

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

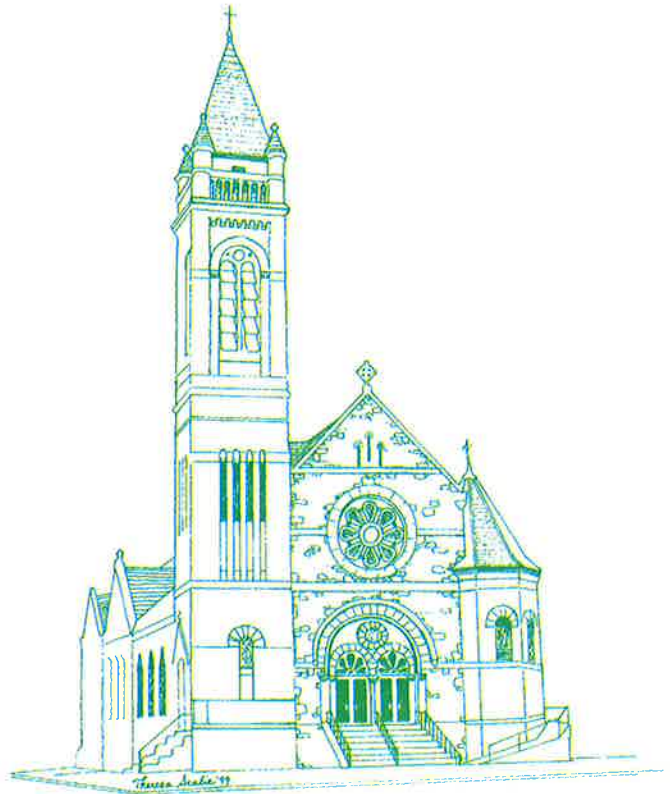
*Please notify the rectory before making
arrangements with funeral homes.*

*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>

Mass Intentions



Saturday 5:00 P.M. God's grace and mercy for the family of Barbara Thomas, as they mourn the loss of her son Craig Johnson, req. by Darlen Thomas

Sunday 8:00 A.M. God's healing mercy for Shirley Thompson, req. by Edna Aiden

11:00 A.M. People of the parish

Tuesday 8:00 A.M. In Remembrance of my cousin Colleen Elaine Scott on her 79th Birthday,

Wednesday 10:00 A.M. Happy repose of the soul of Edmond Martin Jr. req. by Jeff Martin

Thursday 8:00 A.M. In Memory of Ann Burley on the Anniversary of her death, req. by the Burley Family

Friday 8:00 A.M. (1) Happy Birthday to all members of Cr. #323 RFC celebrating birthdays this month.

(2) Happy Birthday to my loving daughter Yetta, and may God continue to bless you, req. by your mother Martha Lewis Dorsey

Today's Readings

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25
Gospel: John 2:13-25

Next Weeks Readings

First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23
Second Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10
Gospel: John 3:14-21



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REFLECTION

"Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up"

What can keep us from the presence of God? Jesus' dramatic cleansing of the temple was seen by his disciples as a prophetic sign of God's work to purify and restore true worship and holiness among his people. The temple was understood as the dwelling place of God among his people. When God delivered his people from slavery in Egypt, he brought them safely through the Red Sea, and led them to Mount Sinai where he made a covenant with them and gave them a new way of living in moral goodness and holiness embodied in the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17). God also gave Moses instruction for how his people were to worship him in holiness and he instructed them to make a Tabernacle, which was also referred to as the "tent of meeting" where the people gathered to offer sacrifice and worship to God. The tent of meeting was later replaced by the construction of the temple at Jerusalem. The New Testament Scripture tells us that these "serve as a copy and shadow of the heavenly sanctuary" - God's true Temple in heaven (Hebrews 8:5). Jesus' cleansing of the temple is also a prophetic sign of what he wants to do with each of us. He ever seeks to cleanse us of our sinful ways in order to make us into living temples of his Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19). God desires that we be holy as he is holy. Do you thirst and hunger for God's holiness?

