Welcome New Parishioners!

Registration forms are in the church vestibule and on our parish website.

Sunday Masses
Saturday 4pm (Anticipated), Sunday 8am and 11am
Rosary 30 minutes before Mass 1st & 5th Sunday

Daily Masses
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8am
Rosary at 7:30am before Mass

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, MARCH 15**
3rd SUNDAY OF LENT
*Archbishop Gregory celebrates the 11am Mass
*Second Collection: Church in the Developing World

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18**
Lenten Study Group: 7-8:30pm, Rectory

**FRIDAY, MARCH 20**
*Stations of the Cross: 7pm, Church
*Confession follows Stations

**SATURDAY, MARCH 21**
*That Man Is You!: 6-7:30am, Parish Hall

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 22**
4th SUNDAY OF LENT
*Lenten Food Drive
*Bereavement Support Group: 9:15-10:15am, Rectory

**KEEP PRAYING FOR OUR SEMINARIANS**
Thanks to all of you who picked a card from the Vocations Tree. It’s not too late to pick up a card if you haven’t already. Please keep up the daily prayers for seminarians throughout Lent — and beyond, if you wish.

### Sharing Our Treasure
**March 8, 2020**

- **Offertory** $2,325.00
- **Online giving** $665.00
- **Second Collection (none)**

*Thought for the Week*

"Like any other spiritual transformation or renewal, conversion must begin with an honest and sincere admission that we need God’s transformative power in our lives to achieve any real change, no matter the perspective from which we might begin."

- Archbishop Wilton Gregory (1947-present)

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**Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Bulletin**

**WHAT IS COVID-19?**

COVID-19 is a respiratory disease caused by a novel (new) coronavirus that was first detected in Wuhan, China.

The St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD), working with national state, and local partners to monitor and respond to COVID-19’s spread and impact as necessary. This is to delay your spread and prevent efforts for your congregation. As you may know, this situation is evolving with new U.S. cases and residents affected nearly every day.

**MORE INFORMATION**

Please consider encouraging your members to get information from reliable public health sources, such as:

- **St. Mary’s County Health Department**
  [www.smchd.org/coronavirus](http://www.smchd.org/coronavirus)
- **The Maryland Department of Health**
- **The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**
  [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

**WHAT CAN WE DO?**

- Post signage in your buildings with information about preventing spread of COVID-19 (examples in English and Spanish attached)
- Send out hand sanitizer and consider asking your members to use non-contact forms of greetings
- Encourage sick members to stay home and not expose others unnecessarily
- Consider leave greetings from the CDC cleaning mission on your doors
- Consider making available face masks and sanitizer at least 60% alcohol-based
- Perform routine environmental cleaning
- Encourage frequent hand washing and coughing/sneezing etiquette
- Stay informed - new guidance may come out at this situation evolves

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**Interfaith Health Alliance (IHA)**

The IHA is a partnership between SMCHD, the Interfaith Council, and faith-based organizations in St. Mary’s County. This partnership works to address key health issues in our community.

- **www.smchd.org/interfaith**
- **smchd.healthdept@maryland.gov**
- **(301) 475-4330**

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**Honor your loved ones this Easter with a donation to the Easter Flower Fund.**

Your donation will help beautify our church for the Easter liturgies.

Please submit names using your Easter Flower Fund envelope by Mar 29.
LENTEN FOOD DRIVE MAR 21-22
Hunger is an ever-present reality in our community. To help replenish local food pantry supplies, Catholic Charities and the Archdiocese of Washington together are sponsoring the Lenten Food Drive.

Our parish collection for the food drive is next weekend, Mar 21-22.

Bags for your donations will be provided if you wish to use them. Next weekend, put your donation bag in the vestibule. Our collection will be donated to the Mary Lou Gough Food Bank at Our Lady of the Wayside Church.

Please be generous with your contribution. If you wish, you may make a contribution to “Catholic Charities” with a note that it is for the food drive. Thank you for all you do to help the needy among us.

Fish Fry Friday
Parish Hall
Friday, March 27 6-8pm
Come out and enjoy a social evening!
Dinner from CRAB KNOCKERS
to include:
Fish, Potatoes, Cole Slaw, Rolls—Coffee & Tea
Adults: $12 — Children 5 to 10: $6
4 years old and younger: Free

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

Encounter Grace Women’s Retreat
The Grace of Yes
with Lisa M. Hendey
Saturday, March 28, 2020
9:30 a.m.–4 p.m.
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
2297 Old Village Road
Mechanicsville, MD 20629
COST:
Includes breakfast and lunch.
EARLY BIRD: $45
Valid until February 29, 2020
REGULAR PRICE: $55

How do we prayerfully give God our best “yes” and live as generous spirits in the world around us? Inspired by Mary’s strong and heartfelt “Yes!” and focusing on generosity in our faith lives, our relationships, our work, and times of challenge, hear how sometimes a prayerful “Yes!” can be our best "yes" to God and our loved ones. With time for quiet reflection and guided conversation, we will spend a restorative day contemplating our unique calling to be at our best and service to those around us while nourishing our own spiritual, emotional, and intellectual reserves.

