

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 (410) 837-0656

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

Do not return evil for evil

If someone insults you or tries to take advantage of you, how do you respond? Do you repay in kind? Jesus approached the question of just retribution with a surprising revelation of God's intention for how we should treat others, especially those who mistreat us. When Jesus spoke about God's law, he did something no one had done before. He gave a new standard based not just on the requirements of justice - giving each their due - but based on the law of grace, love, and freedom.

Law of grace and love

Jesus knew the moral law and its intention better than any jurist or legal expert could imagine. He quoted from the oldest recorded law in the world: If any harm follows, then you shall give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe (Exodus 21:23-25).

Such a law today seems cruel, but it was meant to limit vengeance as a first step towards mercy. This law was not normally taken literally but served as a guide for a judge in a law court for assessing punishment and penalty (see Deuteronomy 19:18).

The Old Testament is full of references to the command that we must be merciful: You shall not take vengeance or bear any grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD (Leviticus 19:18). If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink (Proverbs 25:21). Do not say, "I will do to him as he has done to me; I will pay the man back for what he has done" (Proverbs 24:29). Let him give his cheek to the smiter, and be filled with insults (Lamentations 3:30).

Jesus does something quite remarkable and unheard of. He transforms the law of mercy with grace, forbearance, and loving-kindness. Jesus also makes clear that there is no room for retaliation. We must not only avoid returning evil for evil, but we must seek the good of those who wish us ill. Do you accept insults, as Jesus did, with no resentment or malice? When you are compelled by others to do more than you think you deserve, do you insist on your rights, or do you respond with grace and cheerfulness?

Grace of the Holy Spirit

What makes a disciple of Jesus Christ different from everyone else? What makes Christianity distinct from any other religion?

Stewardship Reflections

Matthew 19:21

Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be complete, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."

Mass Intentions



Saturday

5:00 P.M. God's healing mercies for Doris Russell and Mabel Smith, req. by Darleen Thomas

Sunday

8:00 A.M. (1) Happy Birthday to our Pastor Fr. Xavier, may God continue to bless him in his ministry
(2) Happy repose of the souls of all the deceased members of my family, req. by Vanda Chambers

11:00 A.M. People of the Parish and Fr. Xavier on his birthday, today

Tuesday

8:00 A.M. In Memory of our mother Rita Church on the anniversary of her death, req. by her family

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. (1) Peace in the New Year for our State and City, req. by John Rutkowski
(2) Healing mercies on Catherine Powell and Antoinette Soares, req. by Aunt Dottie Mello

Thursday

8:00 A.M. (1) God's blessing on Margaret Lewis and Florine Matthews, req. by Dorothy Mello
(2) God's continued blessings on Charles Lewis Jr. req. by Dorothy Mello

Friday

8:00 A.M. God's blessings on Rita and Joe Colbert, req. by Aunt Dottie Mello

Today's Readings

First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23
Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

Next Weeks Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 49:14-15
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5
Gospel: Matthew 6:24-34



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.	2/20/2017	Mark 9:14-29
Tues.	2/21/2017	Mark 9:30-37
Wed.	2/22/2017	Matthew 16:13-19
Thurs.	2/23/2017	Mark 9:41-50
Fri.	2/24/2017	Mark 10:1-12
Sat.	2/25/2017	Mark 10:13-16

Easter Monday Atlantic City Trip

SFX trip to Atlantic City is scheduled for Easter Monday, April 17, 2017. We will be going to Resorts Casino. The price of the ticket is \$35.00 with a \$25.00 rebate. Please see either Bessie Roberts or Polly Hargrove for tickets.

Holy Name Union

The Holy Name is offering \$1,000.00 scholarships for the 2017-2018 school years. Applications are on the table in the rear of the church and are due back on or before April 17, 2017. Please contact Mr. Cleveland Cosom at 443-802-6438. Thank You.



SPECIAL NOTICES

Combined Ministries of SFX

Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and the Ministers of Hospitality, invite you to join them for a retreat. It will be held on Saturday March 11, 2017, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. It is suggested that you bring your bible and rosary with you. The fee is \$10.00. You may give the fee to Janet Wiggins, Michelle Wiggins, Celestine Kellam or Suzonne Vickers.



*St. Francis Xavier Conference
Annual Report Period 10/1/15-9/30/16
Direct Aid- Eviction Prevention- \$3000.00
Direct Aid- Utility Assistance- \$8000.00*

\$11,000.00

*Person receiving Direct Aid- 350
Eviction 89
Utility 261*

We appreciate all of the support from our parishioners that provided the funds for this assistance.

Upcoming events: Save the dates

- *Empty Bowls- Our Signature fundraiser that provides critical services to the homeless, and poverty in our community. 3/25/17 at Timonium Fairgrounds*
- *38th Annual Archdiocesan Social Ministry Convocation 3/4/17 at Seton Keough High School. For additional info. Contact Gracie Ferguson 410-727-2103 ext. 4*

Special Notices

SFX SWINGERS

The Swingers are sponsoring their annual Bull and Oyster Roast on Sunday March 5, 2017 at Heritage Parkville Gardens, 7631 Harford Road (In Parkville Shopping Center) 3:00 pm. - 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$55.00 per person (includes bar) Music by DJ White. Please see any member of the Swingers for ticket information.



SFX SUNDAY SCHOOL

On Sunday February 26th the St. Francis Xavier Sunday School students will present their annual Black History Month Program immediately following the 11:00 a.m. Mass in the undercroft. Please join us.

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.

Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary's Retreat "Entering not the Father's Joy"

Come join the Sodality of Blessed Virgin Mary on weekend Retreat, April 21-23, 2017. For first time retreatants and/or young adult up to 30 yrs of age the cost for the weekend is \$185.00. For retreatants that have been on retreat before at Loyola on the Potomac (A Jesuit Retreat House) the cost is \$235. \$115.00 deposit is due now. If you are interested in attending please contact: Lorraine Bell (410)889-9196 or Martha Lewis Dorsey (410)668-1258. Loyola on the Potomac A Jesuit Retreat House, P.O. Box 9
9270 Loyola Retreat Road
Faulkner, MD 20632

Special Notices

Campaign Update

Please be vigilant in honoring your pledges for Embracing Our Mission and the Archbishop Appeal. Both can impact our church in a positive manner.

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.

Sisters Academy of Baltimore Open House for Prospective Students

You are invited to an Open House at Sisters Academy of Baltimore on Sunday, March 5, 2017 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. The school is accepting applications from families of girls currently in the fourth grade who will enter the fifth grade in September 2017.

Sisters Academy of Baltimore is a middle school (grades 5-8) for girls dedicated to excellence and leadership. The academy focuses on girls, provides an academically challenging environment, supports students in their desire to succeed, and assists students through high school. For more information, or to obtain an application please call the school at (410)242-1212 or visit our website

www.sistersacademy.org.

The Clare and Robert Moore Scholarship Fund awards a yearly \$1,000 scholarship to an incoming first year student or to a current Notre Dame of Maryland University student who is interested in or currently majoring in English. The scholarship can be applied to tuition, room and board, books, or educational fees. An online application and full details may be referenced on the scholarship website: <http://crmoorescholarship.org>. Applications are appinfo@crmoorescholarship.org

SPECIAL NOTICE!

please Keep Your Prayers

- *All sick and shut-in parishioners of SFX*

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.

Oblate Sisters of Providence Annual Chicken Dinner

The Oblate Sisters of Providence will host the 10th Annual Chicken Dinner on Saturday, February 25th, 2017 from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at St. Francis Academy Center, 501 E. Chase St. Baltimore, MD 21202. Tickets are \$10.00 Volunteers and donations are needed. Please contact Sister Helene Therese, OSP at (410) 536-5687 or Mr. Ralph Moore 443-255-5600. Proceeds are toward Motherhouse expenses.

Let's get Physical

Saturday February 25th will start our let's get physical program for seniors and those interested. The class will begin at 3:00 pm and end at 4:00 pm. The class will be held in our undercroft. The first class is no charge. Please come out and see if this is something you would be interested in.



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 Rectory Office, Monday 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.

SS. PHILIP AND JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH

2801 NORTH CHARLES STREET, BALTIMORE, 21218

2016 - 2017 CONCERT SEASON

Ars Sacra Concert Series

PRESENTS

Songs & Spirituals

IN HONOR OF
AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

BY

AUGUSTINE MERCANTE

COUNTERTENOR

&



MARVIN MILLS

PIANO

ALL CONCERTS FREE WILL OFFERING

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH 2017

7:00 P.M.



Print

Subject **Celebrate Black History Month with JPC!**
 From: **Josephite Pastoral Center <pastoralcenter@josephite.com>**
 Sent: **Feb 1, 2017 11:35:33 AM**
 To: **stfrancixavier@verizon.net**
 Reply-To: **pastoralcenter@josephite.com**

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



**JOSEPHITE
 PASTORAL CENTER**
The place for African-American Ministry Resources

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH



The First, The Best, The Only

The Josephite Pastoral Center provides resources and services fostering positive attitudes and appreciation toward race, particularly blackness. Our goal is to make concrete what Pope Paul VI stated, "The gift of blackness must enrich the Church."

In 1968 the Society of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the order of Priests and Brothers whose mission is to minister to Black Catholics, opened the doors of the Josephite Pastoral Center creating religious education materials and resources for the African American community.

In 2017, it is our goal to make the Josephite Pastoral Center better known and to provide a full range of services to the Black Catholic Church. We are the premiere outlet for Catholic African American religious goods. We also offer specialized conferences of concern to the African American community.

Please share this email with your parish, school and diocesan leaders. Together, we can build understanding and appreciation of the rich diversity of creation.

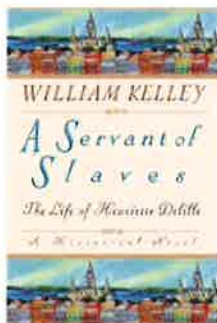


[Celebrate Black History Month by viewing our interactive booklet! >>](#)

Make sure to check our website weekly throughout Black History Month. A new booklet will be featured each week.

[Black History Month Resources:](#)

A Servant of Slaves: The Life of Henriette Delille



Oscar-winning writer William Kelley offers the story of a woman who overcame racial prejudice to start a religious ministry that continues today. An inspirational story of the power of one individual of faith to transform the world.

Price: \$10.00 each

[Read More](#)

African American Catholic Youth Bible



The African American Catholic Youth Bible is the first Catholic Bible designed especially to speak directly to young

Black Catholics. Published in partnership by The National Black Catholic Congress and Saint Mary's Press, this Bible depicts Jesus as an African American man and offers commentaries on biblical events and personalities, and inspirational black artwork that are meant to put Scripture into relevant context for young Black Catholics.

Price: \$20.00

[Read More](#)

Josephite Pastoral Center 1200 Varnum St. N.E. | Washington, District of Columbia 20017
www.JosephitePastoralCenter.org | pastoralcenter@josephite.com

Josephite Pastoral Center

Josephite Pastoral Center, 1200 Varnum St. N.E., Washington, DC 20017

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