

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

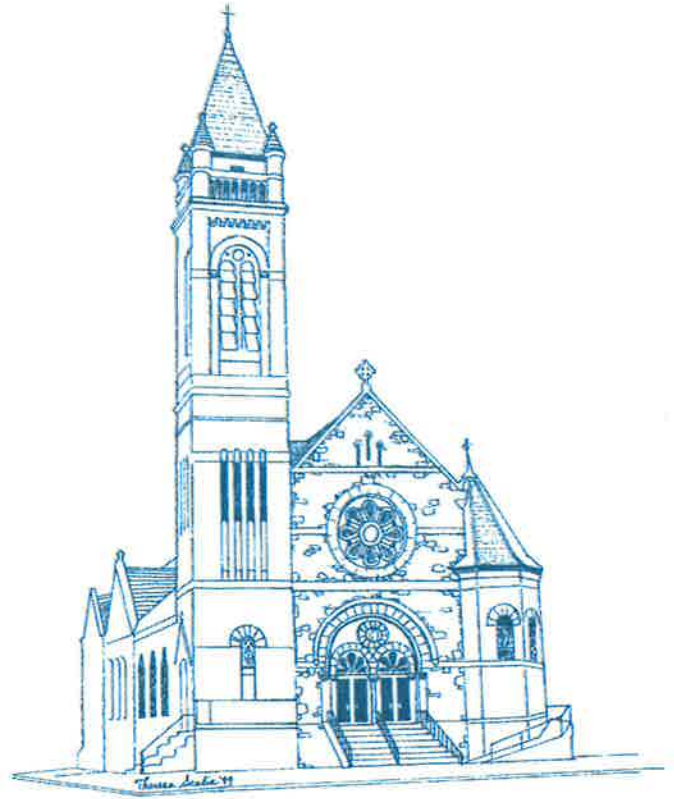
Funerals

*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>

"I Am the Good Shepherd"

Do you know the peace and security of the Good Shepherd who watches over his own? The Old Testament often speaks of God as shepherd of his people, Israel. The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want (Psalm 23:1). Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! (Psalm 80:1) We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture (Psalm 100:3). The Messiah is also pictured as the shepherd of God's people: He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arms (Isaiah 40:11). Jesus says he is the Good Shepherd who will risk his life to seek out and save the stray sheep (Matthew 18:12, Luke 15:4). He is the Shepherd and Guardian of our souls (1 Peter 2:25).

Jesus is the Good Shepherd and Guardian of our souls
Jesus made three promises to his followers. He promised them everlasting life. If they accept him and follow him, they will have the life of God in them. Jesus also promised them a life that would know no end. Death would not be the end but the beginning; they would know the glory of indestructible life. Jesus promised a life that was secure. Jesus said that nothing would snatch them out of his hand, not even sorrow and death, since he is everlasting life itself. Our lives are safe in his hands.

Do you listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd who calls you to himself?

The words which Jesus spoke upset many of the Jewish leaders. How could he speak with the same authority which God spoke and claim to be equal with God? He must either be insane or divine. Unfortunately, some thought he was mad even though he cured a man who was blind from birth. We are faced with the same choice. Either Jesus is who he claims to be - the Son of God and Savior of the world - or the world's greatest deluder! We cannot be indifferent to his claim. For those who accept him as Lord and Savior he offers the peace and security of unending life and joy with God. Do you know the peace and security of a life fully submitted to Christ?

Cyril of Alexander, a 5th century church father comments on Jesus as our Good Shepherd:

"He shows in what manner a shepherd may be proved good; and He teaches that he must be prepared to give up his life fighting in defense of his sheep, which was fulfilled in Christ. For man has departed from the love of God, and fallen into sin, and because of this was, I say, excluded from the divine abode of paradise, and when he was weakened by that disaster, he yielded to the devil tempting him to sin, and death following that sin he became the prey of fierce and ravenous wolves. But after Christ was announced as the True Shepherd of all men, He laid down his life for us (1 John 3:16), fighting for us against that pack of inhuman beasts.

Mass Intentions



Saturday

5:00 P.M. God's healing mercies for Graham, req. by Sandy

Sunday

8:00 A.M. In Memory of all the deceased Sodality Ladies, req. by Dottie Mello

11:00 A. M. People of the Parish

Tuesday

8:00 A.M. Happy Repose of the Soul of my brother- in- law, Francis Dorsey, req. by Martha Lewis Dorsey & Family

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. Happy repose of the soul of Mrs. Mildred Lane, req. by Darleen Thomas

Thursday

8:00A.M. God's healing mercies for all of the sick in the parish, req. by Darleen Thomas

Friday

8:00 A.M.

