St. Francis Xavier Church (Newtowne)

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 25, 2018

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

OLDEST CATHOLIC CHURCH
IN ORIGINAL THIRTEEN COLONIES

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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
“Put all the good works in the world against one Holy Mass; they will be as a grain of sand beside a mountain.” — St. John Vianney

**THIS WEEK**

**FEBRUARY 25**: Second Sunday of Lent  
*Collection*: Church in the Developing World  
*Fr. Rob will talk on The Meaning of the Mass*  
9:15am, Church—come learn the meaning and significance of the various Mass parts!  
*Chaplet of Divine Mercy*: 3pm, Church

**FEBRUARY 26**  
Manor House Meeting: 7pm, Church Hall

**FEBRUARY 28**  
Confessions 6:30-7:30pm

**MARCH 1**  
Spiritual Book Club: 9am, Church Hall

**MARCH 2**  
*First Friday Adoration beginning at 8:30am, with Vespers at 6:30pm (Note time!)*  
*Stations of the Cross*: 7pm  
*Fish Fry*: 6-8pm, Church Hall

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**MARCH 4**: Third Sunday of Lent  
*Lenten Food Drive*  
Bags distributed at all Masses: Please return filled bags next weekend! Our collection benefits Our Lady of the Wayside Mary Lou Gough Food Bank  
*Chaplet of Divine Mercy*: 3pm, Church

**MARCH 7**  
Confessions 6:30-7:30pm

**MARCH 8**  
Spiritual Book Club: 9am, Church Hall

**MARCH 9**  
*Stations of the Cross*: 7pm

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**Knights of Columbus**  
St. Francis Xavier the Missionary Council #10957  
St. Francis Xavier Church Hall

**FISH FRY**

Friday, March 2 from 6-8pm  
Come out and enjoy a social evening!  
Dinner Menu from Crab Knockers  
*Fish, Scalloped Potatoes, Cole Slaw, Rolls Plus Coffee & Tea*  
Adults: $12 Children 5-10: $6  
4 and younger: Free

**2018 ANNUAL JUBILARIAN MASS**

Cardinal Donald Wuerl will celebrate the annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years on Sunday, June 17 at 2pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Please call Gertie in the parish office or use the sign-up forms in the back of church to register. Names of jubilarians need to be turned in to the parish office by Mon, April 16.

**Confessions each Wednesday in Lent Through Mar 28: 6:30-7:30pm in the church**
Manor House Minutes

2nd Annual “Walk in the Park” 5K Fun Run/Walk

Join us on Sat, April 28, for this fun event to benefit our parish’s Newtowne Manor House Preservation/Restoration Fund. Open to all ages and abilities. Course starts at St. Francis Xavier Church and follows the road into picturesque Newtowne Neck State Park. Registration starts at 8am and run/walk starts at 9am. The registration fee will help preserve this religious and historical landmark. Kids 12 and under are free. Information on registration is available in the church vestibule and at www.stfrancisxavierchurch.org. If you are interested in helping as a volunteer or sponsor, please call Sarah Matisick, 301-247-7416.

Upcoming Manor House meetings:
*Mon, February 26,
*Thu, March 22,
*Mon, April 23, and
*Thu, May 24.
All parishioners are invited to attend the meetings at 7pm in the Church Hall. For more information, contact Lynn Delahay, 240-925-6485, ldelahay@hotmail.com or George Matisick, 301-475-9698, gcmatisick@gmail.com.

March Second Collections
Mar 4  FAW School
Mar 11 Maintenance Fund
Mar 18 Easter Flower Offering
Mar 30 Good Friday/Holy Land

When we get to Mass early, The Holy Father urges us to pray silently, not chit-chat

Last November, Pope Francis spoke on the common habit of chatting with people around us before Mass, stressing that this is a time for silent prayer, when we prepare our hearts for an encounter with the Lord.

“When we go to Mass, maybe we arrive five minutes before, and we start to chit-chat with those in front of us,” the Pope said during his Nov 15, 2017 General Audience.