Jesus burns with zeal for his Father's house

When Jesus went to Jerusalem at Passover time he shocked the Jewish leaders by forcibly expelling the money-changers and traders from the temple. Jesus referred to the temple as his Father's house which was being made into a "house of trade" (John 2:16) and "den of robbers" (Mark 11:17). The prophecy of Malachi foretold the coming of the Lord unexpectedly to his Temple to "purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, till they present right offerings to the Lord" (Malachi 3:1-4). Jesus' disciples recalled the prophetic words of Psalm 69: "Zeal for your house will consume me." This psalm was understood as a Messianic prophecy. Here the disciples saw Jesus more clearly as the Messiah who burned with zeal for God's house.

Stewardship Reflections

1 Peter 4:10

As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same of one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

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. | March 5, 2018 | Luke 4:24-30 |
| Tues. | March 6, 2018 | Matthew 18:21-35 |
| Wed. | March 7, 2018 | Matthew 5:17-19 |
| Thurs. | March 8, 2018 | Luke 11:14-23 |
| Fri. | March 9, 2018 | Mark 12:2-34 |
| Sat. | March 10, 2018 | Luke 18:9-14 |

Save the Date! For the annual retreat hosted by the Extraordinary Ministers, the Lectors, and the Ministers of Hospitality, to be held on Saturday, March 24, 2018 from 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. The cost is \$12.00. Continental breakfast and lunch will be served. Please see Celestine Kellam, Suzonne Vickers, Janet Wiggins, or Michelle Wiggins to register.

Please read the bulletin insert for the Pastorate Lenten/Easter Activities and save it for future reference for this season.

A Special Thank You

A special thank you to all of my church family and friends for all of their prayers, cards and words of comfort during my recent illness. May God continue to bless you all, Dottie Mello.

SPECIAL NOTICES

Stations of the Cross Devotions



Will be celebrated each Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. during the Lenten Season. Parishioners are encouraged to make the Stations of the Cross as part of their Lenten Devotions. Many graces are given for those who walk the final hours of Jesus' life on earth. Confessions during lent will be held on Friday evening from 6:00 pm-7:00 pm. and also after Stations of the Cross. Stations of the Cross will be led by the different organizations in the Church.

Schedule for the Stations of the Cross

- *Friday, March 9, 2018-CDA #2257 of SFX*
- *Friday, March 16, 2018-Mass Choir*
- *Friday, March 23, 2018-Lectors, Eucharistic and Hospitality Ministers*
- *Good Friday -March 30, 2018- Youth Ministry*

New Horizons of Men and Women

The trip to Williamsburg, Va. has been cancelled. Alternate trip plans will be forthcoming. It was changed due to another location not being able to commit to the date.

*The Ministers of Hospitality
Are seeking new members!*



WE WANT YOU!

Special Notices



March

11th Class

18th Class-Community Service Project

25th Class-Palm Sunday

29th Holy Thursday

Children's Envelopes

Envelopes have been distributed to all Sunday school children. Start your child on a lifetime path of stewardship practice by using their envelopes weekly.

CRS

CRS Rice Bowls were distribute to all Sunday School Children. The children's Lenten sacrifices to CRS will honor Jesus call to serve our neighbors who have less than we do. Please have the children return their Rice Bowl on Sunday April 8th.

Leadership Meeting

Leadership meeting with Fr. Xavier:

Date: Saturday, March 10, 2018

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon (2hrs)

Please Chairpersons/Presidents of groups and organizations endeavor to attend. Choir directors please, any members may attend since discussions will include choirs.

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 of these things are very important to insure that your offering is accurately recorded. Thank you, for your attention to this matter.

Special Notices

CDA Court #2257 Education Committee

The CDA Court #2257 Education Committee is sponsoring the CDA Education Contest. The contest is for students in grades 4-12. The themes for 2018 are "The Lord has done great things for us, we have joy" Psalm 126 and "Finding Joy in my life." The applications can be found in the back of the church. Please contact Marsha Powell @443-467-2841 for more information.

