

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Rev. Ugochukwu "Henry" Ihuoma, SSJ
Pastor

stfrancisxavierbr.org

PARISH OFFICE:

MRS. MARVA KADOR WILLIAMS ~ SECRETARY

1134 JULIA STREET

BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

225.383.3479 OR 225.343.3709

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EMAIL~SECRETARY@SFXC.BRCOXMAIL.COM

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REV. UGOCHUKWU HENRY IHUOMA, SSJ.

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OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

MR JOHN YOUNG ~ DRE 225.343.3075 EXT 212

FAX: 225.388.5458

EMAIL:SFXPSR@SFXC.BRCOXMAIL.COM

SCHOOL OFFICE:

CHRISTOPHER J. ROGERS, PhD ~ PRINCIPAL

1150 SOUTH 12TH STREET

BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

7:30 AM TO 4:00 PM

225.387.6639 OR 225.387.6630

FAX: 225.383.1215

EMAIL: CROGERS@SFXBR.ORG

WEBSITE: WWW.SFXBR.ORG

MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY:

SUNDAY:

TUESDAY:

WED-FRI:

HOLYDAYS:

FRIDAY:

SATURDAY:

VIGIL ~ 5:00 PM

8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA- 5:00 PM

9:00AM

9:00 AM & 6:00 PM

SCHOOL MASS 9:00AM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION- 3:30 PM

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. HENRY IHUOMA'S 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 March 2025

30 PSR Class – 4th Sunday of Lent – Rehearsal for the Live Stations

Sacraments of initiation

Christian initiation is celebrated in Baptism, Confirmation or Chrismation and Eucharist. The sacraments are efficacious signs of God's love and stages of a person's journey toward communion with the Trinity. Through these sacraments, a person is incorporated into the Church, is strengthened for participation in the Church's mission, and is welcome to partake of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. As indicated above, the right of Christian initiation of adults provides the norm for catechetical as well as liturgical practice for the sacraments of Initiation. The Eastern Churches, Baptism, Chrismation and Eucharist are celebrated together in infancy and their intimate relationship is apparent. While the Latin Church has separated the celebration of Baptism from Confirmation and Eucharist, she also recognized the essential connection.

Dioceses and parishes should present catechesis for Christian initiation that

- ◆ Summons the catechumens to profess faith in the person of Jesus Christ from the heart, to follow Him faithfully, and to become His disciple
- ◆ Recognize that Christian initiation is an apprenticeship of the entire Christian life and so should include more than instruction
- ◆ Presents a comprehensive and systematic formation in the faith so that the catechumen or candidate can enter deeply into the mystery of Christ
- ◆ Incorporate the catechumen into the life of Christian community, which confesses, celebrates, and bears courageous witness to the faith of Jesus Christ
- ◆ Includes instructions on the right of Christian initiation, their basic symbols and forms, and offices and ministries at work in them

Scrutinies

For those parishes who have candidates for the RCIA, this is the second Sunday of the three Scrutinies. These three Scrutinies are 'rites for self-searching and repentance and have above all a spiritual purpose' (RCIA 128). The Scrutiny is celebrated after the homily in which the celebrant is encouraged to explain the meaning of the second scrutiny in the light of the Lenten liturgy. In the second scrutiny, the key idea in the Gospel and the Second reading is turning from darkness to light, as symbolized in the healing of the man born blind. The celebrant prays through the prayer of exorcism that God "free these elect from false values that surround and blind them." In parish communities where the elect for the RCIA are taking part in the Lenten scrutinies, it is pastorally appropriate to read the gospel from Year A. The elect are presented with the Creed and the Lord's prayer on the first and third scrutinies respectively. The presentation takes place within a Mass 'celebrated in the presence of a community of faithful' (RCIA 144).

PRAYER LIST

John Paul Moore * Loraine Perry * Martha Proctor * Whitney Robiho * Joyce Decuir * Patricia Armstrong

Elouise Noel * Betty Dupas * Denise Chutz * Fred DeJuan * Loretta Warren * Lorenzia Dardone * Patricia Tyson

Elizabeth Whitfield * Linda Gills-Beshears * Phyllis White * Mary E. Bourgeois * Easton Charles * Walter Gabriel * Erica H. Louis

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



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 or scan the QR Code.
Mail: St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 1120 Myrtle Walk Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802



SCAN ME

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

Bible Study

We will be having our Bible Study every Thursday at 6 pm at the Parish Office.

