

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Very Rev. Edward Chiffriller, SSJ
Pastor

stfrancisxavierbr.org

PARISH OFFICE:

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OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

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SCHOOL OFFICE:

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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

September 2023

10 PSR Class – Parents Meeting 9:30 AM following Mass – **Grandparents Day**

17 PSR Class - **Catechetical Sunday:** “Come to me all you who labor and are burdened” Mat. 11:28 Teachers Commissioned

Grandparents Day

– On the first Sunday after Labor Day, Americans celebrate Grandparents and the elderly for their many important contributions to the family as well as society in general

Dear God,

Please bless our grandparents.

Thank you for the life they gave my parents and for the life they gave me.

For the ways they helped me and made me strong, I give thanks.

For the ways they love me no matter what, I rejoice.

For the ways they have paved the road that leads me here, I am grateful.

Let them grow in wisdom and joy in life.

Let them find peace and rest from their work.

Let them be healed of every sickness and pain.

And let them see with their own eyes the glory of your Son, Jesus,

in the love of their children and grandchildren.

Bless them always until they come to rest in you.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

What Does the Word “Catechetical” Mean? The word might be more familiar than you think. Many Catholics have used the word “catechism” for years, and they know it has something to do with the compendium of the Church’s teachings. The root word, “catechesis,” is from a Greek word meaning “to echo or resound.” Catechesis is the act of resounding or bringing the Church’s teachings to the world. A catechist is one who teaches in the name of the Church. Next Sunday, those whom the community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

We continue with - **Zephaniah’s Family Heritage**

Of all the Old Testament prophets, Zephaniah included more of his lineage. Most prophets only included two generations in their genealogy, but Zephaniah tied himself back to Hezekiah. While some scholars believe this isn’t King Hezekiah because the royal title isn’t included, most agree that Zephaniah is indeed a descendant of King Hezekiah. In any event, Bible scholars believe the enumerated genealogy indicates a higher social standing than most of the other Old Testament prophets. And in an age where the royal family had disgraced their calling, if Zephaniah was indeed a descendant of King Hezekiah, he was tying himself back to a time and person when the royal family used their influence to shepherd God’s people toward righteousness. *crosswalk.com*

Cake Bingo - 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 225.810.7456 or Gaylynn Mack at 225.933.6157 to notify us of your donation to the PSR Program.

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 September 9 - 12, 2023

Saturday	5pm	Shelvia Stewart <i>By: Betty Camble & Family</i>
Sunday	8am	Joseph Delpit, Jr. <i>By: Pat Delpit & Family</i>
	11am	Sick & Deceased Hospitality Members <i>By: Hospitality Ministry</i>
Tuesday	5pm	People of the Parish



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!

The SFX Ministry of Hospitality will be selling Smoked
Sausage poboyos on Sunday, September 24, 2023 after the
8:00 AM and 11:00 AM Masses.
The cost is \$10.00

Weekday Masses

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

Things always have a way of working out.

**Never underestimate the power of
Prayer, Faith and Love!**

Here I am, Lord!

"In the twilight of our lives, we will be judged based on how we loved."
- St John of the Cross.

How do you treat others? Do you take for granted those closest to
you? Do you open your eyes to strangers in need, or look the other
way?

I know for myself I am extremely sensitive to criticism. It can be so hard to be
around those who have hurt or offended me. Forgiveness is perhaps the most
difficult of Christ's teachings to follow in my daily life. And yet, as a Chris-
tian, we will be known by our ability to forgive. To truly love one another as
Christ has loved us, we must set ourselves apart from the rest of the world.
Since we are all part of the Kingdom, we need to figure out how to get along
with each other - after all, we will be spending eternity together!

One day we will be judged on how we loved. On love alone. Ultimately we
have to ask ourselves, "Did I show up? Did I say, 'Here I am', to those who
needed me?" As Abraham, Moses, Samuel, and others said "Here I am" to
God, do I show the same readiness to serve those around me? Christ teaches
us that the greatest commandment is to love God with all our heart, all our
mind, all our soul, and all our being by loving one another. The Good Shep-
herd will give up his life for his sheep.

If God were to call me now, in this very instant, would I be ready to die? How
have I shown love? Have I made those around me feel valued and loved?
God will ask us how much we gave of ourselves. Were we able to overcome
our own egoism?

Let us reflect on how we treat both strangers and those closest to us.
God, soften my heart. Set me free from the bondage of refusing to forgive and
serve others.
By Alexis Dallara-Marsh

Stewardship - September 3, 2023

To be continued next week....



**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#**

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Not My Problem

Ever notice how people today like to ignore the evil in the world? People will witness a mugging and not bother to call the police. We see television stories of children starving in poor countries and say, “Not my problem.” The readings for this Sunday challenge this attitude.

As a prophet, Ezekiel is to proclaim God’s word of repentance to the wicked. The Lord tells Ezekiel that he will be held responsible for the death of the wicked if he refuses to warn against the evil they are doing.

In the Gospel, Jesus describes how his disciples should confront the sinner. His words teach us something about our duty to the sinner. First, he tells us that sin *is* our problem, and when we see it we need to take the initiative to stop it. Second, he tells us we need not feel alone in this duty. When the sinner refuses to listen, we bring in help. In fact, this command is meant for the whole church. Third, he tells us to be persistent; don’t give up on someone too easily.

So what about that line about treating the sinner who refuses to listen as a Gentile or tax collector? On the one hand, the sinner should be excluded from the church, excommunicated, if he doesn’t repent. On the other hand, Jesus never rejected tax collectors (like Matthew himself, who wrote this Gospel) or Gentiles. He said he came to call sinners, to save them. He loves sinners. And that is the reason we are to confront them—not to punish them, but to love them. As we see in the second reading, “love is the fulfillment of the law.”

That is why the Gospel ends with Jesus’ words about disciples praying together. When we think we cannot make a sinner repent, we remember that only God can do that. We can pray for sinners, including ourselves, and ask God to renew them in the Spirit. For God never forces a person to repent. God invites with love, especially the love Jesus showed by dying on the cross. May we all learn to fight evil with love!

Tom Schmidt