St. Francis Xavier Church (Newtowne)

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 4, 2018

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

OLDER 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
“It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun than to do without Holy Mass.”
—St. Pio of Pietrelcina

WE NEED YOUR HELP — CHECK OUT THESE OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE OUR PARISH AND OUR COMMUNITY!

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER IS A WELCOMING PARISH
Fr. Rob would like to form a parish hospitality committee to help with food, drinks, and decorating for special parish events. If you are interested in helping or chairing this committee, please email Gertie Thomas, gertiethomas@outlook.com

OUR PARISH HAS A LONG HISTORY OF SERVICE TO THOSE IN NEED
To bring all these efforts together, Fr. Rob would like to form a parish outreach committee, to help serve the poor and those in need of special assistance. If you are interested in helping or chairing this committee, please email Fr. Rob, sfxparishmd@gmail.com

HELP PRESERVE OUR HISTORIC RELIGIOUS ART
Do you have a professional background and expertise in restoring and painting old statues? We could use your help! Please email Fr. Rob, sfxparishmd@gmail.com
Sat Second Collections

My sincere thanks goes out to Richard Phillips and Walt Hayes for the hours they spent polishing the brass on our altar candles and tabernacle. They did an outstanding job in restoring them to their original splendor. I’m also very grateful to Walt Hayes for installing the door on our confessional for added privacy and to Richard Phillips for his generous donation of brass altar candlesticks that beautifully adorn our main altar and back altar.

Fr. Rob
**Special Mass with Cardinal Wuerl**

Join Cardinal Wuerl in honoring the memory of enslaved men and women who, during the period when slavery was legal, were buried in unmarked graves throughout what is now the Archdiocese of Washington. This special Mass will be celebrated Saturday, Feb 3 at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at 5:15pm.

Learn more at adw.org.

In November 2017 Cardinal Wuerl issued a pastoral letter, *The Challenge of Racism Today*, in which he called for unity among all people to confront the “persistent evil of racism.” As part of the archdiocese’s ongoing dialogue and reconciliation efforts to serve as witnesses to the unity of God’s family and to acknowledge the sin of enslavement in the Washington, DC region, the markers that honor the unnamed men, women, and children who were enslaved and are buried will be installed at archdiocesan cemeteries after they are blessed.

The Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Washington presently consists of five major cemeteries and two minor cemeteries, and more than forty parish cemeteries. Founded in 1858, Mount Olivet Cemetery in Washington is the only archdiocesan cemetery with known graves of enslaved peoples. The four other archdiocesan cemeteries were established after the abolition of slavery, but will also feature the markers to honor the unnamed enslaved of the region. A number of parish cemeteries in the archdiocese that date back to the time of the first settlers will also be able to place similar memorial markers on their properties.

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**2018 Cardinal’s Appeal Update**

Thanks to everyone who participated in making a pledge for this year’s Cardinal’s Appeal. Monthly statements for Cardinal’s Appeal pledges have been mailed. It is important that these pledges are paid so that our parish will reach and exceed our goal. Please be sure to make your pledge payments prior to the end of the month so that you will receive credit for it on your statement next month.

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**NEWTOWNE MANOR HOUSE RESTORATION**

Donations to:

St. Francis Xavier Church
21370 Newtowne Neck Road
Leonardtown MD 20650

Memo line: Manor House Restoration

For more information:

Lynn Delahay, 204-925-6485
George Matisick, 301-475-9698

newtownemanorhouse@gmail.com

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**GATTON’S Barber Shop**

Est. 1933
Hollywood MD

Tuesday-Saturday
301-373-5300

www.gattonsbarbershop.com
Dear Parish Family,

It’s with great joy that we welcome approximately 20 new families that have come to our parish since July of 2017. Please join us for a social to welcome them immediately following the 4pm Mass on Saturday, February 3 in the Parish Hall. We’re very happy to have Kevin’s Corner Kafe, here in Leonardtown, providing the food. Tables will be set up throughout the Parish Hall with representatives from some of our volunteer ministries and the different aspects of parish life. It should be a fun time and I hope you will be able to stop by and join us.

As we move closer to Lent, which begins on February 14, I’d like to reflect on why we place so much importance on attending Holy Mass.

St. John Vianney, known as the patron saint of parish priests, once said: “If we knew the value of the Mass, we would die for joy.” At every Mass Jesus Christ, in the person of the priest, offers Himself to God the Father for us and we receive Him in the Eucharist. That’s why we call it the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

What happened over 2,000 years ago at Calvary is made present in mystery at every Mass. Bishop Fulton Sheen said that the Mass is like God reaching to Calvary and laying hold of Christ on the Cross and planting Him down in front of us. No wonder why St. John Vianney could say that we would die for joy if we truly knew the value of the Mass.

This Lent, I’ll be giving a talk on the meaning of the Mass on Sunday, February 25 at 9:15am in the church. Stay tuned for more details!

Peace and blessings,

Fr. Rob