Newtowne Mission from 1640 ♦ 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
21370 Newtowne Neck Road
Leonardtown MD 20650
Telephone: 301-475-9885
Fax: 301-475-5662
Web: stfrancisxavierchurch.org
Email: gertiethomas@outlook.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
There is only ONE thing to do here below: to love Jesus, to win souls for Him so that He may be loved.

Let us seize with jealous care every least opportunity of self-sacrifice. Let us refuse Him nothing – He does so want our love!

—St. Therese of Liseux (1873-1897)

Thought of the Week:

YOU CAN GET YOUR TICKET TO THE 81ST ANNUAL MARYLAND HOUSE AND GARDEN PILGRIMAGE TOUR FEATURING ST. FRANCIS CHURCH AND MANOR HOUSE TODAY!

Pre-sales of “Tour Bells” will be available from the St. Mary’s County Garden Club (SMCGC) at Earth Day On The Square; Sunday, April 22 from 12:30-4:30pm.

The Tour is May 26, from 10am-5pm, and features the Newtowne area and includes several nearby locations (visit mhgp.org/Saint-Mary-s-County-2018 for a complete list).

Newtowne Manor House has been chosen by the St. Mary’s County Garden Club (SMCGC) as their special project; all proceeds will benefit The Manor House Restoration Fund.

Details and advance ticket sales at mhgp.org. Tickets are $35 online, $40 at the door (cash or check only at door). Call 301-861-6112.

Order your gourmet boxed lunch! Available by pre-paid reservation only; must be made by May 12.

Options include Chicken Salad sandwich, Portobello Mushroom sandwich, Stuffed Ham sandwich or gluten-free Caesar salad with chicken; side salad, chips, dessert and bottled water included. Mail checks payable to SMCGC for $15 along with lunch selection to Judy Moe, 41720 Knight Rd, Leonardtown MD 20650.

Questions? jmoe@earthlink.net, 301-475-7974.

This is an opportunity to share our unique history and natural beauty while helping to preserve and protect this local treasure.
Please pray for our 8th Grade Confirmation candidates (shown here with those from Immaculate Conception Parish, Mechanicsville) as they prepare to receive the sacrament of Confirmation on Wed, May 16 at 7pm with Bishop Campbell.

Photo taken at the St. Clement’s Island Museum.

On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, please keep our Seminarians in your prayers.

Ryan Braam
Joseph Brown
Christopher Feist
Kevin Lukowski

Mark Mergner
Kyle Vance
John Winslow
Alex Wyvill

Photo taken at the St. Clement’s Island Museum.
On April 26, the Spiritual Book Club will be starting a new book: Scott Hahn’s *The Fourth Cup*. If you are interested in attending, please email Paula McLeod at paula.mcleod@gmail.com. The book is available for purchase at Amazon or Barnes and Noble.

**27th Annual Festival & Dinner**

**Immaculate Conception Parish**

Sunday, May 6, 2018
12 noon ‘til ?

Featuring: Southern Maryland Fried Chicken, Ham, Crab Balls, Spiced Shrimp, Green Beans, Parsley Potatoes, Pickled Beets, Apple Sauce, Homemade Coleslaw, Garden Salad, Rolls, Dessert (For Eat-In Only), & Beverages

$25.00 for Adults
$15.00 for Children (ages 6 – 12)
Children under 6 eat free!

In addition to a great meal, we’ll also have: Raffles, Bake Table, White Elephant Table, Plant Table, Children’s Activities, Bingo and more!

For more info, call the rectory 301-884-3123 or Linda Marzka 240-526-0728 or George Matisick 301-475-9698

**HELP Needed for Garden Pilgrimage Luncheon on May 26**—Reserved gourmet boxed lunches will be served or picked up at the Church Hall from 11am-2pm. We will be hosting a dessert table and provide drinks. Call Lynn Delahay at 240-925-6485 if you are available to serve on this committee.

Five-Week grief support workshop continues Apr 25-May 16.
Immaculate Conception Church Hall.
To register, call 301-884-3123.

**May Collections**

- May 6 FAW School
- May 13 Catholic Relief Services
- May 20 Maintenance Fund

**LVRSA Fundraisers—Support Our First Responders**

Join us this month!
As always, please let your server or cashier know you’re there to support the LVRSA fundraiser so the Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad gets credit for your visit.

**Kevin’s Corner Kafe: Fried Chicken Dinner**
Wed, April 25, 3-9pm. Dine-in or take-out.

**1st Annual Rockfish Fishing Tournament:**
Fitzie’s Marina, Sat, April 28.
There will be the captains meeting Fri, April 27, 6:30pm at Fitzie’s. If interested or would like to be a sponsor, call 301-481-7421. **Hope to see you!**
And thanks for your support!

**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
Dear Parish Family,

You may have noticed the beautiful processional candles that adorn our main altar. They are a gift from Don and Paula McLeod to the parish on the occasion of their 45th wedding anniversary on March 31. I am deeply grateful for their generosity and thoughtfulness in giving us these beautiful candles for our altar servers to lead the processions at Holy Mass. Thank you, Don and Paula, for all that you do for our parish. May God grant you abundant blessings and many more happy years in your marriage!

In the main sanctuary, you’ll also see that we have a new sanctuary lamp and a new statue of St. Therese of Liseux. When I looked back at the pictures of our church from many years ago, I saw that two statues used to be present in the main sanctuary. One was of St. Therese of Liseux and the other was of the Sacred Heart. St. Therese was there because she is the co-patron of the worldwide missions along with St. Francis Xavier. While St. Francis Xavier traveled as a missionary to India and Japan, St. Therese never left the convent to go to the missions. They are co-patrons of the missions to remind us that what makes a missionary is not the legs, but the heart. A missionary is a person whose heart burns with love for Christ and zeal for souls and therefore answers to the call of Christ to go and make disciples of all nations.

Coming in June, the original statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus will return to its former place in the main sanctuary. It is being restored now and will be re-dedicated and blessed for our church along with the statue of St. Therese on the feast of the Sacred Heart on Friday, June 8. Please stay tuned for more details.

Peace and blessings,

Fr. Rob