“It is not a moment for chit-chat. It is a moment of silence for preparing ourselves for dialogue, a time for the heart to collect itself in order to prepare for the encounter with Jesus... Silence is so important.”

The Holy Father continued his new catechesis on the Eucharist, recalling his message of the week prior, that the Mass is not a show, but a place where we encounter the Lord. In this encounter, he said, silence is what “prepares us and accompanies us.”

He noted that many say they don’t have time to pray. “We lose sight of what is fundamental: our life of the heart, our spiritual life, our life of prayer with the Lord.” However, Jesus surprises us in truth by loving us and calling us even in our weaknesses, he said, adding that just as Christ called his disciples, he also calls us to him at each Mass.

“This is, therefore, the greatest grace: to be able to experience the Mass, the Eucharist. It is the privileged moment to be with Jesus, and through him, with God.”
Lenten Spiritual Book Club
Join us this Lent as we delve into “Fire and Light: Learning to Receive the Gift of God” by Fr. Jacques Philippe. Starting Thu, Feb 22, at 9am in the Parish Hall. Copies of the book will be available for purchase through the rectory. Price is $12. If you are interested, email Paula McLeod, paula.mcleod@gmail.com.

You Don’t Deserve to Be Abused
Domestic abuse occurs whenever one person in an intimate relationship or marriage tries to dominate and control the other person. Domestic violence and abuse are used for one purpose and one purpose only: to gain and maintain total control over you. An abuser doesn’t “play fair.” Abusers use fear, guilt, shame, and intimidation to wear you down and keep you under his or her thumb. Your abuser may also threaten you, hurt you, or hurt those around you. If you experience any form of abuse, please know that there is help. Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Join us every Sunday at 3pm in the church through April 8, as the Knights of Columbus lead us in the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. All are welcome.

For each of the five decades
(On each “Our Father” bead of the rosary, pray)
Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

(On each of the 10 “Hail Mary” beads, pray)
For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Concluding prayer (Repeat 3 times)
Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

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

Bullets just for Kids!
Find them in the vestibule with the regular Sunday bulletin. Two versions—My Family and Me for PK-1st graders; My Church, My Family and Me for 2nd-3rd graders. Both are designed to amplify the Sunday Gospel message and to help your child “grow with the Gospel.”

Third District Optimist Club Drive-Thru Seafood Dinner
Fridays through Mar 30, 4-7pm. $10 per dinner: fish, shrimp, clam strips, fries, hush puppies, apple sauce. Their mobile kitchen will be set up in the St. Mary’s Fairgrounds parking lot in front of the main gate. Help the Optimists support the 4-H’s fledgling archery group.

Gatton’s Barber Shop
Est. 1933 Hollywood MD
Tuesday-Saturday 301-373-5300 www.gattonsbarbershop.com
Dear Parish Family,

I always enjoy visiting with my college friends as they are now married and have young children of their own. This past week I had such an opportunity to visit with a couple I have known for many years. It gave me great joy to know that their son, John Paul, who will turn three in June, truly loves going to Holy Mass. They’ve told me that he often sings the alleluia throughout the house and pretends to say Mass for them on any given day. Who knows, maybe he’ll be a priest someday? But no matter what his vocation will be, I pray that he never loses his awe and wonder for what happens at Holy Mass.

This Sunday February 25, at 9:15am in the church, I’ll be offering a talk on understanding what happens at Holy Mass. I’ll explain the Mass part by part; why we do what we do and what it means. We’ll look at the Biblical origins for some of the prayers that we say at Mass, and I would love to answer some of your questions. For example, do you know why the priest kisses at the altar at every Mass and what is contained inside the altar? Do you know why we ring the bells three times and how that practice got started?

This Lent, may we all deepen our love for God in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass with the same wonder and awe as my friend’s son, John Paul. For it is there that we receive the greatest gift of all, the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ. St. John Vianney put it this way: “If we really understood the Mass, we would die of joy.”

Peace and blessings,
Fr. Rob