

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

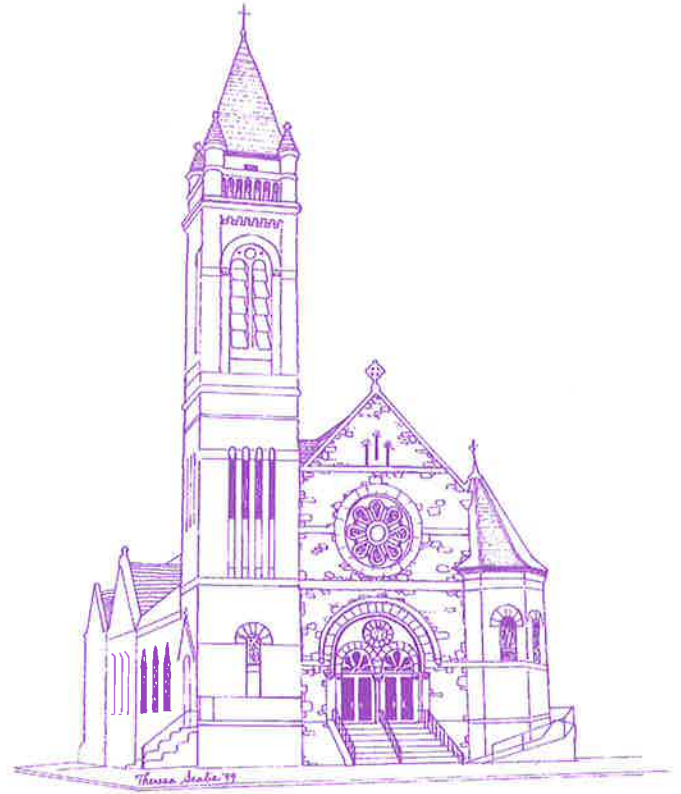
*Please notify the rectory before making
arrangements with funeral homes.*

*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>

Meditation

“Unless I see-I will not believe”

Do you know the joy of the resurrection? The Risen Lord Jesus revealed the glory of his resurrection to his disciples gradually and over a period of time. Even after the apostles saw the empty tomb and heard the reports of Jesus appearance to the woman, they were still weak in faith and fearful of being arrested by the Jewish authorities. When Jesus appeared to them, he offered proofs of his resurrection by showing them the wounds of his passion, his pierced hands and side. He calmed their fears and brought them peace, the peace which reconciles sinners and makes us friends of God.

Live and proclaim the Gospel of mercy in power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus did something which only love, and trust can do. He commissioned his weak and timid apostles to bring the good news of the Gospel to the ends of the earth. This sending out of Jesus by his heavenly Father. Jesus fulfilled his mission through his perfect love and obedience to the will of his Father. He called his first disciples and he now call each one of us to do the same. Just as he gave his first disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit, so he breathes on each of us the same Holy Spirit who equips us with new life, power, joy and courage to live each day as followers of the Risen Lord.

The last apostle to meet the resurrected Lord was the first to go with him to Jerusalem at Passover time. The apostle Thomas was a natural pessimist. When Jesus proposed that they visit Lazarus after receiving news of his illness, Thomas said to the disciples:” Let us los go, that we may die with him. (John 11:16). While Thomas deeply loved the Lord, he lacked the courage to stand with Jesus in his passion and crucifixion.

Stewardship

Psalms 49:12

“But man, despite his riches, does not endure; he is like the beasts that perish”

Mass Intentions



Saturday

5:00 P.M. God’s continued blessings for Michael Allen, as he works to improve our parish., req. by D. Thomas

Sunday

8:00 A.M. People of the Parish

11:00 A.M. Healing mercy for Calvin Butler, req. by the office staff

Tuesday

8:00 A.M. Asking God for his continued blessings, req. by Darleen Thomas

Wednesday

10:00 A. M. God’s continued blessings for our priests

Thursday

8:00 A.M. Blessings and God’s favor for Dottie Mello, req. by Darleen Thomas

Friday

8:00 A.M. Peace in our city

Today’s Readings

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16

Second Reading: Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Next Week’s Readings

