



Saint Wenceslaus Catholic Church

Rev. Xavier Edet, S.S.J.

Pastor

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Pastoral Associate

Barbara Nobles

Administrative Assistant

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The Lucielle Fitzgerald Outreach Center

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*St. Wenceslaus is Pastorate with
St. Ann Church, at Greenmount Ave.
and E. 22nd St., 410-235-8169 and
St. Francis Xavier Church,
1501 E. Oliver St., 410-727-3103*

PASTORATE MASS SCHEDULES

SUNDAY St. Francis Xavier: 8:00 am & 11:00 am; St. Wenceslaus 9:00 am; St. Ann: 11:00 am
WEEKDAYS Tues. & First Friday Adoration: 8:00 am - St. Wenceslaus;
Wed. 10:00 am & Fri 8:00 am - St. Francis Xavier; Thurs. 7:00 pm - St. Ann
HOLIDAYS As announced in the bulletin

CONFESSIONS:

Please contact the parish office to schedule an appointment for confessions

DEVOTIONS:

Infant of Prague Novena - Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m.
First Friday Holy Hour for Vocations - 8:00 a.m.

BAPTISMS:

Adult candidates and parents of infants are invited to contact the pastor so that we can begin preparations for baptism.

MARRIAGE:

We extend a warm welcome to couples desiring to be married in the church. Please contact us early (six months or more) so that we can work with you to prepare for your wedding.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK:

Please notify the pastor when a member is unable to come to church. We will be happy to provide pastoral care at home or in the hospital.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Sunday School classes for children and youth meet every Sunday in the Church rectory from 9:30 to 11:30 A.M. To register call the church office or Ms. Edith Pumphrey, Director, at 410-488-7069.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

We urge you to register as a member of the parish, so that we can keep you informed of church activities. We will be happy to provide you with church envelopes to assist you in the support of the church. You may register in person at the church office weekdays between 9:00 to 2:00 or by completing the following form.

Name _____

Street _____

Phone _____ Zip _____

Check:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Registration | <input type="checkbox"/> Moving out of Parish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Want Envelopes |
| Catholic Review <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |

Please cut out and drop in the collection box or mail to the rectory.

SAINT WENCESLAUS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 26, 2018

Fríar Timothy's Reflection . . .

My Sisters and Brothers:

During the past three Sundays we have heard the entire “*Bread of Life Discourse*” as found in the Gospel of John (see chapter 6:22-59). In it Jesus taught his disciples he was “*the living bread*” and that this bread was his very “*flesh*.” He said: “*Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in you*” (see verse 52). We believe these passages are a clear teaching about the Eucharist, and why we are called to take and receive it as faithful followers of the Lord Jesus! Many of his enemies (mostly the religious leaders of the time), and even some of his own disciples, could not accept this teaching about “*the Bread of Life*.” Many refused to believe, and others who had been faithful then also turned away from him. This teaching of Jesus was too difficult for many to accept. This is the point at which today’s Gospel begins.

Consequently, “*many of his disciples who were listening said, ‘this saying is hard; who can accept it?’*” (see verse 60). And “*as a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him*” (see verse 66). And so “*Jesus then said to the Twelve, ‘Do you also want to leave?’*”

Isn’t it true that we too at times may feel some of the teaching of Jesus, and the obligations they place upon us, are difficult to accept? And like those disciples who “*returned to their former way of life,*” might we at times be tempted to pick and choose which of the Christian teachings we want to accept and which we then reject? We may sadly even have close family members, friends, and/or acquaintances, who were once Christians, but who now completely reject the faith and the principles, values, and duties, it would otherwise demand. And if such people choose not at least to live ethical lives, they may also become self-absorbed and then selfishly unable to contribute to the common good. Those who find the basic teachings of Jesus difficult to accept could possibly conclude it’s also foolish to be generously merciful, loving, forgiving, kind, patient, tolerant, service-oriented, and loving towards others (you know, all those “*nice*” qualities Jesus championed so well!). But we’ve chosen a different path than those who have rejected the Christian message; our way requires absolute fidelity to the message of the Gospel. This is not always easy to accept and/or to put into practice. But these things we must do because we are followers of Jesus! We wish not “*to return to former ways of life and no longer accompany Jesus.*”

In today’s Mass we then desire to receive the very “*Bread of Life*” about which Jesus taught. We recall the words of Jesus at the Last Supper. And so the priest says: “*Take this, all of you, and eat of it . . . take this and drink from it . . . the blood of the new and eternal covenant which will be poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins . . . do this in memory of me.*” I believe the “*doing in memory of Jesus*” is more about simply re-enacting the Last Supper and receiving Communion. It also involves the obligation we have, as those who receive this true “*Bread of Life,*” to imitate the very way Jesus placed himself in real service towards others (you know all that mercy, love, forgiveness and stuff I noted above). If we dare to receive this “*Bread of Life,*” then we must also constantly reach-out-to and serve the neediest, the marginalized, and those who were “*different.*” Jesus’ very life was “*poured out for the forgiveness of sins.*” And so I believe we must always strive “*to accompany Jesus*” and “*pour out*” our own lives for others in the very same way. This is what it means to be a Christian!

