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, FEBRUARY 2, 2020**

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

*World Day for Consecrated Life
*Second Collection: FAW School
*Snack Packs for Kids Collection

*How to Help Friends & Family Suffering Domestic Abuse* workshop: 9:15am, Parish Hall

Sometimes bad things happen in good families.

You and your family deserve to be safe and loved in your home.

If you are living in fear, change is possible.

Call 1-800-799-SAFE for help, 24/7.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6**

*Book Club: 9am, Parish Hall

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

*First Friday Adoration
8:30-9:30am—Benediction at 9:20am

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

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

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2020**

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*World Marriage Day
*Food Bank Collection
*Bereavement Support Group: 9:15-10:15am, Rectory

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**SHARING OUR TREASURE**

**JANUARY 26, 2020**

Offertory $2,733.00
Online Giving $540.00
Second Collection (None) —-

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"The most deadly poison of our times is indifference… Let us strive, therefore, to praise Him to the greatest extent of our powers."

—St. Maximilian Kolbe (1894-1941)

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**HUNGER IN AMERICA IS CHANGING**

Millions of people struggle to get by because of underemployment, stagnant wages, and rising costs of living. Since federal nutrition programs don’t reach everyone in need, food banks help fill the gap. 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 food-insecure homes.

**FEBRUARY: 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*
Encounter Grace
Women’s Morning of Reflection...
Sat, Feb 29, 9am - 12 Noon
in the Parish Hall

4th Annual
“Walk in
the Park”
5K Fun Run/Walk

Join us on Sat, Apr 25, for this fun event
to benefit our parish’s Newtowne Manor.
This run/walk is open to all ages and abilities.
Course starts at the church and follows the road
into picturesque Newtowne Neck State Park.
Registration starts at 8am; run/walk starts at
9am. Registration fee of $20 (includes a t-shirt)
will help preserve this religious and historical
landmark. Kids 12 and under are free.
Registration info available in the vestibule and at
www.stfrancisxavierchurch.org. Donations are
always welcomed. For additional information,
please call Sarah Matisick, 301-247-7416.

2019 YEAR-END
CONTRIBUTION
STATEMENTS
HAVE BEEN
MAILED TO
REGISTERED
PARISH DONORS.

If you do not receive yours by Sat, Feb 9,
please call or email Judith at the rectory.
LEARN HOW TO DEFEND YOUR FAITH
Weekly Apologetics classes Mon nights,
7pm in the St. Aloysius hall.
Upcoming Topics:
2/3 Did Jesus Really do Miracles?
2/10 Defense of Church Property
2/24 Martin Luther from the
Catholic Perspective
3/2 One Nation, Under God?
3/9 How Dark were the “Dark Ages”?
3/16 Why are there many religions?
(If there’s only one God?)
Complete list at saintaloyiuschurch.org/news/apologetics-series.

THE HOLY FATHER’S
INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY:
Listen to the Migrants’ Cries
We pray that the cries of our
migrant brothers and sisters,
victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

ONE-DAY
PILGRIMAGE
SATURDAY, APRIL 25
The World Apostolate of
Fatima-Archdiocese of
Washington Division is
sponsoring a one-day bus
pilgrimage, led by Msgr. Balbago, to the
National Blue Army Shrine of Our Lady of
Fatima in Washington, NJ. Cost is $60.00.
For more info, call Monica, 301-949-5710.

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

FATHER ANDREW WHITE
(FAW) SCHOOL
CRUSADER CONNECTIONS
SCRIP: The FAW school community extends its heartfelt
thanks to all of you who supported and continue
to support our school through the SCRIP gift card program. Thanks to you and our school families, our SCRIP program is having a great year! From Nov 1 - Jan 1, we sold $83,000 worth of gift cards, most of those in $25 and $50 increments. We earned $4,361 for the school! Our school buys gift cards at a discount and sells them at face value for use not only as gifts, but also everyday shopping. You pay face value and receive face value, so there is no additional cost to you. We appreciate your consideration and support of our gift card fundraising program!

Science Competitions: The FAW Robotics team, the FAW Comets, competed last Saturday at Prince George’s Community College, and won 2nd place in Core Values. Judges commented on how well the team worked together and how kind they were to the other teams. Over the weekend, one 6th grade student, Oliver, represented FAW at the St. Mary’s County Science Fair. He competed in the biochemistry category and won 1st place in the entire county! He earned Junior Division Champion, and was the recipient of the Best Presentation award, Most Outstanding Ability to Communicate Science award, and the Educational Systems Federal Credit Union award. Amazing job, Oliver! Best wishes at Regionals in March!

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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 we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also known as Candlemas. In some countries, this feast marks the end of the Christmas season. Since Pope St. Paul II was from Poland, he kept the tradition of keeping the Christmas crèche on display in St. Peter’s Square through February 2, and this custom continues to this day.

The Presentation takes place forty days after the birth of Christ, when Mary and Joseph bring the child to the Temple for the purification rites and dedication as required by the Torah. This rite of purification required a sacrifice, either a lamb or a pigeon or turtledove. If a couple could not afford a lamb, they could offer two pigeons or turtledoves.

Then we meet Simeon, who was a good and holy man, advanced in years. He was told that he would not die until he had seen the Messiah. His words in today’s Gospel are part of the night prayer of the Church that all priests, deacons, and religious promise to pray:

Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel.

This is another epiphany, as Simeon announces that Jesus is the Messiah not only for the Jews but also the Gentiles; for both the righteous and sinners. He is the light who conquers the darkness of sin. It’s for this reason that candles are traditionally blessed on this day, which is why we also call this feast ‘Candlemas.’

Faithfully in Christ,
Father Rob
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