being held at St. Francis Xavier that day. As we continue to share the responsibility of your child's Faith Formation, let us pray that with our efforts we will achieve our goals. Joslyn Alexander

### 2017 Faith Formation Calendar

Sundays 9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

#### November

1st All Saints Day -Holy Day of Obligation

2nd All Souls Day- Holy Day of Obligation

5 th Class

11th Parent Class for Sacramental Students

12th Class

18 th Class Cancelled Parent Class for Sacramental Students

19th Class

26th NO CLASS-Thanksgiving

#### December

3rd Class/Homecoming

8<sup>th</sup> Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation

10th Class

17th Class

24th Class 3 p.m. followed by Mass

# Special Notices

## Home Coming Planning Committee

Home Coming Celebration/St. Francis Xavier Feast Day, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 -11:00 a.m. Mass with dinner immediately following. The Planning Committee will be meeting on the following dates: Tuesday, 11/21 @ 6:30 p.m. in the undercroft meeting room. All interested persons please contact Lynette Richardson (410) 802-3888. For those that are interested but unable to physically attend a conference call will be set up. Thank you in advance for sharing your time and talents.

## 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.

## Knights of Peter Claver, Ladies Auxiliary, Court #323

The Knights of Peter Claver, Ladies Auxiliary, Court #323 are holding a contest. Guess the number of Jelly Beans in the jar for \$1.00. The closest guess will win the Angel Figurine (see the poster in the rear of Church). The jar will be displayed at all Masses. The winner will be announced on Sunday, December 17, 2017. See any member of the Auxiliary to submit your guess.



Please Keep In Your Prayers

All sick and shut-in parishioners of SFX

Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Annual Christmas Shopping Trip

Sodality's Annual Christmas Shopping trip, is Saturday, December 16, 2017, at Reading, PA. Outlets and Rockvale outlets in Lancaster, PA. The cost will be \$50.00. Contact any Sodality member for tickets or Martha Lewis Dorsey for tickets (410- 668-1258). Tickets are still available.



Komen Maryland Race for the Cure

To my family and friends,  
Thank you for your donations and prayers in helping me raise \$1,438.00 towards the Komen Maryland Race for the Cure. The monies will continue to aid breast cancer and save lives May God continue to bless you.

Itetha Barnes  
20 years breast cancer survivor

Angel Tree Project

It's the giving time of year and time to help a child have a good Christmas. As always, the children associated with the Angel Project are a part of our immediate church community. Remember to sign the log book when you remove an Angel so that all registered Children will receive a gift. All gifts are due back no later than November 26, 2017. Thank you for your participation and always being there for our children.

Thanks, Angel Team,  
Janet Wiggins            Renee Terry  
Suzonne Vickers        Kim Grays  
Mary Watties            Joyce Logan

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.

# PRAYER WALK FOR PEACE

Please join the members of our “*sister churches*”

– St. Ann –

(Located at Greenmount Avenue & 22<sup>nd</sup> Street)

and

– St. Wenceslaus –

(Located at 2111 Ashland Avenue)

with

Bishop Denis J. Madden,

*Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Baltimore*

For Our Prayer Walk for Peace

on

Wednesday, November 29, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

To take place in the “*Middle East*” neighborhood of Baltimore  
immediately surrounding St. Wenceslaus Church  
and in the “*shadow*” of Johns Hopkins Hospital

*We will begin with a light meal served in the St. Wenceslaus Lyceum (2100 Madison Street – Please park on the church parking lot). We will then walk together for about an hour, during which time we will stop to pray at significant sites where such prayer is so very needed!      \*\* The prayer walk is scheduled to conclude by 7:30 p.m.*

**ALL OF OUR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS**

**ARE CORDIALLY INVITED**

**AND ENCOURAGED TO JOIN US FOR THE WALK!**

**Violence in our city is a concern for all of us,  
Please join us for this shared witness for peace!**

*For more information please call the parish office  
at either St. Ann (410-235-8169) or St. Wenceslaus (410-675-7304)*

*You may also email the Pastor, Friar Timothy, at <<timothy.dore@archbalt.org>>*