



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.*

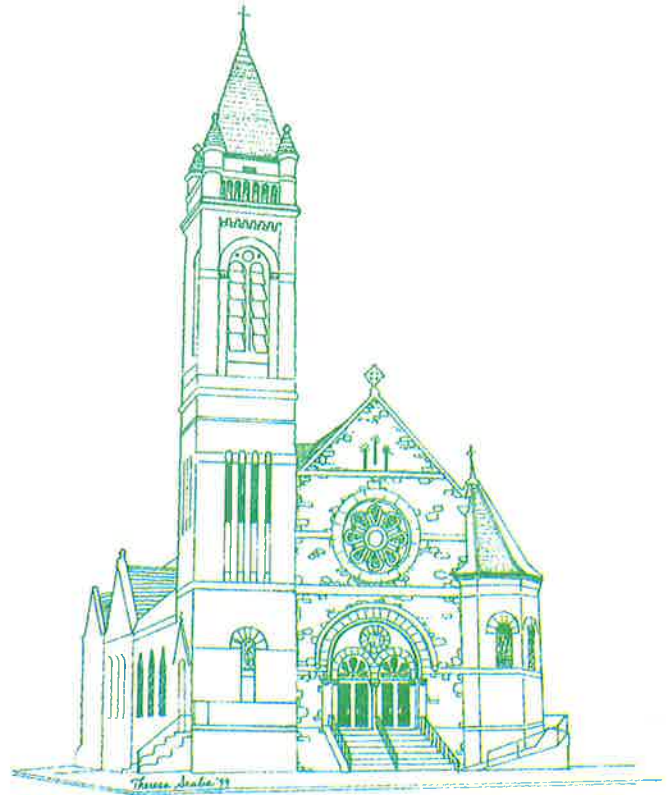
Rev. Xavier Edet, S.S.J.,

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 keys of the kingdom of heaven

At an opportune time Jesus tests his disciples with a crucial question: Who do men say that I am and who do you say that I am? He was widely recognized in Israel as a mighty man of God, even being compared with the greatest of the prophets, John the Baptist, Elijah, and Jeremiah. Peter, always quick to respond, exclaimed that he was the Christ, the Son of the living God. No mortal being could have revealed this to Peter, but only God.

Cyril of Alexandria (376-444 AD), an early church father comments on Peter's profession of faith in Jesus:

Peter did not say "you are a Christ" or "a son of God" but "the Christ, the Son of God." For there are many Christ's [meaning anointed ones] by grace, who have attained the rank of adoption [as sons], but [there is] only one who is by nature the Son of God. Thus, using the definite article, he said, the Christ, the Son of God. And in calling him Son of the living God, Peter indicates that Christ himself is life and that death has no authority over him. And even if the flesh, for a short while, was weak and died, nevertheless it rose again, since the Word, who indwelt it, could not be held under the bonds of death. (FRAGMENT 190)

Jesus plays on Peter's name which is the same word for "rock" in both Aramaic and Greek. To call someone a "rock" is one of the greatest of compliments. The ancient rabbis had a saying that when God saw Abraham, he exclaimed: "I have discovered a rock to found the world upon". Through Abraham God established a nation for himself. Through faith Peter grasped who Jesus truly was. He was the first apostle to recognize Jesus as the Anointed One (Messiah and Christ) and the only begotten Son of God. The New Testament describes the church as a spiritual house or temple with each member joined together as living stones (see 1 Peter 2:5). Faith in Jesus Christ makes us into rocks or spiritual stones. Jesus then confers on Peter authority to govern the church that Jesus would build, a church that no powers would overcome because it is founded on the rock which is Christ himself.

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; read more.

Mass Intentions



Saturday

5:00 P.M. In Memory of all of the deceased members in the Burley, Thomas and Stevenson Families, req. by Darleen Thomas

Sunday

8:00 A.M. People of the Parish

11:00 A.M. God's continued blessings on Marcella Taylor req. by Sharon Butler

Tuesday

8:00 A.M.

Wednesday

10:00 A.M.