Daily Reflections

Do you know, or have you not heard? The Lord is the eternal God, creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint nor grow weary, and His knowledge is beyond scrutiny. He gives strength to the faint for the work he makes vigor abound, though young men faint and grow weary, and youths stagger and fall. They that hope in the Lord will renew their strength, they will soar as with eagles' wings. They will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint.

Isaiah 40: 28-31

Today's Readings

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2

Gospel: John 10:11-18

Next Weeks Readings

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

Second Reading: 1 John 3:18-24

Gospel: John 15:1-8



Scriptures for Daily Meditation

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

Day	Date	Gospel
Mon.	April 23, 2018	John 10:1-10
Tues.	April 24, 2018	John 10:22-30
Wed.	April 25, 2018	Mark 15:15-20
Thurs.	April 26, 2018	John 13:16-20
Fri.	April 27, 2018	John 14:1-6
Sat.	April 28, 2018	John 14:7-14

A Special Thank You!

The Family of Miles Fitzgerald has made several donations to the church in his memory. The new Afrocentric Cross was a gift from them along with a small book scholarship for a deserving student and a contribution to the Bereavement Committee.

Pastoral Council Meeting

The Pastoral Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. To place items on the agenda, please contact the Chairperson.

1. Paula Fuller- Chair- 410-521-6368
2. Leonard Brown- Vice Chair- 410-774-0330
3. Lynette Richardson- Secretary- 410-433-8019

SPECIAL NOTICES

Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary Annual Fashion Show, Annual Fashion Show, Sunday, May 20, 2018 from 3-6 p.m. Theme: Steppin Out. Tickets are \$15.00 per person Fashion Show is in need of Models if you are interested please contact Lorraine Bell (410) 889-9196. Shoes will be on display. If you would like to model yours, call Lorraine.




In Loving Memory

Memorial Service

Memorial Service for Aloma Taylor, the sister of Avis, Pia, Sonya, and Tanya Butler is scheduled for Saturday April 28, 2018. Family time 10:00 a.m., the memorial service starts at 11:00 a.m.

Special Notices



April

22nd Class Confirmation Retreat 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

29th Class

May

6th Class

13th No Class Mother's Day

20th Class

26th First Communion/Confirmation rehearsal @ 10:00 a.m. – Noon

27th Class First Communion / Confirmation

Sympathy

With sadness and heavy heart, I regret to announce the sudden death of Mrs. Cordelia Keke; mother of Josephite Rev. Fr. Kenneth Keke, SSJU. Mrs. Keke died in the morning of Saturday, April 14th. Please keep our brother Fr. Keke and his family members in your prayers, and may the soul of the late Mrs. Cordelia Keke rest in peace of Christ. Amen.

St. Francis Academy 1968 Graduates

St. Francis Academy Graduates of 1968, please contact Reva Burris Stephens (410) 367-6103/(410) 446-3261 for more information.

Turn to Mary

In May we will honor Mary, the Mother of God (and ours, to). Trust her for her guidance and protection. "Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided."



How has this Lenten Season Renewed You? Are you taking time to reflect on God's Glory?



Are you reaching out to the less fortunate?

SPECIAL NOTICE!

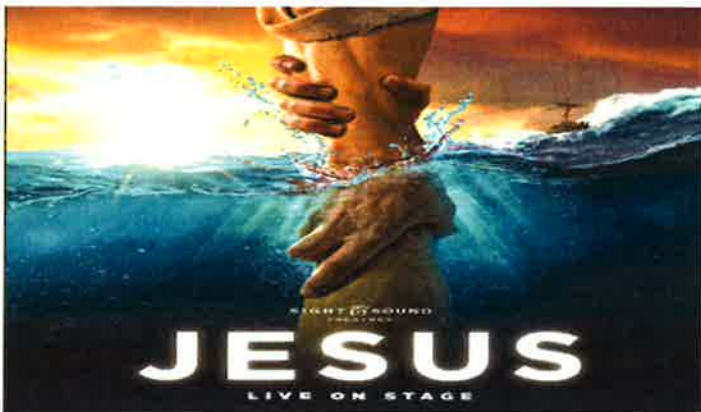
*Please Keep In Your Prayers
All sick and shut in SFX Parish*

Important Note, Envelope Users

When submitting one check for multiple envelopes, please include the amount on each envelope. In addition, please make sure that the amount you are recording on the outside of the envelope is the same as the funds that you are placing inside of the envelope. Both things are very important to ensure that your offering is accurately recorded. Please write or print legibly. Thank you for your attention to this matter. We are still receiving envelopes being returned because of change of address. Please call the office if you have moved or if you no longer want to receive your envelopes.

