

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

"John saw the empty tomb and believed"

What was it like for the disciple who had stood at the cross of Jesus and then laid him in a tomb on Good Friday, to come back, three days later and discover that the sealed tomb was now empty? John, along with Peter, was the first apostle to reach the tomb of Jesus on Easter Sunday morning. Like Mary Magdalene and the other disciples, John was not ready to see an empty tomb and to hear the angel's message, *Why do you seek the living among the dead (Luke 24:5)?* What did John see in the tomb that led him to believe in the resurrection of Jesus? It was certainly not a dead body. The dead body of Jesus would have disproven the resurrection and made his death a tragic conclusion to a glorious career as a great teacher and miracle worker. When John saw the empty tomb he must have recalled Jesus' prophecy that he would rise again after three days. Through the gift of faith John realized that no tomb on earth could contain the Lord and giver of life. John saw and believed (John 20:8).

John had to first deal with the empty tomb before he could meet the risen Lord later that evening along with the other apostles who had locked themselves in the upper room out of fear of the Jewish authorities (John 20:19-23). John testified as an eye-witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ: *What we have seen, heard, and touched we proclaim as the eternal word of life which existed from the beginning (1 John 1:1-4).* John bears witness to what has existed from all eternity. This "word of life" is Jesus the word incarnate, but also Jesus as the word announced by the prophets and Jesus the word now preached throughout the Christian church for all ages to come.

One thing is certain, if Jesus had not risen from the dead and appeared to his disciples, we would never have heard of him. Nothing else could have changed sad and despairing men and women into people radiant with joy and courage. The reality of the resurrection is the central fact of the Christian faith. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Lord gives us "eyes of faith" to know him and the power of his resurrection. The greatest joy we can have is to encounter the living Christ and to know him personally as our Lord and Savior. Do you accept the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection with skeptical doubt and disbelief or with trusting faith and joyful wonderment?

"Lord Jesus Christ, you have triumphed over the grave and you have won for us new life and resurrection power. Give me the eyes of faith to see you in your glory. Help me to draw near to you and to grow in the knowledge of your great love for us and your

Stewardship Reflections

Acts 20:35

"In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

Mass Intentions



Saturday

5:00 P.M. God's grace and mercy for James Dorsey and family they as they grieved the loss of a loved one., req. by Darleen Thomas

Sunday

8:00 A.M. In Loving Memory of Napoleon Sykes a phenomenal husband, dad and Pop-pop, req. by Brenda and children
(2) God's grace and mercy for the Price families as they grieve the loss of Barbara Thomas

11:00 A.M. People of the Parish

Tuesday

8:00 A.M.

10:00AM Loving memories of my family on the Easter Holidays
Req. by Dottie Mello

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. Love and blessings for all the sick in the family req. by Dottie Mello

Thursday

8:00 A.M.

10:00AM Love and healing mercies for all the Church family members, req. by Dottie Mello

Friday

8:00 A.M. God's healing mercies for the members of the Coates family, req. Darleen Thomas

Today's Readings

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43
Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4
Gospel: John 20:1-9

Next Weeks Readings

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35
Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6
Gospel: John 20:19-31



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.	April 2, 2018	Matthew 28:8-15
Tues.	April 3, 2018	John 20:11-18
Wed.	April 4, 2018	Luke 24:13-35
Thurs.	April 5, 2018	Luke 24:35-48
Fri.	April 6, 2018	John 21:1-14
Sat.	April 7, 2018	Mark 16:9-15

Ecumenical & Interfaith Prayer Service

During Easter Season, we will be blessed to welcome Rev. Raphael Gamaliel Warnock, Ph.D., Senior Pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Ga. He will deliver a special message at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen during a 7:00 p.m. ecumenical and interfaith prayer service Thursday April 12 commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the assassination of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Thank You

The women's Aux. of KPC Court # 323 would like to thank the members of ST. Francis Xavier for supporting their bake sale.

A Special Thank You

The family of Theresa Baker sends sincere appreciation for all of the kind words of comfort, cards and calls they received to express sympathy for the death of their loved one.