Church Regulations Regarding Fast and Abstinence

Abstinence from meat (beast or fowl) is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent. Fasting means limiting oneself to one full meal on a given fast day. Catholics who are eighteen years of age but not yet fifty-nine are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On fast days, two additional smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength. However, the two smaller meals together may not equal one full meal. Moreover, eating solid foods between meals on fast days is not permitted.

Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary's Retreat "Come, Follow Me!"

Come join the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary on our weekend Retreat, April 6-8, 2018. For first time retreatants and/or young adults up to 30 yrs. of age the cost for the weekend is \$195.00. For retreatants that have been on retreat before at Loyola on the Potomac (A Jesuit Retreat House) the cost is \$245. A deposit of \$115.00 is due now. If you are interested in attending please contact: Lorraine Bell (410) 889-9196 or Martha Lewis Dorsey (410) 668-1258. All deposits are due by March 18, 2018 for registration.

Circle Club Winners for February 2018

President-\$500.00 #42 Martha Lewis Dorsey
Vice President-\$100.00 #124-Loretta Brown
Secretary-\$100.00 #115-Lillian Gladden and Sharon Butler
Treasurer-\$100.00 #108-Darleen Thomas

Bonuses

1st Bonus-\$50.00 #13-Cathy Dandridge
2nd Bonus-\$25.00 #95- Theresa Boseman
3rd Bonus-\$25.00 #114-Theodora Butler

SPECIAL NOTICE!

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

So many of our parishioners are dealing with health issues, please remember them in your prayers. Lucretia Coates, Candice Coates, Mildred Lane, Jeanne Edmonds, Bernie Fuller, Bernadette Morgan, Mabel Smith, Miles Fitzgerald, Velva Foster, Charles Lewis Jr. Michael Butler, and Dorothy Mello.

SFX Easter Monday Atlantic City Trip

Thank you for your response, the Atlantic City Trip is sold out.

SOLD OUT!



If you are interested in volunteering to support our church St. Vincent De Paul program, and providing support to those communities surrounding our church, and you have at least two hours that you can contribute 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, please call Gracie Ferguson or Darleen Thomas. The program usually starts around 8:45 a.m. and ends no later than 10:00 a.m. It will consist of Xeroxing, paper work, checking files to verify information, and consulting with our clients. It is a position that requires absolute confidentiality. If you care about those dealing with hard times, then you are the person. The office number is 410-727-3103, ext. 4.

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.

