

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.,

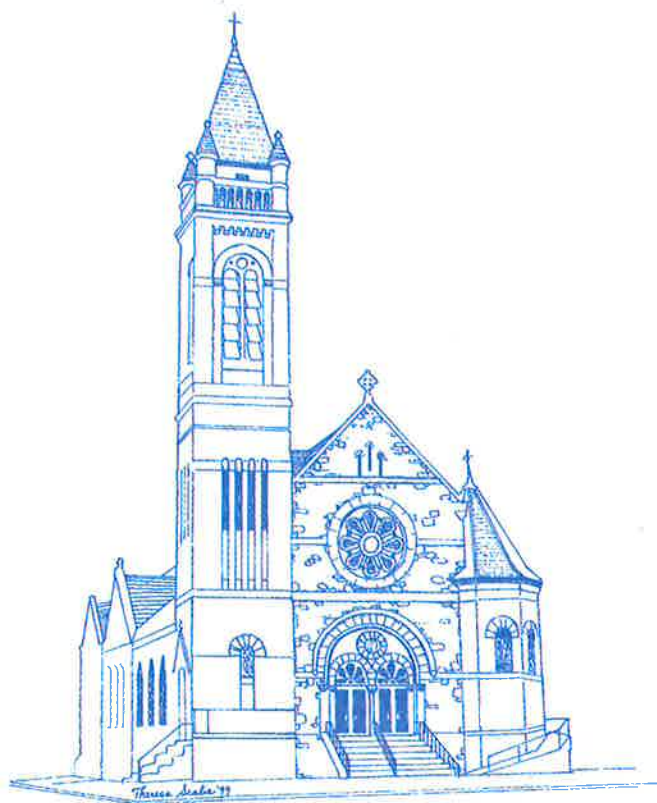
Pastor

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

"I came that they may have life abundantly"

Do you know the peace and security of the Good Shepherd who watches over his own? The Old Testament often speaks of God as shepherd of his people, Israel. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want (Psalm 23:1). Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! (Psalm 80:1) We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture (Psalm 100:3). The Messiah is also pictured as the shepherd of God's people: He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms (Isaiah 40:11). Jesus says he is the Good Shepherd who will risk his life to seek out and save the stray sheep (Matthew 18:12, Luke 15:4). He is the Shepherd and Guardian of our souls (1 Peter 2:25).

The Good Shepherd and Guardian of our souls

What can shepherding teach us about God and our relationship with him? At the end of each day the shepherd brought his sheep into shelter. They knew the voice of their shepherd and came at his beckoning. So familiar was the shepherd and his sheep, that each was called by a distinct name. In the winter the sheep were usually brought to a communal village shelter which was locked and kept secure by a guardian. In the summer months the sheep were usually kept out in the fields and then gathered into a fold at night which was guarded by a shepherd throughout the night. He was literally the door through which the sheep had to pass.

The Scriptures describe God as a shepherd who brings security and peace to his people. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and for evermore (Psalm 120:8). Even the leaders of God's people are called shepherds: they shall lead them out and bring them in; that the congregation of the Lord may not be as sheep which have no shepherd (Numbers 27:17). Just as a shepherd kept watch over his sheep and protected them from danger, so Jesus stands watch over his people as the Shepherd and Guardian of our souls (1 Peter 2:25). Do you know the peace and security of a life fully submitted to God?

Jesus willingly laid down his life for us - the sheep he ransomed with his own blood

St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430 AD) writes: "He has accomplished what he taught us: He has shown us what He commanded us to do. He laid down his own life for his sheep, that within our mystery he might change his body and blood into food, and nourish the sheep he had redeemed with the food of his own flesh. He has shown us the way we must follow, despite fear of death."

Stewardship Reflections

2 Timothy 1:14

Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.

Mass Intentions



Saturday

5:00 P. M. God's healing mercy and compassion for Darleen Thomas and family, req. by the Office Staff

(2) Happy birthday to Irita Branham Reid with many blessings, req. by Gracie

Sunday

8:00 A.M. People of the Parish

11:00 A.M. Happy Repose of the Soul of Napoleon Sykes, req. by the Family

Tuesday

8:00 A.M. Happy repose for the soul of Nathan Thomas, req. by Darleen Thomas and family

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. God's continue blessings on my family as we grieved the loss of my nephew, req. by Darleen Thomas

Thursday

8:00 A.M. Healing mercy for all of the sick in our parish and their families.

Friday

8:00 A.M

Today's Readings

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:14a, 36-41

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20b-25

Gospel: John 10:1-10

Next Weeks Readings

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9

Gospel: John 14:1-12



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.	5/8/2017	John 10:11-18
Tues.	5/9/2017	John 10:22-30
Wed.	5/10/2017	John 12:44-50
Thurs.	5/11/2017	John 13:16-30
Fri.	5/12/2017	John 14:1-6
Sat.	5/13/2017	John 14:7-14

Oblate Sisters of Providence

Applicants are needed for maintenance work

Experience: Some experience in general maintenance or a willingness to learn on site.

Skills: General knowledge in the following:

- plumbing
- Electricity
- Janitorial Cleaning
- Home Improvement
- Yard Maintenance

Hours: 7:00 am-3:00 pm (Monday-Friday)

Lunch: 11:30pm- 12:30 pm (Meal provided)

Transportation and a driver’s license is required.

Contact: Sister Lorraine 410-242-7981 (Please leave a message and your call will be returned)

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

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



Dawson Safe Haven Center

The Director of the Dawson Safe Haven Center which is located at 1401 E. Preston Street, Baltimore, MD 21213 is hosting a Free Summer Camp for the Oliver Community.

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.



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.



On behalf of the New Horizons, Squires, and Ashanti Ministries. Every Sunday in the month of May, we are accepting clean gently used men, women and children clothing. Drop them off at the church basement entrance hall designated area. These donations will go directly to help the seniors recently burned out of Lanvale Towers. Items will also go to St. Vincent DePaul homeless shelter program.

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.

St. Vincent De Paul Church

The Resource Exchange is a program of the Social Action Committee at St. Vincent de Paul Church. We place homeless persons in apartments in cooperation with Health Care for the Homeless. We are always looking for gently used small furniture pieces and household items. The complete list is on our website at stvchurch.org. For more information contact Pat Frascati at 410-663-5542 or 410-917-2214 or Frascati00@comcast.net

Archdiocese of Baltimore Mobile App

The Archdiocese of Baltimore has developed a mobile version of its website and an App for Apple and Android device users, to make it easier for Catholics to stay connected to their local church, including parishes and schools, while on the go. For more information, visit www.archbalt.org Or download the app from the app store.

23rd Annual Mass

The Archdiocese for Military Services will host the 23rd Annual Memorial Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, 4th Street and Michigan Ave, NE, Washington D.C. 20017-1566 on Sunday, May 21, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. This special liturgy honors the men and women of the Armed Forces. Principal Celebrant and Homilist: The most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio, J.C.D., Archbishop for the Military Services. Parking is limited. Military personnel are encouraged to be in uniform.

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
- Candace Coates
- Cecilia Johnson
- Kenny Williams
- Barbara Williams
- Francis Hance

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

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.