St. Francis Xavier Church (Newtowne)

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD’S PASSION
APRIL 14, 2019

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
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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
**THIS WEEK**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14**

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

*Collection for Maintenance Fund*

**Holy Thursday**

Evening Mass at 6pm, followed by Adoration until 10pm (Night Prayer at 9:45pm)

**Good Friday**

*Collection for the Holy Land*

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**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE PREPARING TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENTS AT THE EASTER VIGIL:**

Todd Earhart (catechumen preparing for Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist)

James Black and Angela Rudman (candidates for full communion, preparing for Confirmation and Eucharist)

Stacy Koviak (Confirmation)

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**SHARING OUR TREASURE**

**For Apr 7, 2019**

1st Collection (Offertory): $2,160.55

Online Giving $760.00

2nd Collection (FAW School) $325.00

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**“But Palm Sunday tells us that... it is the cross that is the true tree of life.”**

—Pope Benedict XVI

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**HOLY WEEK 2019**

**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17**

**The Passion of the Christ (Movie)**

7:00 pm in the PARISH HALL

**HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 18**

**Morning Prayer at 9:00 am**

**Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 6:00 pm**

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 19**

**Morning Prayer at 9:00 am**

**Stations of the Cross at 5:00 pm**

**Service of the Lord’s Passion at 7:00 pm**

**HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 20**

**Morning Prayer at 9:00 am**

**Easter Vigil at 8:00 pm**

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**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21**

**Masses at 8:00 & 11:00 am**

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**THE JOHN J. POLKO, SR. MEMORIAL**

**POLISH DINNER**

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

**SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2019**

4 – 7pm

St. Francis Xavier Church Hall

**YOU DON’T HAVE TO BE POLISH TO LOVE THIS FOOD!**

**DINNER MENU TO INCLUDE:**

- Kielbasa and Kapusta (Polish Sausage & Sauerkraut)
- Kapusta z kluski (Fresh Cabbage and Noodles)
- Golabki (Cabbage Roll)
- Pierogi (stuffed with potato and cheese)
- Bread, Dessert, Coffee & Tea

Price: $15.00 — $5.00 Children (10 and Under)

Contact: Tom Koviak @ 240-434-1464
Dear Father Rob and our St. Francis Xavier family,

Please accept our sincere thank you and heartfelt appreciation for your thoughts and prayers for the safe return of Alex DeManss from the Middle East. Alex returned safely from the State of Qatar after his one-year un-accompanied deployment. He was met by family, friends, veterans, and members of his U.S. Air Force squadron in Florida. His next assignment is at NAS Pensacola.

Your prayers have gone a long way to keep him safe and protect his wife and three children here at home.

We can’t thank you enough!

Leslie and Mike DeManss

Be a part of a time-honored tradition: Join fellow Catholics in Adoration at the Altar of Repose on Holy Thursday at these parishes:

St. Aloysius, FAW gym, until Midnight
(Night Prayer, 11:50pm)
IHM, Parish Hall, until Midnight
Our Lady’s Church, until 11pm
St. George, Community Center, until 10pm
(Night Prayer, 9:45pm)
St. Joseph, Morganza, until 10pm
St. Francis Xavier, Parish Hall, until 10pm
(Night Prayer, 9:45pm)
St. John Francis Regis, Msgr. Harris Center, until Midnight
St. Peter Claver, McKenna Center, until Midnight
Holy Angels, until Midnight
Sacred Heart, until Midnight
Our Lady of the Wayside, until 11pm
Holy Face, 7:30- Midnight
St. Michael, St. Joseph Chapel, until Midnight
St. Cecilia, Rectory, until Midnight
Immaculate Conception Parish Center, until Midnight

"A GREAT EPIC FILM, TWO THUMBS WAY UP!"
- EBER & ROEPER

"IT IS AS IT WAS."
- POPE ST. JOHN PAUL II

"AN IMPRESSIVE PASSIONATE VISION!"
- MICHAEL WILMINGTON, Chicago Tribune

**The Passion of the Christ**
Rated "R" for sequences of graphic violence; not for young children.

**St. Francis Xavier Parish Hall**
**Wednesday, April 17, 2019**
**7:00 PM (Admission is free)**
**Shown on the widescreen and in surround sound!**

