

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

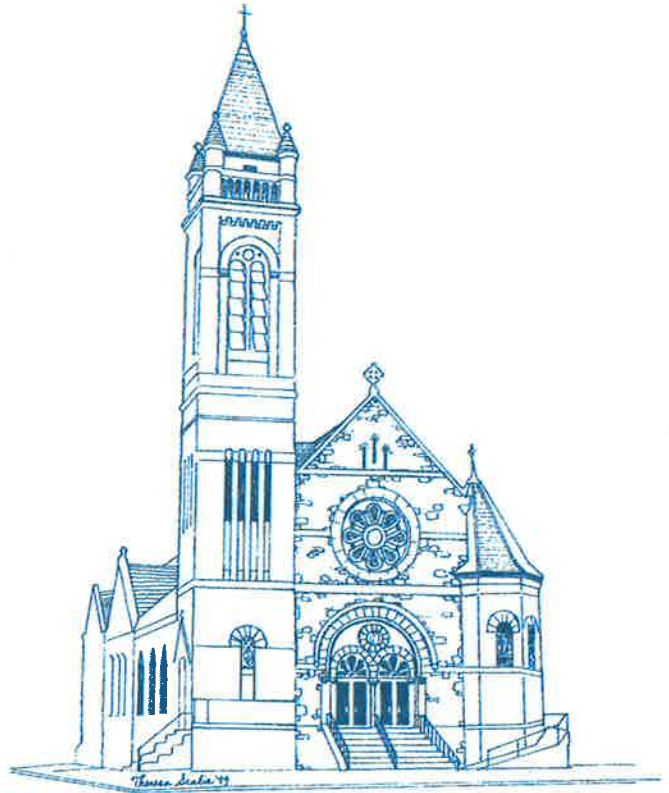
Funerals

*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

"Abide in me, and I in you"

There is a simple truth here: We are either *Why does Jesus speak of himself as the true vine? The image of the vine was a rich one for the Jews since the land of Israel was covered with numerous vineyards. It had religious connotations to it as well. Isaiah spoke of the house of Israel as "the vineyard of the Lord" (Isaiah 5:7). Jeremiah said that God had planted Israel "as his choice vine" (Jeremiah 2:21). While the vine became a symbol of Israel as a nation, it also was used in the Scriptures as a sign of degeneration - a deformed state of spiritual growth and moral decline. Isaiah's prophecy spoke of Israel as a vineyard which "yielded wild grapes" (see Isaiah 5:1-7). Jeremiah said that Israel had become a "degenerate and wild vine" (Jeremiah 2:21).*

One must be firmly rooted in the "Tree of Life"

When Jesus calls himself the true vine he makes clear that no one can grow in spiritual fruitfulness and moral goodness unless they are rooted in God and in his life-giving word. Religious affiliation or association with spiritually minded people is not sufficient by itself - one must be firmly rooted in the "Tree of Life" (Revelation 22:1-2, Genesis 2:8-9) who is the eternal Father and his only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus makes a claim which only God can make - he is the true source of life that sustains us and makes us fruitful in living the abundant life which God has for us. It is only through Jesus Christ that one can be fully grafted into the true "vineyard of the Lord".

Bearing the fruit of righteousness, peace, and joy

Jesus offers true life - the abundant life which comes from God and which results in great fruitfulness. How does the vine become fruitful? The vine dresser must carefully prune the vine before it can bear good fruit. Vines characteristically have two kinds of branches - those which bear fruit and those which don't. The non-bearing branches must be carefully pruned back in order for the vine to conserve its strength for bearing good fruit. Jesus used this image to describe the kind of life he produces in those who are united with him - the fruit of "righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Romans 14:17). Jesus says there can be no fruit in our lives apart from him. The fruit he speaks of here is the fruit of the Holy Spirit (see Galatians 5:22-23). There is no in-between. But the bearing of healthy fruit requires drastic pruning. The Lord promises that we will bear much fruit if we abide in him and allow him to purify us. Do you trust in the Lord's healing and transforming power to give you the abundant life and fruit of his heavenly kingdom?

"Lord Jesus, may I be one with you in all that I say and do. Draw me close that I may glorify you and bear fruit for your kingdom. Inflame my heart with your love and remove from it anything that would make me ineffective or unfruitful in loving and serving you as my All."

Mass Intentions



Saturday

5:00 P. M. (1) In Loving Memory of Dorothy J. Butler, req. by the Family

(2) God's healing mercies for Xavier M. Church may God continue to heal him and bless him, req. by his brothers and sisters

Sunday

8:00 A.M. People of the Parish

11:00 A.M. (1) In Loving Memory of Napoleon Sykes a phenomenal husband, dad and pop-pop, req. by Brenda and Children

(2) In Memory of Alma Hill on the Anniversary of her passing, req. by the Family

Tuesday

8:00 A.M. Happy Repose of the soul of Lawrence Clark, req. by Church Family

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. Happy Repose of the Soul of Mary Parker, req. by Church Family

Thursday

8:00 A.M.

Friday

8:00 A.M.

Today's Readings

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

Second Reading: 1 John 3:18-24

Gospel: John 15:1-8

Next Week's Readings

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26,34-35, 44-48

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-10

Gospel: John 15:9-17



SPECIAL NOTICE!

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

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 now, with final payment due May 13th. No exceptions, the trip must 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.

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.	April 30, 2018	John 14: 7-14
Tues.	May 1, 2018	John 14: 27-31a
Wed.	May 2, 2018	John 15:1-8
Thurs.	May 3, 2018	John 14: 6-14
Fri.	May 4, 2018	John 15:12-17
Sat.	May 5, 2018	John 15:18-21

Pastoral Council

Pastoral Council meeting on Thursday, May 3rd, at 7:00 p.m. Please contact 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

Ladies Sodality of Blessed Virgin Mary Annual Fashion Show

Annual Fashion Show, Sunday May 29th, 2018 from 3-6 p.m. Theme: Steppin Out. Tickets are \$15.00 per person. We are 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.



Funeral Arrangements:

Mr. Lawrence Clark

Funeral: Wednesday-May 2, 2018

Wake: 10:30 a.m.

Mass: 11:00 a.m.

Estep Funeral Home

1300 Eutaw Place

Baltimore, MD

Ms. Mary Parker

Funeral: Thursday, May 3, 2018

Wake: 10:30 a.m.

Mass: 11:00 a.m.

Scruggs Funeral Home

1412 E. Preston Street

Baltimore, MD

Special Notices

Religious Education

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



Time 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."



Special Notices

Employment Opportunity

Needed! Choir Director! St. Ann's Church is seeking an experienced Director of Music for their Gospel Choir. If you are interested, please contact the Church Office @410-235-8169 or email St. Ann's Church @STANN528@comcast.net.



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.