Sight and Sound

SFX Circle Club is hosting a day trip to Sight and Sound Millennium Theatre to see the production of "Jesus" on Saturday June 30th, 2018. Deposit of \$50.00 is due by April 15th, with final payment due May 13th. No exceptions, the trip has to be paid 45 days before departure. The cost of the total trip is \$165.00. Weekend rates are higher. Accepting deposits now. Darleen Thomas 410-727-3103. Please encourage family and friends to join us.



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.

AMISHLANDS *Pennsylvania*

"...quaint communities, unique shops and delectable food!"

Featuring "Jesus" at the Millennium Theatre

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 2018

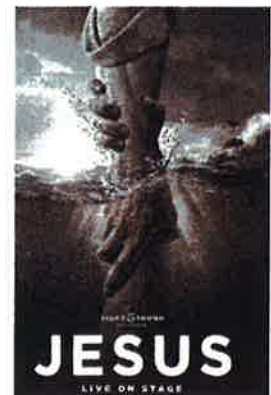
\$165 per person

8:30 a.m. departure from the church

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- * Performance of "Jesus" at the Millennium Theatre
- * Smorgasbord meal at Shady Maple Restaurant
- * Shopping as time allows
- * Motorcoach transportation
- * Taxes & meal gratuities

*Jesus is a musical stage adventure about the most famous person to ever walk the earth, and the everyday people whose lives he changed forever. You will see Jesus' birth, his death and his resurrection, and so very much more. **Jesus** is a show about love, both whimsical and adventurous, with technology never before used in the theatre. Plus, animals galore!*



FOR INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

Darleen Thomas
1501 E. Oliver St.
Baltimore, MD 21213
(410) 727-3103



Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Parish Conference: _____

I plan to attend this session on:

May 19, 2018
8:30 AM — 4:00 PM
Seelos Hall at St. John Neumann
620 Bestgate Rd.
Annapolis, MD 21401
Mass: 8:00 AM

Registration includes continental breakfast, lunch, and all session materials. **Advance registration fee of \$20 per person is requested to help defray costs.**

Please make checks payable to "St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore" and send with your registration form. Space is limited. All participants must register prior to the session. **Address registration forms and questions to:**

Marie A. Wicks
2305 N. Charles St, Suite 300
Baltimore, MD 21218
T: 410-662-0500, ext. 207
Marie.Wicks@vincentbaltimore.org



Invites you to

Ozanam Orientation

A national formation opportunity
on Vincentian spirituality
and service for new, existing, and
prospective members of the
St. Vincent de Paul Society.

UPCOMING SESSION:

May 19, 2018

8 :30 AM - 4:00 PM

Seelos Hall at St. John Neumann

620 Bestgate Rd.

Annapolis, MD 21401

Mass: 8:00 AM

Pre-registration is required.
Breakfast, lunch, and materials included.
Please see enclosed information about the
Ozanam Orientation and how to register.

Due to limited space, register early!

The National Ozanam Orientation sessions are sponsored by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Baltimore Council.



Ozanam Orientation - on Vincentian spirituality and service

What is the Ozanam Orientation?

The purpose of the Ozanam Orientation is twofold. This orientation will:

- (1) Introduce new members to what it means to be a Vincentian.
- (2) Reacquaint existing members with Vincentian spirituality, heritage, and practices.

This orientation will consist of prayer, engaging presentations, and spirited discussions. The orientation will include these topics: Vincentian history and spirituality, best practices of service, and Society structures and available resources.

Who should attend?

All are welcome to participate, including:

- existing members;
- new members;
- prospective members; and
- other interested persons.

Space is limited.

Register early.

This invitation may be duplicated as often as needed.

Three ways to register:

U.S. Mail, Phone Call, or Email

Where can I attend the Ozanam Orientation?

Plan to attend this session:

**Saturday, May 19, 2018
8:30 AM — 4:00 PM**

**Seelos Hall at St. John Neumann
620 Bestgate Rd.
Annapolis, MD 21401
Mass: 8:00 AM**

Deadline for Registration: May 14, 2018



**Blessed Frédéric Ozanam,
Founder of the Society
1833**

What if I have questions or am not sure if this program is for me?

Everyone is welcome to attend, learn and share their experiences during this motivating orientation.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Marie A. Wicks
Vincentian Ministry Coordinator
St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore
2305 N. Charles St, Suite 300
Baltimore, MD 21218
T: 410-662-0500, ext. 207

Marie.Wicks@vincentbaltimore.org

"They suffer that which we cannot suffer, they are among us as messengers of God to test our justice and our charity, and to save us by our works."

- Blessed Frédéric Ozanam