

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH



We are the family of God sharing out LOVE, JOY, FAITH, SORROWS while also supporting and ministering to our community in times of needs through our LORD JESUS CHRIST.

APRIL 20, 2025
EASTER SUNDAY

CONTACT US:

Church Office: 304-845-1593
Fr. Sebastian: 304-604-3875
Website: www.sfxmoundsville.org
Facebook: facebook.com/StFrancisXavierMoundsville

MASS SCHEDULE:

Weekends:
 Saturday: 4 p.m.
 Sunday: 8 a.m., 10 a.m.
Weekdays:
 Mondays: 8 a.m. Communion Service
 Tuesday-Friday 8 a.m.
 Holy Days: 8 a.m. & 7 p.m.

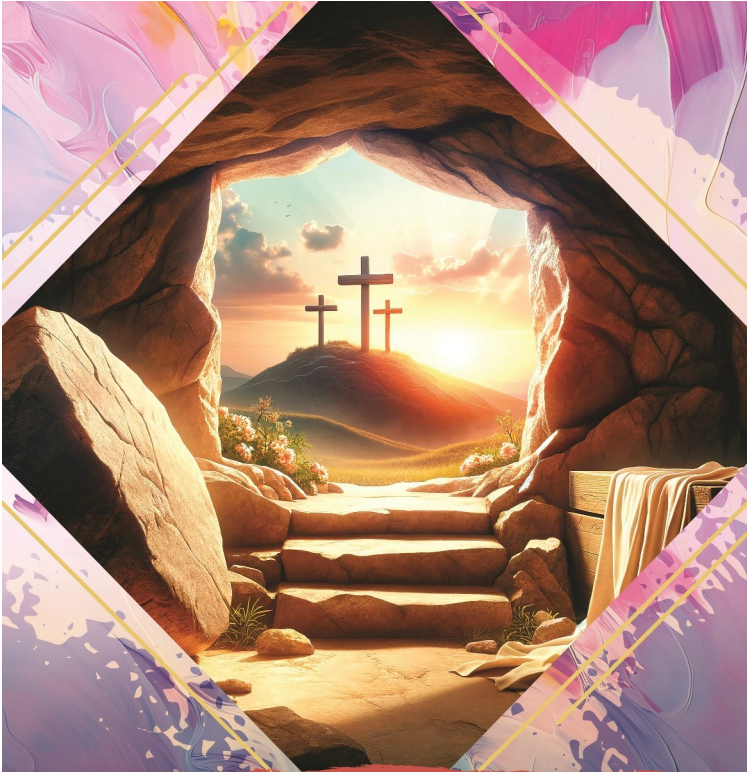


STAFF:

Administrator: Rev. Priyesh Sebastian, MCBS
Secretary: Sr. Agatha Munyanyi, SJI
Faith Formation Director: Sr. Marita Sithole
Bookkeeper: Susan Board
Bulletin Editor: Emily Daugherty, RN, RYT-200
DRE: Mary Helen Marling
Groundskeeper: Briana Crow

REGISTRATION CHURCH SUPPORT:

Register with the parish office and update your information when you move.



EASTER SUNDAY

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb.
 - Lk 24:2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

PRACTICING CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

WHAT WOULD MARY DO?

This Easter morning, I am thinking of Mary Magdalene.

I want to know her state of mind as she approached the tomb in the darkness. Was she afraid? Was she thinking clearly? Was she tired? Had grief and trauma robbed her of her sleep the last two nights? What did she intend to do? Anoint Christ's body, yes — but what else? Kiss his hands, trace the markings where the lash had fallen upon his skin? Say goodbye? Weep? Despair?

What were the words she planned to whisper into the cold, empty darkness that morning, as she wept over God's body?

I don't know anything about her state of mind that Easter morning, except that I know she wanted to be with Christ. Perhaps that was all she knew, too. Perhaps she had no other thought, no other desire, than nearness to him. She didn't need to understand everything, and she didn't expect answers — she didn't dare hope for that.

But everything and everyone had fallen apart around her, and in Jesus' presence she knew her heart would be able to rest.

If you have ever been in the midst of a crisis in your life and found yourself pacing the floors of your house when no one else is awake, muttering the words to a prayer you know by heart, you know what Mary Magdalene felt. In those

moments, we do not always feel God's presence. Sometimes, when we look for Him, we only see an empty tomb.

When these dark moments come, I pray you will remember the faithfulness of this great saint. Be like Mary Magdalene. Look for Jesus, always. You may not always find him, but he will always find you.