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 5:27-32, 40b-41

Second Reading: Revelation 5:11-14

Gospel: John 21:1-19 or 21:1-14

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
Monday	April 29, 2019	John 3:1-8
Tuesday	April 30, 2019	John 3:76-15
Wednesday	May 1, 2019	John 3:16-21
Thursday	May 2, 2019	John 3:31-36
Friday	Maty 3 2019	John 14:6-14
Saturday	May 4, 2019	John 6:15-21

Save The Date

Please join us to celebrate the 190th anniversary of the founding of the Oblate Sisters of Providence. Archbishop Lori will be the celebrant at this special liturgy. Reception will follow in the Sacred Heart Hall. Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. Our Lady of Mount Providence
701 Gun Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21227

“Monday Night Catechism “

With Dr. Kirk Gaddy – will not be held on Monday April 29th.

Thank you, Dr. Kirk Gaddy, for your generosity and dedication of your time and effort in preparing for and presenting the fall and Lenten Community Faith Formation Catechism classes.

The session brought participants into a deeper relationship with the Lord and an understanding of our Roman Catholic traditions and practices. Those who attended the classes will be able to share this knowledge with their families. The community Catechism class will resume in October.

SPECIAL NOTICES

Mother Mary Lange Corner

1794-1882



Oblate Spirituality

Recommitment Ceremony: All are Welcome!
Each year, the Oblate Sisters of Providence, Lay Associates, Guild members and all people of faith, gather in unity to recommit themselves to the Cause of Mother Lange.

A Thanksgiving Mass on Sunday
When: June 30, 2019 at 12:30 p.m.
Where: St. Patrick Church, 492 Bramhall Avenue, Jersey City, NJ

The Toussaint and Lange Center publish “The Lange Magazine” to encourage everyone to support the Cause of Servant of God, Mary Lange.

Mother Mary Lange: A Legacy of Hope

Oblate Sisters of Providence-190th Anniversary Symposium still standing under God’s Mantle of Providence

November 22, - 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 P.m. Location TBD

Registration Fee: \$30 (includes morning hospitality and lunch)

Keynote: Speaker: Sharon Knecht, Archivist: Oblate Sisters of Providence, Diane Batts Morrow- Author, persons of Color and Religious at the Same Time.

Come and enjoy liturgy, sessions, hospitality and fellowship. Registration online at Eventbrite (link will be available soon) or contact the Guild Office at (410-242-6861) or the Motherhouse at (410-242-8500).

Special Notices

Religious Education 2019 Faith

Formation Calendar

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

May

5th Class

12th No Class – Mother's Day

19th Class

26 Class

June

2nd Class

8th Confirmation rehearsal 10:00 a.m.

9th Confirmation 11:00 a.m.

Children's Envelopes- Envelopes have been distributed to all Sunday School children. Start your child on a lifetime path to stewardship practice by using their envelopes weekly.

Thank you to all for your generosity in your support of our Lenten service project of donating to a 40-bed homeless shelter for women and their children in downtown Baltimore. On any given night, there are almost 3,000 individuals who are homeless in Baltimore. Women and children are the fastest growing homeless population, comprising 43% of all individuals in need of shelter.

Pope Francis reminds us we are strengthened by the reception of Jesus in Holy Communion to go fourth and encounter Jesus in the poor. We're able to find Him in the hungry, the sick, the neglected, and the homeless. Lent is a time to open our eyes to God's love and our hearts joyfully to the poor and vulnerable. With your generous support, we were able to continue to spread God's love and mercy to all who need care.

Church Happenings



Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary Annual Fashion Show, Sunday, May 19, 2019 from 3-6 p.m. tickets are \$15.00 per person and can be purchased from any Sodality member.

2019 Information Expo

In partnership with Enoch Pratt Free Community

Connect with Community Resources.

Saturday, April 27, 2019

11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

At the Enoch Pratt Free Library Southeast Anchor

Branch – 3601 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21224

Vendors will include:

Meals on Wheels

Baltimore City Health Dept.

AARP

Housing Authority

Roberta's House of Baltimore City

Centro SOL

Light Health and Wellness

Green and Healthy Homes Initiatives



SFX Leadership Meeting, Saturday May 4, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.

SPECIAL NOTICE!

*Please Keep in Your Prayers
All sick and shut-in SFX Parishioners*

Please inform the parish office if you are aware of parishioners that are ill or in need of assistance.