Thursday

8:00 A.M.

Friday

8:00 A.M. (1) God's blessings for Ericka Boston, req. by Melanie Holland

(2) God's continued blessings on my Albert as he celebrates his Birthday, req. by Darleen Thomas

Today's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 22:19-23
 Second Reading: Romans 11:33-36
 Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

Next Weeks Readings

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9
 Second Reading: Romans 12:1-2
 Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27



SPECIAL NOTICES

Scriptures for Daily Mediation



"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.	8/28/2017	Matthew 23:13-22
Tues.	8/29/2017	Mark 6:17-29
Wed.	8/30/2017	Matthew 23:27-32
Thurs.	8/31/2017	Matthew 24:42-51
Fri.	9/01/2017	Matthew 25:1-13
Sat.	9/02/2017	Matthew 25:14-30

July Financial Report Income:

- **Offering Income:** \$30,721.00
- **Expenses:** \$28,755.69

July's Offering Income was able to cover expenses for this month. Thank you for all of your support.

HALLELUJAH

Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 7th, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Undercroft.

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 keep our house of worship clean and shining. The Altar Guild:

- Michael Allen
- Martha and James Dorsey
- Celestia Drake
- Mary English
- Chris Gaddy
- Carolyn Miles
- Venia Cheatham
- Regina Mello
- Jerome Jenkins
- Gwen Williams

**ALTAR
Guild**

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

Updating your Church records with changes in address, names, etc.

Several of you have experienced changes in your family and have failed to notify the office. If you have had a birth, wedding, name change, address change etc., please notify the office or use the form on the back of the bulletin. By not notifying the office, mail is coming back, which is an additional expense to the church because you have not bothered to change your mailing address. Please call the office or submit changed information via email or U.S. mail.

SPECIAL NOTICE!

Please Keep In Your Prayers

All sick and shut-in parishioners of SFX

Get Ready to Eat Some Crabs!!

The New Horizons of Men and Women Annual Crab Feast!

The NHM&W is sponsoring their annual crab feast at Martins' East on Sunday September 17, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Donation \$60.00, to support our Scholarship Fund.



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.



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.

You've Got Mail!

All ministries and organizations, please clean out your mailboxes.

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.

**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISHIONERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER
OUR SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS!**

