

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 29, 2023

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Very Rev. Edward Chiffreller, SSJ
Pastor

Rev. Henry Ihuoma, SSJ

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

EMAIL-SECRETARY@SFXC.BRCOXMAIL.COM

WEBSITE-STFRANCISXAVIERBR.ORG

REV. EDWARD CHIFFRELLER 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

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MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY:

SUNDAY:

TUESDAY:

WED - FRI:

HOLYDAYS:

FRIDAY:

VIGIL - 5:00 PM

8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA - 5:00 PM

9:00AM AM

9:00 AM & 6:00 PM

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 CHIFFRELLER 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

October 2023

29 Class – Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We continue our series on the Prophet Zechariah

The Old Testament gives no indication about how Zechariah might have died. However, in [Matthew 23:34–36](#), Jesus mentions Zechariah in His condemnation of the first-century Jewish leaders: “I am sending you prophets and sages and teachers. Some of them you will kill and crucify; others you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town. And so upon you will come all the righteous blood that has been shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Berekiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. Truly I tell you, all this will come on this generation.” If this is a reference to the prophet Zechariah, then we know how Zechariah died—he was murdered in the temple courtyard.

Some scholars assume that Jesus was referencing another Zechariah, who, Scripture says, was killed 300 years prior to the prophet Zechariah in the temple environs. This other Zechariah, the son of Jehoiada the priest, denounced the rulers for their sin, so “they plotted against him, and by order of the king they stoned him to death in the courtyard of the Lord’s temple” ([2 Chronicles 24:21](#)). Since this Zechariah is the last martyr mentioned in the Hebrew Bible (as the book we know as 2 Chronicles is the last book in the Hebrew arrangement), many think that Jesus must be referring to this Zechariah (Jesus’ mention of “the son of Berekiah” is explained as a reference to a grandfather). But it is much more natural to assume that Jesus did indeed refer to Zechariah the prophet, since Jesus specifies that he is the “son of Berekiah.” The two martyrs Jesus mentions in [Matthew 23](#), Abel and Zechariah, are the first and last martyrs, chronologically, in the Old Testament period.

Zechariah the prophet ministered to the Jewish people, supporting their task of rebuilding the temple and challenging their spiritual condition until the temple was completed. At some time after [Zerubbabel’s temple](#) was finished, it seems that Zechariah continued to ruffle feathers until some of his hearers could take it no longer and killed him in the very temple that he had urged the people to complete. [gotquestions.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	Chavon D. White	Cora Scott-Green
Phyllis White	Mary L. Boutte	Betty Dupas
Mary E. Bourgeois	Cecilia Bazile	Earl Bourgeois

Mass Intentions for October 28 – 31, 2023

Saturday	5pm	Ceola Marcelle <i>By: Family</i>
Sunday	8am	Joseph Delpit, Jr. <i>By: Pat Delpit & Family</i>
	11am	Myrtle L. DeSormes <i>By: White Family</i>
Tuesday	5pm	People of the Parish



Through trials and tribulations, by God's grace, we triumph!

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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.

What is God's

There is a Bible verse on my calendar for the current month that states, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will also be" (Matthew 6:21). The "treasures" of Earth eventually fade and pass away.

In today's Gospel, we encounter the Herodians and Pharisees joining together against Christ. The treasure in this case, a coin, had the image of Caesar on it. While notoriously at odds with one another, in this case, the Herodians and Pharisees do have something very much in common: a love of the things of this world. Their priorities are their law and traditions, and love for those outside their ways is set aside.

Many times I must admit I also mistakenly get distracted. I must ask myself over and over, am I of this world or of the Kingdom? Do we belong to our selfish pride, or dedicate every last breath to God alone? The penny that may have at one point seemed to have so much value quickly became worthless. So too with all the status and fame one derives from fortune and reputation.

Remarkably, Christ teaches us to give to Caesar what is Caesar's - the money, the worldly possessions - and to God, what is God's. Give to God what is God's. We ourselves are created in the image and likeness of God. Not much has changed in today's world where our priorities are often misled. As parents we concentrate on our reputation in the workplace, or financial status, rather than spending our time with those God has entrusted to us. Christ reminds us that true disciples do not find themselves belonging to the chains of money and possessions but to God alone.

By Alexis Dallara-Marsh

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT HELPED TO MAKE THE FAIR A HUGE SUCCESS!

November 1, 2023
All Saints Day
Mass 9am & 6pm

SOCK IT TO ME!

The 2023 sock drive will begin in November and continue through December. Their goal is to collect 28,000 pairs of socks and they need our help. The boxes are located in the rear of the church.

True peace comes from knowing that God is in control.

Weekday Masses

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
at 9am

Stewardship - October 22, 2023



Regular Collection
\$5,244
Parish Needs
\$45
Building Fund
\$73



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Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time The Diamond Rule

When I hear the line from the first reading about not molesting or oppressing an alien, I think of the movie *E.T.*, in which the children help the extraterrestrial just because he needs help. What the reading calls aliens are immigrants or newcomers. They lived among the Hebrews but were not Jews themselves. The Lord reminds the people that they were once aliens themselves. They should not make the same mistake the Egyptians did when they mistreated the Israelites. God uses the same logic in commanding them to take care of widows and orphans. Treat them like family, or else your own wives and children will be in the same situation. Immigrants, widows, orphans, borrowers—all must be treated with compassion.

The reason for such compassion should be deeper than just fear of punishment. “Do to others as you would have them do to you,” Jesus said (Luke 6:31). Today’s Gospel has a similar saying: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:39). Jesus called this the second commandment. The first is to love God wholly and completely, heart, mind, and soul. If the second commandment is the Golden Rule, the first might be called the Diamond Rule. If you think about it, in order to keep the first commandment, you have to be keeping the second as well.

Jesus said that whatever you do for the poor, the homeless, the sick, or prisoners, you do for him (Matthew 25:31–46). Mother Teresa could see Jesus in the poorest of the poor. Jesus himself showed compassion even to sinners. We can’t really say we love God if we don’t love the people God created.

So that gives us two reasons to love our neighbor. First, because God lives in other people, so loving God means loving God wherever God is found. Second, God loves them, so if we are to be holy, we must be like God. What does that mean? Remember the saying that “charity begins at home”? That is only true because it is easier to love family and friends, but charity doesn’t end there. If we truly love God, we will extend our charity to those outside our homes. People are probably still rebuilding after the earthquakes in Japan, tornadoes in America, floods in India, and other disasters, and every city has some kind of homeless shelters. You say you love God? Let’s see you love your neighbor.

Tom Schmidt.



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