

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



## CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Rev. Ugochukwu "Henry" Ihuoma, SSJ  
Pastor

[stfrancisxavierbr.org](http://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  
FAX: 225.388.5458  
EMAIL~SECRETARY@SFXC.BRCOXMAIL.COM  
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REV. UGOCHUKWU HENRY IHUOMA, SSJ.  
EMAIL~ HENRY95UGO@GMAIL.COM  
CELL PHONE ~ 240.688.5440

### 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 May 2026

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In the Easter season until now, we have heard accounts of the Risen Lord's appearances to his disciples, sometimes individually, but most often when they are assembled together, and very often at meals. Now they are faced with the mystery of the Lord's disappearance from their sight, coupled with a deepening awareness of his constant presence.

We recall the days when the church took shape from the quality of relationships forged among the first disciples through their following of Christ. From then on, they are meant to be the sign of Christ's presence in the world. As we, the baptized, gather week by week, we too are shaped into a sacrament of God's justice for the world. Like the first disciples, we too are "works in progress," unfinished works of art. Many of us are splashed with water at the beginning of Mass in this season, an effective and refreshing wake-up call for us to engage ever more fully with our baptism. We are nearing the end of ninety days of renewal. Lent and Easter are drawing to a rousing close. Has Christ "Eastered" in you yet?

—Rev. James Field

### SAINT OF THE WEEK

#### SAINT RITA OF CASCIA (1381-1457)

#### May 22

If you're ever in Philadelphia on May 22, forget parking anywhere near Saint Rita's shrine. Cars line streets and fill medians as throngs pack a candlelight vigil and six Masses, honoring this patroness of lost causes, hopeless situations, and—as her statue in countless churches built by twentieth-century immigrants testifies—difficult marriages, troubled homes, and alienated children. Wise people warn, be careful what you pray for. "Divine Savior," Rita prayed, "let me suffer like you!" Obedient to parents who refused her wish to become a nun, Rita married a man who returned her devotion with twenty years of abuse. When enemies murdered him, Rita's two sons swore revenge. Paintings depict her pointing the angry boys toward Christ crucified, whom she begged to restrain them. Within the year, both sons died. Alone now, Rita went to the convent but was refused. The nuns feared violence, since one of them was related to the murderer. Rita arranged peace between the families, made vows, and became much sought after as a counselor and intercessor for forty years on earth—and ever since in heaven.

—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](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



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.

### Upcoming Events in the Parish

- \*GriefShare Ministry, Wednesday, May 20, 6 pm
- \*Bible Study, Thursday, May 21, 6 pm.
- \*School Advisor Board Meeting, Saturday, May 23, 10 am.
- \*\*\*Pentecost Sunday, May 24.

### 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.

### Mass Intentions May 16-17, 2026

Our Kickoff dance will be held on Saturday, September 19, 2026 at the McKinley Alumni Center. Tickets can be purchased after each mass or at the parish office for \$45 and \$50 at the door. Don't miss out!!!

Saturday 5 pm **Wilson & Shelvia Stewart**

*By: Betty Camble*

**Aline "Cookie" Vaughn**

*By: Christine Deconge*

**Carl A. Pearson, Jr.**

*By: Sylvia Nelson*

Sunday 8 am **Edmund Doucet**

*By: Crystal Doucet*

**Tyler Irvin and All Who Are Deployed**

*By: Catrina Irvin & family*

11 am **The People of the Parish**

Friday 9 am **Beverly Rice**

*By: Debra Johnson*

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



### Stewardship May 10, 2026

Regular Collection: \$6698.00

Online Support: \$1844.36

Parish Needs: \$161.00

School Support: \$100.00



Thanks for your Generosity!



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

**Today's Readings**  
**Acts 1:1-11, Ephesians 1:17-23, Matthew 28:16-20**

**Look, Up in the Sky!**

Around holidays, people tend to look fondly back on past celebrations and romanticize old relationships. For some, remembering the past is the best part of their holiday. That is the image we get from the first reading as the apostles look up to heaven after the Ascension. They think it is Jesus' last Resurrection appearance and that they will never see him again. Maybe they were still amazed at seeing him ascend that way. Or maybe they were remembering all the things he said and did with them.

We too sometimes look at the great feasts of Christmas and Easter in that way. We may dwell on the beauty of the decorations, on the innocence of the baby Jesus, on the horror of his passion and death, or on the wonder of his resurrection. Then when the holy day is over, we go back to our normal routine. Perhaps we need an angel to chide us for "looking at the sky."

The angels were trying to tell the apostles two things. One was that Jesus would return as he left—in glory. This was not a time to say goodbye but a time of hope; the Lord who had changed their lives so radically would change the world next. While they certainly should remember Jesus and all he taught them, they should also expect to see him again. Once they received the Holy Spirit, they would see how Jesus was present in the church, the mystical Body of Christ.

The second thing the angels were telling them was to begin following Jesus' command to spread the Good News to all nations. They would soon realize that Jesus was alive in them, not just as a fond memory, but with the power of his Spirit. With this power they would do mighty deeds in Jesus' name and be his witnesses to the world.

Because of what the apostles accomplished, we are now Jesus' witnesses to the world. We celebrate his death and resurrection not as a fond memory, but to encourage each other to spread the Good News. We too have the hope of seeing Jesus come in glory, even as we see him now with the eyes of faith.

Tom Schmidt