**ST. FRANCIS XAIVER PARISHIONERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH
OUR SINCERE CONGRATUALTIONS!**

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------|------------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| Ademiluyi, Aaron | 3/09 | Grant, Bessie | 3/12 | Smith, Cecelia J. | 3/04 |
| Ambrose, Bruce | 3/31 | Gray, Aalyah T. | 3/20 | Stanley, Lauren | 3/19 |
| Ash, Mary B. | 3/16 | Hammock, Courtney D. | 3/30 | Staten, Julia | 3/02 |
| Baker, Robert C. | 3/08 | Hampton, Melton | 3/01 | Thames, Detria R. | 3/29 |
| Banks, Sherri | 3/30 | Hance, Francis X. | 3/23 | Thomas, Bernadette | 3/30 |
| Benjamin, Jovan | 3/03 | Harris, Morgan | 3/20 | Thomas, Dwight P. | 3/26 |
| Bond, Lisa R. | 3/12 | Hill, Christopher | 3/08 | Trafton, Herman | 3/22 |
| Boone, Daphne A. | 3/05 | Hill, Yolanda | 3/08 | Uche, Michael | 3/08 |
| Boyd, James E. | 3/28 | Holcombe, Cherese | 3/19 | Watkins, Martha A. | 3/14 |
| Bridgeforth, Joyce | 3/04 | Holmes-Harris, David | 3/30 | Weathers, Rashed | 3/15 |
| Brown, Jamal D. | 3/28 | Hughes, Glendora | 3/14 | Wechsler, Alma B. | 3/23 |
| Brown, Nicole B.M. | 3/19 | Hughes, Tanara C. | 3/31 | Wheatland, John A. | 3/10 |
| Brown, O Tanya A. | 3/29 | Jay, Christina Y. | 3/05 | Williams, Pauline | 3/03 |
| Brown, Tyrone | 3/12 | Johnson, Bakari C. | 3/16 | Wright, Tiffany | 3/03 |
| Butler, Calvin J. | 3/21 | Johnson, Brianna M. | 3/31 | | |
| Butler, Carol D. | 3/16 | Johnson, Celeste | 3/24 | | |
| Campbell, Alyce | 3/29 | Johnson, Margie M. | 3/05 | | |
| Carver, Shenae A. | 3/01 | Johnson, Matthew J. | 3/26 | | |
| Cephas, Jared N. | 3/16 | Kane, Soraya | 3/03 | | |
| Chambers, Mark | 3/12 | Kerney, Edith L. | 3/25 | | |
| Cole, Lugenia | 3/07 | Knox, Tamara | 3/08 | | |
| Coleman, Ray A. | 3/09 | Lewis, Yetta | 3/09 | | |
| Curtis, Dominic | 3/07 | Matthews, Tamir | 3/17 | | |
| Curtis, Icyous | 3/21 | McGriff, Alison J. | 3/18 | | |
| Curtis, Miesha | 3/11 | Mello, Regina | 3/24 | | |
| Dabney, Timothy | 3/29 | Mims, Cornelia E. | 3/24 | | |
| Dance, Leslie C. | 3/03 | Morgan, Bernadette E. | 3/13 | | |
| Dance, Mercedes L. | 3/05 | Morgan, Harris | 3/20 | | |
| Daughtry, Stephanie | 3/30 | Morgan, Wayne | 3/07 | | |
| Davis, Anna L. | 3/30 | Nipper, Kenon Duriel | 3/21 | | |
| Dawkins, Theresa M. | 3/16 | Pack, Asya T. | 3/21 | | |
| DeShazo, Aron C. | 3/19 | Pack, Rhona | 3/09 | | |
| Desmond, Sherman | 3/27 | Pack, Roland | 3/17 | | |
| Edwards, Gonzella | 3/05 | Pack-Logan, Yvette | 3/27 | | |
| Evans, Dathan | 3/09 | Palmer, Debbie | 3/05 | | |
| Evans, Kimberly | 3/14 | Pango, Kenny | 3/26 | | |
| Feaster-Brockman, Rita T. | 3/22 | Parker, Ina | 3/18 | | |
| Fitzgerald, Eris | 3/20 | Patterson, Richard Jr. | 3/14 | | |
| Fitzgerald, Shavonne | 3/02 | Price, James L. | 3/14 | | |
| Floyd, Rodney C. | 3/19 | Richards, Denise | 3/19 | | |
| Franklin, Tennille | 3/12 | Rideout, Elaine | 3/12 | | |
| Gaddy, Kerwin J. | 3/20 | Roberts, Bessie W. | 3/06 | | |
| Gaines, Lucille | 3/30 | Ryan, Veronica T. | 3/19 | | |
| Gladden, Tyrone | 3/09 | Scott, Patrick J. | 3/17 | | |

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

Gregory and Mona Lisa DeGross 3/15
James and Martha Dorsey 3/18

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

March 4, 2018

Rhonda Acree
Avonda Barnes
Dorothy Bennett
Nina Bonaparte
Garland Burley
Harry Butler
Xavier Church
Dorothy Coleman
Candace Coates
Lucretia Coates
Esther Davis
John Davis
Thelma Fly
Miles Fritzgerald
Bernard Fuller
Velva Foster
Thomas Grays
Rochelle Hagans
Frances Hance
Bertha Johnson
Cornelia Johnson
Marian Quickley Johnson
Alice King

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