

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH'S 350TH ANNIVERSARY

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“Saints Cast in Brass and Molded in Clay, Roman Catholic Religious Artifacts from Historic St. Mary’s City”

On September 10, 2012 at 7 pm in the church hall, Silas Hurry, Curator of Collections and Archeological Laboratory Director at Historic St. Mary’s City will present an illustrated lecture talk on Roman Catholic religious Artifacts from Historic St. Mary’s City. Hurry will discuss the objects, the sites where they were found, and their use in the 17th century. Artifacts range from rosaries to ceramic statues to copper alloy medallions and crucifixes. Sites include the brick chapel, St. John’s plantation, the Van Sweringen Council Chamber Inn, the Leonard Calvert house and other sites in the National Historic Landmark. These artifacts represent tangible evidence of the practice of Roman Catholicism at the site of the first settlement and original capital



Medallion with Ignatius Loyola and Francis Xavier.

Brief Bio of Silas Hurry

Mr. Silas D. Hurry is the Curator of Collections and Archaeological Laboratory Director for Historic St. Mary’s City. He has over forty years of experience in historical archaeology working in Maryland, Georgia, Michigan, and New Mexico. He is a native of the Southern Maryland region and an honors graduate of St. Mary’s College of Maryland in History and Anthropology. He subsequently attended graduate school at Cambridge University in the United Kingdom. He is active in the Society for Historical Archaeology, and a past officer of the Council on Northeast Historical Archaeology, and the Council for Maryland Archaeology and maintains the web sites for both councils. He serves on the Board of Directors for the St. Mary’s County Historical Society. He is the author of numerous articles and essays on the archaeology of St. Mary’s City including the exhibit catalog “..once the Metropolis of Maryland” and The Whole Site is the Artifact: Interpreting the St. John’s Site, St. Mary’s City, Maryland. (with Dorsey Bodeman) in Past Meets Present Archaeologists Partnering with Museum Curators, Teachers and Community Groups edited John H. Jameson and Sherene Baugher. His research interests include Historic ceramics, vernacular and formal architecture, and 17th-century material culture.

HEADLINES

CALENDAR:

- ◆ August 31—September 3 (Labor Day weekend) Excavations at St. Francis Xavier Cemetery.
- ◆ September 10, 7 pm; Silas Hurry presentation on “Roman Catholic Religious Artifacts from Historic St. Mary’s.”
- ◆ October 1, 7pm ; Peter Himmelheber, presentation on “The Newtown Hundred and the Colonial Catholic Church”
- ◆ October 29, 7pm; Reverend Rory Conley presentation on ‘ Religious Practice Among Colonial Catholics.’

CONTACT INFORMATION

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