

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 02, 2026

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 August 2026

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Over the last several weeks, the history of confirmation has been set out as a rite following baptism and preceding First Communion. Eucharist was a sacrament of spiritual maturity, attuned to the legal age of majority, which was considered to be fourteen years or so. Medieval bishops were often generous, if not especially pious, in seeing to it that children were confirmed before adulthood.

A pattern more familiar to us surfaced in the Diocese of Toulon in France in 1748, where it was decreed that “children are to be confirmed only after receiving First Communion.” This was an amazing shift in practice that undermined centuries of theology and tradition by which confirmation was seen as a bridge between font and table. The innovation swept through France and across Europe, despite constant complaints from Rome. French-trained bishops like Cheverus of Boston and Carroll of Baltimore, founders of the American church, established the practice here. The order of the sacraments was thus disrupted in France and in the United States, and remained an eccentric exception to the rule until big developments in 1910.

—Rev. James Field

SAINT OF THE WEEK

SAINT JOHN MARY VIANNEY (1786-1859)

August 4

A busy pastor jokingly suggests the secret of John Vianney’s holiness: “He died seventeen years before telephones!” Call they didn’t, but visit they did, keeping Vianney eighteen hours a day in the confessional. Stories abound of reading hearts and exorcisms, but Vianney’s first miracle was getting ordained. Difficulty with studies delayed him, prompting the rector’s apology to the bishop, “So far to ordain just one, especially *this* one!” The bishop, who could not know he was ordaining the future patron saint of parish priests, replied, “No burden to ordain one good priest!” In Ars, only an elderly handful attended Mass, “praying,” one told Vianney, “for a priest with brains.” But he stayed forty-two years, fulfilling the promise he made the day he arrived. In a sculpture just outside the village Vianney points skyward: “Show me the way to Ars,” he tells a boy, “and I’ll show you the way to heaven.” To someone who feared there was no heaven beyond the grave, Vianney smiled, “My child, it would have been heaven enough to have lived as Jesus’ disciple on earth.”

—Peter Scagnelli

PRAYER LIST

John Paul Moore * Geraldine Christopher * Loraine Perry * Martha Proctor * Whitney Robiho * Joyce Decuir * Patricia Armstrong

Elouise Noel * Betty Dupas * 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

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

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



SCAN ME

Souvenir Book

We are producing a Souvenir book with Ads to support the parish fair. You can place an ad in the Souvenir book to advertise your business or individual or family endorsement of the event. Call Dr. J @ 225-907-3949 for more info.

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!!!

SAVE-the-DATE **SCHOOL GALA**

Saturday, December 5, 2026
City Club of Baton Rouge

SFXGala2026.netlify.app



"Register your child for the SFX School 2026-2027, The Mustang Experience Awaits You." For more information, visit www.sfxbr.org or scan the QR Code.

Enrolling Grades K - 8
(225) 387-6639



Upcoming Events in the Parish

- *Bible Study, Thursday, August 06, 6 pm.
- *Bingo, Saturday, August 08, 6:30 pm.
- *Youth Mass, Sunday, August 9, 8 am.
- *Food Pantry Distribution, Thursday, August 13, 10 am.
- *The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saturday, August 15.

Mass Intentions August 01-02, 2026

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| Saturday | 5 pm | Twyla Wheaton
<i>By: Marlene Boyd-Clark</i>
Aline "Cookie" Vaughn
<i>By: The Family</i>
Dr. Melvin P. Jones
<i>By: Mrs. Carmen Jones</i>
William "Tex" Turner
<i>By: Lorina Turner</i>
Lester & Ronnie Gauthier
<i>By: Mary, Danna, Edward</i>
Tyler Irvin and All Who Are Deployed |
| Sunday | 8 am | The People of the Parish |
| Tuesday | 9 am | Marshall Honore
<i>By: Weesie and Family</i> |

Stewardship July 26, 2026

Regular Collection:	\$6040.45
Online Support:	\$1300.00
Parish Needs:	\$82.00
School Support:	\$161.00



Thanks for your Generosity!



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

Today's Readings
Isaiah 55:1-3, Romans 8:35, 37-39, Matthew 14:13-21

Lessons to Be Learned

The miracle of the loaves and fishes is one of the best known in the Gospels. It is also one that people have tried to explain by calling it a myth, or by saying that Jesus called for people to share what they had brought and that turned out to be sufficient. The fact that the story is repeated in all four Gospels (one Gospel says Jesus did it twice) leads us to believe it is a genuine miracle.

When Jesus performs a miracle, he is not trying to show off his power. His actions always illustrate a lesson. This miracle can teach us many things. Let's look at a few of them.

One is the compassion of Christ. He takes pity on the crowd and first shows his love by curing their sick. Then he sees that they are hungry and he feeds them. This reminds us that Jesus knows what we need and cares about us.

The bread reminds us of Jesus' temptation in the desert, where he told the tempter that "man does not live on bread alone." He meant that mere food is not enough; we need to hear God's word. The people followed Jesus because they wanted to hear more from him. Just as the miracle satisfied the hunger of five thousand families, so his word will satisfy the spiritual hunger of millions.

Notice the actions of the miracle: he blessed, broke, and gave the bread to the disciples to distribute. These are the actions of the Eucharist, in which bread is blessed, broken, and given to us, his disciples. So the miracle reminds us that Jesus will give us himself as bread and wine to be our food and drink. The miracle of bread and wine becoming the Body and Blood of Christ happens every day.

So the question is, do we learn from this miracle? Do we trust the Lord to care for all our needs? Do we thirst for God's word to inform our lives? Do we try to live by that word? And finally, do we take advantage of the great gift of the Eucharist daily or at least weekly? The miracle may have happened two thousand years ago, but the lessons are meant for us today.

Tom Schmidt