

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
MAY 14, 2023

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



## CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Very Rev. Edward Chiffriller, SSJ  
Pastor

Deacon Henry Ihuoma, SSJ

[stfrancisxavierbr.org](http://stfrancisxavierbr.org)

### PARISH OFFICE:

MS. EBONY RILEY ~ SECRETARY  
1134 JULIA STREET  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802  
8:00 AM TO 3:00 PM  
225.383.3479 OR 225.343.3709  
FAX: 225.388.5458  
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REV. EDWARD CHIFFRILLER CELL: 225.571.8233  
EMAIL~ EJCHIFFSSJ@AOL.COM

### OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

MR JOHN YOUNG ~ DRE 225.343.3075 EXT 212  
FAX: 225.388.5458  
EMAIL:SFXPSR@SFXC.BRCOXMAIL.COM

### SCHOOL OFFICE:

MS. PAULA JOHNSON ~ 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: PJOHNSON@SFXBR.ORG  
WEBSITE: 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 ~ THURS:	6:30 AM IN CONVENT
HOLYDAYS:	9:00 AM & 6:00 PM
FRIDAY:	SCHOOL MASS 9:00AM

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** IS CELEBRATED ON THE 4TH 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. EDWARD CHIFFRILLER 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 2023**

**14** No Class – **Happy Mother’s Day!**

**21** Last Day of PSR – **Teacher Appreciation – Hand Out Certificates**

### 5 things we learn from the Prophet Amos

#### God Calls and Commissions Ordinary Individuals

Nothing about Amos’ vocation as a shepherd and farmer would have marked him as one suited to carry the mantle of prophet. In fact, the resume of Amos leading up to his divine commission would have been remarkable only in how unremarkable it all looked on paper. And yet, in His sovereignty and grace, God chose a shepherd and farmer to be His prophet and mouthpiece to the nation. Amos is not the only example in Scripture where God used an ordinary individual and common laborer to do His work. What is important to remember, however, is that Amos was not called because of his qualifications. In His grace, God called Amos, Amos accepted the call, and God prepared Him for what was to come.

In doing so, the ministry of Amos demonstrates how, as the apostle Paul would later write, “*God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong.*” (1 Corinthians 1:27).

#### The Burden of a Divine Calling Cannot Be Easily Ignored

In receiving the call to prophesy to the northern kingdom, Amos could have chosen to stay home to tend his fig trees and care for his sheep. A simple farmer’s life would have been, at the very least, a much easier life than that of a prophet called to deliver bad news and a stern warning to an obstinate king and unrepentant people. Heeding the call from God was not going to win Amos many friends in the north. In fact, there was a good chance his ministry could have gotten him thrown in jail or worse, killed.

Amos could have fallen back on his lack of qualifications as a reason why he was not the right man for the job. Instead, he strapped on his sandals, picked up his staff, and ventured north, trusting that God would provide for his needs and give him the words to say when it mattered most. As Amos writes, “the Lord took me from following the flock and the Lord said to me, ‘go prophesy to My people Israel’” (Amos 7:15). Accordingly, Amos saw any assignment that came from God as the highest of callings, not because of what it entailed, but because of who it came from. It was not a calling Amos could easily ignore, and he wisely chose not to.

#### Worship Must Be on God’s Terms, Not Ours

Years before Amos arrived on the scene in Bethel, Jeroboam I, the first king of the northern kingdom after the split, feared that the northern tribes might grow nostalgic and seek to return to the house of David. Knowing that the Temple of Solomon was located in Jerusalem (in the south), Jeroboam worried that frequent trips to the Temple might foster this desire (1 Kings 12:26-27). Therefore, the Bible tells us that Jeroboam, “made two golden calves, and he said to them, ‘it is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem; behold your gods, O Israel, that brought you up from the lands of Egypt.’” (1 Kings 12:28) He placed one calf in Bethel, the other in Dan, destroying unified worship, as was God’s intention when He established the Temple in Jerusalem (not Bethel) as the center of worship for the nation.