"She ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, 'They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him.'" — John 20:2

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman, LPI

WORSHIP & OUTREACH

MASS INTENTIONS

APRIL 19 HOLY SATURDAY

8:00 p.m. EASTER VIGIL
For All Catechumens & Candidates being received into the Catholic Church on this Holy Night

APRIL 20 EASTER SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. James "Sonny" Hewitt †
Christina Lavenski

10:00 a.m. FOR THE PARISHONERS

APRIL 21 MONDAY

8:00 a.m. Communion Service

APRIL 22 TUESDAY

8:00 a.m. Agnes T. Gardill †
Tex & Theresa Reynolds

APRIL 23 WEDNESDAY

8:00 a.m. Gina Hoops ♥
Celeste & David Evans

APRIL 24 THURSDAY

8:00 a.m. Tony Saporito †
Jim & Diana Barker

APRIL 25 FRIDAY

8:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Skrzypek Family
Carolyn Gordon

Bob Shutler †
Patty Shutler

APRIL 26 SATURDAY

4:00 p.m. Deceased Members of the Dick Lewis & Betty Rakoskie Lewis Families
Teresa Lewis Vermeulen

APRIL 27 SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. Dawn Donofe †
Pattie Warble, Donofe children & Lightner grandchildren

10:00 a.m. Larry Freeland †
Don & Agnes Gray

ROLL AWAY YOUR STONE

By God's grace, **Easter has arrived**—and we gather in joy, gratitude, and prayer in the house of the Lord.

Before the Easter candy is unwrapped and the ham (or lamb, if that's your thing) goes in the oven, take a quiet moment to reflect on what this sacred season means to you. As Holy Week comes to a close, let us remember the path that led us here: the ultimate act of

love—Christ giving His life so that we might be saved.

Today, we give thanks for the profound sacrifice of our Savior. We also pause to recognize the many blessings in our own lives and lift our prayers for those who are suffering around the world.

This Easter, roll away your stone. Open your heart to God. With Him, all things are possible.

From all of us at **Saint Francis Xavier Church**, may you and your loved ones have a blessed, joyful, and Holy Easter.

-E. Daugherty ♥

MASSES & SERVICES

GOOD FRIDAY-April 18

Stations of the Cross

2:30pm

The Passion of the Lord

7pm

HOLY SATURDAY-April 19

Easter Vigil Mass

8pm

EASTER SUNDAY-April 20

Masses 8am & 10am

Prayer REQUESTS

Homebound: Judy Seidel, Kathryn Helfer, Rachel Kerekes, Phyllis Prado, Jim Brown, Katie Melchiori, John Bierce, Sandina Leonard

Nursing Homes: Kathryn Ferrera, Angeline Sellers, Fay Melchiori, Dwight Furbee, Earl Richards, Katie Renshaw, Joan Weekly, Ron Flading, Barb Meyer, Raymond Pennybacker, Donna Lagos

Recently Sick: Don Gray, Phil Remke, Jane Klug, Wanda DeTemple, Jenny Ingram, Charles Johnson, Maggie Yeater, Suzy Lunau, Carlene Crow, Kimberly Peffley, Scott Peffley, Sage Rich, Bob Kleinedler, Bobby Kleinedler, Karen Swierkos-Wayne, David & Anastasia Yeater, George Zacherl, Brian Hill, John Kirchner, Ted Scarbin, Nash Casto, Catherine Pellerin, Deanne Ferraro



LECTORS/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

APRIL 26-27

April 26 4:00 p.m.	D. Evans/L. Magnone
April 27 8:00 a.m.	R. Hess/J. Hess
April 27 10:00 a.m.	J. Taylor/D. Kosky

SACRISTY

S. Artimez & E. McCormick

OFFERINGS: April 13

Envelopes	\$ 2,746.00
Loose Offering	\$ 531.00
Church Repair	\$ 70.00
Xavier Hall	\$ 70.00
Easter	\$ 20.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 25.00
Candles	\$ 9.00
Memorial Gifts	\$ 30.00
Online Giving	\$ 90.40
Holy Land	\$ 45.00

Attendance 247

The Miraculous Medal Novena is prayed every Tuesday before Mass.



Christ is Risen! Alleluia!
Dear Beloved Parish family,
With a heart full of joy,

I wish you and your family **a most blessed and grace filled Easter!**

This is the day of divine victory,
the day love triumphed over death, light shattered the shadows,
and hope bloomed anew for the world.

The Risen Christ stands before us, not as a distant Savior,
but as the One who walks beside us,
calls us by name, and holds us in His loving gaze.

This Easter, I lovingly remind you of a beautiful mission
I once placed in your heart, the **“Walk with Jesus”** challenge.

It is simple, yet filled with grace:
to bring at least one soul, one dear person, back to Jesus and His Church.
Many of you received a small card along with my Easter greeting
your personal **“Walk with Jesus”** card.

If you haven't received it, or if you would like more to share,
please don't hesitate.

These cards are available at the entrances of the church.

Take as many as your heart desires.

Give them to your children, your friends, your neighbors,
anyone who has been away from the Church, perhaps for years.

Someone who is searching. Someone who is hurting.
Someone who just needs to know that Jesus still waits for them...
lovingly, patiently.

This card is not just paper, it is a quiet invitation,
a whispered hope, a bridge back to grace.

I encourage you to hold it in prayer and ask gently:
“Lord, who do You want me to bring back to You?”
Then go step out in love. Reach out with patience and compassion.

Let your voice be the voice of Christ,
and your invitation be the touch of His mercy.
Easter is more than a day. It is a new beginning for you,
and for someone you may help bring home.

Let us walk with Jesus... and not walk alone.

