St. Francis Xavier Church (Newtowne)

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 7, 2018

Newtownne Mission from 1640  First Chapel Built 1662
Current Church Built 1731

O LDEST CATHOLIC CHURCH
IN ORIGINAL THIRTEEN COLONIES

Reverend Robert G. Maro, Administrator
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WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!
Registration forms are in the church vestibule
and on our parish website

SUNDAY MASSES
Saturday 4pm (Anticipated), Sunday 8am and 11am

DAILY MASSES
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8am

HOLY DAY MASSES
As announced in the bulletin

CONFESSIONS
Saturdays 3:15-3:45pm and by appointment

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION
Following the 8am Mass until 5pm

BAPTISMS: By appointment with Father

MARRIAGES: Make arrangements with your Pastor
at least six months in advance; call the Rectory

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES
Email Paula McLeod, paula.mcleod@gmail.com

BULLETIN ITEMS
Deadline is Friday, one week before Sunday date
Send items to sfx1640bulletin@gmail.com
Dear Parish Family,

Happy New Year! This is our first bulletin printed by Liturgical Publications (LPi). I want to thank Gertie Thomas and Lynn Marsh Freeman for all of their help in setting this up. Lynn is our new bulletin editor and I’m thrilled with the attractive new layout and design that she brings to our bulletin each week. I also appreciate Lynn’s work in giving the front cover of the bulletin a fresh new look. The picture of our church and manor house that adorns the cover is the work of Frank Greenwell’s photography and I’m very grateful for his permission to use this beautiful photo.

I need to ask for your prayers as I have minor surgery during the week of January 8th. It will be a routine procedure but I will need some time away to recuperate. I won’t be able to respond to any voicemails until I return on Sunday, January 14. If you are in urgent need of a priest during that time, please contact one of our neighboring parishes. There will be communion services during the week here at St. Francis and I have arranged to have coverage for all of the weekend Masses on January 13-14. I appreciate your patience and look forward to be up and running again soon!

The new year always brings to mind new year’s resolutions. There are many types of resolutions, some physical and others intellectual or social. Whatever they might be, let’s think about at least one new spiritual resolution. God is never content to just leave us where we are now. How might God be asking you to go deeper and grow this year?

Blessings galore!

Fr. Rob

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**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**Saturday – January 6**  
*St. Andre Bessette*  
3:15pm – Confessions  
4pm – Bishop Barry Knestout

**Sunday – January 7**  
*Epiphany of The Lord*  
8am – St. Francis Xavier Parish  
11am – Matthew Sheffield

**Monday – January 8**  
*The Baptism of the Lord*  
Communion Service

**Tuesday – January 9**  
NO MASS

**Wednesday – January 10**  
Communion Service

**Thursday – January 11**  
Communion Service

**Friday – January 12**  
Communion Service

**Saturday – January 13**  
*St. Hilary*  
3:15pm – Confessions  
4pm – Special Intention

**Sunday – January 14**  
*Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
8am – St. Francis Xavier Parish  
11am – Our Seminarians

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**Pray for the Sick**

*Especially Carolyn Russell Weiler, Ivonne May, and Erin Schaller.*

To add someone to our prayers for the sick in the intercessions at Holy Mass and in the parish bulletin, email sfxparishmd@gmail.com or sfx1640bulletin@gmail.com. If you are seriously ill or preparing for a surgery, call the Parish Office to arrange for the sacrament of anointing of the sick.
“Don’t give Jesus only your ‘spare time’ or ‘some thought’ occasionally. Like the Magi, let us set out, clothing ourselves in light, following the star of Jesus, adoring the Lord with our whole selves.” —Pope Francis

**SECOND COLLECTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Collection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 7</td>
<td>Father Andrew White School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 14</td>
<td>Church Missions in the US</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 21</td>
<td>Maintenance Fund</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MARCH for LIFE**

The annual National March For Life will be Friday, January 19, 2018, starting at 12pm on the Mall in Washington DC. There will also be a Youth Rally and Mass, starting at 6:45am at the Capitol One Center. Note that tickets are required for the Youth Rally and Mass.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish (IHM) in Lexington Park is sponsoring busses, leaving from IHM at 4:45am for the Rally, and 9:45am for the March. A $15 donation is asked to help defray the cost. To attend the Youth Rally & Mass, you will need a ticket: contact Peter Farrell, 240-317-7065, youth@ihmccc.org. For questions, or to reserve a seat on the bus, contact Mark Baysinger, nbay9@hotmail.com, 240-925-2677. Make a visible stand against abortion.

**PLenary Indulgence for those who attend the March for Life**

Pope Francis has decreed that a plenary Indulgence can be obtained by the Christian faithful if they participate in the liturgical and charitable celebrations associated with the March for Life January 18 & 19 in our Archdiocese.

The aged, sick, and those who due to grave reason are unable to leave home, will be able to obtain a plenary Indulgence if they join themselves spiritually to the March, offering prayers and their suffering or ailment to God, and if they meet the same conditions as those who attend.

To receive this plenary indulgence for the March for Life, a person must:
- make a Sacramental Confession*
- receive Holy Communion*
- pray for the Holy Father (usually one Our Father and one Hail Mary or Creed)

* on the same day if possible; if not, within several days of the March
Day of Reflection
January 27, 2018

The Archdiocese of Washington Department of Special Needs Ministries and Immaculate Heart of Mary parish (IHM) in Lexington Park are hosting a Day of Reflection: Supporting Families with Special Needs in Faith Formation and Beyond. Saturday, January 27, 10am to 2:30pm, at the IHM Fellowship Hall. This is a FREE event but registration is required. We are inviting catechetical leaders, catechists, ministry leaders, and interested staff members, as well as parishioners at large, to join us in learning more about supporting our families with special needs.

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel
St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.
Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Join Us for a Manor House Meeting
All parishioners are invited to attend the monthly Manor House meetings. The next meeting will be held Thursday, January 25, 2018, at 7pm in the Church Hall. Typically the nights are alternated on Mondays and Thursdays. For more info, contact Lynn Delahay, 301-475-5216, ldelahay@hotmail.com or George Matisick, 301-475-9698, gcatisick@gmail.com.
**Welcome to our New Bulletin!**

St. Francis Xavier parish has partnered with Liturgical Publications Inc (LPi), to print our weekly bulletin! As we begin our partnership with LPi, please continue to patronize our wonderful community advertisers and sponsors. Let them know your appreciate their support of our bulletin and our parish.

**Our Bulletin Editor** will be happy to get your parish and faith-related community news items published in the weekly bulletin.

Email bulletin items to Lynn Marsh Freeman, sfx1640bulletin@gmail.com. Deadline is Friday, one week before the Sunday date.

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**Blessing of the Home and Household on Epiphany**

*Leader*: Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace. Blessed be God forever.  
*All*: Blessed be God forever.

*Leader*: The Word became flesh and made his dwelling place among us. It is Christ who enlightens our hearts and homes with his love. May all who enter this home find Christ’s light and love.

Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star.

Bless this house and all who inhabit it.

Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
*All*: Amen.

May Christ Jesus dwell with us, keep us from all harm, and make us one in mind and heart, now and forever.  
*All*: Amen.

After the prayers of the blessing are recited, the initials of the Magi are inscribed upon the front door with chalk that has been blessed with holy water: 20 + C + M + B + 18. The initials — C, M, B — can also be interpreted as the Latin phrase “Christus mansionem benedicat” which means “Christ bless this house.”

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**This year, we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord on Monday, January 8.**

And a voice came from the heavens: “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”  
- Mark 1:11