These statues were on loan and are over 100 years old.

Spring Social-May 22, 2016

The Manor House was open for tours and one room was furnished by a parishioner donation along with fresh flower decorations May 22, 2016. Due to the rainy day, most of the displays and program was held in the Church Hall. Our goal was to bring the parish together with the community. We had guests from at least eight different parishes throughout the county and two pastors that took time out of their busy schedules to join us along with some of our Protestant friends.

The St. Francis Xavier Choir presented a program and sang beautifully in the Church. The William and Temperance Bretton descendants greeted everyone at the Church Hall where all the other activities were held including: The Honorable Roy Dyson presenting the History of Newtowne Manor, Displays of Families that lived on Newtowne Neck, the Manor House Through the Years and one of the original Stained Glass Windows from the Church, a DVD Photo Presentation of the Manor House, Lexie Trader playing guitar and singing, the Photo Albums Display with pictures from renovations, and Oral History Excerpts. The children had fun making corn husk dolls and super heroes, practicing with quill pens, and spinning tops. Food was available from Kevin’s Corner Kafe and lots of different homemade desserts were enjoyed by all.

**Newtowne Manor House Restoration**

Donations to:
St. Francis Xavier Church
21370 Newtowne Neck Road
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Memo Line: Manor House Restoration
Contact: Lynn Delahay (240-925-6485)
George Matisick (301-475-9698)
E-mail: Newtownemanorhouse@gmail.com

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Friends of Newtowne Manor House, a non-profit organization, is dedicated to ensuring that the *Newtowne Manor House*, an 18th-century structure, is preserved and restored so that future generations may gain an understanding of and appreciation for its historical significance.
Furniture was donated for use in the Manor House.

The descendants of William and Temperance Bretton were portrayed by Frank and Pat Greenwell.

The Honorable Roy Dyson presented the History of the Manor House.

Lexie Trader sang and played guitar during the Spring Social.

The SFX Choir performed in the Church during the Spring Social.

The kids had fun making the corn husk super heroes.

On May 17, 2016, the Restoration Committee was awarded the St. Mary’s Co. Historic Preservation Service Award. Many members attended the ceremony.
Oldest Parishioner Interviewed

Annie Mae Berry, 97 years old, along with her daughter, Henrietta Stewart was interviewed on June 6, 2016 outside the Newtowne Manor House under the tree. Annie Mae worked at the Manor House helping Susie Delahay clean house and can tomatoes and green beans, she recalled. She lived by the water for 40 years in one of the houses on the left just before the Church. She said, “It was wonderful living on Newtowne Neck.” She also told us she walked to work.

A special thanks to our 90 plus Club Members for being interviewed including Louise Payne, Mary Cusic and Carrie Schaller. Thanks to Steve Raley, Carol Russell, Marybeth Dowdell, Drew Dowdell, and Tommy Howe for conducting interviews. If you would like to contribute to this project, please contact Lynn Delahay or Sarah Matisick.

News Channel 4 Visits the Manor House

In September of 2016, Mark Segraves from Channel 4 News visited the Manor House. He interviewed George Matisick and Lynn Delahay about the history of the Manor House and its connections with the Jesuits and Georgetown University. He broadcasted a feature story just in time for the St. Francis Xavier Olde Fashioned Bazaar and the Christmas Newtowne Manor Open House. Many who visited from out of town shared they had seen the story on Channel 4 News.

Preservation Maryland Chooses Newtowne Manor House

On behalf of the Friends of Newtowne Manor House, we are pleased to announce Preservation Maryland, the 85-year old statewide organization, has chosen the Newtowne Manor House as one of the 2016 six sites.

Preservation Maryland’s Six-to-Fix projects were revealed to a packed room on Thursday, October 13th at the Maryland Zoo’s historic Mansion House in Baltimore. Six-to-Fix, an innovative impact-focused program, is designed to help provide real solutions to big preservation challenges.

Preservation Maryland will support us through fundraising development, capacity building, and statewide public awareness. They will also provide technical assistance to assess the current condition of the building and what is required for its immediate stabilization, as well as determining future uses. Preservation Maryland partners with experts in the field of historic preservation and restoration and will provide recommendations.
Christmas Open House-November 19, 2016

On Saturday, November 19th, the same day as the St. Francis Xavier Church Olde Fashioned Christmas Bazaar, the Newtowne Manor House was open for guided tours from 10 to 3. On this beautiful day, over 350 people toured the first floor. The Manor House was decorated on the outside with Christmas wreaths with handmade bows on the windows and swags on the doors. The outside steps were adorned with garland and bows. Two large poinsettias welcomed the visitors with an old sled at the top of the steps. Inside garland was strung around the first floor banister and above one of the fireplaces with the Sacred Heart picture. Throughout the House wreaths were hung, a Christmas tree with presents underneath stood, along with a picture of the Nativity scene, a Christmas centerpiece on the coffee table, a Santa decoration and small Christmas topiaries with live poinsettias were all around.

There were many donated pieces of furniture throughout the House. In particular, a chair hand caned by Susie Delahay in 1962, whose family was the last to live there in the 1980’s. Another piece was a wooden baby high chair used by Mrs. Eleanor Alvey Raley in the 1920’s when she was a baby living in the Manor House. Two other pieces displayed were a sconce saved from St. Francis Xavier Church renovation by Betty Davis Hill and a Baptismal Font also from the Church renovation saved by Louise Payne.

Two very special pictures were on display. One was of Jesuit Brother Stephen Alvey who grew up in our Parish and the other was of The Abell Family, Sister Pauline, Sister Alberta and Sister Sara Ann who also grew up in our Parish.

Thanks to everyone who helped in any way for the two Open Houses and your continued support throughout 2016. We look forward to the new year and new activities at the Newtowne Manor House.
Garland adorned the steps on the first floor.

Tiny Abell Taylor is holding the picture of her sisters, Sister Pauline, Sister Alberta and Sister Sara Ann, all who grew up in St. Francis Xavier Parish.

Gail Ridgell, Chris Senese, Bonnie Trader, Carol Perrie and Claudia Mattingly enjoyed the Christmas decorations.

Tour groups led by Drew Dowdell visited the first floor.

This high chair was used by Eleanor Alvey Raley as a child living in the Manor House.
Jesuit Brother Stephen Alvey attended SFX.

This chair was caned by Susie Delahay and has been donated to the Manor House.

At right: Fr. Gary is welcomed at the Manor House by Isabel Rebarchick.

At left: A Christmas tree was decorated in one of the rooms.

Tours were given of the first floor by George Matislick.

These are the new displays of the Manor House and its location in Maryland.