

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

"Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord"

Does the King of glory find a welcome entry in your home and heart? Jesus went to Jerusalem knowing full well what awaited him - betrayal, rejection, and crucifixion. The people of Jerusalem, however, were ready to hail him as their Messianic King! Little did they know what it would cost this King to usher in his kingdom. Jesus' entry into Jerusalem astride a colt was a direct fulfillment of the Messianic prophecy of Zechariah (9:9):

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Lo, your King comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, and riding on a donkey and upon a colt the foal of a donkey.

The colt was a sign of peace. Jesus enters Jerusalem in meekness and humility, as the Messianic King who offers victory and peace to his people. That victory and peace would be secured in the cross and resurrection which would soon take place at the time of Passover. Augustine, the great 5th century church father, comments on the significance of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem:

"The master of humility is Christ who humbled himself and became obedient even to death, even the death of the cross. Thus he does not lose his divinity when he teaches us humility... What great thing was it to the King of the ages to become the King of humanity? For Christ was not the King of Israel so that he might exact a tax or equip an army with weaponry and visibly vanquish an enemy. He was the King of Israel in that he rules minds, in that he gives counsel for eternity, in that he leads into the kingdom of heaven for those who believe, hope, and love. It is condescension, not advancement for one who is the Son of God, equal to the Father, the Word through whom all things were made, to become King of Israel. It is an indication of pity, not an increase in power." (Tractates on John 51.3-4)

Psalms 24 is another prophetic passage which echoes this triumphal procession of the King of glory: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! That the King of glory may come in. Jesus Christ came to bring us the kingdom of God. He is the true King who offers peace, joy, and everlasting life for those who accept his kingship. Does the King of glory find a welcome entry in your heart and home? Do your walls echo with the praise of his glory?

"Lord Jesus, be the King and Ruler of my heart, mind, life, and home. May my life reflect your meekness and humility that you may be honored as the King of glory!"

Stewardship Reflections

First Peter 4:10

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."

Mass Intentions



Saturday

5:00 P.M. God's continued blessings for all the members of the Mello family, req. by Lawrence Mello

Sunday

8:00 A.M. People of the Parish

11:00 A.M. (1) Happy Repose of the soul of Napoleon Sykes, req. by the Family

(2) Happy Birthday to Marsha Powell, req. by Taya, Jayda and Logan

Tuesday

8:00 A.M. Happy repose for the soul of Barbara Ferguson

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. Happy repose for the soul of Donald Johnson and all of the other deceased members of the New Horizons of Men and Women, req. by the NFM&W

Thursday

8:00 A.M. In Memory of A. Bernice Hunley and Frances Chapman, may they continue to rest in God's arms., req. by Darleen Thomas

Friday

8:00 A.M. Blessed are those that walk with God. His blessings for all of our priests, req. by Darleen Thomas

Today's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: Matthew 26:14-27:66 or 27:11-54

Next Weeks Readings

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel: John 20:1-9



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.	4/10/2017	John 12:1-11
Tues.	4/11/2017	John 13:21-22,36-38
Wed.	4/12/2017	Matthew 26:14-25
Thurs.	4/13/2017	Luke 4:16-21
Fri.	4/14/2017	John 18:1-19:42
Sat.	4/15/2017	Matthew 28:1-10

Holy Week/Easter Activities

- April 13, 2017 – Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper – Washing of the feet
Time: 7:00 p.m.
- April 14, 2017 – Good Friday
Passion Service at 3:00 p.m.
Stations of the Cross at 6:00 p.m.
- April 15, 2017 – Easter Vigil, Event starts at 7:00 p.m.
- April 16, 2017 – Easter Sunday, 2 Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

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. The Stations of the Cross will be led by the different organizations in the Church.

Schedule for the Stations of the Cross

- Good Friday – April 14, 2017- Youth Ministry

SPECIAL NOTICES

Ladies Sodality of Blessed Virgin Mary Annual Fashion Show

Ladies Sodality of Blessed Virgin Mary presents their Annual Fashion Parade "Spring in Bloom" on Sunday, May 21, 2017 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church undercroft, tickets are \$15.00. Please see any Sodality member for tickets or information. Thank you for your continued support.



Bunny Hop

St. Francis will be hosting a Bunny Hop- Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Basket Raffle immediately following the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Easter Sunday April 16, 2017.