We accept the teachings of Jesus! And so, in response to the obligations placed upon us as a Eucharistic people, may we proclaim, like Simon Peter in today’s Gospel: “*Master, to whom else shall we go? You have the words of eternal life*” (see verse 68). Let’s always follow Jesus, and encourage each other with this message!

Praise God!

PRAYER REQUEST

Keep in prayer our sick, homebound and recovering members, especially **Denise Branch** (Audrey Wesson & Jerry Branch sister); **Irene Gist**; **Fr. John Raymond Lyons** (Arthur Lyons brother); **Albert J.**

Novak, II and Evelyn Turner. Remember also our Pastor, his family, our relatives, friends, the elderly, the lonely, the poor, destitute, unemployed, homeless, helpless, our city, those who serve our country in the military, those who have no one to pray for them, our world and all the needs recorded in our parish prayer intention book.

SAINT WENCESLAUS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 26, 2018

MASS SCHEDULES FOR PASTORATE CHURCHES

Please pay attention to bulletin announcement for daily Mass schedule as it affects our Pastorate churches of St. Francis Xavier, St. Ann and St. Wenceslaus.

SUNDAY St. Francis Xavier: 8:00 am & 11:00 am;
 St. Wenceslaus: 9:00 am; St. Ann: 11:00 am

WEEKDAYS Tues. & First Friday Adoration: 8:00 am - St. Wenceslaus
 Wed. 10:00 am & Fri 8:00 am - St. Francis Xavier
 Thurs. 7:00 pm - St. Ann

HOLYDAYS As announced in the bulletin

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8
 2nd Reading James 1:17-18, 21b:22, 27
 Gospel Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun Aug 26 9:00 a.m. Alicia Champlin (Living)
 Tues Aug 28 8:00 Joseph & Katherine Kalista

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE & COLLECTIONS

	Mass	Attendance	Collection
8/19/18	9:00 a.m.	86	\$ 914.72
8/20/17			\$1,436.72

LABOR DAY PICNIC

We will gather at Rocky Point Park in Essex for our **Annual Labor Day Picnic**. The date is **Monday, September 3rd**. Tickets are **available** both in the **church office** and at the **park** - **\$7** for adults and **\$4** for children. **Raffle tickets** for **prizes of \$150, \$100, and \$50** are **\$1 each or 6 for \$5**. **Transportation** on the **church bus** is available for a **\$3 fee**.

PICNIC VOLUNTEERS & CAKES

If you can lend a hand before, during, or after the picnic there are lots of tasks we need help with. Check the sign-up sheet in the back of the church and pitch in where you can. We will need cakes for the Cake Wheel. You can drop them off at the rectory on Sunday, September 2, or bring them with you the day of the picnic.

KEEP ON TEACHING

The Office of Black Catholic Ministries will sponsor its' 28th annual **"Keep On Teaching" Saturday, September 8, 9am-2:45pm at Holy Family Catholic Church, 9531 Liberty Rd. Randallstown, MD 21133**. This year's theme is **"Travelling With Jesus As Missionary Disciples-A Retreat"**, and is a Part II to last year's Keep On Teaching titled **"Building the Believer To Strengthen Discipleship"**. **Registration is \$20.00** and includes Continental Breakfast, Lunch and Materials. **REGISTRATION ENDS ON AUGUST 30TH. THERE WILL BE NO WALK-IN REGISTRATIONS!!** If interested in attending please contact the parish office at **410-675-7304**. You can also register at **OBCM@archbalt.org** or call **(410) 625-8472**. Copies of registration forms and flyers are on the table in the back of church.

ECUMENICAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

St. Ann's Women's Retreat will be held **Saturday, September 15th, 9:00am - 3:00pm** at the Greater Waldorf Jaycees Community Center. The theme for the retreat is **"Never Underestimate the Power of a Woman of God."** **Tickets are \$50** and include **breakfast, catered hot lunch t-shirt and bus transportation**. **All money needs to be turned in by August 30th**. Buses will depart from St. Ann's Church at 7:00am. If interested in attending contact Alicia at 443-722-6652.

GOD'S GIFT WORKSHOP

Dr. Kirk Gaddy from SFX Church will be holding a workshop on **"God's Gifts of the Sacraments, Mass and the Bible" Saturday, September 22nd from 9 am - 2 pm** at St. Wenceslaus Church Rectory. Sign-up sheet is on the table in back of the church.

WORK BALTIMORE

Baltimore City Mayor, Catherine Pugh and the Department of Human Resources will host WorkBaltimore 2018: Empowerment to Employment Convention on Wednesday, September 26 & 27, at the Baltimore Convention Center. There will be 30 days of Pre-Convention Workshops, Seminars and Job Readiness Activities from August 20 - September 21 that will focus on Applying for Baltimore City Careers, How to write a compelling resume and Learning other Applicant Essentials. For more details and registration: **WorkBaltimore.BaltimoreCity.gov** or call 410-396-9897.

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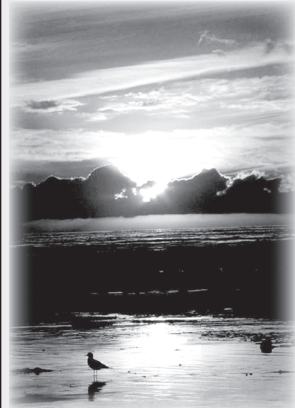
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