Adiele, Eric	9/23	Fisher, Christine	9/15	Moore, Teree'	9/12
Allen, Linda	9/25	Fletcher, Jean	9/16	Morgan, Nicole	9/17
Allen, Micheal	9/27	Franklin, Eric	9/23	Morton, Christopher	9/23
Alston, Latonya	9/01	Franklin, Shanell	9/22	Morton, Michael	9/30
Baker, Theresa	9/16	Frederick, Keisha	9/02	Mustafa, Delozier	9/26
Baysmore, Millicent	9/06	Fuller, Bernard	9/20	Myer, Lisa	9/18
Berrain, Doris	9/09	Fulmore, Anjanae	9/14	Nole, Dorothy	9/19
Boodoo, Cyril	9/14	Gaddy, Courtney	9/19	Palmer, Vivian	9/19
Booth, Arica	9/12	Graham, Beryl	9/06	Pango-Davis, Gregory	9/29
Booth, Donna	9/26	Green, Lozarus	9/05	Parrish, Sandra	9/04
Booth, Kenan	9/13	Griffin, Robin	9/29	Patterson, Delvera	9/02
Boseman, Theresa	9/27	Hammond, Keinan	9/04	Paul, Natera	9/26
Boyd, Arnetta	9/18	Hammond, Keivette	9/14	Paul, Tristan	9/26
Boyd, Mary	9/23	Hammond, Regina	9/05	Price, Carol	9/21
Brown, Alfred	9/24	Hampton, Shirley	9/03	Pulliam, Heather	9/05
Brown, Byron	9/08	Hardison, Kenyatta	9/03	Ragsdale, Veronica	9/14
Brown, Hattie	9/24	Hargrove, Janice	9/08	Roberson, Patricia	9/01
Brown, Stacy	9/29	Hargrove, Pauline	9/17	Robinson, April	9/14
Burley, Joseph	9/24	Harris, Wynnina	9/21	Samuels, Stacey	9/14
Butler, Geraldine	9/11	Henley, NaJera	9/26	Scott, Angela	9/04
Butler, Samuel	9/06	Hill, Tamara	9/10	Simms, Carl	9/10
Butler, Tanya	9/18	Jenkins, Delores	9/02	Smith, Lillian	9/27
Butler, Theodora	9/30	Johnson, Bertha	9/25	Smith, Wanda	9/02
Butler, Theresa	9/27	Johnson, Jazmyne	9/20	Stokes, Barbara	9/03
Butler, Vivian Price	9/21	Johnson, Shanika	9/22	Stokes, Kimberly	9/12
Carter, Angel	9/15	Johnson, Tamara	9/26	Thompson, Thomas	9/30
Chambers, Caroline	9/20	Johnson, Wilhelmina	9/15	Vanlandingham, Ave	9/21
Chambers, Sheree'	9/12	Jones, Allyson	9/03	Vaughn, Krystal	9/08
Cheatham, Venia	9/29	Jordan, William	9/16	Vickers, Lillian	9/24
Cheeks, Maria	9/29	Joyner, Christopher	9/13	Washington, Stephanie	9/23
Church, Martina	9/12	Kane, Francis	9/06	Whitley, Duane	9/11
Coates, Candice	9/19	Kane, Pamela	9/18	Williams, Monique	9/04
Coates, Lucretia	9/24	Kearney, Lewis	9/18		
Cobb, Mary E.	9/07	Kellam, Michael	9/01		
Conway, Frederick	9/20	Lashley, Nichele	9/24		
Conway, Krystal	9/19	Latham, Rhonda	9/10		
Cook, III, Irving	9/08	Lee, Sheira	9/09		
Cooper, Michael	9/27	Lewis, Alice	9/11		
Curtis, Ann	9/08	Lewis, Cynthia	9/20		
Davis, James	9/18	Martin, John	9/21		
Davis, Marc	9/30	McCoy, Doris	9/26		
Distance, Mia R.	9/28	McGuire, Dana	9/10		
Ferguson, Tracey	9/19	Mello, Delena	9/27		
Fetz, Mica	9/12	Monges, Jesus	9/08		
Fetz, Sharita	9/26	Monges, Margaet	9/05		



**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISHIONERS CELEBRATING WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER OUR SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS!**

Dennis & Venia Cheatham	9/29	Harold & Barbara Kane	9/02
Miles & Eris Fitzgerald	9/26	Ronald and Diane Lewis	9/28
Michael & Amy Elizabeth Hargrett	9/11	Mark and Sherry Lang	9/15
Michael & Cecelia Hargrove	9/05	Melvin & Catherine Lowman	9/29
Francis & Janice Kane	9/21	Alan and Janet Wiggins	9/04



**St. Francis Xavier Eucharistic Community
Yours Prayers Are Requested For The Sick Of The Parish**

September 3, 2017

Rhonda Acree
Theresa Baker
Avonda Barnes
Dorothy Bennett
Nina Bonaparte
Hattie Brown
Garland Burley
Harry Butler
Xavier Church
Dorothy Coleman
Candace Coates
Lucretia Coates
Esther Davis
John Davis
Kimberly Davis
Thelma Fly
Thomas Grays
Rochelle Hagans
Frances Hance
Bertha Johnson
Betty Johnson
Cornelia Johnson
Marian Quickley Johnson
Mildred Lane

Hilda Langley
Charles Lewis Jr.
Mildred Mattison
Stephanie Washington-Merritt
Shelia Hurtt-Moore
Bernardette Morgan
Yvonne Newby
Mary Parker
Marlene Patterson
Nadine Pulliam
Doris Russell
Frances Sears
Helen Singleton
Antoinette Soares
Mabel Smirth
Vickie Smith
Wanda Smith
Jeanette Sykes
Andrew Tackett
Barbara Williams
Peggy Williams

Hands For Prayer