Happy Resurrection Sunday!

SPECIAL NOTICES

Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary Annual Fashion Show

Annual Fashion, Sunday, May 20, 2018 from 3-6 pm. Theme: Steppin Out. Tickets are \$15.00 per person Fashion Show is in need of Models if you are interested please contact Lorraine Bell (410) 889-9196.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Hosted by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas on April 8, 2018. Starting after Communion at 11:00 a.m. Mass.



Easter Bunny is on a mission!

Special Notices



April

1st NO CLASS-Easter

8th Class

14th Student Field Trip 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

15th Class

22nd Class Confirmation Retreat 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

29th Class

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

May

6 Class

13 NO CLASS -Mother's Day

20 Class

26 First Communion/Confirmation rehearsal 10Am-12 Noon

27 Class First Communion/Confirmation

Religious Education Lenten Service Project

CRS

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 8th.

"Blessed are they who Hunger and Thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied."

Special Notices

Religious Education

Happy Easter to you and your family. May the resurrection of Jesus bring joy into your family and give you renewed hope during this Easter season.

Sunday School Field Trip

The Sunday School will take a field trip to The Basilica and National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. We will also visit The National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes both located in Emmitsburg, MD on Saturday April 14, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. Parents please complete the field permission form with the \$10.00 payment and return it as soon as possible before the deadline date. Thank you.

SPECIAL NOTICE!

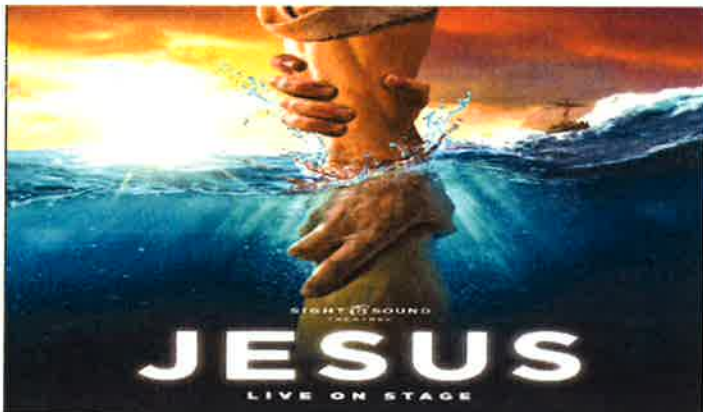
*Please Keep In Your Prayers
All sick and shut in SFX Parish*

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 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.

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 by April 15th, with final payment due May 13th. No exceptions, the trip has to 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



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.

Jerusalem

OBITUARIES

33 AD



Calvary

Jesus Christ, 33, of Nazareth, died Friday on Mount Calvary, also known as Golgotha, the place of the skull. Betrayed by the apostle Judas, Jesus was crucified by the Romans, by order of the Ruler Pontius Pilate. The causes of death were crucifixion, extreme exhaustion, severe torture, and loss of blood.

Jesus Christ, a descendant of Abraham, was a member of the house of David. He was the Son of the late Joseph, a carpenter of Nazareth, and Mary, His devoted Mother. Jesus was born in a stable in the city of Bethlehem, Judea. He is survived by His mother Mary, His faithful Apostles, numerous disciples, and many other followers.

Jesus was self educated and spent most of his adult life working as a Teacher. Jesus also occasionally worked as a Medical Doctor and it is reported that he healed many patients.





Get to Steppin and Come Join

The Sodality of The Blessed Virgin Mary

at the

2018 Spring Fashion Show and Luncheon

Spotlight On

Fabulous and Fun Footwear

Sunday May 20th 3:00 p.m. to 6:00pm

St Francis Xavier Undercroft

1501 E. Oliver Street Balto. Md 21213

Food – Luncheon Included 50/50 Raffle and Door Prizes

Exciting Entertainment

Donation \$15.00

Tickets may be purchased in advance from any Sodality Member

Limited Number of Tickets Available at The Door

Corlis Loney- Prefect Blanche Anderson-Vice Prefect Theresa Butler-Secretary