St. Francis Xavier Church (Newtowne)

BULLETIN FOR
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT — DECEMBER 22, 2019
AND
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY — DECEMBER 29, 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
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
8:30-9:30am—Benediction at 9:20am

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
Send items to sfx1640bulletin@gmail.com
Deadline is Friday, one week before Sunday date
**THIS WEEK**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22**
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
*Confessions: Sat, after the 4pm Mass, Sun 7:30-7:50am & 10:30-10:50am*
*Children’s Choir practice: Noon, Church*
*Service of Lessons & Carols: 4pm, Church*
With St. Mary’s Ryken Knight-N-Gales
Reception follows in the Parish Hall

**CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY**
**SEE SCHEDULE FOR TIMES**

**THE RECTORY OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DEC 24—JAN 1**

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29**
**THE HOLY FAMILY**
*See the schedule for Mass days and times this week*

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2020**
**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**
*Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services*

**SHARING OUR TREASURE**
**DECEMBER 8 & 15, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Offertory</th>
<th>Online Giving</th>
<th>Second Collection</th>
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Offertory reporting may be delayed by one week this month, due to early submission deadlines from our bulletin publisher.

“**It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you.**”
—St. Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997)

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**CHRISTMAS 2019**

**St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church**

**Christmas Eve & Christmas Day**
**SEE SCHEDULE FOR TIMES**

**THE RECTORY OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DEC 24—JAN 1**

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**JAN 5 COLLECTION FOR ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES (AMS)**
AMS provides pastoral care and spiritual services to the 1.8 million men & women and their families in the US Armed Forces in the US and around the world, including VA centers. It also maintains more than 2.5 million sacramental records.

AMS receives NO funding from the US government, but is funded by the generosity of its chaplains, men and women in uniform, and private benefactors.

Show your support with a generous donation Jan 5.

Lt. Patrick Riffle, Chaplain, USN, formerly of the Archdiocese of Washington.
Father Riffle is one of only 46 Catholics priests in the Navy & Marine Corps.
**BOOK CLUB**

The next Spiritual Book Club will start Jan 9, 2020. The workbook is *The Turning Point*, a study of the Gospel of John. It may be purchased at DynamicCatholic.com. Participants should also ask for the free booklet of the Gospel of John. Contact Paula McLeod, paula.mcleod@gmail.com

SFX helps prevent weekend hunger for children in food-insecure homes at Banneker Elementary School.

Use the shopping list below and pick up easy to prepare meals and snacks when you're at the grocery store. **Drop off your donation in the back of church 1/5.** Thanks!!

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**SNACK-PACKS FOR KIDS SHOPPING LIST**
- Applesauce snack cups
- Cans of pasta with meat - Cracker packs
- Easy Mac N Cheese - Granola bars
- Fruit cups in juice - Fruit Snacks (100% fruit)
- Instant lunch bowls - Instant oatmeal
- Raisins in snack-size boxes
- Juice boxes (100% fruit) - Ramen noodles
- Rice Krispies treats - Small boxes of cereal
- Shelf-safe milk boxes (single-serving size)

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**OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE PARISH**

**“SOUTHERN MARYLAND ROOTS”**

Youth group is selling a 30-week $100 raffle: $20 each until the end of December. Tickets make great stocking stuffers while supporting a great cause! All proceeds will be used for a pilgrimage event “The Journey” to historic St. Clements Island for high school youth on Sep 19, 2020. Details: Theresa Friess, 240.298.3879, theresaf@olwrcc.org

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**OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE PARISH**

**Southern MARYLAND ROOTS**

**30 WEEK $100 RAFFLE**

**Purchase a single ticket for a chance to win $100 every week** 1-30 Jan, 1-30 Apr, 1-30 Jun, 1-30 Sep, 1-30 Dec.

**Winners will be contacted via email or phone.**

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**ANNUAL WALK IN THE PARK**

**Sat, April 25, to benefit the Manor House Restoration. Details to follow!!**

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**UPCOMING COLLECTIONS**

**Dec 25 Christmas Offering**

**Important Tax Notice!**

All 2019 donations MUST be received in the parish office by 12/31/19

| Jan 1 | Mary, Mother of God |
| Jan 5 | Archdiocese for the Military Services |
| Jan 12 | FAW School |
| Jan 19 | Maintenance Fund |

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**Bereavement Support Group**

A parish grief support group for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one in the recent past. Sundays, 9:15-10:15am in the Rectory. Join us:

Jan 12 — Feb 9 — Mar 22 — Apr 26
May 24 — Jun 28 — Jul 12 — Aug 9
Christmas Blessing:
As we await our Lord’s birth, may you acquire the virtue of patience. Our hope is truly in the coming of the Lord. May His peace be with us all. We wish you and your family much love and joy this Christmas. God bless you always!

Merry Christmas!

Project WARM:
FAW is hosting the WARM Program for local homeless adults on Dec 28 at Camp Maria. Students and their families will be serving dinner and breakfast and doing various activities with the guests. Please pray for all those who are attending this event. We wish a blessed Christmas to all!

Our School will be closed Dec 21-Jan 5.

How can I make a return to the Lord?
Consider a year-end donation to St. Francis Xavier

Whether for gratitude, the joy of the season, catching up on a commitment, or excitement about exceeding your commitment, we are grateful for your year-end giving and want to assist in any way we can.

Only gifts that are received in the parish office by December 31, 2019 can be reported on your contribution statement issued by St. Francis Xavier parish.
If you have any questions, please call or email Judith Gwynn at the rectory, sfparishoffice1662@gmail.com

As you plan your End-of-Year Giving, remember St. Francis Xavier and the 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

Support our SFX Newtowne Endowment Fund, established in conjunction with the Community Foundation of Southern Maryland

You can donate online at https://www.cfsomd.org/sfx-newtowne-endowment-fund/
Or by check, made payable to Community Foundation of Southern Maryland (note SFX-Newtowne in the memo line) to PO Box 716, Charlotte Hall MD 20622.

The Community Foundation of Southern Maryland is a 501©(3) public charity. All gifts to the SFX-Newtowne Endowment Fund are deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Questions? Call 240-670-4483, or email director@cfsomd.com.

Father Andrew White School Crusader Connections

We pray the Rosary
† At 7:30am before our weekday Masses (Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri)
† 30 Minutes Before all Masses the first & fifth Sunday of each month
Dear Parish Family,

First, I want to take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a most blessed and holy Christmas. May the Christ child shower you with every blessing and may Our Lady wrap her mantle over you and keep you ever close to her Immaculate Heart. Please know of my prayers for you, especially at the altar at each of the Christmas Masses.

I want to thank Jacquelynn Kirby & everyone who generously volunteered to make our church look so beautiful for Christmas, and that includes the Knights of Columbus for setting up our outdoor nativity scene. Your decorating helps us to ponder the mystery of Christ’s birth in an environment that is warm and prayerful, for which we are all very grateful.

My sincere gratitude also goes to our adult choir (led by Richard Edwards and Lynn Delahay) and to our children’s choir (led by Bob Schaller). The choirs have spent many long hours to prepare such a beautiful arrangement of music for us. Thank you for helping to lift our minds and hearts to God so prayerfully and in the spirit of great joy.

This week I’ll be taking some time away to visit my family in New York. I’ll leave after the 9am Mass on Christmas Day and will return on New Year’s Day. The office will be closed from December 25 - January 1. Fr. Jack Mcfarlane will cover the weekend Masses on December 28-29. If you are in urgent need of a priest during that time, please contact one of our neighboring parishes.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
Fr. Rob
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