

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 31, 2025

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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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

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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 3RD 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 August

31 PSR Registration – Please register your child today. Classes begin September 7, 2025.

September 2025

07 PSR Classes begin. Registration – Grandparents' Day - This new worldwide celebration in the Universal Church calendar is a momentous achievement for Grandparents and the Elderly and will hopefully reassure them that they are loved and that they are needed. Let us show some love for grandparents and the elderly.

We continue our series on **Discipleship** and expound on key aspects of discipleship.

Encountering Christ – The Catholic Church teaches that there are five objective means through which we can have an encounter with Christ. These five ways are found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church and are supported by sacred Scripture. Paragraph 1373 of the Catechism states, “Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us,” is present in many ways to his Church: in his word; in his Church’s prayer, “where two or three are gathered in my name,” in the poor, the sick and the imprisoned; in the person of the minister; and in the sacraments, of which he is the author, and in the sacrifice of the Mass. But “he is present most especially in the Eucharistic species.

As St. Jerome said, “Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.” Therefore, we encounter Christ in the sacred Scriptures. Reading the Scripture lessons of the day before we go to Mass, studying the Bible on our own will bring us face-to-face with Jesus. Before we read the lessons, we should ask the Holy Spirit to enable this encounter, and we should ensure that we are reading the Scriptures in the context of the fulness of Catholic teaching.

Next, we encounter Christ in the assembly of the faithful. “Where two or three are gathered,” Jesus says, there I am in their midst.” (Matthew 18:20). The Church is not only where we meet our Catholic friends and family. It is where we meet Christ the Lord.

Next issue we continue and wrap up on Encountering Christ.

PRAYER LIST

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

Elouise Noel * Betty Dupas * Denise Chutz * Fred Dejuan * Loretta Warren * Lorenzia Dardone, * Roslyn Jones * Anita Liggins

Elizabeth Whitfield * Linda Gills-Beshears * Phyllis White * Mary E. Bourgeois * Easton Charles * 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.

Parish Fair 2025

We Are One

Please save the dates: Our Parish Fair is on the weekend of October 3rd, 4th and 5th. Bring your family and friends for a weekend full of fun, fellowship, and food. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, please contact the parish office @ 225 - 383 - 3479. Join us as we celebrate together—because We are One.

Also remember that you can pick up your raffle booklet at the back of the church after the Mass. 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



Join us for
Adoration, Praise, and Worship
Every First Saturday from 3:00 - 4:30 pm

Upcoming Events in the Parish

- *School Mass, Friday, September 5, 9 am.
- *Meeting with Ministry Leader, Saturday, September 6, 10 am.
- *Adoration, Praise and Worship, Saturday, September 6, 3 pm.
- *Grandparents' Day, Sunday, September 7.
- *Nativity of the BVM, Monday, September 8.
- *Food Pantry Distribution, Thursday, September 11, 10 am.
- *School Mass, Friday, September 12, 9 am.
- *Second Collection: Catholic Univ. of America, Sunday, September 14.

Mass Intentions

Aug. 30 – Sept. 04, 2025

Saturday	5pm	The Intentions of our School
Sunday	8am	Karen Jones Curtis By: Wilma Greene & Family Sr. Clara Jackson By: Cynthia & Andre Verrett
	11am	The People of the Parish
Thursday		Joseph A. Delpit By: Ms. Pat Delpit

Stewardship August 24, 2025

Regular Collection:	\$5861.00
Online Support:	\$1695.00
Parish Needs:	\$45.00
School Support:	\$398.00



Thanks for your Generosity!

Today's Readings
Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29, Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a, Luke 14:1, 7-14

Partying with Angels

While the first reading from Sirach and the Gospel focus on humility (“Humble yourself . . . and you will find favor with God” [Sirach 3:18] and “go and take the lowest place” [Luke 14:10], with a surprise reversal of the humble being exalted), the reading from Hebrews surprises us in a different way. The author uses apocalyptic imagery to show how much the relationship between God and humanity has changed. He starts with images of fire, storms, and trumpet blasts—images that may remind you of an erupting volcano: something you want to view from very far away. Even God’s words brought fear and trembling.

It may not be surprising that God is beyond human comprehension, but Hebrews says no. God doesn’t want to be so far beyond us that we only approach in fear. Using more images from the end-time, the author gives us a picture of the baptized partying with angels and all the just who have died. And of course God is the host. Let’s look at some of those images to see how our relationship with the Lord has grown.

The heavenly Jerusalem reminds us that the Church is our home—not just our parish church building but the whole community of faith. How “at home” are you with your fellow parishioners? Do you regularly gather with that family for prayer? A church community can be a place to support those who are sick or jobless or depressed. It is also a place to be supported, to see God’s love in action. The angels in Hebrews may be a symbol of that support.

The “firstborn” and “spirits of the just” could remind us of those who went before us and now rest in the Lord. They had their own struggles in life, and now live in glory. They help us to keep our true goal in mind, to remember the real meaning of life, and to look forward to eternal life with hope.

Jesus came to show us how much God loves us and how close God can be. When he shed his blood on the cross (the final sign in our reading), he renewed the covenant with God’s people. So we no longer have to accomplish our salvation; it has already been offered to us by Jesus’ death and resurrection. We accept that gift not just by a verbal statement of faith, but by a life lived as Jesus showed us, in love of God and our neighbor.

Tom Schmidt