

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



## CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Rev. Ugochukwu "Henry" Ihuoma, SSJ  
Pastor

[stfrancisexavierbr.org](http://stfrancisexavierbr.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

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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

### 14 PSR Class – **The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

According to legend, Saint Helena, mother of Emperor Constantine the Great, discovered the True Cross while on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem in the year 326. The Church of the Holy Sepulcher was built by Constantine on the site of discovery, and this September 14 marks the date of that church's dedication.

Although this feast seems out of sync with the liturgical year, it is important not to compartmentalize the great truths of our faith by calendar. The Cross is the iconic symbol of Christianity and the central teaching of Jesus, as we saw last week in the Gospel of the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Good Friday commemorates the Passion and Death of our Lord Jesus Christ, but today's feast focuses on the Cross itself.

The cross preceded Christian times and was the feared instrument of brutal Roman punishment. In his First Letter to the Corinthians, Saint Paul famously spoke of the cross as a “stumbling block to the Jews and an absurdity to the Gentiles.” But it was God's perfect love that transformed that torturous act of cruelty into the greatest act of mercy the world has ever known. In Jesus, the cross (small “c”) became the Cross (capital “C”). As noted by Saint Paul in today's Second Reading from Philippians:

**He humbled himself,  
becoming obedient to death,  
even death on a cross.**

Jesus said we must take up our cross daily. How do we do that? We begin by being open to God's infinite mercy that flows from Jesus' selfless sacrifice. We all have our sufferings in family and in relationships. We observe and endure injustice in the world around us. These hardships, these trials, these crosses are a share in the redemptive suffering of Christ. When it comes to our personal cross, it's easy to fall back on self-pity, anger and despair. Let us embrace our cross and transform it as Jesus did, for God's glory and for the good of those around us.

Today's celebration is a prelude to our continuing series on “**Discipleship**”. Next issue we will discuss its second of 5 key aspects, **Following 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](http://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

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



SCAN ME

### 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](http://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 19, 9 am.  
\*Ministry of Hospitality Meeting, Saturday, September, 10:30 am.

### Mass Intentions

#### September 13 -14, 2025

Saturday	5pm	Shelvia Stewart <i>By: Betty Camble</i> <b>Juanita Culbert</b> <i>By: Camille Fleet</i> <b>Carl A. Pierson, Jr.</b> <i>By: Sylvia Nelson</i> <b>Lovie E. Taylor</b> <i>By: Sylvia Nelson</i> <b>John T. Henning, Jr.</b> <i>By: Sylvia Nelson</i> <b>Margaret &amp; John T. Henning, Sr.</b> <i>By: Sylvia Nelson</i> <b>Nettie P. Dominique</b> <i>By: Stephanie &amp; Harlan Jones</i>
Sunday	8am	<b>Shirley Dominique</b> <i>By: Bridgett Crockett</i> <b>Joseph A. Delpit</b> <i>By: Mrs. Pat Delpit</i> <b>Melvin Amar, Sr.</b> <i>By: Laurie Leggio</i> <b>Mrs. Caroline Victor Sonnier</b> <i>By: Shermaine Haymer</i> <b>Keith Thierry</b> <i>By: Gospel Choir</i>
	11am	<b>The People of the Parish</b>

### Stewardship

#### August 31 & September 7, 2025

Regular Collection:	\$7556.45	\$7635.00
Online Support:	\$2402.42	\$3293.00
Parish Needs:	\$0.00	\$0.00
School Support:	\$100.00	\$130.00



Thanks for your Generosity!

**Today's Readings**  
**Numbers 21:4b – 9, Philippians 2:6 - 11, John 3:13 - 17**

**Bearing Our Crosses With Joy**

We may have any number of crosses throughout our lives. Some may be small, some may be big. Some may be heavy, some may be light. Some may be temporary, some may be long lasting. A number of examples come to mind: a time of financial burden, a chronic illness, chronic pain, a particularly difficult season of parenting, the seemingly endless busyness of everyday life... the list could go on and on.

As Christians, we are called to bear those burdens, not begrudgingly but joyfully. Sometimes that seems downright impossible. How am I supposed to keep a smile on my face when my teenager contradicts every word I say? How can I be happy about the fact that my paycheck is never enough? How can I have joy in my life when every moment is filled with pain (whether that be physical or emotional)?

The answer is, it is not possible without a profound relationship with our Lord, that includes constant surrender to His will. In His great love for us, He often allows things to happen that we don't understand, but are for our good or for the good of others. After all, the goal for each of us is eternal salvation, not earthly comfort.

The one idea that can bring peace to all of our hearts is the fact that He understands us. Whether we suffer rejection, loneliness, illness, pain, hunger, cold, or even torture and death, we know that He has experienced it all and knows exactly how it feels. We can draw real comfort from that, from His compassion, empathy and understanding. We can ask Him to walk with us each step of the way and be our strength when our own fails.

Who knows, we may get to the point where we are able to rejoice in our sufferings like St. Paul, or we may realize we can finally endure them without complaint. We may remember more and more to offer them up for our own soul or for our children's salvation, or for the poor souls in purgatory. But above all, may our crosses be a constant reminder to us of today's powerful Gospel passage: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Tami Urcia