Outdoor Stations of the Cross:
Rev. Andrew E. Royals will lead the devotion of the Way of the Cross in the St. Mary’s Queen of Peace Cemetery in Helen, MD. The devotional will begin at Noon on Good Friday, April 19. All are welcome to participate. Questions? Call the Catholic Cemeteries of Southern MD Regional Office at 301-475-5005 or 301-932-1766, or email qop@ccaw.org.
“IT’S A PLAY, IT’S A PRAYER, IT’S A MYSTERY”
Tue, Apr 16, 7:30pm, at St. Aloysius Church

Since 1981, IHC Seniors have been bringing the stories of Jesus’ birth and death on the cross during the Advent and Lenten seasons.

Lent calls to mind many ancient traditions in the Catholic Church, one being the Stations of the Cross. The Immaculate Heart Central High School Mystery Players from Watertown, NY, present, in a very creative way, the centuries old stations. Meditation and contemplation on the death and resurrection of Jesus is the central mystery in the prayer life of the Catholic Church. The Mystery Plays of the Middle Ages focused on the presentation of this central mystery. Connected to ancient Mystery Plays, the IHC Mystery Plays bring the stations to the modern level through use of special lighting, music, pantomime, and paraliturgical readings, and recreates the Paschal Mystery in a moving, dramatic presentation.

This group has performed extensively throughout NY State, as well as NJ, MA, PA, MD, VA, NC, CT, and Canada.

Note: recommended for grades 5 and up; small children may be frightened due to the nature of the play. For a preview, visit: https://www.ihcschool.org/spiritual-life/mystery-players.

St. Aloysius Church, Tue, Apr 16, 7:30pm
We strongly encourage everyone to attend this unique and powerful prayer experience.

**Father Andrew White School Crusader Connections**

**Living Stations:** Each year FAW’s 7th grade class hosts a dramatic presentation of the Stations of the Cross. On Holy Thursday, the whole school will meditate on the Passion of Christ as the 7th graders commemorate Jesus Christ’s last day on Earth as a man. This unique devotion is in the form of a shadow theater. We invite all parishioners to join them in the FAW Gym at 11:30am on Thu, April 18 to participate in this moving experience.

**The Virtue of Justice:** Our parish school continues to participate in the Virtues in Practice program this year. Each month, the whole school focuses on the same virtue as they hope to grow closer to Jesus by imitating His life and virtues. They also learn more about the saints who exemplify these good habits. This month students and their families are learning about the virtue of justice. Please join them during the month of April by modeling how you are fair and administer proper punishments and rewards.

**The Rectory Office**
will be closed
**Easter Week – April 22-26**

**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

**BOOK CLUB**

The Spiritual Book club will be starting a new book on Thursday, May 9. The book will be *The World’s First Love* by Bishop Fulton Sheen. Join us Thu mornings at 9am, or Thu evenings at 7pm. For more information contact Paula McLeod at Paula.mcleod@gmail.com
Dear Parish Family,

Today, Palm Sunday, we begin the holiest of all the weeks in the Church year. Holy Week is always a beautiful time of the year as we prepare to celebrate the sacred mysteries of our Catholic Faith. Today we receive blessed palms as a reminder of the victory of the faithful by the grace of God over the enemies of our souls. It represents a victory of the spirit over the flesh.

Because the palms are blessed, they are now sacramentals, which are sacred signs that become “occasions of grace.” They help dispose us to receive the fruit of the sacraments and sanctify different circumstances of life. Sacramentals should be treated with respect and never be thrown away. Blessed palms may only be burned or buried, or you may bring your old palms from home to the church and we will dispose of them for you here when we light the fire for the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. As a child, I remember we always put the fresh palms that we received from Palm Sunday Mass behind the crucifixes in our home. I still continue that custom to this day.

I encourage you to enter into the mystery of these sacred days by attending the Masses and services of the Sacred Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and then Easter Sunday. Please see our Holy Week/Easter schedule in the bulletin. Please note that additional confessions will be offered again on Good Friday immediately after the Stations of the Cross. Making a good confession is one of the best ways to prepare for Easter.

Peace and blessings,
Father Rob


Our beloved dead: Jack Hodges, Christine Russell, Teenie Cusic, John Hall, and John Garner

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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