

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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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

Before there was water, there was fire. Once in a while, a volcano hints at the sizzling magma upon which the whole human enterprise floats. Over eons, the surface cooled off a bit, and rain sizzled down for thousands of centuries, filling the oceans and sculpting the earth. We Christians can catch God's glory in a shimmering pool of water, but we can also capture God's burning desire to fan the tiny flames of our baptismal candles into something that will make a difference.

In Sicily to this day, there is a custom of scattering rose petals down from the ceiling of church on the heads of the faithful, an effective reminder of the "tongues of flame" descending on the apostles, and a sign that the Holy Spirit still is poured out on the baptized. It is not merely a quaint custom, but a fairly potent sign of what baptism does. An interesting sidebar: if you have traced the Epiphany blessing on your doorway in chalk, Pentecost is the day to erase it. From now on, no need to rely on the "wise men"—you are alive in the Spirit!

—Rev. James Field

SAINT OF THE WEEK

SAINT PHILIP NERI (1515-1595)

May 26

In a shop near the Vatican, a group of Americans laughed as the shopkeeper showed off his fluent English and latest souvenir, a key ring whose papal portrait, when pressed, activated a recorded blessing. Through the shop window, two clerics scowled disapproval. The shopkeeper grunted, "They're a very somber order who've left the Church. I recognize them." "By their long robes?" an American asked. "Many in Rome wear robes," replied the shopkeeper. "It's their long faces!" When Philip Neri arrived in sixteenth-century Rome, there was reason to be somber. Swiss Guards had been massacred on Saint Peter's steps defending the pope. Parts of Europe were abandoning the Church. But Philip resolved to be an "Apostle of Joy," drawing especially the young to Christ—and frequent confession and Communion—by his sincere interest in their problems, prayerful example, and gentle humor. His "Oratory," a movement as well as a place, provided recreation and devotion in a joyful atmosphere of companionship, service, and liturgy. Philip Neri challenges each of us to begin improving Church and world by changing ourselves with unflinching joy.

—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.

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!!!



"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 27, 6 pm
- *Bible Study, Thursday, May 27, 6 pm.
- *Food Pantry Distribution, May 28, 10 am.
- ***The Most Holy Trinity, Sunday, May 31.
- *Adoration, Praise & Worship, Saturday, June 6, 3 pm.
- *Bingo Game, Saturday, June 6, 6:30 pm.

Mass Intentions May 23-24, 2026

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| Saturday | 5 pm | Leah P. Beauregard
<i>By: Stephanie Harlon Jones</i>
Donna Kennedy Hightower
<i>By: Carla Patin</i>
Marshal & Grace Honore
<i>By: Deirdine Honore</i>
John T. Henning, Jr.
<i>By: Sylvia Nelson</i> |
| Sunday | 8 am | The People of the People |
| | 11 am | Tyler Irvin and All Who Are Deployed
<i>By: Catrina Irvin & family</i> |

Stewardship May 17, 2026

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Regular Collection: | \$7257.00 |
| Online Support: | \$2849.10 |
| Parish Needs: | \$130.00 |
| School Support: | \$195.00 |



Thanks for your Generosity!

Today's Readings
Acts 2:1-11, 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13, John 20:19-23

See the Holy Spirit

In the readings on Pentecost Sunday, the Spirit is described as a driving wind and tongues of fire. Knowing that the Holy Spirit is a Person of the Trinity, we seem to be able to picture the Spirit only in terms of what the Spirit does. In our second reading, Paul tries to explain just that. Though the English translation sounds vague, let's jump in.

First, Paul says that we cannot know Jesus as Lord without the Spirit. The Spirit is the way Jesus is present today, so anyone who truly believes in Jesus is guided by the Spirit. The Spirit never contradicts Jesus, so anyone claiming to have new knowledge that is opposed to what Jesus taught is not using the Spirit. So, for example, if someone starts a cult that teaches that we no longer need to love our enemies, we know that the Spirit is not in them.

Second, Paul acknowledges that the Spirit works in many ways. As examples, he mentions there are many different gifts and services in the church. He emphasizes that all these differences come from one and the same God. Even today we see this happening; people serve the Church in different ways and with different abilities. People even have different ways of looking at things. Some have more patience than others, some are better listeners, and some are great organizers. The point is that all these differences come from the same source, God.

When we think of the strength of the Church, we usually think of its unity, i.e., one baptism, one faith, one Lord. But we also draw strength from the diversity of gifts and services that people offer to God. No one person can do all it takes to bring the world to Christ. Even Jesus shared his work of spreading the gospel with his disciples. If sin brought a multitude of problems to the world, then the Spirit brings a multitude of gifts to help us through these problems. As Paul says, this diversity of gifts is all part of one Body of Christ. So look at the gifts of those around you, and you may be able to see the Holy Spirit more clearly.

Tom Schmidt