

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

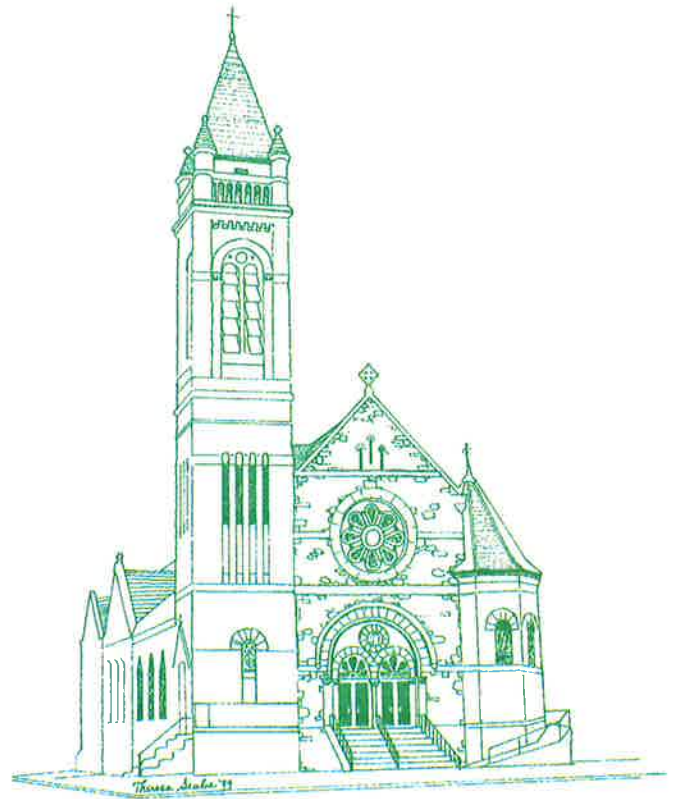
*Please notify the rectory before making
arrangements with funeral homes.*

*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

Come... inherit the kingdom prepared for you

Do you allow the love of Christ, who is your Lord and King, to rule in your heart? Augustine of Hippo (354-430 A.D.) said, "Essentially, there are two kinds of people, because there are two kinds of love. One is holy, the other is selfish. One is subject to God; the other endeavors to equal Him." Jesus came not only to fulfill the law of righteousness (Leviticus 19), but to transform it through his unconditional love and mercy towards us.

The Lord Jesus proved his love for us by offering up his life on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for our sins. His death brings freedom and life for us - freedom from fear, selfishness, and greed - and new abundant life in the Holy Spirit who fills our hearts with the love of God (Romans 5:5). Do you allow God's love to purify your heart and transform your mind to think, act, and love others as the Lord Jesus has taught through word and example?

The lesson of separating goats and sheep at the end of the day Jesus' description of the "Son of Man", a Messianic title which points to the coming of God's anointed Ruler and Judge over the earth (John 5:26-29, Daniel 7:13ff), and his parable about the separation of goats and sheep must have startled his audience. What does the separation of goats and sheep have to do with the Day of God's Judgment over the earth? In arid dry lands such as Palestine, goats and sheep often grazed together during the day because green pasture was sparse. At nightfall, when the shepherd brought the sheep and goats to their place of rest, he separated them into two groups. Goats by temperament are aggressive, domineering, restless, and territorial. They butt heads with their horns whenever they think someone is intruding on their space.

Goats came to symbolize evil and the expression "scape-goat" becomes a common expression for someone bearing blame or guilt for others. (See Leviticus 26:20-22 for a description of the ritual expulsion of a sin-bearing goat on the Day of Atonement.) Jesus took our guilt and sins upon himself and nailed them to the cross. He paid the price to set us free from sin and death. Our choice is either to follow and obey him as our Lord and Savior or to be our own master and go our own separate way apart from God's way of truth and righteousness (moral goodness). We cannot remain neutral or indifferent to the commands of Christ.

