

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Very Rev. Edward Chiffriller, SSJ
Pastor

stfrancisxavierbr.org

PARISH OFFICE:

MS. EBONY RILEY ~ SECRETARY
1134 JULIA STREET
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OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

MR JOHN YOUNG ~ DRE 225.343.3075 EXT 212
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SCHOOL OFFICE:

MS. PAULA JOHNSON ~ PRINCIPAL
1150 SOUTH 12TH STREET
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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

21 End of our PSR School Year – The Ascension of Our Lord

We ask all youth from the ages of 12-18, and their parents, to attend a brief meeting in the cafeteria following the 8 am Mass and the handing out of certificates. This meeting is pertaining to the re-start of our Youth Ministry.

Those wishing to learn more or to sign-up for Altar servers and Ministers of Hospitality (ushers) may sign-up at this time as well.

The Ascension of Our Lord

Traditionally the Ascension of Our Lord was held 40 days after Easter, falling on a Thursday. However, in most dioceses in the United States, the observance of the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord Year A is moved to the following Sunday, superseding the 7th Sunday of Easter.

The Ascension is the event, where Jesus arose into heaven, at the end of his time on earth.

Jesus' time on earth began with his birth. It was interrupted for three days by His death on the Cross. During that time, He descended into the realm of the dead and preached the Gospel to the good people who died before Him. This allowed those good and holy souls--the righteous dead, as we call them--who accepted Christ as their Savior to proceed to heaven. On the third day after his death and burial, Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, an event we call the Resurrection. He spent the next 40 days preaching and preparing His disciples to perform the work of preaching and baptizing all people.

At the end of this 40-day period, Jesus ascended into heaven. We call this the Ascension. The bible tells us what happen in Acts 1:1-11. We complete our series on Amos with the final two lessons we learn from the prophet:

God Is Sovereign Over the Nations

Though the focus of Amos' ministry is understandably directed at the nation of Israel, the first two chapters of Amos include charges against surrounding nations and the enemies of Israel. Why does this matter?

Although these nations had not entered into a covenant relationship with Yahweh, they would still be held responsible for their crimes against humanity and mistreatment of God's people. Evil does not go unnoticed by the King of Kings. Furthermore, God will always hold His people to the highest standard since they have been given the truth and called to be a blessing to the nations. However, as we are reminded in the prophecies of Amos, God is sovereign over ALL nations.

Our Hope Is Found in Christ Alone

Many will note that the writings of Amos are focused far more on judgment than hope. It is true that most of the prophets came with warnings of judgment for the disobedience of Israel and their rejection of God as their king. The future was not always bright for the people of Israel or Judah, as they would soon discover in the days to come. However, it is appropriate that Amos, the shepherd prophet, ends his ministry with a prophetic vision of the coming Messiah and good shepherd who would win His people back and sit on the throne of Israel forever.

Therefore, in good times and bad, as the people of Israel had reason to hope in the Messiah who was to come, we too have reason to hope and rejoice in the same Christ who was, who is, and who is to come again. *crosswalk.com*

Next issue we begin with the prophet Micah.

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 20 – 23, 2023

Saturday	5pm	Dr. Melvin Jones <i>By: Phyllis White & Family</i>
Sunday	8am	Louis Jones, Jr. <i>By: Wilma Greene & Family</i>
	11am	Georgie Victorian <i>By: Congratulations Heaven</i>
Tuesday	5pm	Norma Duell & Gladys Lee <i>By: Bellard 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 *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.

Commission, Power, and Promise

The Ascension of Jesus is a significant event in the Christian faith. As he ascended into heaven, his disciples watched in awe, wondering what would come next. Jesus left them with a command to be his witnesses, spreading the message of salvation to all around them. This command was not only for the disciples but for all believers throughout history, including us today.

The Holy Spirit plays a central role in the Christian faith, empowering and guiding every believer. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to his disciples, and he continues to guide and empower us today. The Holy Spirit is not limited to personal transformation, but also equips us to carry out God's mission in the world. It gives us the strength, wisdom, and gifts we need to serve others, proclaim the gospel message, and work for justice and peace.

The promise of Christ's return is a central aspect of the Christian belief, bringing hope and joy to believers. Throughout the New Testament, Christ's return is described as a glorious event that will bring about the final judgment and the establishment of God's eternal kingdom. As believers, we eagerly anticipate Christ's return, knowing that our actions and choices in this life impact our eternal destiny.

In summary, the readings for the Ascension of the Lord Year A remind us of our commission to be witnesses of Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives, and the promise of Christ's return. May we always be faithful to this commission, living in the power of the Holy Spirit and eagerly anticipating the return of our Lord and Savior.

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#**

Mark Your Calendars June 10th & 11th
for the return of
Father Henry Ihuoma, SSJ

The **former** Deacon Henry will be performing all
3 masses that weekend!

Please make arrangements to be in attendance to
show our support!

Weekday Masses
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
at 9am

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

Stewardship - May 14, 2023



Regular Collection
\$8,352
Parish Needs
\$279
Building Fund
\$617
School Support
\$100



**Scripture Readings
For the Week of May 21, 2023**

Sunday	Ascension of the Lord Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20
Monday	Saint Rita of Cascia, Religious Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday	Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a
Wednesday	Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19
Thursday	Venerable Bede, Priest and Doctor of the Church, Gregory VII, Pope, St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi, Virgin Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a & 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; Jn 17:20-26
Friday	Memorial of Saint Philip Neri, Priest Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19
Saturday	Saint Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5 and 7; Jn 21:20-25
Sunday	Pentecost Sunday <i>Vigil:</i> Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b Or Ez 37:1-4 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 20, 30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39 <i>Day:</i> Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23