

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.



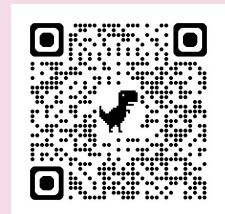
MARCH 9, 2025 THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

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.

1st SUNDAY OF LENT

The devil said to him, "All this will be yours, if you worship me." Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written: You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve." - Lk 4:6a, 7-8

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

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GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

1st Sunday of Lent:

Luke 4:1-13

One of the most fascinating moments in American history is when George Washington could have become the king of the newly liberated United States and didn't. At the height of his power and fame, on Dec. 23, 1783, he resigned his commission as Commander-in-Chief, and went home. The astonished King of England remarked that in doing so, Washington was "the greatest man in the world." Greatness is often defined by what we could do but don't. Greatness is measured by the temptations we overcome.

Jesus' greatness is revealed in his victory over temptations, too. The three offered him by the devil contain, we might say, all potential possible temptations: food, power and fame. They correspond to the triple human needs of body, soul and spirit. In overcoming these three, he says "no" in essence to every and even the greatest temptation. We see that every desire of his humanity — body, soul and spirit — is perfectly united to God, to love. This is a power available to each member of his body. It is the path to true greatness. How can we, who so easily fall into even small temptations, find the power to overcome large ones? By entering into the great dynamics of Jesus' temptations.

Lenten challenge: This first week of Lent, list some concrete ways you can overcome temptations that correspond with your desires. For example, you may give up snacks between meals, choose not to participate in an activity of which you are an expert, and decide to reduce social media posting by 50%. It may not seem like much, but by saying "no" to the tyranny of food, power, and fame (in this example), you'll discover true greatness.

— Father John Muir

WORSHIP & OUTREACH



MAR 8 SATURDAY
4:00 p.m. Larry Freeland †
Danny Prado

MAR 9 SUNDAY
8:00 a.m. Deceased Members of the Dick Lewis & Betty Rakoskie Lewis Families
Teresa Lewis Vermeuler

10:00 a.m. Mary & Robert Coffield †
Mr & Mrs. Terry McDonald

MAR 10 MONDAY
8:00 a.m. Communion Service

MAR 11 TUESDAY
8:00 a.m. Judith Wolfe †
Libby Magnone
Bess Ferns Garcia †
Libby Magnone

MAR 12 WEDNESDAY
8:00 a.m. Debbie Holmes †
Traci & Joe Polus

MAR 13 THURSDAY
8:00 a.m. Larry Freeland †
SFX Choir

MAR 14 FRIDAY
8:00 a.m. Paul Aquaro †
Cindy & Joe Wiethe

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

A LETTER FROM FATHER SEBASTIAN

Dear Parishioners,

I am grateful for a wonderful and refreshing vacation. Everything went well, and I had the joy of spending precious time with my family, especially my dear nephews and nieces. I also had the opportunity to visit my religious order, meeting with my Provincial Superior and reconnecting with my friends in the congregation.

But the most special part of my journey was visiting my beloved "silent angels," the children who hold a deep place in my heart. Their smiles and innocence filled me with renewed strength and joy.

Thank you all for your prayers and support. I am happy to be back and look forward to seeing you all.

*In Christ,
 Fr. Sebastian*



Our deepest condolences to the family and friends of
James Lawther
 May his soul enter into God's eternal peace and rest.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12 EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION:

- Sicurella
- Simons
- Skvarka
- Slack
- Smertneck
- Smith

LECTORS/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

MARCH 15-16:

4:00pm: **A. Wise/L. Magnone**
 8:00am: **R. Hess/J. Hess**
 10:00am: **J. Taylor/L. Yoho**

SACRISTY

Helen & Doug Zacherl

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

LINE DANCING WITH LOTTIE

Looking for a FUN way to stay fit and active this spring? Join Lottie's Line Dancing class on Wednesdays in Xavier Hall. This class is free and open to all activity levels.

For complete newbies, join the Beginner's class from 1:30-2:30pm to learn the basics dance moves. Line dancing is a great way to burn calories, stay healthy, and make new friends!



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**.



JUBILEE 2025: PILGRIMS OF HOPE

The faithful are especially encouraged to be signs of hope through peace, care for creation, and solidarity with the marginalized throughout this year.

BEREAVEMENT GATHERINGS: GRIEF FROM A FAITH PERSPECTIVE

are held throughout the year from 6-7pm at St. John Fellowship Hall in Benwood. All are welcome.

Upcoming Dates:

Monday, March 31
Monday, April 28

EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

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



MARCH IS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

and reminds us of the contributions women have made towards society, culture, and history. In 2025, the theme is "Moving Forward Together" and spotlights women who have dedicated their lives to education, mentorship, and leadership to shape the minds and futures of generations.

Take a moment to reflect: Who is a notable strong female figure in your life? How has she made an impact in shaping who you are today? How can you inspire the next generation to be a catalyst for positive change?

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

will take place on Friday, April 11. If you or your loved ones are interested in participating in this beloved event, please contact Lottie at 304-845-4011.

HAPPY ST. PATRICKS DAY & IRISH-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

from the members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Div. 1, Wheeling, WV.

Catholic Men: Celebrate your Irish-Catholic heritage all year long by joining the AOH! Info at www.aoh.com, facebook.com/roadbowling or Tom Connelly: 304-280-4350. Slainte!

In faith, unity, and Christian charity,
Jon-Erik Gilot,
Organizer



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.

MARSHALL COUNTY SPRING CLEAN UP DAYS

- **April 26:** Household Hazardous Waste @ Covestro (Old Bayer) from 9am-noon
- **May 17:** E-Recycle John Marshall High School North Parking Lot from 8am-2pm
- **May 16-17:** Glen Dale City Garage from 8-2pm
- **May 16-17:** Moundsville Sam Shaw Walking Trail from 8-2pm
- **May 30-31:** McMechen the Old Football Field from 8-2pm

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
Sunday, March 6	Daylight Savings Time Begins
Tuesday, March 11 6pm	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting in the church basement
Wed & Thurs March 12-13	Bible Study Resumes
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

OFFERINGS FEBRUARY 23

Envelopes	\$	3,093.00
Loose Offering	\$	427.00
Church Repair	\$	10.00
Xavier Hall	\$	10.00
Memorial Gifts	\$	60.00
Online Giving	\$	45.40
Disaster Relief Fund	\$	150.00
Priest Retirement	\$	10.00
Candles	\$	51.00

Attendance 225

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

