St. Francis Xavier Church (Newtowne)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 2, 2018

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

OLDEST CATHOLIC CHURCH
IN ORIGINAL THIRTEEN COLONIES
Reverend Robert G. Maro, Pastor
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William J. Nickerson, Deacon
Parish Office
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Web: stfrancisxavierchurch.org
Tour: roundme.com/tour/249939/view/733

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 after the 4pm Mass, Sundays 7:30-7:50am
& 10:30-10:50am, 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
**THIS WEEK**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2**
First Sunday of Advent
*Collection for FAW School
*Snack Pack Collection—place your donations in the container in the vestibule

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7**
*First Friday Adoration: 8:30am-6:45pm
*Holy Day Vigil Mass: 7pm

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8**
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Holy Day Mass: 9am

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9**
Second Sunday of Advent
*National Collection for Retired Religious
*Bereavement Group: 9:15-10:15, Rectory

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16**
Third Sunday of Advent
*Collection for Maintenance Fund

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**Sharing Our Treasure**

For Nov 25, 2018

1st Collection (Offertory): $2,634.00
Thanksgiving (November 22): $103.00

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**Retirement Fund for Religious Collection Next Weekend**

Gifts to this annual collection, established in 1989, offer support for senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests whose communities lack sufficient retirement funding. Some 33,000 women and men religious past the age of 70 benefit from this collection.

Our participation next weekend gives us an opportunity to be a witness of Our Lord’s love and mercy for the men and women religious who have contributed so much to sharing his love with others and to building up the Church. Thank you for your generosity.

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**Sing for Christmas!**

Monday, December 24 at 4pm, the Children’s Choir will sing for the Children’s Christmas Mass. We welcome singers grades pre-K to 8 to join the children’s choir.

**Thought of the Week:**

“It is impossible to find a saint who did not take the two ‘Ps’ seriously: Prayer and Penance.”
— St. Francis Xavier (1506-1552)
**December Collections**

Christmas Flower Offering
Dec 2  FAW School
Dec 8  Immaculate Conception
Dec 9  Retired Religious in the US
Dec 16  Maintenance Fund
Dec 25  Christmas

**Our New Book:**
Scott Hahn’s “Signs of Life”
Join us! Two sessions meet Thursdays in the Parish Hall: 9-10am and 7-8pm.
Email Paul McLeod, paula.mcleod@gmail.com.

**Join Our Parish for Best Advent Ever**
A free email program from Dynamic Catholic that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during the busy holiday season. Each day of Advent, you’ll receive an email with...

**Short inspirational videos from Allen Hunt, Matthew Kelly, and the Dynamic Catholic team.**
**Practical tips for your everyday life.**
**Real-life stories to encourage you in your faith Journey.**
To sign up, visit BestAdventEver.com/Christmas18

**Holiday Music Dec 26, 6pm, at the Kennedy Center Concert Hall.** Two of our parishioners, Dot Bell and Lynn Delahay, and Carol Zentherofer (Our Lady of the Wayside), will be singing with this fabulous group. Enjoy seasonal holiday classics and the world premier of *An Alleluia Flourish!* by Julian Wachner. www.encorecreativity.org

**December 3: We Celebrate the Memorial of St. Francis Xavier**

Novena Prayer to St. Francis Xavier

Most amiable and most loving Saint Francis Xavier, in union with thee I reverently adore the Divine Majesty. I rejoice exceedingly on account of the marvelous gifts which God bestowed upon thee. I thank God for the special graces He gave thee during thy life on earth and for the great glory that came to thee after thy death. I implore thee to obtain for me, through thy powerful intercession, the greatest of all blessings — that of living and dying in the state of grace. I also beg of thee to secure for me the special favor I ask in this novena.

_Mention requests here…_

In asking this favor, I am fully resigned to the Divine Will. I pray and desire only to obtain that which is most conducite to the greater glory of God and the greater good of my soul.”

V. Pray for us, Saint Francis Xavier.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

O God, Who did vouchsafe, by the preaching and miracles of Saint Francis Xavier, to join unto Thy Church the nations of the Indies, grant, we beseech Thee, that we who reverence his glorious merits may also imitate his example, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Add 3 Our Fathers and 3 Hail Marys in memory of Saint Francis Xavier’s devotion to the Most Holy Trinity, and Glory be 10 times in thanksgiving for the graces received during his 10 years of apostleship.
December 7
First Friday Adoration
8:30am-6:45pm
Please join us for Vespers at 6:15pm
Followed by Benediction
Vigil Mass begins at 7pm

St. Francis Xavier’s
Angel Tree Project
is sponsoring 20
children across
St. Mary’s County
this Christmas season.
There is a small tree in the back of the Church with tags. Each tag lists toys or clothing items requested by the families for their child.

