

# 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 23, 2025 THE THIRD 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.



## 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

“If you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!” - Lk 13:3

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1990, 1970 CCD, ©LPI

## GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

### THE PATIENT GARDENER

I have garden beds on the side of my house that I don't deserve. When we bought the property, this was one of the features that was highlighted in the listing. "Professional landscaping! Tri-level garden beds that bask in the southern exposure!"

But I'm so terrible at weeding these garden beds — they become overgrown quickly, and I shudder to imagine what the previous owners would think of me if they drove by. I'm afraid they would write me off as lazy or disinterested, when really I'm just exhausted and busy. Every time I try to gar-

den, one of my little assistant gardeners runs near the road and I must abandon the project to save them.

So, my husband, bless his heart, is the savior of these garden beds. He goes out there in the cool of the evening to pluck up the weeds that threaten to overtake this beautiful little garden. Patiently and tenderly, he restores it to a presentable state. Without him, they would be lost.

Perhaps I love these garden beds so much because I identify with them. If I were a garden, I would also be a mess,

and people who have no time for messes would write me off as hopeless. We all need a savior to stick up for us, to come and quietly prune the unsightly growths that have taken root in our souls and turn the soil that has sat undisturbed for too long.

**What I love most about our Savior is that he didn't — doesn't — give up on us.** "Give me more time," he says to the Master. "I can still fix this one."

*By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman, LPI*

# WORSHIP & OUTREACH



- 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*
- MAR 24 MONDAY**  
**8:00 a.m. Communion Service**
- MAR 25 TUESDAY**  
**8:00 a.m. Joseph A. Patrello †**  
*Cathy & Roger Frame*
- MAR 26 WEDNESDAY**  
**8:00 a.m. Plaxedes Mubako †**  
*Mary Taskalines*
- MAR 27 THURSDAY**  
**8:00 a.m. Virginia Stanton †**  
*Karen Dean*
- MAR 28 FRIDAY**  
**8:00 a.m. Tony Saporito †**  
*Phil & Loretta Remke*
- MAR 29 SATURDAY**  
**4:00 p.m. Kathy Swift †**  
*Dru Meyer*
- MAR 30 SUNDAY**  
**8:00 a.m. Fr. John Ledford †**  
*Jim & Diana Barker*
- 10:00 a.m. Larry Freeland †**  
*John N. Varlas*

**THE SECOND COLLECTION** this weekend is for the **Diocesan Priests' Retirement Fund**. The fund provides health insurance and retirement benefits to retired priests of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.



## SAINT JOSEPH'S ALTAR INSPIRES

Thanks to everyone who helped observe **St. Joseph's Feast Day** by buying candles and bringing an array of foods, religious, and other items to decorate his altar.

The altar looks beautiful and we are continually blessed by the contributions of our parishioners.



Our deepest condolences to the family and friends of **Robert Hunnell, Sr.**  
 May his soul enter into God's eternal peace and rest.

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to the family and friends of **Mary Yaney**  
 May she find eternal peace in God's loving embrace.

**EASTER MASS SCHEDULE**

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

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26  
EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION:**

- Phillips
- Prado
- Porter
- Prager
- Potts
- Pytlak

## OFFERINGS: March 9

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Envelopes            | \$ 3,172.00 |
| Loose Offering       | \$ 538.00   |
| Church Repair        | \$ 633.00   |
| Xavier Hall          | \$ 120.00   |
| Memorial Gifts       | \$ 80.00    |
| Online Giving        | \$ 281.40   |
| Disaster Relief Fund | \$ 10.00    |
| Candles              | \$ 67.00    |

**Attendance 223**



### WELCOME NEW PARISHONERS!

We're delighted to see new faces in our parish this Lenten Season. If you haven't already, please stop by the church office to register.

