St. Francis Xavier Church (Newtowne)

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
JANUARY 5, 2020

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

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

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 9**  
*Book Club: 9am, Parish Hall*  
*The Turning Point*, a study of the Gospel of John.

**THERE IS A WAY TO JOIN THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**THERE IS A WAY TO JOIN THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**THAT MAN IS YOU! RESUMES JANUARY 18**

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020**  
**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**  
*Collection: FAW School*  
*Bereavement Group: 9:15-10:15am, Rectory*

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 16**  
*Book Club: 9am, Parish Hall*

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 17**  
*Movie Night: 7pm, Parish Hall*  
*A Time for Miracles*, the story of Elizabeth Bayley Seton, the first American born saint.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 18**  
*That Man Is You!: 6-7:30am, Parish Hall*

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**SHARING OUR TREASURE**

**DECEMBER 22, 2019**

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<tr>
<td>Online giving 12/15</td>
<td>$1,160.00</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Second Collection (none)</td>
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**“Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, man in God, God in man, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body.”**  
—St. Peter Chrysologus (380-450)

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**TMIY BEGINS 2020 PROGRAM**

Wherever you are in your spiritual life, Jesus Christ wants to encounter you right there and take you further. That Man Is You! (TMIY) is a men's group that meets every Saturday morning and has helped thousands of men across the country become better sons, fathers, husbands and friends. Continuing an exciting program designed for both newcomers and past participants, our Spring 2020 meetings begin Sat, Jan 18, 6-7:30am in the Parish Hall and continue through April.

To learn more, please email Matt Cosgrove: matthewcosgrove@verizon.net, or Mark Coontz: mark_coontz@live.com.
WHO GOES HUNGRY?

Every community in the country is home to families who struggle with food insecurity. Hunger can affect people from all walks of life. Many Americans are one job loss or medical crisis away from food insecurity—but some people, including children and seniors, may be at greater risk of hunger than others.*

You can help by donating to the Mary Lou Gough Food Pantry at Our Lady of the Wayside, to keep it stocked with needed supplies to help our brothers and sisters in need.

For the month of JANUARY our focus is on CANNED FOODS: Soups, vegetables, meats.

DROP OFF DONATIONS NEXT WEEKEND!

Of course, any donation is always welcome and greatly appreciated. Suggestions are listed on a flyer in the back of church. Bring non-perishable foods to church and place them in the plastic bin in the vestibule. Donations are delivered weekly to the food pantry. Thank you for your help with this vital parish ministry.

*Source: feedingamerica.org

Parish Movie Night: A Time for Miracles

Fri, Jan 17, 7pm—Parish Hall.

This 1980 biographical drama tells the true story of Elizabeth Bayley Seton, the first American born saint. She converted to Catholicism following the death of her husband, after his shipping business went bankrupt. Seton established the first Catholic girls’ school in the nation and founded the first American congregation of religious sisters, the Sisters of Charity. It will inspire you to visit the beautiful shrine built in her honor in Emmitsburg, Maryland, where St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is buried today.

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Important Tax Notice!
2019 donations MUST have been 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

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

The next Spiritual Book Club starts Jan 9, with The Turning Point, a study of the Gospel of John, available at DynamicCatholic.com. Participants should also ask for the free booklet of the Gospel of John. We meet Thursdays, 9am, in the Hall. Contact Paula McLeod, paula.mcleod@gmail.com
LEARN HOW TO DEFEND YOUR FAITH
Weekly Apologetics classes on Mon nights, 7pm in the St. Aloysius hall.
Upcoming Topics:
1/6  Defending the Jesuit Missions to India
1/13 Spanish Inquisition: Fact and Fiction
1/27 Defending the Right to Life
2/3  Did Jesus really do Miracles?
2/10 Defense of Church Property
2/24 Martin Luther from the Catholic Perspective
Complete list at saintaloysiuschurch.org/news/apologetics-series.

MAKE A NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTION TO SIGN UP FOR ONLINE GIVING and help ensure that Father can meet our parish’s financial commitments and responsibilities.
It’s easy to do: Just go to stfrancisxavierchurch.org.
Click on Online Giving — My Online Donation—select “View Donor Portal” to set up your one-time or recurring contribution.: credit, debit, or checking account. Thank you!

FATHER ANDREW WHITE SCHOOL CRUSADER CONNECTIONS
The Virtue of Fidelity:
Our parish school is participating in a 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 Fidelity. Please join them by praying for the children to be faithful to promises and commitments during the month of January.

Shoe Drive: Please help the FAW Destination Imagination teams raise money to compete at the regional, state, and possibly global tournaments! The DI team, Seven Lucky Starbucks, is collecting gently used and new shoes for a good cause! Please bring any unwanted shoes that still have some life left to give to St. Aloysius or FAW School and put them in the shoe collection box any time between now and Feb 1. The Seven Lucky Starbucks thank you and your soles!

THE HOLY FATHER’S INTENTION FOR JANUARY:
Promotion of World Peace
We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

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

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,

Today, the Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ, is one of the oldest Christian feasts. “Epiphany” comes from a Greek verb meaning "to reveal". Over the centuries, it has celebrated various events that reveal Christ and manifest Him to the world: His birth, the visitation of the gift-bearing Magi, His baptism in the Jordan River and His first miracle in Cana. Today, the Feast of the Epiphany primarily recalls the visitation of the Wise Men to the Christ Child, when His Kingship of all peoples and nations is recognized.

There is a fascinating Epiphany custom that has its origin in Austria, Germany, and Switzerland. In fact it became so popular that is now a part of our Catholic heritage around the world today. The parish priest would visit homes and, using blessed chalk, mark the lintel of the front door with an inscription like this:

20 * C+M+B+20

This transcription signifies 2020 for the year; C for Caspar, M for Melchior, and B for Balthasar (the names of the three wise men). The star (*) symbolizes the star that guided the magi and the three crosses symbolize the Trinity. It can also be said that the C+M+B means Christus mansionem benedicat, “May Christ bless this house.”

On the holy night in Bethlehem, Jesus was born among us in the poverty of a stable; on the day of the Epiphany, the Magi acknowledged Him as the long-awaited Messiah of the nations; today, all of our attention is focused on His person and mission.

— Pope St. John Paul II

Faithfully in Christ,
Father Rob