

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 30, 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

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: STFRANXAVIERCCD@BELLSOUTH.NET

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:

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

30 **PSR Registration – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – PSR Parents Meeting 9:30 – 11:00 am in Church.**

September 2026

06 **PSR Class (First Day of Class) – PSR Registration.**

7 **Labor Day - Labor Day 2026 occurs on Monday, September 7.**

Labor Day

Labor Day pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers and is traditionally observed on the first Monday in September. It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century and became a federal holiday in 1894. Labor Day weekend also symbolizes the end of summer for many Americans and is celebrated with parties, street parades and athletic events.

Labor Day is always observed on the first Monday in September, Labor Day is an annual celebration of workers and their achievements, originated during one of American labor history's most dismal chapters.

In the late 1800s, at the height of the Industrial Revolution in the United States, the average American worked 12-hour days and seven-day weeks in order to eke out a basic living. Despite restrictions in some states, children as young as 5 or 6 toiled in mills, factories and mines across the country, earning a fraction of their adult counterparts' wages.

Congress passed legislation in 1894—amid a railroad workers' strike—to create the holiday honoring labor.

Why Is Green the Color of Ordinary Time?

Likewise, the normal liturgical color for Ordinary Time—for those days when there is no special feast—is green. Green vestments and altar cloths have traditionally been associated with the time after Pentecost, the period in which the Church founded by the risen Christ and enlivened by the Holy Spirit began to grow and to spread the Gospel to all nations.

When Is Ordinary Time?

Ordinary Time refers to all of those parts of the Catholic Church's liturgical year that aren't included in the major seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. Ordinary Time thus encompasses two different periods in the Church's calendar, since the Christmas season immediately follows Advent, and the Easter season immediately follows Lent.

The Church year begins with Advent, followed immediately by the Christmas season. Ordinary Time begins on the Monday after the first Sunday after January 6, the traditional date of the Feast of the Epiphany and the end of the liturgical season of Christmas. This first period of Ordinary Time runs until Ash Wednesday when the liturgical season of Lent begins. Both Lent and the Easter season fall outside of Ordinary Time, which resumes again on the Monday after Pentecost Sunday, the end of the Easter season. This second period of Ordinary Time runs until the First Sunday of Advent when the liturgical year begins again.

Next issue, Why Is There No First Sunday in Ordinary Time?

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



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

Upcoming Events in the Parish

- *Adoration, Praise, & Worship, Saturday, September 05, 3 pm.
- *Bible Study, Thursday, September 03, 6 pm.
- *Food Pantry Distribution, Thursday, September 10, 10 pm.
- *Kickoff Dance, Saturday, September 19, 7 pm - 11 pm.
- *Catechetical Sunday, Sunday, September 20.

Mass Intentions August 29 – September 01, 2026

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| Saturday | 5 pm | John T. Henning, Jr.
<i>By: Sylvia Nelson</i>
John T. Henning, Sr.
<i>By: Sylvia Nelson</i>
Marcella Keys
<i>By: Weesie & Family</i>
Alexandra Wells
<i>By: Sylvia Nelson</i> |
| Sunday | 8 am | The People of the Parish |
| | 11 am | Tyler Irvin and All Who Are Deployed
<i>By: Catrina Irvin & Family</i>
Lovie E. Taylor
<i>By: Sylvia Nelson</i> |
| Tuesday | 5 pm | Charles Gills
<i>By: Debra Johnson</i> |

Stewardship August 23, 2026

Regular Collection:	\$7036.00
Online Support:	\$930.00
Parish Needs:	\$30.00
School Support:	\$402.00



Thanks for your Generosity!

Today's Readings
Jeremiah 20:7-9, Romans 12:1-2, Matthew 16:21-27

The Eyes of a Child

I frequently see signs on churches inviting everyone to come. Often they advertise that they are a contemporary, casual church. One thing that concerns me is that they do not add “challenging” to that description. Some people try to teach that since Jesus is risen from the dead, we should also be able to live that way: Rejoicing, but never sorrowing. But if we preach resurrection without the cross, we are acting like Peter in the Gospel.

Peter had just proclaimed that Jesus was the Messiah, but he failed to understand that Jesus’ mission was not to bring wealth and glory to Israel. Jesus knew that being messiah required him to give his life for all people. In a sense, Peter was tempting Jesus to avoid the painful death and use his divine power to bring prosperity. Like Satan’s temptations in the desert, he wanted Jesus to take the easy way to glory.

Instead, Jesus challenges us to deny ourselves. Today this phrase is not very popular with those who say we should be free to satisfy all our desires, or with motivational speakers who say that everyone is able to achieve financial success and live a comfortable life. As long as we center our lives on our own pleasure and comfort, we are rejecting the cross. To deny oneself means to choose God’s will over our own. It means to be willing to suffer for being honest. It means giving God the first place in our lives. It means we get more joy from serving others than serving ourselves. This is what Paul is talking about in the second reading when he says to offer ourselves as a “living sacrifice.” Or as Jesus says, we lose our life for his sake, only to find it in loving and serving him.

That is one reason I like the image of God as father. Parents will lose much of their freedom—and much sleep—when they bring a child into the world. But they find a new joy in the eyes of that child. We are all called to lose our selfish lives and find the joy of living for Jesus.

Tom Schmidt