

# 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.

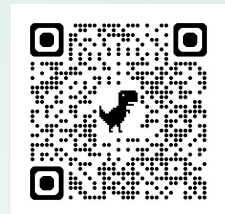
## MARCH 16, 2025 THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

### CONTACT US:

**Church Office:** 304-845-1593  
**Fr. Sebastian:** 304-604-3875  
**Website:** [www.sfxmoundsville.org](http://www.sfxmoundsville.org)  
**Facebook:** [facebook.com/StFrancisXavierMoundsville](https://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.

“  
**I FEAR  
 NOTHING,  
 BECAUSE  
 OF THE  
 PROMISES  
 OF HEAVEN.**  
 ”

- ST. PATRICK

APOSTLE OF IRELAND



## GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

### SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

St. Thomas Aquinas said that friends share three things: time, possessions and secrets. For example, how do I know if you're my friend? Well, let's say we've been to Mexico together, you've tried my shaky attempts at pasta carbonara, and you know what ridiculous costume I wore in a music video I filmed in my early twenties. We, dear reader, are definitely friends. We've shared time, possessions and secrets.

How does friendship with Jesus develop? The same way. Jesus lives and eats with his disciples. Then he takes Peter, James and John to Mount Tabor and there reveals

to them his deepest secret: his glorious, divine Sonship. The majesty of God shines from within his humanity in a way that goes beyond description. God the Father confirms this "secret," saying, "This is my chosen Son, listen to him" (Luke 9:35). It's all so precious that "they fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone." Do we take time to be alone with Christ, to allow him to mystically share this "secret" with us as his dear friends?

Lenten challenge: This week, identify one time when you experienced an awareness of some specific aspect of Jesus — perhaps on a retreat, at Mass, in prayer or in an act of service. Spend ten minutes consciously

re-living that experience in your heart. If you can't recall one, set aside at least two hours this Lent as a mini retreat, either alone in nature or in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

Focus on him and ask him to share the secrets of his heart with you. He will. Then, as his friend, share the secrets in your heart.

— Father John Muir, LPI

# WORSHIP & OUTREACH



- MAR 15 SATURDAY**  
**4:00 p.m. Larry Freeland †**  
*SFX Choir*
- MAR 16 SUNDAY**  
**8:00 a.m. Larry Freeland †**  
*Denny & Kathy Philipps*
- 10:00 a.m. Dennis Romanski †**  
*Romanski Family*
- MAR 17 MONDAY**  
**8:00 a.m. Communion Service**
- MAR 18 TUESDAY**  
**8:00 a.m. Deanne Ferraro ♥**  
*Celeste & David Evans*
- MAR 19 WEDNESDAY**  
**8:00 a.m. Caroline Stess McDowell ♥**  
*Libby Magnone*
- MAR 20 THURSDAY**  
**8:00 a.m. Semon & Phyllis Prado ♥/†**  
*Danny Prado*
- MAR 21 FRIDAY**  
**8:00 a.m. Anna Mae Veronis †**  
*SFX Pierogi Group*
- MAR 22 SATURDAY**  
**4:00 p.m. Harold Ray †**  
*Joanne Ray*
- MAR 23 SUNDAY**  
**8:00 a.m. Doug Hulings †**  
*Kim & Bill Yurisko*
- 10:00 a.m. Deceased Members of Lewis & Rakoskie Families**  
*Teresea Vermeulen*

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** are every Friday at 6:30pm.

**THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL PERPETUAL NOVENA** is prayed every Tuesday before Mass.



## 5 FACTS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT SAINT PATRICK



St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland is best known for bringing Christianity to Ireland. But did you know he's also built many churches and for this, he is the patron saint of engineers. Let's explore 5 facts about the beloved saint you didn't know!

**#1 He's not Irish:** St. Patrick was born in Roman Britain, like in present day Wales or Scotland, and was kidnapped to Ireland as a slave at 16.

**#2 Shamrock Symbolism:** He used the three-leaf shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**#3 He Was Never Canonized:** Though widely venerated, he was never officially canonized since he lived before the Church's formal process. Instead, he was declared a saint by popular acclaim.

**#4 The First St. Patrick's Day Parade was in America:** The first St. Patty's Day parade was held in St. Augustine, Florida, in 1601, *not* Ireland.

**#5 St. Patrick's Writing's Still Exist:** Unlike many saints, we have writings from St. Patrick himself. His *Confessio* (Confession) and *Letter to the Soldiers of Coroticus* provide insight into his life, struggles, and missionary work.

**Happy St. Patrick's Day!** On March 17, we celebrate the life and legacy of St. Patrick, whose faith and missionary work continue to inspire people around the world.



### EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

- Saturday Vigil: April 19 at 8pm
- Sunday: April 20 at 8am & 10am

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19 EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION:

- |            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| • Patrone  | • Persinger |
| • Pavilkey | • Pest      |
| • Peffley  | • Pettit    |

### LECTORS/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

#### MARCH 22-23

4:00pm: **D. Prado/D. Rice**

8:00am: **C. Frame/S. Kent**

10:00am: **D. Zacherl/D. Kosky**

#### SACRISTY

**S. Artimez & E. McCormick**

Raymond Pennybacker, Mary Yaney, Donna Lagos

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

**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,



# NEWS & COMMUNITY

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mondays 12-4pm	St. Vincent de Paul assistance in basement
Tuesdays 10am	Chair Yoga with Emily Xavier Hall
Wednesdays 11:30am-2:30pm	Line Dancing with Lottie in Xavier Hall
Thursdays 11-2pm	Gabriel Project in Xavier Hall
Fridays 6pm	Bingo in Xavier Hall
Fridays during Lent 6:30pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturdays, 9:30-11:30am	Pickleball in Xavier Hall
Wed: 9:30am Thurs: 6:30pm	Bible Study
Wednesday, March 19 6pm	Parish Council Meeting in the church basement
March 28-30 Charleston, WV	Women's Retreat at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center

### THE SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH IS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19.

Celebrate the feast of St. Joseph, father of Jesus and husband to the Blessed Mother by helping to decorate his altar. If you wish to purchase a candle for \$5, there will be a donation box on his altar. You are also invited to adorn the altar with flowers, figurines, pictures, and other special treats.



**LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will take place on Friday, April 11. If you or your loved ones are interested in participating, please contact Lottie at 304-845-4011.



### SAINT MICHAEL'S LENTEN PILGRIMAGE

to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Saturday, March 29.

#### ITINERARY:

**4:45am:** Meet in the Angelus Center Parking Lot  
**5am:** Bus leaves Wheeling  
**Lunch** & tour of grounds before Mass  
**1pm:** Mass celebrated by Fr. Carlos  
**2pm:** Tour of the Basilica  
 Reservations on a first come, first serve basis. Cost is \$50/person.  
**Contact Phil Emmerth at: 304-312-0403.**

### LIFE LINE SCREENING RETURNS TO ST. FRANCIS

On Monday, April 14, *Life Line Screening* will be hosted in Xavier Hall. Non-invasive testing for risk of heart attack/stroke will be offered. → Cost is \$159. To schedule, call 888-814-0466 and use code: **HSCA001**.

### LENT LUNCHEES 2025

There will be an ecumenical service at noon, followed by a complimentary lunch. Free will offerings will be taken during the service.

- **March 12** at Messiah Lutheran
- **March 19** at St. Jude
- **March 26** at First Christian Church in Moundsville
- **April 2** at Calvary UMC
- **April 9** at Ash Ave Church of God
- **April 18** Cross Walk begins at Calvary UMC at 11am and ends with a service at St. Francis Church. (Lunch is not complimentary, but the Fish Fry will be available.)

### LENTEN FISH FRYs

The St. Francis Xavier Church & Knights of Columbus Fish Fry will be held Fridays in Lent from 11am-5pm in Xavier Hall. Donations of baked goods, pop, water, foil, sandwich size baggies, both plastic and large paper bags are appreciated.

### CELEBRATE ST. PATRICKS DAY & IRISH-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Catholic Men: Celebrate your Irish-Catholic heritage all year long by joining the Ancient Order of Hibernians. Info at [www.aoh.com](http://www.aoh.com), [facebook.com/roadbowling](https://www.facebook.com/roadbowling) or call Tom Connelly: 304-280-4350.

### OFFERINGS: March 2

Envelopes	\$	3,268.00
Loose Offering	\$	510.00
Church Repair	\$	52.00
Xavier Hall	\$	345.00
Memorial Gifts	\$	2,875.00
Online Giving	\$	340.40
Disaster Relief Fund	\$	503.00
Priest Retirement	\$	12.00

**Attendance 222**

### EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS

Help beautify the church for Easter in memory of your loved ones. Donate to the Easter Altar Flower fund by completing the flower form found in the vestibule or online. Please return your donation in an envelope marked "Easter Flowers" in the collection basket. You can also mail the form or drop it off to the church office. Deadline for flower fund is Monday, April 7.

**THE SECOND COLLECTION** on **March 23** is for the **Diocesan Priests' Retirement Fund.**



### UPDATE FROM RICH HITT

Our neighbors in Southern West Virginia got hit with what the news calls "the worst flood in Tug River history." We put together a relief run and met Sandi in the town of Welch, WV, county seat of McDowell County. We stayed in the area for a few days, helping the community to pick up the pieces after the flood.

If you would like to donate to Sandi directly, please contact me and I will share her phone number. We were also able to give a donation to Fr. Rey Landicho at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Welch.

Thank you for all your continued support and prayers.