St. Francis Xavier Church (Newtowne)
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JANUARY 14, 2018

Newtowne Mission from 1640 ꔩ First Chapel Built 1662
Current Church Built 1731

Oldest Catholic Church in Original Thirteen Colonies

Reverend Robert G. Maro, Administrator
sfxparishmd@gmail.com

William J. Nickerson, Deacon

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Web: stfrancisxavierchurch.org
Email: sfxparishmd@gmail.com

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

© Frank Greenwell Photography
Dear Parish Family,

Fr. Pedro Arrupe, S.J. once said that nothing is more practical than finding God, that is “falling in love in a quite absolute way... it will decide everything.” Our gospel today tells us how the disciples first found God in the Person of Jesus Christ. John the Baptist’s encounter with Christ led him to proclaim Jesus as the Lamb of God. Andrew’s encounter led him to bring his brother Simon to Jesus. Can you recall the first time you met the Lord in a way that you really knew that his love for you was real?

I’ve always loved this gospel because the apostle John was able to recall his first encounter with the Lord with so much detail — “It was about four in the afternoon.” When I think about my own first encounter with the Lord, I can’t call to mind one dramatic moment. But I know that it began during my college years and gradually deepened in my career as Director of Religious Education and then again through seminary formation and into the priesthood. It’s essential that we recall how the Lord led us to encounter him so that we can share that gift of faith with others, as John the Baptist and Andrew did.

As you think about today’s gospel, I encourage you to go back to that place when you first met the Lord with prayerful gratitude. And if you feel as though you haven’t had such an encounter, ask the Lord to give you that grace as you go into this new year. The joy of that first encounter with the Lord is like no other. Like Peter, John, and Andrew, he never tires of pursuing us.

Peace and blessings,

Fr. Rob

Mass Intentions for the Week

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

Monday – January 15
  Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
  8am

Tuesday – January 16
  NO MASS

Wednesday – January 17
  Saint Anthony
  8am – Rev. John Mattingly †

Thursday – January 18
  8am – Special Intention

Friday – January 19
  8am – Special Intention

Saturday – January 20
  St. Fabian
  3:15pm – Confessions
  4pm – J. Johnson Payne Jr. †

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

PLEASE PRAY...

For the sick, especially Carolyn Russell Weiler, Ivonne May, and Erin Schaller.

For our beloved dead, especially Marie Koviak, mother of Tom Koviak.

Let us support one another in prayer.
Email sfxparishmd@gmail.com or sfx1640bulletin@gmail.com. If you are seriously ill or preparing for a surgery, please call the Parish Office to arrange for anointing.
The way you help heal the world is that you start with your own family.”
—St. Teresa of Calcutta

**Pope Francis has said that respect for life is not just about the unborn child in the womb, but also about the least of our brothers and sisters.**

Yes, it is even upon the undocumented resident alien who has no voice but ours. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are all called to protect the voiceless.

Let us pray...

Good and gracious God, you blew into our nostrils the breath of life. You are the One to whom we owe our very existence.

Give us the courage to take that unpopular position of protecting those who have no voice, from the unborn child in the womb to the person taking his or her last breath.

The life you have given us is a gift beyond measure. Embolden us to speak the truth about protecting the child, the elderly, and the one without a voice in the public square.

With thankful hearts, we ask all this of the One God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

**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*

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**THIS WEEK**

**JANUARY 14: 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

*Collection for Church Missions in the US*

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**JANUARY 21: 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

*Maintenance Fund Collection*
*Continuing the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (January 18-25)*

What does “unity” mean? For those of us who claim Christ as our model of living and savior of humanity, it means we are one. This year the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has as its theme the Scripture citation 2 Corinthians 5:14-20. The first line contains our mission statement: “For the love of Christ impels us, once we have come to the conviction that one died for all; therefore all have died.” If that is not a mandate for unity, then there is none. We are one in the death of Christ and therefore live in unity with all other Christians.
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.

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, at 7pm in the Church Hall.

For more information, contact Lynn Delahay, 301-475-5216, ldelahay@hotmail.com or George Matisick, 301-475-9698, gcmatisick@gmail.com.

Is the Holy Spirit calling you to serve as a Lector?

Are you a Lector and want to polish your skills?

The Archdiocese Office of Worship will conduct a Lector workshop at Holy Face Church on Saturday, February 10, 2018, from 1-4pm. You’ll learn techniques that will help you proclaim the Word at Mass. These workshops are open to all. There is a $5 registration fee, which is payable at the door. RSVP by emailing liturgy@adw.org.

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Where Are You Going?

Is God Calling You?

Come and see what a day in the life of a seminarian is like! Juniors and Seniors in High School are invited to a Special Day at Saint John Paul II Seminary on Friday, Jan 26.

High school men will eat three meals, attend class, Mass, and Adoration with seminarians, and have an opportunity to ask questions. In addition, the attendees will be able to engage with others who may also be considering the seminary as an option for college.

Visit dcpriest.org to register: click on “Events.” After you register, please download and complete the permission slip. Please submit your permission slip ahead of time by mail (145 Taylor St NE, Washington DC 20017), fax (202-636-9025), or email (yaot@adw.org).

Have questions or need more information? Contact the Office of Priest Vocations at vocations@adw.org or 202-636-9020.

Men’s Discernment Retreat Weekend –

Friday, Feb 2 through Sunday, Feb 4, 2018.

Cardinal Donald Wuerl invites men in their 20’s – 40’s who are considering a call to the priesthood to attend a discernment retreat led by priests of the Archdiocese of Washington at Saint John Paul II Seminary. The retreat will offer time away from your daily routine and provide an opportunity for prayer and reflection to examine God’s call. Registration is required, at dcpriest.org: click on “Events.”

Questions? Contact the Office of Priest Vocations at vocations@adw.org or 202-636-9020.
THE ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRIES PRESENTS

A DAY OF REFLECTION FOR ST. MARY’S COUNTY PARISHES

JANUARY 27, 2018
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

at
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Hall
22375 Three Notch Road,
Lexington Park, MD 20653

This workshop is FREE but registration is required by: January 19, 2018

Please contact:
Specialneedsministry@adw.org
or 301-459-7464

Check-In begins at 9:30 am
Continental Breakfast & Lunch will be served

Stay for the day!
Optional daily Mass at 9 am
Confessions at 2:45 pm
And vigil Mass at 4 pm

Let us gather together to pray, reflect and continue to learn about supporting our families with special needs in faith formation and beyond.

If childcare is needed, please let us know at the time of registration. For ASL contact 301-841-8210 VP at least two weeks in advance.

#BelongingStartsHere

301.459.7464 SPECIALNEEDSMINISTRY@ADW.ORG