Also by Lisa M. Hendey

Quo Vadis Excursion Day
Spring 2020
Join us for a day of hiking at Great Falls National Park with priests and seminarians. The day will also include Mass, lunch, Eucharistic Adoration, and dinner.
Sunday, March 29, 2020
WHERE: Meet at Our Lady of Mercy Church, Potomac, Maryland
WHEN: 9:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
** You must register to attend. **
For more information and to register, please visit https://dcpriest.org/high-school.

Questions? Contact Fr. Mark Ivany, Director of Priest Vocations, at vocations@adw.org or 202-636-9020.

High School Young Men:
Where are you going?
**NEWTOWE MANOR HOUSE RESTORATION**

**Donations to:**
St. Francis Xavier Church  
21370 Newtonemanorhouse@gmail.com

For more information:
Lynn Delahay, 240-925-6485  
George Matisick, 301-475-9698

**EMERGENCY SERVICE**
* 595 MS 730 **Emergency**
* 595 MS 1823 **Emergency**

**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

**MARYLAND DAY ACTIVITIES & MASS**
Bring the whole family on Mar 25 and celebrate the founding of Maryland, at St. Clement's Island Museum. Free water taxi rides, free museum admission 10am–5pm.
Ceremony from 2–3pm featuring guest speakers & dignitaries. Special Mass on the island at 11am. Call 301-769-2222 or visit Museums.StMarysMD.com for more info.

**The Light is On for You**
**Additional Confession Times during Lent**

Mon 5:30-6:30 pm  Our Lady of the Wayside, Chaptico
Tue 6:00-7:00 pm  St. Michael's, Ridge  
6:00-7:00 pm  Sacred Heart, Bushwood
Wed 6:00-7:00 pm  Holy Angels, Avenue  
6:00 7:00 pm  Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Solomon's (historic church)
6:30-8:00 pm  St. Aloysius, Leonardtown
6:30 8:30 pm  Immaculate Conception, Mechanicsville
Thu 6:05 pm  Immaculate Heart of Mary, Lexington Park  
Fri 8:30 am  Our Lady's Church, Medley's Neck  
6:00-7:00 pm  Holy Face, Great Mills
6:00-7:00 pm  St. George, Valley Lee
6:30 pm  Our Lady's Church, Medley's Neck  
7:30-8:00 pm  St. George, Valley Lee
7:30 pm  St. Francis Xavier, Newtonen, Leonardtown

**2020 ANNUAL JUBILARIAN MASS**
The annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 40, 45, 50, and 51+ years will be held Sunday, Jun 28, at 2pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Archbishop Gregory will celebrate. Please call the parish office at 301-475-9885 to register. Names must be submitted to the rectory by May 18.

**FATHER ANDREW WHITE (FAW) SCHOOL CRUSADER CONNECTIONS**

**Save the Date:** May 2, FAW will have a Kentucky Derby-themed Auction at Bowles Farm. Watch for fun details soon!

**Destination Imagination Competition:**
Congratulations to all FIVE of the FAW Destination Imagination teams who showcased their research, talents, innovation, and wit at the regional DI competition last Saturday! The Rising Stars completed their exhibition performance before a packed audience, launching six original rockets while telling their story of traveling through space!
The three elementary teams and one middle school team competed in the Fine Arts, Engineering, and Improv categories respectively. All four teams took 1st place in their categories! Please wish the teams — the Dragon Wolves, 7 Lucky Starbucks, DI termined (Fuzz) Wonders, and Jack of All Trades — the best of luck as they gear up to compete at the State competition at UMBC on Mar 28!
Dear Parish Family,

This weekend we welcome Archbishop Wilton Gregory, as he celebrates the 11am Mass here at St. Francis Xavier for the first time.

On April 4, 2019, Pope Francis named Archbishop Gregory as the seventh Archbishop of Washington. He was installed at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on May 21, 2019.

Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory was born December 7, 1947, in Chicago to Wilton Sr. and Ethel Duncan Gregory; he has two sisters, Elaine and Claudia. He attended St. Carthage Grammar School, where he converted to Catholicism. He attended Quigley Preparatory Seminary South, Niles College (now St. Joseph’s College Seminary) of Loyola University, and St. Mary of the Lake Seminary.

Archbishop Gregory was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago on May 9, 1973, and three years after his ordination began graduate studies at the Pontifical Liturgical Institute (Sant’ Anselmo) in Rome. There he earned his doctorate in sacred liturgy in 1980. On February 10, 1994, he was installed as the seventh bishop of the Diocese of Belleville, IL where he served for the next eleven years.

Our Archbishop has served in many leading roles in the U.S. church. In November 2001, he was elected president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). On December 9, 2004, Pope Saint John Paul II appointed Bishop Gregory as the sixth archbishop of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, and he was installed on January 17, 2005.

It’s with great joy that we welcome him to our parish!

Faithfully, in Christ,
Fr. Rob