Keeping with the tradition started by Mrs. Barbara Williams., we are requesting a donation of either candy or a monetary contribution for Easter Sunday. Your donation will support a fun filled Easter Sunday for our children. In addition to providing a bag of treats, our children will have an egg hunt, games, face painting, and a special visitor, don't forget your cameras. Committee members will be available following each Mass to collect your donations.

Additionally, an Easter Basket will be raffled with the following:

A bottle of wine, 2 wine glasses and cork screw, Ode school box candies, 2 cans of string cheese, beef jerky, pepperoni, crackers, DVD, \$20.00 movie gift card, and popcorn., Committee members will be available following each Mass in the back of the church and downstairs in the undercroft selling raffle tickets. Please take time out to complete your contact information. You **Don't** have to be present to win, however the winning ticket must be completed and match the ticket number drawn on Easter Sunday. **Ticket Cost-\$2.00 for 1 Ticket or 3 for \$5.00.** All proceeds will help in support of Children's Day Programming scheduled for June of 2017!

For more information, please feel free to contact Wy Chambers 410-961-6198, Irma Bevan, 443-564-1403 or Donna Booth 443-743-4045.

Special Notices

Archbishop Annual Appeal 2017

If you missed the opportunity to pledge over commitment weekend, you can still make a gift either through the mail or online at www.archbalt.org/appeal. Forms are available in the back of the church. Remember, that the Archdiocese Appeal is not just another special collection; rather, it is the one time during the year that all Catholics are asked to join together as one to make a significant pledge to support the work of the Archdiocese. The contribution serves the needs of parishes, schools, and the people throughout the Archdiocese.

Mother Mary Lange Guild Recommitment Ceremony

You are invited to the Recommitment Ceremony
Sponsored by Mother Mary Lange Guild

When: Saturday, April 29, 2017

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Presider: Rev. Kenneth Gaddy, C.S.S.R.

Asst. Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish

Where: Our Lady of Mount Providence Chapel
701 Gun Road, Balto. MD 21227 (410) 242-8500

This is not a Mass!



Ready, Set, Shoot... The Parish Council is looking for photographers to take pictures of church events. Please contact Lynette Richardson at 4410-802-3888 or Paula Fuller 443-801-1181.



Special Notices

Religious Education

May the grace and peace of the Lord Jesus be with you and your family in a special way during this Holy Week. I cannot encourage you enough to plan, with your family, to make Holy Week truly holy by attending our liturgies on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter.

Sunday School classes will not be held on Easter, April 16, classes will be held on April 23, May 7, May 21 and May 28. Please make sure that your children are present for these remaining few weeks at 9:30 a.m.

CRS Rice Bowls were distributed 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 23.

St. Francis Xavier New Website

St. Francis has a new website you can go there to retrieve the weekly bulletin. The website is: www.historicfrancisxavier.org. Please utilize the new website for your bulletin.

Emmitsburg Pilgrimage

Join St. Ann and Wenceslaus Churches on their pilgrimage to Emmitsburg, MD to visit the National Shrines of Elizabeth Ann Seton and the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes on Saturday, April 22, 2017. Cost \$50.00. To guarantee yourself a seat on the bus a **Non-Refundable Deposit of \$10.00 per person is due now and a final payment of \$40.00 due NLT April 16th**. For more information contact- Alicia Champlin, 443-722-6652.

SPECIAL NOTICE!

Please Keep Your Prayers

All sick and shut-in parishioners of SFX

- Thelma Fly
- Lorraine Bell
- Marian Quickley Johnson
- Lucretia Coates
- Mabel Smith
- Doris Russell
- Bernadette Morgan
- Dorothy Coleman
- Helen Singleton
- Chris Pasley

The names listed are just a few; if you know of others, please notify the church office.



Religious Education

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.

Thank You

Joshyn Alexander, Director Religious Education



Step Up to the New Year!!

We are inviting all parishioners to step up to the New Year by making a onetime donation to support the continued renovations and repairs of our church and rectory. Your contribution will be for St. Francis Xavier only.

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 Catholic Church
Ladies Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Presents Their
Annual Fashion Parade



"Spring In Bloom"
\$15.00

Sunday, May 21, 2017
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church
1501 E. Oliver Street
Baltimore, Maryland

Please see any Sodality member for tickets or information. Thank you for your continued support.

Prefect, Corlis Loney

Vice Prefect, Blanche Anderson