New Horizons of Men and Women Annual Father's Day Shrimp and Bull Roast is scheduled for Sunday June 16th. Tickets are available from any member.



*KPC LADIES AUXILIARY CT. 323
FATHER'S DAY AT CAMDEN YARDS RAFFLE
1 TICKET \$5.00/ 3 TICKETS \$10.00.*



Bishop Madden invites you to join him for his next prayer walk on Tuesday, April 30, 2029 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Baltimore-1512 Druid Hill Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21217. The evening will begin with a light meal at 3:00 p.m. and end before 7:30 p.m.

Pastoral Council Meeting Thursday May 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

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.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

May 2019

Historic St. Francis Xavier Church

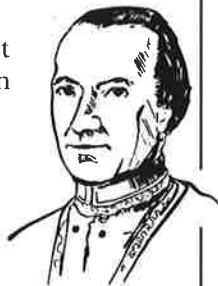
Rev. Xavier Edet, S.S.J., Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. John Baptist de Rossi

Born in Voltaggio, Italy, St. John Baptist de Rossi was born

to devout, middle class parents. Being an excellent student, he was invited to join the Roman College at the age of thirteen! Ten years later, John was ordained a priest. He spent his days serving prisoners, workers, and the patients of the local hospitals and his nights ministering to the poor people of the street. He died of illness, worn out by his labors.



Turn to Mary

During the month of May, we honor Mary, the Mother of God (and ours, too). Turn to her for guidance and protection and she will bring you to her Son: "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."

"His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'" (John 2:5).



Add more joy to your life

Joy is more than a feeling – it comes from making choices that are pleasing to God. Try these tips to add joy to your life.

Give three compliments every day. "Like golden apples in silver settings are words spoken at the proper time" (Proverbs 25:11).

Look for the silver lining in every cloud. "Even though you meant harm to me, God meant it for good, to achieve his present end, the survival of many people" (Genesis 50:20).

Make the best of any situation. "We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

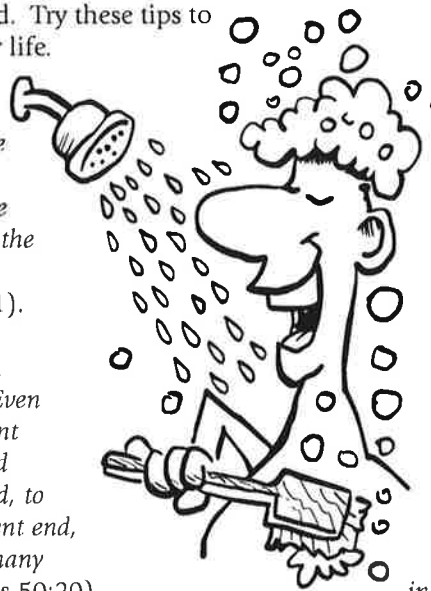
Tip generously, give freely to the needy. "He who confers benefits will be amply enriched, and he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed" (Proverbs 11:25).

Say, "thank you," often. "In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

Sing in the shower. "But I shall sing of your strength, extol your love at dawn, for you are my fortress, my refuge in time of trouble" (Psalm 59:17).

Trust God's judgment more than your own. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight.

In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6).



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics invoke the Holy Spirit?

As the Third Person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit is invoked every time we make the Sign of the Cross. In Baptism, he dwells in our souls and makes us children of God (Romans 8:15). He makes us



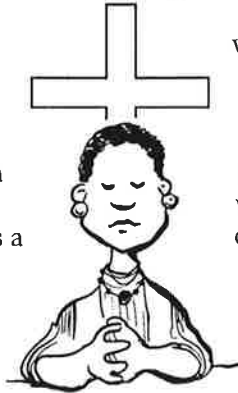
receptive to God's grace. He also teaches and helps us to pray. He guides and protects us, just as he guides and protects the Church. Through his gifts, he inspires and enables us to do the good we ought to do.

What will you keep after Easter?

Lent is a chance to take a look at our lives, jettison what is bad, and keep what is good beyond the celebration of Easter. What will you keep after the Easter season?

Fasting? Skipping a meal and spending the time in prayer is a great way to prepare for an important decision or a critical task we are about to take on. It's a way of saying, "God's will be done."

