

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

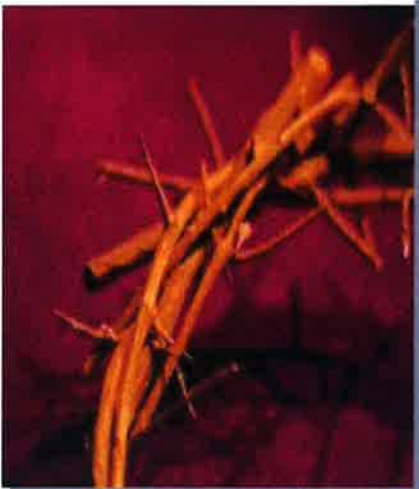
Fax (410) 625-9587

Website - <http://www.HistoricFrancisXavier.org>

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

EXTENDS A BLESSED AND PRAYERFUL

EASTER TO ALL!!



The resurrection of Jesus Christ

Easter Sermon

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.

Stewardship Reflections

Luke 18:22

When Jesus heard this, He said to him, "One thing you still lack; sell all that you possess and distribute it to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

Mass Intentions



Saturday

5:00 P. M.. Happy repose for the soul of Barbara Ferguson, req. by the Family

Sunday

8:00 A.M. Happy Repose of the Soul of Napoleon Sykes, req. by the family

11:00 A.M. People of the Parish

Tuesday

8:00 A.M. In Memory of Grady Hill and Ethel Hill, req. by Joyce Turnispseed

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. Praying for George and Marie Mensah Ameyo, req. by Sewavi Prince-Agbojjan

Thursday

8:00 A.M. . God's continued blessings for Father Jim, req. by Darleen Thomas

Friday

8:00 A.M. God's healing mercy for Lucretia Coates and Chris Pasley, req. by Darleen Thomas

Today's Readings

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43
Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8
Gospel: John 20:1-9

Next Weeks Readings

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47
Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9
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.	4/17/2017	Matthew 28:8-15
Tues.	4/18/2017	John 20:11-18
Wed.	4/19/2017	Luke 24:13-35
Thurs.	4/20/2017	Luke 24:35-48
Fri.	4/21/2017	John 21:1-14
Sat.	4/22/2017	Mark 16:9-15

Prayer Walk

Prayer Walk with Bishop Madden to pray for Peace in Baltimore City.

Date: Thursday, April 27th, 2017

Venue: St. Benedict Church, 2612 Wilkens Ave, Balto. MD 21223

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Baltimore has a new Catholic radio station, *WVTO* 92.7 FM, broadcasting 2 a.m. to 10 a.m. daily. Please join us for our Grand Opening on Sunday, April 23rd at St. Benedict Church. Beginning with Mass and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, we will have a reception immediately following at 12:30 p.m. in the Notre Dame Room. Donors, underwriters, listeners, and friends of the radio station will have an opportunity to celebrate with us. Lunch will be provided along with a studio tour for those interested.

To RSVP, email us at wvtoradio@gmail.com or call Saint Benedict's Parish Office at 410-947-4988. St. Benedict Church, Paschal Center of Notre Dame Room, 2612 Wilkens Ave. Baltimore, MD 21223 Parking lot entrance in the back of the church.

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.

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 classes will not be held today, Easter, Sunday, April 16, 2017, classes will be held next Sunday, April 23, and the following Sundays: April 30, May 7, 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 Bowls on Sunday, April 23.

Dawson Safe Haven Center

The Director of the Dawson Safe Haven Center which is located at 1401 E. Preston Street/ Baltimore 21213 is hosting Free Summer Camp for the Oliver Community. Please review the insert in the bulletin.

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

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 In Your Prayers

All sick and shut-in parishioners of SFX

- Thelma Fly
- Lorraine Bell
- Dorothy Bennett
- 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

Joslyn 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.

Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary

Mother Mary E. Lange, Court #323

Crab Feast



June 10, 2017

St. Francis Xavier Church

1501 E. Oliver St.

Baltimore, MD 21213

Menu: *All you can eat #1 male crabs, homemade Maryland crab soup, beef barbeque, fried chicken, steamed corn on the cob, potato salad, cole slaw, cheese tray, fresh sliced watermelon, bread, rolls, and butter, Beer, assorted sodas, and water.*

Ticket Cost: \$60.00

Laurentia Strawder, Chair
410.276.0082

Renee Terry, Grand Lady
410.522.8207



Dawson Safe Haven Center Summer Camp

Register by
May 5th!

Sign Up Now:
443-984-1395

Open to
youth from
kindergarten
through
middle school



Fun
Activities
for ALL!

Arts & Crafts
Basketball & Tennis
Swimming
Martial Arts
Reading/Math Review
Workshops
Field Trips & More

1401 E. Preston St, Baltimore, MD 21213

Camp Dates:
Monday, June 19 to Friday, August 18, 2017

8:00 am to 3:30 pm
Breakfast & Lunch Served Daily



BALTIMORE
HOUSING