Stewardship Reflection,

2 Timothy 1:14

Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.

Mass Intentions



Saturday

5:00 P.M. In Memory of Frank & Dorothy Rutkowski, req. by John Rutkowski

Sunday

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

11:00 A.M. People of the Parish

Tuesday

8:00 A.M. Peace in the City, req. by John Rutkowski

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. God's blessings for Father James McLinden, SSJ, req. by John Rutkowski

Thursday

8:00 A.M. God's healing mercy for Lucretia Coates and Regina Mello. Req. by Darleen Thomas

Friday

8:00 A.M. God's continuing blessings on Jessica Ann Johnson on her 35th Birthday, Love Your Family

Today's Readings

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28
Gospel: Matthew 23:31-46

Next Weeks Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Gospel: Mark 13:33-37



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.	November 27, 2017	Luke 21:1-4
Tues.	November 28, 2017	Luke 21:5-11
Wed.	November 29, 2017	Luke 21:12-19
Thurs.	November 30, 2017	Matthew 4:18-22
Fri.	December 1, 2017	Luke 21:29-33
Sat.	December 2, 2017	Luke 21:34-36

Prayer Walk for Peace

Please join the members of our "sister churches" St. Ann, (located at Greenmount Ave & 22nd 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 will host Annual Breakfast with Santa Workshop on Saturday December 9th, 2017, 9:00 a.m. -12 p.m. Breakfast served until 11:00 a.m. Please see any JCDA for tickets, or contact their Advisor Kim Grays (443) 604-0730. Cost of tickets is \$7.00.

Breakfast with Santa!



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 catechists and assistants:



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|---|--------------------|
| Valerie Grays | Natalie Hare |
| Wy Chambers | Stacey Samuels |
| Beryl Graham | Deborah Woods |
| Donna Booth | Mary Watties |
| Joyce Logan | Lynette Richardson |
| Howard Kane | Larry Woods |
| Randolph Smith | Janet Wiggins |
| Dr. Bianca Smith | Arnetta Boyd |
| Frederick Jones | Edna Aiden |
| Gwen Williams | Avis Butler |
| Renee Terry (Office Assistant) | |
| Joslyn Alexander- (Director) | |
| Sr. Magdala Marie Gilbert, OSP- (Director Emeritus) | |

ARE YOU READY TO GET YOUR PRAISE ON?



**DECEMBER 1ST AND 2ND, 7:00 PM
ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH
BIBLES ARE WELCOME!!**

Special Notices



Family Faith Formation

2017 Faith Formation Calendar

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

November

26th NO CLASS – We encourage all families to participate at our annual Revival November 30-December 2nd at 7:00 p.m.

December

3rd

Class/Homecoming: First Sunday of Advent, Religious Education classes will be held that day in the undercroft at 9:30 a.m. We will have special activities for our Pre-K thru grade 4. Grades 5-8 and Confirmation class will be assisting in serving during our reception.

8th Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation

10th Class

17th Class

24th Class 3 p.m. followed by Mass

Mass Notice

There will not be a 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday December 2, due to the Revival.

November 30th thru Dec. 2nd, then Homecoming on December 3, 2017. All are welcome. Please invite family, friends, and other church members.

Special Notices

Home Coming Planning Committee

Home Coming Celebration/St. Francis Xavier Feast Day, December 3rd, 2017 -11:00 a.m. Mass with dinner immediately following. Donations are welcomed to help plan for the day. Please contact Lynette Richardson (410) 802-3888. Thank you in advance for sharing your resources.

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.

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.



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.



Calendar Requests fo 2018

All organizations and ministries: Forms are in your mailbox to request Calendar dates. Please send in your request as not to cause conflict. List all dates of activities that require use of the undercroft and church.



Angel Tree Project

It's the giving time of the year and time to help a child have a good Christmas. As always, the children associated with the Angel Project are part of our immediate church community.

Remember to sign the log book when you remove an Angel card 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.

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 office.