Doing more with less? The simplicity of Lent reminds us of how much we have and how little



we really need. Keep going through the closets and bookshelves of your life and give away what you don't absolutely need.

Thinking of others? American Catholics have more than any Catholics in the world today. When we feel hunger or can't buy everything we want, we can think of our brothers and sisters around the world who are hungry or needy all the time. Being Catholic unites us to the one Body of Christ no matter where we are.

from Scripture

John 14:23-29, Jesus keeps his promises

This Gospel reading comes from Jesus' Farewell Speech at the Last Supper. After spending three years together, he had to prepare the close-knit group for his Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension into Heaven. Yet, before he ascended, he promised to remain with them always (Matthew 28:20).



guide and comfort them. He gave them the gift of his peace, and he promised that he would return to them.

It's tempting to think that being Catholic would be easier if we could see Jesus and hear his voice. In fact, he continues to be spiritually present in his

Jesus assured his disciples—and us today—that, even though they wouldn't see him, he would continue to be invisibly but powerfully present to them if they kept his word. He and his Father would dwell in them by grace. He would send the Holy Spirit to

Church: in her worship, prayer, sacraments, and charitable outreach. He is especially present in the Eucharist—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity (CCC, #1374). We don't have to go back in time. We see him at every Mass.

Q & A Can I have a devotion to Mary and still worship God well?

One question frequently asked of Catholics is, "Why do you worship Mary?" In fact, we don't worship Mary. Worship is the adoration we give to



God where we acknowledge him as Creator, Savior, and Lord. Mary is a creature like us. She is not divine, so we can't worship her.

However, we can honor her. She is the Mother of God, since Jesus is God (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #495). Secondly, on the Cross, Jesus gave her to us as our mother and entrusted us to her care (John 19:26-27). Thirdly, we honor her for the good she did and still does for us, and for her holiness.

God is not jealous of our devotion to Mary, just as an artist wouldn't be jealous if his greatest masterpieces were praised. Turning to Mary for her intercession isn't a problem either. Mary's role (and ours) is to help get us to Heaven, which is exactly what God wants, too. Be rest assured, Mary always leads us to her Son, Jesus.

Feasts & Celebrations

May 13 – Our Lady of Fatima (1917): The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three children near Fatima, Portugal and asked that they pray the Rosary for peace, for the end of World War I, for sinners and for the conversion of Russia.

May 15 – St. Isidore the Farmer (1170). Born in Madrid to a poor farming family, he married St. Mary de la Cabeza and worked for a wealthy landowner. He spent many hours in prayer and caring for the sick and poor. It is said his food baskets were never empty.

May 25 – Pope St. Gregory VII (1085). Pope Gregory worked to eliminate corruption in the Church and defended it from attacks on its authority. For this he suffered and died in exile.

May 30 – Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord (1st Century). This solemnity marks the completion of Jesus' mission of salvation and his triumphant entry into Heaven.

Note: In many dioceses, observance of Ascension has been moved to the following Sunday.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
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 (540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.growinginfaith.com>
 (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

