

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



CATHOLIC CHURCH

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BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Very Rev. Edward Chiffriller, SSJ
Pastor

Deacon Henry Ihuoma, SSJ

stfrancisxavierbr.org

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MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY:	VIGIL ~ 5:00 PM
SUNDAY:	8:00 AM & 11:00 AM
TUESDAY:	OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA~ 5:00 PM
WED ~THURS:	6:30 AM IN CONVENT
HOLYDAYS:	9:00 AM & 6:00 PM
FRIDAY:	SCHOOL MASS 9:00AM

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM IS CELEBRATED ON THE 4TH SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH (NO BAPTISM DURING LENT). BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASS IS HELD ON THE THURSDAY BEFORE BAPTISM AT 6PM. THIS CLASS IS MANDATORY. PLEASE REGISTER AT LEAST ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE OF THE CLASS THROUGH THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE OR THE PARISH OFFICE.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION IS CELEBRATED ONE HALF HOUR BEFORE EACH WEEKEND MASS.

MARRIAGE LAW OF THE DIOCESE REQUIRES A SIX MONTH PREPARATION PERIOD BEFORE MARRIAGE.

COUPLES MUST ATTEND A PRE-MARRIAGE SEMINAR. IN THIS DIOCESE THERE ARE NO EVENING WEDDINGS ON SATURDAY IT IS NECESSARY TO SEE THE PRIEST BEFORE SETTING A DATE.

CARE OF THE SICK: PLEASE CALL THE PRIEST FOR THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK AND /OR HOSPITAL VISITATION. IF THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK IS CRITICALLY NEEDED, PLEASE CALL REV. EDWARD CHIFFRILLER NUMBER LISTED ABOVE OR THE CHAPLAINCY OFFICE AT THE HOSPITAL.

FUNERALS: PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE BEFORE SETTING A DATE AND A TIME FOR A FUNERAL.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES ARE EVERY SUNDAY FROM 9:30AM TO 10:30AM.

RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION) CLASSES ON SUNDAY FROM 9:30A.M. TO 10:45A.M. PLEASE CALL THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE AT 225.343.3075

Welcome to St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Baton Rouge, LA

Welcome: You enter this Church not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. He is your heavenly Father. Come, then, with joy in your heart and thanks on your lips into His presence, offering Him your love and service. Be grateful to the strong and loyal ones who, in the name of Jesus Christ, built this place of worship, and to all who have beautified it and hallowed it with their prayers and praise. Ask His blessing on those who love His house of faith as the inspiration of their labor, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, and may that blessing rest on you, both on your going out and your coming in.

PSR News

February 2023

26 Class - 1st Sunday of Lent

A Prayer for Lent for Young Catholics: Fasting and Feasting

Lord Jesus, as we journey through lent, and as we reflect on your suffering, death, and resurrection, help us to:

Fast from judging others; feast on Christ within them. **Fast** from emphasis on difference, feast on our bonds.

Fast from fear of illness; feast on the healing power of God. **Fast** from apparent darkness, feast on God's light.

Fast from words that cut down; feast on speech that uplifts. **Fast** from gossip feast on affirmations.

Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude. **Fast** from pessimism; feast on hope.

Fast from anger; feast on patience. **Fast** from negatives; feast on encouragement.

Fast from resentment; feast on forgiveness. **Fast** from self-centeredness, feast on compassion. **Fast** from complaining; feast on appreciation.

Fast from giving up; feast on enthusiasm. **Fast** from the shadows of sorrow, feast on trust in God.

Fast from focusing on problems; feast on unceasing prayer. **Fast** from anxiety; feast on faith. Amen. *youngcatholics.com*

Dr. "C.J." Gilliam

Dr. Curtis "C.J." Gilliam [1922-1995] was a longtime Civil Rights activist and the first black optometrist in Baton Rouge. A former president of the Baton Rouge chapter of the NAACP, he was the first black Louisianan to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps, serving at Montford Point, North Carolina and was honorably discharged after serving in World War II. He was the first black disc jockey to work at WLCS radio and hosted his own program using a pseudonym on WXOK. A native of Lake Charles, La. Dr. Gilliam participated in the 1953 Baton Rouge Bus Boycotts. In 1956 he helped organize and file a desegregation lawsuit against the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board. He was inducted into the Louisiana Black History Hall of Fame in 1992. *ebrparishlibrary.com*

The Prophet Joel

Joel, whose name in Hebrew means "Yawheh is God," was called by God to minister to the southern kingdom of Judah, it is believed, around 835 B.C. when the then seven-year-old Joash sat on the throne. At the time, however, Jehoida the priest had functioned as the real ruler of Judah until Joash came of age.

Some scholars, however, believe that Joel might have ministered and prophesied to the returning exiles from Babylon (today Iraq) and Persia (today Iran), almost four hundred years later. It is difficult to know for certain, however, there are a few key details in Joel's writing that point more to the 835 B.C. date than his ministering in 450 B.C. or later.

