

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 27, 2023

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
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802
8:00 AM TO 3:00 PM
225.383.3479 OR 225.343.3709
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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
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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

August 2023
27 PSR Registration

September 2023
10 PSR Class – Parents Meeting 9:30 AM
17 PSR Class - **Catechetical Sunday:** “Come to me all you who labor and are burdened” Mat. 11:28 Teachers Commissioned

Come One – Come All!!! It’s time for a St. Francis Xavier **Cake BINGO!**

Join the SFX Parish School of Religion (PSR) Program on **Saturday, September 30th** *Immediately following the 5:00pm Mass.*

Fun and Fellowship. Come out and support the youth and secure your chance of **winning** delicious desserts. Food and refreshments available for sale.

Donations of homemade cakes are needed. Please call John Young at 225.383.3479 or Gaylynn Mack at 225-933-6157 to notify us of your donation to the PSR Program.

The Prophet Zephaniah

The name Zephaniah means “the Lord hides” or “the Lord has hidden.” It was rather common for parents to give their child a name that somehow became a prophetic piece of their life (yes, this is the fun part in reading the Biblical genealogies - there are always some meanings to the names and purpose for why they are included in Scripture.) Bible scholars believe perhaps that God hid Zephaniah during the bloodthirsty reign of Manasseh.

If Zephaniah’s name wasn’t a personal prophecy, it was certainly tied to the message the Lord would bring through his servant. Despite the sifting judgement that would come to the people of Israel, the righteous ones would be hidden and guarded from the destruction to come.

Some Bible scholars believe his name reflects the heart of faith -filled parents; entrusting their child to the Lord’s care during a time when the culture around them dishonored and despised the things of God. As a mom, I appreciate how Scripture is full of parents raising children who became Yahweh-loving and serving adults despite the culture around them.

Whether Zephaniah’s name reflected the heart of his parents, the plans of God for Zephaniah, or God’s plans for His people, it is encouraging that we can ask the Lord to hide us from the darkness of sin or ask Him to hide those we care about in His loving protection. *crosswalk.com*

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 26 - 29, 2023

Saturday	5pm	Dr. Melvin Jones <i>By: Mr. & Mrs. Leo Beauregard</i>
Sunday	8am	People of the Parish
	11am	Deceased Family & Ancestors <i>By: Van Do</i>
Tuesday	5pm	Isaac Haney <i>By: 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.

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!

Back to School Prayer

Almighty God We give you our school. We give
 you all the teachers and staff who work here. We
 give you all the children who study here. We pray
 our school would be a place of great discovery,
 adventure and creativity. May it be a place where
 we love to learn and where we learn to love, a
 place where every one is respected and all are
 deeply valued. We ask all this through Jesus
 Christ our Lord. Amen.

**SFX CENTENNIAL
 COOKBOOKS
 MAKES A GREAT GIFT
 FOR ONLY \$20.00**

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

Weekday Masses

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

**Ladies Auxiliary Court 12
 Saints Ticket Raffle Winners!**

We are happy to announce and congratulate Priscilla
 Burkhalter and Mavis Matthews as this year's win-
 ners. Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets.

Throughout life people will make you mad,
 disrespect you and treat you bad, let god deal with the
 things they do, cause hate in your heart
 will consume you too.

Mornings are better when you talk to God first!

HomeStart

Early Childhood Education & Technology Project
 For children 16 to 28 months old who are not in
 Day Care or Head Start
 Free books, educational toys and more for EBRP Housing Authority Communi-
 ties and families with children receiving
 SNAP or Medicaid
 Register now! For more information call 225.928.8484

Stewardship - August 20, 2023

**Regular Collection
 \$5,870**

**School Support
 \$150**

**Sisters of the Holy Family
 \$2,402**

**Building Fund
 \$492.00**



Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Rocky

I wonder how many men named Peter know that originally it was a nickname. Jesus gave Simon a name based on the word for “rock.” Like any good nickname, Jesus had a reason to give this one. Peter had just acknowledged Jesus to be the Son of God and the Messiah (Christ). Jesus used that as an opportunity to teach us about the importance of faith as the foundation of the church.

The church was initially the Jews who followed Jesus. For them, the tradition of a coming messiah was a symbol of their hope for the future. So believing that Jesus was the Messiah first meant that he was *the* reason to hope. But more importantly, it showed what “messiah” really means.

There were many variations on what people thought the messiah would be. Some expected a political leader who would unite the Jews and maybe even overthrow their Roman masters. Others thought he would be a wonder-worker, like a super-hero, who would use his power to make Israel a great and free nation. Or perhaps the messiah would provide food and riches in abundance.

By calling Jesus the Messiah, we see that he saves us not by royal leadership, or amazing feats or great riches, but by giving his life for us on the cross. He shows that love is a greater power than political power or wealth. And by learning about Jesus, we learn about the love of God for us. We learn that Jesus has fulfilled all messianic hopes. He unites not just the Jews, but all people who believe in him. He sets us free from sin and death. He feeds our spiritual hunger with his own Body and Blood in the Eucharist.

By commending Peter’s faith, Jesus shows us that faith is the foundation (rock) of the church. For the church is not just a social club of people who like to worship the same way; it is a family of people who believe all that Jesus taught because we believe in the person of Jesus. That is, we don’t just believe that Jesus was real. We affirm that he is alive and important to our lives. We have experienced him in his words, in the sacraments, and in each other. May our faith always be solid as a rock.