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

Addison, Clifton	5/22	Harper, Larie	5/02	Taylor, Jermaine A.	5/08
Ambrose, Nisha T.	5/07	Harris, Wynton	5/10	Terry, Celeste M.	5/24
Ambrose, Veronica	5/05	Hill, Terry	5/10	Thames, Kayla	5/20
Ash, Michelle M.	5/03	Harris-Holmes, Theresa	5/21	Thames, Samantha	5/11
Bailey, Carrie	5/22	Howard, Brandy	5/05	Thomas, Amber	5/15
Baker, Robin A.	5/27	Hursey, Kendra M.	5/06	Thomas, Edward	5/18
Barca, El	5/15	Johnson, Margaret	5/30	Thompson, Sr. Stephen	5/29
Barnes, Christopher	5/27	Jones, Quiana L.	5/04	Victor, Rosalind	5/03
Bell, Akilah	5/14	Jones, Virginia	5/15	Wellons, Azella	5/26
Bell, Lorraine	5/23	Jonese, Jr. Rodney	5/15	Whitley, Sinesta A.	5/08
Boyd, Kenneth	5/16	Joyner, Annamaria	5/20	Wiggins, Janet R.	5/06
Boyd, Keyonta L.	5/04	Kane, Monica	5/25	Williams, Adrian	5/08
Britton, Regina A.	5/15	Kearney, Kenneth	5/04	Williams, Bernadine	5/01
Brown, Carolyn	5/21	King, Kiara	5/26	Williams, Debra	5/05
Brown, Deborah	5/11	Lampkin, Michael	5/24	Williams, Vance	5/28
Butler, Avis	5/11	Langley, Jacqueline	5/03	Wininga, Sylvus	5/29
Church, Martin G.	5/31	Lessane, Mariah	5/03	Wright, Tiffany T.	5/03
Conway, J. Frederick	5/03	Marbury, Ashley	5/24		
Cook, Casandra	5/23	Matthews, Florine	5/14		
Cuffie, Louise N.	5/08	Merrick, Michelly	5/28		
Custus, Hazel	5/13	Miller, Joseph	5/12		
Dance, Zoe	5/09	Mims, Dario D.	5/18		
Davis, Edward	5/23	Mitchell, Theresa A.	5/25		
Davis, Keith Jr.	5/06	Morgan, LaToya	5/28		
Drummond, Reginald	5/20	Owens, Gia	5/08		
Dunston, Lindzee	5/13	Perkins, Brandy L.	5/05		
Evans, Morrow	5/03	Esther Strawder Peyton	5/20		
Feaster, Chiquita	5/14	Plummer, Cyril	5/21		
Feaster-Brockman, Norma	5/15	Powell, Mary	5/10		
Fly, Jr. Jonathan R.	5/16	Price, Janele L.	5/09		
Ford, Roger L.	5/05	Reed, Toryan	5/08		
Forde, Andre	5/20	Reinsch, Portia	5/07		
Frazier, Duane	5/04	Richardson, Jerrod	5/06		
Frederick, Sierra	5/14	Richardson, Lynette	5/04		
Gaddy, Kirk P.	5/23	Rollins, Horace	5/15		
Gladden, Lillian	5/23	Samuels, Tamara	5/22		
Graham, Frederick Jr.	5/14	Samy, Maddy	5/01		
Green, Lanatia	5/27	Singleterry, Jalen	5/24		
Green, Rodney	5/28	Singleton, Lynnette	5/06		
Greene, Thomas	5/30	Sparks, Antonette	5/03		
Griffin, Robert	5/25	Sparks, Rolanda	5/08		
Hagans, Rochelle	5/03	Stokes, Horace	5/03		
Hammond, Keith	5/15	Stovall, Caira	5/31		
Hargrett, Michael	5/30	Tate, Audrey	5/19		

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

Clifton and Cheryl Addison	5/13
Charles and Joan Bouie	5/28
Reginald and Sheree' Chambers	5/17
Joseph and Louise Cuffie	5/15
Duane and Carolyn Frazier	5/28
Tyrone and Lillian Gladden	5/23
Robert and Rochelle Hagans	5/14
Jonathan and Cecelia Johnson	5/29
Kenneth and Carlita Kearney	5/05
John and Rosezeller Martin	5/19
Gregory and Delena Mello	5/21
John and Teree Moore	5/16
John and Dorothy Ryan	5/24
Michael and Lynette Singleton	5/03
Timothy and Bianca Smith	5/23
Calvin Jr. and Jeanine Stovall	5/25
McKevit and Abena Walker	5/27
James and Gwen Williams	5/01

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

May 5, 2019

Rhonda Acree	Rochelle Hagans
Dorothy Addison	Frances Hance
Avonda Barnes	Bertha Johnson
Nina Bonaparte	Cornelia Johnson
Mary Boyd	Hilda Langley
Garland Burley	Alice Lewis
Eleanor Cawthron	Charles Lewis Jr.
Vanda Chambers	Mildred Mattison
Xavier Church	Stephanie Washington-Merritt
Candace Coates	Shelia Hurtt-Moore
Lucretia Coates	Bernardette Morgan
Dorothy Coleman	Yvonne Newby
Russell Dandridge	Marlene Patterson
Esther Davis	Frances Sears
John Davis	Helen Singleton
James Dorsey	Mabel Smirth
Jeanne Edmonds	Vickie Smith
Thelma Fly	Wanda Smith
Velva Foster	Antoinette Soares
James Grays Sr.	Vincent Soares
Thomas Grays	Barbara Williams