Birthday & Wedding Anniversary Celebration

On the last Weekend of each Month, we will say a prayer at each mass for those celebrating their birthday and anniversary for that Month and have a light refreshment for them on Sunday at 9:30 am. Join us!

Easter Announcements

We are now accepting donations for our SFX annual Easter wagons. Donations may be made in the form of individually wrapped candy or monetary contributions. Donations may be dropped off at the Parish office or given to Pat Smith. Questions - please phone/text either Pat Smith (2259783405) or Bernadette Wilkinson (2254459799). Thank you.



"Register your child for the SFX School 2025-26, The Mustang Experience Awaits You." For more information, visit www.sfxbr.org or scan the QR Code.

Enrolling Grades K - 8

(225) 387-6639



We are receiving donations for our fish fry fundraiser. Each family can support us by donating \$100 for a case of fish. We accept cash or check. You can also give online on the Parish Website. Please indicate the purpose of your collection on your check or envelope or online giving. Thanks for your continued support.

Upcoming Events in the Parish

- *GriefShare Ministry— **Wednesday, 6 pm.**
- *Fish Fry, every Friday, 10am –2pm.
- *Stations of the Cross, every Friday, 3 pm.
- *Adoration, Praise & Worship, Saturday, April 5.

Mass Intentions March 29-April 2, 2025

Saturday	5pm	The People of the Parish
Sunday	8am	William Turner <i>By: Mrs. Lorina Turner</i> James Raby <i>By: Bridget Crocket</i> Richard Camble, Jr. <i>By: Betty Camble</i>
	11am	Chavon D. White <i>By: Denise Williams</i> Chris Bourgeois <i>By: The Family</i> Earl J. Bourgeois <i>By: The Family</i>
Tuesday	5pm	Charles "Bubble" Gills <i>By: The Family</i> Linda Beshears <i>By: The Family</i> Eric Beshears <i>By: The Family</i>
Wednesday	9am	Mass to St. Anthony <i>By: Weezy</i>

Stewardship March 23, 2025

Regular Collection:	\$6,712.55
Online Support:	\$2,116.00
Parish Needs:	\$395.00
School Support:	\$10.00



Thanks for your Generosity!

Today's Readings
Joshua 5:9a, 10-12, 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21, Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Arm the Photon Torpedoes

Usually the first reading is picked to go with the Gospel. This week the connection appears to be a feast. The book of Joshua tells of the Israelites coming into the Promised Land, where they no longer needed to be fed with manna as in the desert. They had been wandering much longer than expected because of their unfaithfulness. But now they are forgiven, and so celebrate the Passover with food from the land. Then we hear the Gospel parable about another feast. This one is also a celebration of forgiveness, for the prodigal son has returned to his father, and the father's forgiveness shows us how willing God is to forgive us. That's where we end the parable, right?

Wrong. The parable continues with the older son's complaint about a feast for his brother. Did you notice the words of the father that "everything I have is yours" (Luke 15:31)? He's not just being sentimental because they are family. The younger brother had already taken *his* inheritance, so whatever was left will one day go to the older one. That son cannot forgive his brother and is angry at the father for welcoming the prodigal back. This is where we come in.

Most of us have no trouble asking God's forgiveness. But we may have trouble forgiving others. We are so used to thinking in terms of justice that we are not satisfied with forgiveness. When I have been hurt, I feel like hitting back. When you see an action movie, you don't want the bad guy to give up and say he's sorry—you expect him to be destroyed by the good guy, hopefully in a big fight or a spectacular explosion. (Superheroes, however, almost never kill the bad guy.)

So we have to ask ourselves whose idea of justice we live by. Is it the human expectation of an eye for an eye? Or is it God's justice, which is mercy and forgiveness? When someone cuts you off in traffic, do you feel like firing the photon torpedoes, or offering forgiveness? The Golden Rule could be "Forgive others as you would be forgiven." Jesus gave his life for the sins of the world. Do we have the right to ask for more.

Tom Schmidt