

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
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:	VIGIL ~ 5:00 PM
SUNDAY:	8:00 AM & 11:00 AM
TUESDAY:	OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA~ 5:00 PM
WED-FRI:	9:00AM
HOLYDAYS:	9:00 AM & 6:00 PM
FRIDAY:	SCHOOL MASS 9:00AM
SATURDAY:	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 April 2026

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

If there is such a thing as a Catholic “trademark” it is the sign of the cross, first traced on the senses of catechumens as they begin the journey to baptism, or on the forehead of an infant who is brought to the doors of the church at baptism.

As early as the third century, Christians were tracing the sign of the cross on their bodies. At first, the cross was traced on the forehead during times of prayer and daily occupations. We use a similar small cross today as we trace the cross over on the forehead, lips, and heart at the Gospel during Mass. Much later, the full-body sign traced from forehead to heart to shoulders took shape, perhaps copying the priest’s gesture of blessing with the consecrated host during Mass. Today, this superb baptismal gift is a sign of belonging to Christ and the community, a way of focusing our attention, of asking for God’s blessing, of tracing on our shoulders a willingness to find meaning in life’s burdens. In the sign of the cross, we have an ever-available means of expressing gratitude for our baptism.

—Rev. James Field

SAINT OF THE WEEK

SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES

May 3

Call Philip the gospel’s “Answer Man.” “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Nathaniel asked Philip, who had proclaimed Jesus “the one about whom Moses wrote in the law, and also the prophets” (John 1:45). Jesus asked Philip, “Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?” (John 6:5). Greeks brought Philip their request: “We would like to see Jesus” (John 12:21). Philip’s answer to each question: bring people to Jesus! At the Last Supper, finally, Philip had a request of his own: “Show us the Father!” (John 14:8). Jesus had three last questions for Philip: “You still don’t know me? How can you ask that? Don’t you believe?” And an answer: “I am in the Father and the Father is in me” (John 14:10). Today’s James is not John’s brother, Zebedee’s son, but, tradition says, author of the New Testament Letter of James, who died praying for his murderers in Jesus’ words: “Forgive them, for they know not what they do.” Few historical details for either saint, but lessons aplenty: Bring every question we have and everybody we meet to Jesus; be, as James’ letter challenges, “doers of the word and not hearers only” (James 1:22).

—Peter Scagnelli

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 * Robert Alfred

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

Announcements

Parish Fall Fair 2026

Save the Date: Our Parish Fair will be held on October 31 and November 1. Remember, we are family, and on these days, we are going to show up and show out. Stay tuned for more information.

We would like to thank all those who contributed candy and monetary donations for the Easter Egg wagon. A special thanks to our volunteers. We are grateful for having the opportunity to share in your Easter joy.



"Register your child for the SFX School 2026-27, 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

- *GriefShare Ministry, Wednesday, May 6, 6 pm.
- *Bible Study, Thursday, May 7, 6 pm.
- *School Mass, Friday, May 8, 9 am.
- *Youth Mass, Saturday, May 10, 8 am.
- *School Graduation, Tuesday, May 12, 5 pm.

Mass Intentions March 25-26, 2026

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| Saturday | 5 pm | The People of the Parish |
| Sunday | 8 am | Lester & Ronnie Gauthier
<i>By: Mary, Danna, Edward</i>
Terry Francisco
<i>By: Judy Francisco</i> |
| | 11 am | Tyler Irvin and All Who Are Deployed
<i>By: Catrina Irvin & family</i>
Ronald Gathe, Sr.
<i>By: Willard & Mary Ellois</i>
Lucille Decuir Byrd & Cecille Decuir Domingue
<i>By: Family</i> |
| Tuesday | | Isaac Haney
<i>By: Weesie & Family</i> |

Stewardship April 26, 2026

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Regular Collection: | \$5522.45 |
| Online Support: | \$1878.86 |
| Parish Needs: | \$80.00 |
| School Support: | \$516.00 |



Thanks for your Generosity!

Today's Readings
Acts 6:1-7, 1 Peter 2:4-9, John 14:1-12

Greater Things Than Jesus?

Of all the promises Jesus made to his disciples, I sometimes find the one at the end of today's Gospel to be the most amazing of all. Jesus tells his disciples that they would do greater works than he did. What could be greater than walking on water, curing a blind man, raising the dead, or feeding five thousand people with only a few loaves of bread?

First, we have to ask what Jesus would think is greater. The apostles performed many miracles because of their faith in the Lord. They cured the sick, and Peter even brought a dead woman back to life (Acts 9:40). Paul resuscitated a young man after practically boring him to death (Acts 20:7-12). But even these signs are not greater than what Jesus did.

I think Jesus meant greater in the sense of the true work of a disciple. When he sent the disciples out to cure the sick and cast out demons, his main purpose was to have them preach the Good News. Getting people to change their hearts and follow him was more important than impressing them with his miracles or amusing them with his parables. The disciples started right after Pentecost, when they received the power of the Holy Spirit. Peter went outside and began preaching to the people—not just any crowd, but those who called for Jesus to be crucified (Acts 2:14-41). The story ends with three thousand people getting baptized.

I wonder if we have the same kind of trust in Jesus that the apostles had. Would we be able to speak to a large crowd of non-believers and get them to all be baptized? Maybe we have to start like the apostles did. They talked about their experience of finding the empty tomb. They prayed, they discussed what had happened, and they looked for Jesus to appear to them. We can do those same things. We can talk about our faith with our families, in a parish discussion group, or helping with the OCIA. We can pray to be filled with the gifts of the Spirit and to see Jesus in other people. And we can look for God to act in our lives so that we can share God's love, which has been given to us, with those who do not know the Lord.

Tom Schmidt