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

Oldest Catholic Church
in Original Thirteen Colonies
Reverend Robert G. Maro, Pastor
sfxparishmd@gmail.com
William J. Nickerson, Deacon
Judith Gwynn, Parish Secretary
sfxparishoffice1662@gmail.com
Denise Becher, Bookkeeper
sfxbookkeeper@gmail.com
Mailing address: 21370 Newtowne Neck Road
Leonardtown MD 20650
Telephone: 301-475-9885
Fax: 301-475-5662
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
God never gives someone a gift they are not capable of receiving. If He gives us the gift of Christmas, it is because we all have the ability to understand and receive it.” —Pope Francis

**THIS WEEK**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23**  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
*Children’s Choir practice after 11am Mass  
**THERE WILL BE NO DAILY MASS**  
DECEMBER 26-28

---

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**O COME, all ye faithful**

**CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24**  
4pm: Children’s Mass  
9:30pm: Choral Prelude  
10pm: Mass of Christmas

**CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25**  
Mass at 9am only

**THERE WILL BE NO DAILY MASS OR COMMUNION SERVICE:**  
Tue, December 26  
Wed, December 27  
Fri, December 28

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30**  
**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 1**  
**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**  
A Holy Day of Obligation  
Mass at 12 Noon only

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**Sharing Our Treasure**  
**For Dec 16, 2018**

First Collection (Offertry): $2,789.00  
Second Collection (Maintenance): $1,063.00

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**Blessing of a Christmas Manger**

**Begin with a reading from Luke 2:1-8**

God of every nation and people,  
from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love;  
when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary.  
To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.  
Lord, bless all who look upon this manger;  
may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to him,  
who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever.  
Amen.

—From Book of Blessings

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**SAVE THE DATE FOR**

**PANAMÁ in the CAPITAL**  
**January 26, 2019**

“A ONE-DAY CATHOLIC FESTIVAL FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS CELEBRATING WORLD YOUTH DAY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.”

**“God never gives someone a gift they are not capable of receiving. If He gives us the gift of Christmas, it is because we all have the ability to understand and receive it.”**  
—Pope Francis
St. Francis Xavier contributes to the Mary Lou Gough Food Pantry located at Our Lady of the Wayside in Chaptico. Please help by bringing non-perishable foods to church. Place them in the wicker trunk just inside the front door to the left. Donations are delivered weekly. Thank you!

**Workshop for Lectors**
Sat, January 26, 2019
9am—Noon
St. Francis Xavier Parish Hall
This workshop will instruct lectors on how to be effective proclaimers of the Word in a liturgical setting, including an explanation of the Lectionary and the structure of the Catholic Biblical tradition. Open to all, both current lectors and anyone interested in becoming a new lector. A $5 registration fee can be paid at the door. RSVP by email to liturgy@adw.org.

**Please note these schedules may not reflect the latest changes/scheduling accommodations**

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<td>D McLeod</td>
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<td>10pm</td>
<td>M Detrick</td>
<td>E Dorrans</td>
<td>W Thompson, M Cosgrove</td>
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<td>9am</td>
<td>J Howe</td>
<td>C DeLozier</td>
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<td>11am</td>
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<td>12pm (Noon)</td>
<td>P LaPorte</td>
<td>J Roman</td>
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**Feed The Children...**

**Our next Snack-Packs for Kids collection is Jan 6**

Donations provide weekend nourishment for at-risk children in need.

- Applesauce snack cups
- Cans of pasta with meat
- Cracker packs
- Easy Mac N Cheese
- Granola bars
- Fruit cups in juice packs
- Fruit Snacks-100% fruit
- Instant lunch bowls
- Instant oatmeal
- Juice boxes-100%fruit
- Ramen noodles
- Rice Krispies treats
- Shelf-safe milk boxes (single-serving size)
- Small boxes of cereal
ATTENTION RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS AND FAW STUDENTS PREPARING FOR FIRST RECEIPTION OF THE FOLLOWING SACRAMENTS:

FIRST CONFESSION
Saturday, February 2, 2019
9am Penance Service at SFX Church

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
Saturday, May 11, 2019
9am Mass at SFX Church

CONFIRMATION
Wednesday, May 15, 2019
7pm Mass at SFX Church

ALL OF THE ABOVE WILL TAKE PLACE HERE AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH.

FATHER ANDREW WHITE SCHOOL
CRUSADER CONNECTIONS

FLL Robotics Competition:
Congratulations to both of the FAW First Lego League teams who competed over the weekend. The Comets won the Project Award and the Global Innovation Award. And the Troopers won the Champions Award and will go on to the State competition at UMBC. Way to go Crusaders!

Christmas Blessing: As you prepare for the birth of our Lord, may love come alive in your hearts. May hope fill your homes and bring joy to your families. May peace dwell deep within you. And may your faith strengthen as you become a light for others. God bless you always! Merry Christmas!

Merry Christmas

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
LYNN DELAHAY, 204-925-6485
GEORGE MATISICK, 301-475-9698
NEWTOWNEMANORHOUSE@GMAIL.COM
Dear Parish Family,

Recently Deacon Bill told me that he would like to retire from full time ministry beginning on Christmas Day, so I’d like to take this opportunity to thank him for his 16 years of faithful and dedicated service to our parish as a permanent deacon.

When I asked Deacon Bill how he heard God’s call, he said that he was in church one day and asked Fr. Mattingly what he could do to help around the parish. Fr. Mattingly replied, “Why don’t you be a deacon?” After much prayer and discernment, Bill went on to study in the diaconate program for four years, with his wife Shirley by his side throughout the whole process. Bill was ordained a deacon at the Basilica in D.C. with 23 classmates in 2002. As far as we know, Bill is the first and only deacon to serve here at St. Francis Xavier.

I asked Bill what he enjoys most about being a deacon and he told me that it is the companionship of the congregation. Though Bill & Shirley were married here at St. Francis Xavier in 1954, his ministry as a deacon has helped him to feel more a part of the parish than ever.

A highpoint for Bill was the years that he taught catechism with John Henry Bond, as well as teaching R.C.I.A. with Helene Bowes. Being a deacon has made his faith that much stronger, and he still loves praying the Scriptures in the breviary (prayer book for priests & deacons). Bill is especially grateful to the Church in southern Maryland for bringing him his lovely wife, Shirley; family, and faith. We will still see Deacon Bill around the parish and welcome him back in the sanctuary at any time. May God bless you, Deacon Bill! We are all grateful for your ‘yes’ to God’s call.

Peace and blessings, Fr. Rob

Saturday – December 22
4pm — Billy Goddard †

Sunday – December 23
Fourth Sunday of Advent
8am — St. Francis Xavier Parish
11am — Rev. Joseph J. Kleinstuber †

Monday – December 24
Christmas Eve
4pm — Betty Farrell †
10pm — Special Intentions

Tuesday – December 25
Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord
9am — Francis “Judge” Delahey

Wednesday – December 26
St. Stephen
NO MASS—No Communion Service

Thursday – December 27
St. John
NO MASS—No Communion Service

Friday – December 28
Feast of the Holy Innocents
NO MASS—No Communion Service

Saturday – December 29
4pm — Billy Goddard †

Sunday – December 30
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
8am — St. Francis Xavier Parish
11am — Mary Ann Snow


Our beloved dead: Those known only to God.
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.

Prayer Requests


Our beloved dead: Those known only to God.
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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Julia A. Tolson
Cemetery Manager
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