For one thing, Joel never mentions dominant world powers like Assyria, Babylon, and Persia that had already come and gone (or waned) by the time the Jewish return to Jerusalem in the 5th century B.C.

Secondly, there are similarities in Joel's style of writing to that of Hosea and Amos, biblical prophets who also ministered to Israel and Judah in the 8th century after Joel's ministry. In fact, the verbal parallels between Joel 3:16 and Amos 1:2, and Joel 3:18 and Amos 9:13 are of note.

For this reason, the 835 B.C. date-sometime during the reign of Joash-becomes most probable.

Also, if Joel prophesied during this time, he would have been a contemporary of the prophet Elisha, who ministered to the northern kingdom of Israel at the same time. *biblestudytools.com*

Next issue we continue with the prophet Joel.

SFX CENTENNIAL COOKBOOKS
MAKES A GREAT GIFT
FOR ONLY \$20.00

PRAY FOR US

Richard Camble, Jr.	John Paul Moore	Catherine Murray
Frazier Jordan	Loraine Perry	Joyce Decuir
Elizabeth Whitfield	Martha Proctor	John Ristic
Zelda Bates	Maria Rice	Betty Camble
Elaine Johnson	Whitney Robiho	Elouise Noel
Linda Gills-Beshears	Bridget Taylor	Cora Scott-Green
Mary Johnson	Chavon D. White	Betty Dupas
	Phyllis White	

Mass Intentions for February 25 – 28, 2023

Saturday	5pm	Dr. Melvin Jones <i>By: Family & Friends</i>
Sunday	8am	Walter Martin & Glenn Jones <i>By: Wilma Greene & Family</i>
	11am	Georgie Victorian <i>By: Roger, Ingrid & Heaven</i>
Tuesday	5pm	Charles Williams <i>By: Mary & Ingrid</i>



Through trials and tribulations, by God's grace, we triumph!

3 Ways to Give
St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

*Online Giving: www.stfrancisxavier.org *Text the word "GIVE" to (225) 396-4347
 Mail: St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 1120 Myrtle Walk Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

All online methods are safe and secured. Thank you for your generosity!

Starting October 25, the deadline for bulletin entries will be due on Fridays by 12 noon.
 Please consider admission at least a week prior to the date of the announcement, when possible.

Save the Date

The Tri-Parish Revival will be on March 6th, 7th, 8th at 6pm. The Revivalist is Father John Judy, a priest of the Diocese of Louisville, Kentucky. The first night will be at St. Paul, the second night here at S.F.X. and the third night will be at Immaculate Conception.

OUR FASCINATING FAITH
Lent

One of the liturgical reforms mandated at the Second Vatican Council was that the focus of the season of Lent should be restored as a time of preparation for—or renewal of—baptism. The bishops at the Council were aware of the fact that the origins of Lent as a distinctive liturgical season lay in the early centuries when the Church celebrated the sacraments of Christian initiation only once a year, at the Easter Vigil. In order to prepare those who were to receive those sacraments, a special period of preparation (eventually lasting forty days) gradually developed.

By the time of the Second Vatican Council, the initiatory character of Lent had long been forgotten, and it had become simply a time of penance focused on individual spiritual renewal. The introduction of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and the revision of the Lectionary after the Council have changed all of that. Now the Sunday scripture readings during Lent are very carefully selected with an eye to the journey of those preparing to be initiated at the Easter Vigil. Once again, the entire community is asked to undergo penance in solidarity with the candidates for Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

Thus, in order to appreciate fully the meaning of the readings during this season, the "filter" through which they must be heard is always the knowledge that we are helping to prepare our sisters and brothers in the catechumenate for their initiation at the Easter Vigil.
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The Junior Daughters Ct# 12 (Little Flowers) are still collecting "Pull Tabs". If you have any, please leave them at the back of the church.

Stations of the cross at 2pm on Fridays during Lent

WHO WE ARE AND WHOSE WE ARE

The Lenten season is a fresh invitation to explore again who God is, who we are, and what it means to be human. We begin by hearing the tragic story of the first humans in the book of Genesis. As Paul describes in Romans, our struggles started when our ancestors broke the bond of unity with God, sought self-sufficiency, and grew apart from their true purpose and identity. In Matthew's Gospel, we see how Jesus resists the lure of living outside of unity with God. Jesus rejects false promises of possessions, power, and status. Instead, he puts his life in his Father's hands. As our model for living as a fully human person, Jesus demonstrates that we are created to live in relationship with and trust in God, and in harmony with and for all of creation.

GOOD TIMING

The best time to do something worthwhile is between yesterday and tomorrow.

Stewardship - February 19, 2023

Regular Collection
 \$7,634
Parish Needs
 \$213
Building Fund
 \$6,803
School Support
 \$80



**PLEASE SEND US ONLY 150
COPIES OF THE BULLETIN THAT WE
ARE SUBMITTING FOR
February 26, 2023**