From then on, Jeroboam’s alternate sites of worship would be referred to as the “high places”, which no subsequent king had the spiritual sense to eliminate, to their peril. In the days of Amos, these alternate high places had encouraged false worship and even idolatry which God sought to eliminate (Amos 7:9). This is why Amos opens his book with the reminder that “the Lord roars from Zion, and from Jerusalem He utters His voice.” (Amos 1:2)

The people of Israel, like their siblings to the south, were called to return to God and that meant true (and correct) worship, which had not been done for quite some time. True worshippers, therein, will worship the Lord in spirit and in truth (John 4:23) and always on His terms, never their own. Anything else amounts to idolatry. [crosswalk.com](http://crosswalk.com) Next Issue: God Is Sovereign Over the Nations and Our Hope Is Found in Christ Alone.

## PRAY FOR US

Richard Camble, Jr.	John Paul Moore	Catherine Murray
Frazier Jordan	Loraine Perry	Joyce Decuir
Elizabeth Whitfield	Martha Proctor	John Ristic
Zelda Bates	Maria Rice	Betty Camble
Elaine Johnson	Whitney Robiho	Elouise Noel
Linda Gills-Beshears	Bridget Taylor	Cora Scott-Green
Phyllis White	Chavon D. White	Betty Dupas
Mary Elaine Bourgeois		Earl Bourgeois

## Mass Intentions for May 13 – 16, 2023

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>5pm</b>	<b>Living &amp; Deceased Mothers</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>Living &amp; Deceased Mothers</b>
	<b>11am</b>	<b>Living &amp; Deceased Mothers</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>5pm</b>	<b>Norma Duell &amp; Gladys Lee</b> <i>By: Ballard Family</i>



***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  
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!

Starting October 25, the deadline for bulletin entries will be due on Fridays by 12 noon.  
Please consider admission at least a week prior to the date of the announcement, when possible.



**Weekday Masses**  
**Wednesday, Thursday & Friday**  
**at 9am**

**KPC Ladies Auxiliary SFX Court 12**

Will be awarding a \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior this year. Applications and directions for completing this scholarship are in a folder on the table in the back of the church.  
The deadline is May 22

**Delicious Spaghetti Dinner**

*Sunday, June 4, 2023*  
*Immediately after each Mass*

**SFX Jr. Daughters Court 12 Fundraiser**

**\$10 Dinner Includes:**  
*Spaghetti, Meatballs, Salad,*  
*Roll and Cake*  
**\$1 Drinks**



**God protect me from anything that wasn't sent by you!**

The **St. Francis Xavier Parish Council** would like to recognize all 2022-2023 graduates. All levels from eighth grade through post-graduate will be recognized. If you are a graduate or the parent of a graduate, please sign-up by May 21, 2023. Graduates will be recognized at the 11:00 mass on June 4, 2023. Please submit a graduate photo to [sfx1919@gmail.com](mailto:sfx1919@gmail.com) so we can also recognize you on social media.

The Junior Daughters Ct# 12 (Little Flowers) are still collecting "Pull Tabs". If you have any, please leave them at the back of the church.

**JOIN US FOR PRAYING THE ROSARY**  
EVERY SUNDAY EVENING @ 7PM  
Just dial 1 720 7409653  
And enter access code **5217381#**

**Stewardship - May 7, 2023**

	<p><b>Regular Collection</b> <b>\$8,033</b></p> <p><b>Parish Needs</b> <b>\$701</b></p> <p><b>Building Fund</b> <b>\$1005</b></p> <p><b>School Support</b> <b>\$150</b></p>	
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## Scripture Readings For the Week of May 14, 2023

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b> Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20; 1Pt 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Memorial of St. Isidore the Farmer</b> Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Jn 15:26—16:4
<b>Tuesday</b>	Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11
<b>Wednesday</b>	Acts 17:15, 22 - 18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14; Jn 16:12-15
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Saint John I, Pope and Martyr</b> Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 16:16-20
<b>Friday</b>	Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Jn 16:20-23
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Saint Bernardine of Siena, Priest, Religious</b> Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10; Jn 16:23b-28
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Ascension of the Lord</b> Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20

In those places where the observance of the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord has been transferred to the Seventh Sunday of Easter, the Mass and readings of the Ascension are used.

1 Pt 4:13-16; Jn 17:1-11

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