We're glad you're here! ☺

## LECTORS/EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

**APRIL 5-6**

4:00pm: **D. Evans/Julie Fecat**

8:00am: **R. Hess/J. Hess**

10:00am: **L. Niemiec/D. Rice**

### SACRISTY

**D. Gump & D. Gump**

## Prayer REQUESTS

**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, Raymond Pennybacker, Donna Lagos



# NEWS & COMMUNITY

## YOU'RE INVITED!

The Sisters of St. Joseph are hosting a **Taize Prayer** at Mount St. Joseph Chapel on **Friday, March 28.**

- **5pm:** Simple Supper
- **6pm:** Taize Prayer begins

### What is a Taize?

Taizé is an ecumenical Christian movement that is known for its distinctive style of music and prayer. Taizé devotees have carried its music and traditions to Catholic and Christian communities throughout the world.

## LIFE LINE SCREENING RETURNS TO ST. FRANCIS

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

## LENT LUNCHESES 2025

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

- **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.)

## EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS

Commemorate loved ones by donating to our Easter Flower Fund. Names of those honored will be printed in the Easter bulletin. Forms are in the office, church, and online. Due April 7.

## A COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

will be held soon. Plans are still being finalized, so please check next week's bulletin for details.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** are Fridays during Lent at 6:30pm.

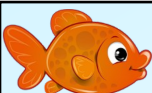
**The Miraculous Medal Novena** is prayed every Tuesday before Mass.

**WE WILL BE DELIVERING FLOWERS** to the homebound and sick of the parish on Friday, April 11. If you are able to help this longstanding ministry, please meet us in the parking lot at 9am. **We really need drivers.** Donations are much appreciated: please mark your envelope as "shut-in ministry."

Please call Mary Taskalines if you are able to drive at 304-845-7326.



**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.



## LENTEN FISH FRYS

are held on Fridays during Lent from 11am-5pm in Xavier Hall. We still are accepting donations of baked goods, pop, water, foil, sandwich size baggies, both plastic and large paper bags. Thank you for your support!

**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.**

**LENTEN VESPERS** at St. Joseph Cathedral take place on Sunday evenings in Lent at 6pm. Sung Solemn Vespers, also known as **Evening Prayer**, is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, the official prayer of the Church. A short liturgy (usually lasting no more than 30 minutes) consisting of singing of psalms and the Magnificat by the Cathedral Schola, Vespers is a beautiful way to give thanks to God at the end of the day and prayerfully observe the Season of Lent.



|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Mondays<br>12-4pm                | <b>St. Vincent de Paul</b> assistance in church basement |
| Tuesdays<br>10am                 | <b>Chair Yoga with Emily</b> Xavier Hall                 |
| Wednesdays<br>11:30am-2:30pm     | <b>Line Dancing</b> with Lottie in Xavier Hall           |
| Thursdays<br>11-2pm              | <b>Gabriel Project</b> in Xavier Hall                    |
| Fridays<br>6pm                   | <b>Bingo</b> in Xavier Hall                              |
| Saturdays,<br>9:30-11:30am       | <b>Pickleball</b> in Xavier Hall                         |
| Wed: 9:00am<br>Thurs: 6:30pm     | <b>Bible Study</b>                                       |
| March 28-30<br>Charleston,<br>WV | <b>Women's Retreat</b> at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center |
| Saturday,<br>March 29            | <b>St. Michael's Lenten Pilgrimage</b>                   |
| Monday,<br>April 7               | <b>Easter Flower Forms</b> due                           |
| Friday,<br>April 11<br>7pm       | <b>Living Stations of the Cross</b>                      |
| Sunday,<br>April 13              | <b>Palm Sunday</b>                                       |
| Sunday,<br>April 20              | <b>Easter Sunday</b>                                     |

## SPRING IS ON IT'S WAY!

This is a season of renewal and hope! As the earth awakens, may our hearts be refreshed in faith, joy, and gratitude for God's blessings. Wishing you and your loved ones a season filled with grace and new beginnings!