How it works: Once you have chosen your tag(s), purchase one or more of the gifts listed on the back of the tag. Return your unwrapped gifts and the tag (for tracking purposes) to the tree by Sunday, December 16. Gifts will be collected each Sunday after 11am Mass. Monetary donations are accepted to cover the gifts if you prefer not to shop. Donations of wrapping paper are also needed.

Please contact Veronica Johnson at 240-298-8194 or vmjohnson0716@gmail.com if you have any questions. We hope that this will become a new tradition for our Parish, and we truly appreciate your generosity!

Bear Hugs for Healing
You can help deliver stuffed bears to hospitalized children and Give a Bear Hug this Christmas!

Just drop off your donated bears by Dec 6, at Heavenly Presents, 22697 Washington Street (on the Square), in Leonardtown. Store hours are Tue - Sat, or use the after-hours drop box outside the store front door. Your tax-deductible monetary donations will be used to purchase bears at a discounted price! Please make checks payable to the Bread of Life Center for Peace and mail them to: PO Box 338, Leonardtown, MD 20650. OR you may purchase a bear or make donations through our website at www.breadoflifecenterforpeace.org.

Due to health and safety concerns, donated bears must be new and delivered in their original packing with store tags attached. Used stuffed bears are not accepted by the hospitals.

For more information on how you can help, call Patricia Disandro, 240-681-3606.

Father Andrew White School Crusader Connections

First Friday Mass:
Father Andrew White School celebrates Mass as a school family every Friday. On First Fridays a class or special group hosts the Mass. These 9am First Friday Masses at St. Aloysius are student led. Students partake by being the lectors, altar servers, gift bearers, and chorus. Older students sit alongside their younger class buddies to help them more fully participate. We invite all parishioners to join us any Friday. This Friday, Dec 7, we hope to see you as the 5th Grade hosts the 9am Mass.
Dear Parish Family,

Happy New Year! While we still have just a month left in the calendar year, the Church is celebrating the beginning of a new Liturgical year this weekend with the First Sunday of Advent. The word ‘Advent’ is derived from the Latin *ad venio*, “to come.” This is the liturgical season anticipating the *Adventus Domini*, the “coming of the Lord.” During this holy season we are reminded to await the coming of Christ on three levels: *in the past* — as a babe in the stable of Bethlehem; *in the present* — as grace in our souls; and *in the future* — as the Judge at the end of time.

How providential that this year, the first saint’s feast day that we remember in Advent also happens to be our parish’s patron. This Monday, December 3, we celebrate the feast of St. Francis Xavier (1506-1552). He was a companion of Saint Ignatius of Loyola and one of the first seven Jesuits. St. Francis Xavier was a great missionary to Africa, India, and Japan.

St. Francis Xavier converted more people than anyone since the apostle St. Paul. He baptized so many that at night he could not raise his arm from fatigue. Sometimes he would teach the faith by versifying Catholic doctrine and fitting the verses to popular tunes. St. Francis Xavier’s work as a missionary should help us to ponder our own missionary duty to spread the Gospel and bear witness to our Catholic faith to the people in our lives. St. Francis Xavier’s body is still incorrupt and his right arm has been preserved and venerated around the world.

Peace and blessings,
Fr. Rob

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**Saturday – December 1**
**Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
4pm — Billy Goddard †

**Sunday – December 2**
**First Sunday of Advent**
8am — St. Francis Xavier Parish
11am — Russell Plunkett †

**Monday – December 3**
**St. Francis Xavier**
8am — Msgr. Thomas M. Duffy †

**Tuesday – December 4**
**No Mass**

**Wednesday – December 5**
8am — Msgr. Thomas M. Duffy †

**Thursday – December 6**
8am — John & Pauline Moriarty+

**Friday – December 7**
**St. Ambrose**
8am — Charles D. Downs †

**Saturday – December 8**
**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
9am — Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Daly †
4pm — Billy Goddard †

**Sunday – December 9**
**First Sunday of Advent**
8am — St. Francis Xavier Parish
11am — Rev. Joseph J. Kleinstuber †

**Prayer Requests**

Our beloved dead: Zachary Henry

Email sfxparishmd@gmail.com and let us join in prayer for one another. If you are seriously ill or preparing for a surgery, call the Parish Office to arrange for the sacrament of anointing.

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**Mass Intentions**


Our beloved dead: Zachary Henry

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