

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 25, 2026

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Rev. Ugochukwu "Henry" Ihuoma, SSJ
Pastor

stfrancixavierbr.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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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

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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 October 2026

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

There is a show on public television in which people search their attics for heirlooms, dust them off, and trek them downtown for ruthless evaluation by teams of antique experts. Occasionally the owners are surprised to learn they have been harboring priceless artifacts: a Tiffany bowl used to catch the car keys, a Van Gogh in the downstairs bathroom. What they lugged downtown in a paper bag, they carry home in bubble wrap and receiving blankets.

It's the same way with treasures in Church life. Lots of things were lugged up into the attic years ago, and it was inevitable that some treasures ended up in the trash. Many Catholics tucked the sacrament of penance away in a dusty corner. We know it's there if we need it, but it is not the weekly routine it once was, like the Saturday bath "whether I need it or not." Today, especially in Lent and Advent or as part of personal preparation for marriage, ordination, or other life transitions, the sacrament of penance is a treasure of the Christian life waiting to be discovered. What's in your attic?

—Rev. James Field

SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE, APOSTLES October 28

Saint Jude, apostle and . . . Hollywood success story? Indeed! Beyond Simon's being a "Zealot" for Israel's liberation and Jude's question about Jesus revealing himself (John 14:22), no historic facts are known about either saint. But Saint Jude's well-known patronage of "lost causes" and "hopeless cases" is largely due to a desperate vow made just before World War II by a struggling entertainer, the son of Arab-American immigrants, Danny Thomas. Unemployed, his wife about to give birth, Danny, attending Mass, impulsively donated his last \$7.00 to the collection, promising: "Saint Jude, if you help me find my way in life, I will build a shrine in your honor!" Older Americans remember well Danny's long, successful movie and television career. Grateful parents worldwide know the miracles that have taken place for fifty years at his Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital, where needy children are cared for regardless of race, religion, or financial resources, and monumental advances continue in healing and preventing pediatric cancers and catastrophic childhood diseases. A living, life-giving partnership is this "Communion of Saints": Simon, Jude, Danny Thomas—us!

—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 * Walter Johnson

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

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

Silent Auction

Donations are needed for the Silent Auction that will be held at the Parish Fair. Drop off your items at the parish office within the office hours. Thank you.

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.

Black Catholic History Mass

The Mass will be held in the Cathedra on Sunday, November 8, at 5 pm. The Celebrant will be the Bishop Duca and the homilist will be Archbishop Fabre.

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

- *Bible Study, Thursday, October 29, 6 pm.
- * Food Pantry Distribution, Thursday, November 05, 10 am.
- *Adoration, Praise, and Worship, November 07, 3 pm.

Mass Intentions October 24-25, 2026

Saturday 5 pm The People of the Parish

Sunday 8 am Charles Gills
By: Debra Johnson
Ike Harris, Sr. & Noella Harris
By: Ike Harris, Jr.
Aline "Cookie" Vaughn
By: Pam Ross
Tyrone Porter
By: Anissa Porter & Daughters

11 am Dolores Jones Williams
By: The Contemporary Choir
Bobby Mayweather
By: The Contemporary Choir
Gaynell Richard
By: The Contemporary Choir

Stewardship October 18, 2026

Regular Collection: \$7892.00
Online Support: \$3150.36
Parish Needs: \$55.00
School Support: \$55.00



Thanks for your Generosity!

Today's Readings
Exodus 22: 20 - 26, 1 Thessalonians 1:5c - 10, Matthew 22:34 - 40

The Diamond Rule

When I hear the line from the first reading about not molesting or oppressing an alien, I think of the movie *E.T.*, in which the children help the extraterrestrial just because he needs help. What the reading calls aliens are immigrants or newcomers. They lived among the Hebrews but were not Jews themselves. The Lord reminds the people that they were once aliens themselves. They should not make the same mistake the Egyptians did when they mistreated the Israelites. God uses the same logic in commanding them to take care of widows and orphans. Treat them like family, or else your own wives and children will be in the same situation. Immigrants, widows, orphans, borrowers—all must be treated with compassion.

The reason for such compassion should be deeper than just fear of punishment. “Do to others as you would have them do to you,” Jesus said (Luke 6:31). Today’s Gospel has a similar saying: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:39). Jesus called this the second commandment. The first is to love God wholly and completely, heart, mind, and soul. If the second commandment is the Golden Rule, the first might be called the Diamond Rule. If you think about it, in order to keep the first commandment, you have to be keeping the second as well.

Jesus said that whatever you do for the poor, the homeless, the sick, or prisoners, you do for him (Matthew 25:31–46). Mother Teresa could see Jesus in the poorest of the poor. Jesus himself showed compassion even to sinners. We can’t really say we love God if we don’t love the people God created.

So that gives us two reasons to love our neighbor. First, because God lives in other people, so loving God means loving God wherever God is found. Second, God loves them, so if we are to be holy, we must be like God. What does that mean? Remember the saying that “charity begins at home”? That is only true because it is easier to love family and friends, but charity doesn’t end there. If we truly love God, we will extend our charity to those outside our homes. People are probably still rebuilding after the earthquakes in Japan, tornadoes in America, floods in India, and other disasters, and every city has some kind of homeless shelters. You say you love God? Let’s see you love your neighbor.

By Tom Schmidt