

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

"Behold the Lamb of God!"

John calls Jesus the Lamb of God and thus signifies Jesus' mission as the One who redeems us from our sins. The blood of the Passover Lamb (Exodus 12) delivered the Israelites in Egypt from slavery and death. The Lord Jesus freely offered up his life for us on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for our sins (1 Corinthians 5:7). The blood which he poured out for us on the cross cleanses, heals, and frees us from our slavery to sin, and from the "wages of sin which is death" (Romans 6:23) and the "destruction of both body and soul in hell" (Matthew 10:28).

John points to Jesus' saving mission - to offer up his life as the atoning sacrifice for our sins

It is significant that John was the son of Zachariah, a priest of Israel who participated in the daily sacrifice of a lamb in the temple for the sins of the people (Exodus 29). John recognized that Jesus was the perfect unblemished lamb offered by the Father in heaven as the one and only sacrifice that could cancel the debt of sin, and free us from death and the destruction of body and soul in hell.

The Holy Spirit reveals who Jesus truly is - the Son of God and Savior of the world

When John says he did not know Jesus (John 1:31, 33) he was referring to the hidden reality of Jesus' divinity. But the Holy Spirit in that hour revealed to John Jesus' true nature, such that John bore witness that this is the Son of God. How can we be certain that Jesus is truly the Christ, the Son of the living God? The Holy Spirit makes the Lord Jesus Christ known to us through the gift of faith. God gives us his Spirit as our helper and guide who opens our hearts and minds to receive and comprehend the great mystery and plan of God - to unite all things in his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:10).

Do you want to grow in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ? Ask the Lord to pour his Holy Spirit upon you to deepen your faith, hope, and love for God and for the plan he has for your life.

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. (1) In Loving Memory of Beverly Allen on 5th Anniversary of her passing, req. by her Children, grandchildren and great grandchildren

(2) Loving Memory of Joseph & Anthony J. Mello, req. by Dorothy Mello

Sunday

8:00 A.M. People of the Parish

11:00 A.M. In recognition of Julia Matthews on the occasion of her 91st Birthday, req. by the Matthews Family

Tuesday

8:00 A.M. Loving Memory of my parents and siblings, req. by Dorothy Mello

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. God's Blessing on Jeanne Edmonds and Roslyn Jackson, req. by Dottie Mello

Thursday

8:00 A.M. God's Blessing on all sick in the Washington and Mello Families, req. by Dorothy Mello

Friday

8:00 A.M. God's healing mercies for Mabel Smith, req. by Darleen Thomas

Today's Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Gospel: John 1:29-34

Next Weeks Readings

First Reading: Isaiah 8:23-9:3

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

Gospel: Matthews 4:12-23 or 4:12-17



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.	1/16/2017	Mark 2:18-22
Tues.	1/17/2017	Mark 2:23-28
Wed.	1/18/2017	Mark 3:1-6
Thurs.	1/19/2017	Mark 3:7-12
Fri.	1/20/2017	Mark 3:13-19
Sat.	1/21/2017	Mark 3:20-21

The Angel Project

The Angel Project team will always be impressed with the generosity of the St. Francis Xavier parishioners. There were even some parishioners who wanted to help and gave their information just in case. This year, we helped 23 families, which included 60 children. We cannot thank you enough for your kindness and concern for children that you will never know that you helped. Thanks, Angel Project Team: Mary Burton, Kim Grays, Joyce Logan, Renee Terry, Janet Wiggins and Suzonne Vickers.

Prayer Walk

Prayer Walk, Monday, January 16, 2017, at St. Bernardine Catholic Church, 3800 Edmondson Ave, Baltimore, MD, at 12:00 noon (Martin Luther King Day)



SPECIAL NOTICES

It's that Time Again! Mother Mary Lange 2017 Award Banquet! February 10, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

I have tickets for the Mother Lange Dinner; please reserve your seat with your money to support our awardees:

- *Leadership-: Joslyn Brown Alexander*
- *Service: Michael Allen*
- *Youth: Candre Henry*

The ticket cost is \$60.00 pp. Please reserve your tickets now. We have a limited amount of seats.

Important Notice:

Effective January 1, 2017, the rate to rent the Undercroft will be a total of \$500.00: \$100.00 to the Archdiocese for insurance and \$400.00 for the hall. If it is a weekend function an additional sum of \$50.00 will be charged for clean up. Even with the increase we are still one of the cheapest halls around.

December Financial

Income:: \$36,188.00

Expenses: \$41,597.73

Deficit: 5409.73

Outstanding expenses included:

Extraordinary repairs- (roofs)

Painting of church

Worship expense

Equipment expense

Administrative Expenses

Operating Expense

Special Notices

CDA Court # 2257

Will be hosting the Black Catholic Unsung Hero Women Award on Sunday, February 26, 2017 at the 11:00 a.m. Mass. We are asking that you nominate as hard working woman who epitomizes the best in caring for family, church and community. Applications are in the back of the church. They are due back by Sunday February 5, 2017. If you have any questions, please contact Marsha Powell at 443-467-2841.

SFX Circle Club Foxwood Casino Trip

We are still accepting travelers for the Circle Club trip. Please share the information with friends and relatives; we need at least 6 more people to get the trip off. Please think about joining us so that we do not have to cancel. So many people will be disappointed.



Census Information Update

We are in the process of converting to a new database. If any of your information is showing up incorrectly on the birthday or anniversary list, please inform the office.

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.

Mother Lange Guild Board of Directors

The Mother Lange Guild Board of Directors Cordially invite you to attend the Annual Liturgical Celebration commemorating the 135th Anniversary of the death of Servant of God Mother Mary Lange, OSP, on Saturday, January 28, 2017 at Two o'clock in the afternoon at Our Lady of Mount Providence Convent, 701 Gun Road, Baltimore MD. 21227.



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.

Sunday School Open House

SFX Sunday School will host an Open House on Sunday January 29, 2017 at 9:30 am. Join us to hear about our Religious Education Program and how much parent involvement is necessary for your child's faith formation. Come to meet the catechists, tour the classrooms, meet other parents ask questions and find out what your child is learning.

Joslyn Alexander

SPECIAL NOTICE!

Please Keep In 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. Frances 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.

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.



JOIN US AT OUR

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

We invite all families to join us at our

Sunday School Open House

on

Sunday, January 29th

9:30 - 10:45 a.m.

We offer Sunday School classes

from

PreK to 9th grade

Take a tour of our Sunday School.

Meet your child's Sunday School teachers.

Learn about our Sunday School curriculum - see it in action.