

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 28, 2025

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Rev. Ugochukwu "Henry" Ihuoma, SSJ
Pastor

stfrancisexavierbr.org

PARISH OFFICE:

MRS. MARVA KADOR WILLIAMS ~ SECRETARY

1134 JULIA STREET

BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

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OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

MR JOHN YOUNG ~ DRE 225.343.3075 EXT 212

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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

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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 September

28 **PSR Class** – 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time – PSR Ministry Round-up. Team members will meet to make plans for Family Day.

October 2025

05 **No PSR Class – Parish Fair-** There will be only one Mass for the day at 9:30 am. Please join in a day of fun, food, and many other activities. Only **YOU** can make this fair a success!

As we continue to discuss Discipleship, we explore the next step of the **5 key steps of Discipleship “Following Christ”**

Within the context of Catholicism, discipleship means actively following Jesus Christ as a committed follower. Therefore, being a disciple means learning Jesus’ teachings and living one’s life according to his example by embodying His values and sharing His message. In a real sense, to be a disciple is to be a student of Jesus.

So, when we read the words of Jesus to “follow me” as they appear in the Bible, it becomes clear that He intended those words as an invitation to become a disciple of His. Those words, “follow me,” echo through two thousand years of Catholicism.

Catholicism is unique concerning this fundamental concept; we follow a person, not a teaching or dogma. This is not to minimize the importance of learning the teachings and dogmas of the Catholic Church but rather to emphasize the importance of entering into a relationship with Christ.

Following A Person, Not A Teaching

An example of this can be seen by examining a chapter in Matthew’s Gospel. “When Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man [Jesus] is?’ Interestingly, Jesus does not inquire about what people think of His teachings. Rather, He is asking who people think He is. This exchange is important because it elucidates an important theological principle: Jesus is not another prophet or religious teacher. He is God incarnate.

Of course, this leads to the question at hand. How does one follow Jesus? How does one become a disciple? There are four components to these questions as we discussed in our preceding issue.

First, we need to encounter Jesus. This can occur in several ways. One can encounter Jesus by reading the Bible and interacting with other Catholics. We can also encounter Christ in the poor, the imprisoned, the sick, and the dying (Matthew 25:35). Finally, Christ is present to us through His priests and the sacraments of the Church.

After encountering Jesus, we are called to conversion. Conversion entails baptism, confession, and penance. The goal is metanoia – a fundamental change in the person at the spiritual level.

This is followed by communion with Christ. The most apparent manner is through the Eucharist. To be in communion with God is to be a friend of God. It is how one becomes a saint.

The final component of discipleship is mission. It is worth observing that no one in the Bible encounters God without being sent on a mission. We, too, are called to work for the Kingdom of God.

Unfortunately, like all things in life, following Jesus frequently comes with a price.

Next issue we discuss the cost and the conclusion on Following Christ and begin the next step of the 5 Key Steps of Discipleship

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

The Time is Now: 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 to return your raffle booklet at the back of the church after the Mass. Thank you in advance.



"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

*105th Anniversary of SFX School, Tuesday, September 30.

*GriefShare Ministry, Wednesday, October 1, 6 pm.

*Food Pantry Distribution, Thursday, October 9, 10 am.

*School Mass, Friday, October 10, 9 am.

*Adoration, Praise, and Worship, Saturday, October 11, 3 pm.

*Second Collection: The Propagation of the Faith, October 19.

*Food Pantry Distribution, Thursday, October 23, 10 am.

Mass Intentions September 21, 2025

Saturday 5pm Leo M. Beauregard
By: Stephanie & Harlan Jones

Sunday 8am Joseph A. Delpit
By: Mrs. Pat Delpit

11am People of the Parish

Stewardship September 21, 2025

Regular Collection: \$6821.00

Online Support: \$2439.00

Parish Needs: \$120.00

School Support: \$1272.00



Thanks for your Generosity!

Today's Readings
Amos 6:1a, 4-7, 1 Timothy 6:11-16, Luke 16: 19– 31

Coach Paul

Today's reading from First Timothy sounds almost like a coach getting his team ready for the big game. This coach has much higher goals than a home run or a touchdown. Instead of pursuing a league championship, he seeks faith, love, patience, and gentleness. How about us? Are we in the game or on the sidelines? Let's look at what Coach Paul is talking about.

We strive for faith when we see it as not just believing that God exists or that Jesus is God's Son. Faith is a relationship with the Lord in which we imitate Jesus' outlook on life, his teachings, his love of God. We struggle with his commands to love our enemies, to turn the other cheek, to forgive all wrongs, and to take up our cross each day. As Paul would say, we are "competing well for the faith."

We pursue love by listening to the Gospel, in which Jesus tells the parable of the rich man who was only concerned with his own comfort. Jesus says that if we truly understood the prophets, such as our first reading from Amos, we would not spend all our energy and wealth on ourselves. We may find that love for our family is much easier than love for strangers or the homeless, but Jesus never said that love would be easy.

As we learn to let go of our need to have everything go our way, we become more patient with people who disagree with us, or with frustrations and problems. We learn to see God in our setbacks as well as in our successes. Striving to see Jesus in everyone, we can become more patient with them. They will begin to see Jesus in us as our devotion to him grows. Experiencing the Lord is the championship we want.

Tom Schmidt