

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
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OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

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SCHOOL OFFICE:

MS. PAULA JOHNSON ~ PRINCIPAL
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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

August 2023

- 13 Registration for PSR begins. Forms are on the table at the entrance of the church - 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
15 **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
20 PSR Registration – 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Today, Catholics and many other Christians celebrate the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This significant feast day recalls the spiritual and physical departure of the mother of Jesus Christ from the earth, when both her soul and her body were taken into the presence of God.

Venerable Pope Pius XII confirmed this belief about the Virgin Mary as the perennial teaching of the Church when he defined it formally as a dogma of Catholic faith in 1950, invoking papal infallibility to proclaim, “that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory.”

“It was fitting,” St. John of Damascus wrote in a sermon on the assumption, “that she, who had kept her virginity intact in childbirth, should keep her own body free from all corruption even after death,” and “that she, who had carried the creator as a child at her breast, should dwell in the divine tabernacles.” cna

Main Themes in Habakkuk Continues:

All evil can ultimately be traced to idolatry.

Though there were many acts of unrighteousness committed by both the people of Judah and the people of Babylon, they could ultimately be traced back to idolatry. God rhetorically asks Habakkuk:

“What profit is an idol
when its maker has shaped it,
a metal image, a teacher of lies?

For its maker trusts in his own creation
when he makes speechless idols!
Woe to him who says to a wooden thing, Awake;
to a silent stone, Arise!
Can this teach?

Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver,
and there is no breath at all in it.
But the Lord is in his holy temple;
let all the earth keep silence before him.” (Hab. 2:18-20)

Whether idols are literal (made of stone and wood) or idols of the heart (things like power, money, or fame), anything that takes our heart’s allegiance away from the One True God is sin and is deserving of God’s wrath. crosswalk.com

Next Issue, we continue Habakkuk with, **God’s Power Should Humble even the Righteous**

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 E. Bourgeois	Mary L. Boutte	Earl Bourgeois
Cecila Bazile		Betty Bickham

Mass Intentions for August 12 - 15, 2023

Saturday	5pm	Dr. Melvin Jones <i>By: Patricia Kahn</i>
Sunday	8am	William “Tex” Turner <i>By: Wife & kids</i>
	11am	Dena Riley <i>By: Cousins</i>
Tuesday	5pm	Hazel Corbin <i>By: Jeff & Marie Corbin</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.

Save the Date

SFX Homecoming Parish Fair,
 October 21-22, 2023. There will be fun, games,
 food and the Big Drawdown.

Tickets are \$100 each. The main prize is \$10,000
 and \$5,000 in additional cash prizes. If we sell all
 500 tickets our profit will be \$35,000.

Let's pull together to make this Parish Fair a huge
 success!

Tuesday, August 15, is the
Feast of the Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary.
Mass will be celebrated at
9am & 6pm

Save the Date

Sunday, August 20 at the 8am mass, we will honor
 the Sisters of the Holy Family for the 104 years of
 service to our school and parish.

We will have a breakfast for them in the
 cafeteria after mass.

We will also take up a second collection at all the
 masses that weekend to support the
 Sisters.

Weekday Masses

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
 at 9am

Stewardship - August 6, 2023

Regular Collection

\$6,642

Parish Needs

\$50

Building Fund

\$650

School Support

\$80



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Two Steps Forward . . .

Why did Jesus walk on water to the disciples in the boat? Did he want to scare them? No, his first words to them were “Do not be afraid.” While they were being tossed by wind and waves, he showed them that he was not affected by the storm. If they had had faith, they might have realized that if Jesus was safe, they would be, too. We too must make that leap of faith, especially when we are afraid.

Peter seemed to be willing to take the leap as he stepped into the water. But when his attention was distracted by the strong winds, he began to falter. This is where we can apply the story to ourselves.

Our growth in faith is not a steady progression. For every two steps forward, we may take one step back. For example, we receive God’s forgiveness in the sacrament of reconciliation and rejoice in God’s loving mercy, but later we fall back into sin. We ask God’s help in prayer and when our prayer is answered, our faith in God grows. Then we become ill or wreck the car, and think that God has abandoned us. But isn’t that a natural reaction?

It is natural to doubt God in times of trouble, but we are choosing to live in the supernatural when we become followers of Christ. Like Peter, we need to keep our attention on the Lord. As long as Peter looked to Jesus, he could walk on water. Only when he focused on the wind did he lose his nerve and begin to sink.

In a similar way, we can lose our focus on the Lord. We see someone we love who is gravely sick. We make a serious mistake that gets us in trouble. We lose our job and have no leads to a new one. We are frightened by news of terrorist activity. These seem more real than faith in an invisible God. That is when we must remember that true faith allows us to believe when it doesn’t seem to make sense. Faith tells us that though apparently invisible, God is more real than anything we can see. Remember Jesus on the cross saying, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” The Father never abandoned his Son and God will never abandon us.