Let us bring others with us on this path of light and life.

Happy Easter!

**May the joy of the Risen Christ fill your heart,
and may His love shine brightly through you.**

With all my love and prayers,

Fr. Sebastian McBS



WALK With **Jesus**

HAPPY
EASTER



NEWS & COMMUNITY

MARSHALL COUNTY RELAY FOR LIFE

will be held May 30, 2025 from 5-10pm at John Marshall High School North parking lot.

Theme: 40 Years of Impact

Saint Francis Relay Team will be selling luminaries for \$10/each.

Contact: Lottie Durban at 304-845-4011 for more info.

Join the Team! Go to

www.relayforlife.org/Marshallnv

Team Name: St. Francis Church

More than just a walk, **Relay For Life** is a movement.

For 40 years, passionate supporters have come together to advance the **American Cancer Society's** vision: ending cancer as we know it, for everyone.



MAY IS FOR MARY

Since the month of May is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, we have a few exciting opportunities to help celebrate:

- **The Parish Council** invites you to celebrate the Blessed Mother in May. Sign up in the vestibule to help provide flowers for Mary during her special month.
- **A May Procession** will take place after 10am Mass on Mother's Day, May 11. If your child would like to participate, please contact Lottie Durban.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Catholic Charities is seeking volunteers to help flood victims in Southern West Virginia. Many homes are still full of mud, dirt, and debris.

TO HELP with flood recovery and muck out, call 304-553-0927 or **Email:** sandrakeener@wvroad.org

APRIL SHOWERS FOR HEALTHY BABIES

During the month of April, the Gabriel Project is collecting baby hygiene products for infants in Marshall County.

NEEDS:

- ◆ **Baby Wash**
- ◆ **Diaper Cream**
- ◆ **Baby Lotion**
- ◆ **Baby Wipes**
- ◆ Products must be unopened, may be any size or brand



WHEN: Now through April 30
THANK YOU for your donations to help give Marshall County babies a healthy start to life.



EARTH DAY is Tues., April 22. Be kind to **Mother Earth**, as she is one of our greatest teachers.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mondays 12-4pm	St. Vincent de Paul assistance in church basement
Tuesdays 10am	Chair Yoga with Emily Xavier Hall
Wednesdays 11:30am-2:30pm	Line Dancing with Lottie in Xavier Hall
Wednesday 6-7pm	Cardio Drumming with April in Xavier Hall
Thursdays 11-2pm	Gabriel Project in Xavier Hall
Fridays 6pm	BINGO in Xavier Hall
Wed: 9:00am Thurs: 6:30pm	Bible Study
Sunday, May 11	May Procession after 10am Mass
Wednesday, June 11 6:30pm	Parish Council Meeting in church basement

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23 EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION:

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| • Sobotka | • Spence |
| • Sorkin | • Starcovic |
| • South | • Stewart |

CAMP CARLO:

Catholic Youth Adventure Camp

will take place in June and July in Huttonsville, WV.

Campers will enjoy horseback riding, backpacking, swimming in waterfalls AND immerse themselves in true Presence of the Lord during Mass and Adoration.

Learn more at: campcarlowv.org



FOUR PILLARS OF BRAIN LONGEVITY WORKSHOP

Join Dr. Judy Romano for a 4-week program at St. Joseph Retreat Center to explore strategies to enhance brain health and overall wellbeing.

DATE: Fridays, May 2, 9, 16, 23

TIME: 1-3pm

LOCATION: St. Joseph Retreat Center

COST: \$100

CONTACT: Anna Marie Troiani

Call: 304-907-0171

Email: atroiani@csjoseph.org

CELEBRATE OUR FAITH



LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

A cherished Holy Week tradition, *Living Stations of the Cross* took place on Friday, April 11. It was a solemn, moving experience for those who participated and for the congregation. Our sincerest gratitude to everyone who made this event possible. A special thanks Lottie Durban for your hard work and dedication.



CAST:

Julie Fecat
Eric Fecat
Heidi Fecat
Hailey Fecat
Hudson Gomez
David Frohnafel
Lillian Whitelatch
Nathaniel Frohnafel
Holly Fecat
Grace Whitelatch
Lynn Frohnafel
Julie Gomez
Nathan Gomez

SPECIAL THANKS:

Lottie Durban
Jerry Durban
Rob Gomez
Sr. Marita
Rick Targosky
Cathy Frame
Roger Frame
Fr. Sebastian
Libby Magnone

THE SISTERS OF ST. ELISABETH CONVENT IN BELARUS will be visiting St. Francis on Monday, April 28 and Tuesday, April 29.

The Sisterhood of St. Elisabeth was founded in 1996. Their missionary began a National mental hospital not far from their Convent. The sisters care for mentally challenged children and adults. They also help to improve the lives of those in their community suffering from addiction.

Following **8am Mass**, you are invited to purchase **handmade religious articles** made by the Sisters of St. Elisabeth during their visit. Items include gorgeous, one-of-a-kind crosses, crucifixes, wood carvings, embroidered and ceramic gifts, rosaries, and much more.