

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
NOVEMBER 5, 2023

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Very Rev. Edward Chiffriller, SSJ
Pastor

Rev. Henry Ihuoma, SSJ

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
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-FRI:	9:00AM AM
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

November 2023
05 Class – Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time
11 **Veterans Day**

A Brief History of Veterans Day

Veterans Day, formerly known as Armistice Day, was originally set as a U.S. legal holiday to honor the end of World War I, which officially took place on November 11, 1918. In 1938, through an act of Congress, November 11th was made a legal holiday.

In 1954, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, the 83rd U.S. Congress amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting the word "Veterans." On June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

We complete our series on the Prophet Zechariah and finish the minor prophets with the Prophet Malicai.

Zechariah's prophecies often looked far into the future, a future in which the Jews would again be exiled from their homeland and scattered throughout the world. His prophecies said that Jews would be persecuted worldwide, that Jerusalem would become a battleground of nations, and that Jerusalem would become the religious center of the world.

Today, we can see with our own eyes that Zechariah's prophecies accurately described the worldwide dispersion of Jews that has taken place during the past 1900 years, as well as the fact that Jerusalem has become a focal point of the international community (the United States and Europe, and the United Nations) and a religious focal point among Jews, Christians and Moslems.

Zechariah means "Yah has remembered". The Bible's book of Zechariah is the 11th book of the twelve minor prophets. *bst.com*

The Prophet Malicai

400 years of silence. The book of Malachi is the last of the written word in the Old Testament before we get to the letters and Gospels of the New Testament. That's 400 years.

Now, we know that God spoke to people during those centuries. That's what He does. He speaks. For the purposes of the Gospel Story. He's telling from Genesis to Revelation, and the written revelation that chronicles it, we get a 400-year break.

We talk about the importance of a person's last words as if what they had to say last must have been of utmost importance. These are the last words of the Old Testament. Malachi sums up the themes of the Old Testament, brings correction and challenge, and God gives His people hope for reconciliation, restoration, and a future.

The book of Malachi is the end of the Old Testament. But God makes it clear that it is not the end of the Story He is telling. The best is yet to come.

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 November 4 – 7, 2023

Saturday	5pm	Shelvia Stewart <i>By: Betty Camble</i>
Sunday	8am	Lester & Ronnie Gauthier <i>By: Edward, Mary & Donna</i>
	11am	Glenn Jones <i>By: Wilma Greene & Family</i>
Tuesday	5pm	Gladys Lee



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.

Striving for Humility

Have you ever prayed the Litany of Humility? It is probably one of the most radical pleas I've ever encountered. Its power lies in how deeply it embodies Jesus' desire for us to serve. We must strive for this: to be not the greatest, but the least. For everything will be overturned when we face eternal life. Those who are last will be first. Think of Christ's parents on Earth. Joseph, who has not a single spoken phrase recorded in the Bible, and our Blessed Mother, who was also barely mentioned, but within her brief words exclaims, "Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done unto me according to your word". We must recall our **littleness** in comparison to Christ, without whom we can achieve nothing.

It is so important to also beware of preaching but not practicing. Is the way we appear to others more important than our image in the sight of God? Do we want to be recognized and praised by people, or by God? In actuality, we can't have both. The first truth the Beatitudes declare is "Blessed are the poor in spirit". Let us strive for true piety through fasting, almsgiving, and prayer, in private, since God sees us in secret.

By Alexis Dallara-Marsh

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.

**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#**

**God says to love others and
 leave the judging to Him.**



Weekday Masses

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

Stewardship - October 29, 2023



**Regular Collection
 \$7,524
 School Support
 \$530
 Building Fund
 \$530
 Food Bank
 \$500**



Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time **Not My Problem**

Paul was not bragging when he talked about the toil and drudgery he endured while proclaiming the gospel. He makes a point of his working so as not to burden anyone. He worked to support himself, rather than asking the new Christians to support him—just the opposite of what the scribes and Pharisees were doing, according to the gospel. Jesus accused them of laying heavy burdens on people, without helping them to bear those burdens. So what kind of burdens did the Pharisees impose?

The Pharisees and scribes were very familiar with the laws of their Jewish religion. Almost every detail of daily life was covered by some law. And they could be very persuasive about strictly keeping those laws. Originally those laws and regulations were meant to set the Hebrews apart from other peoples, to be a sign of holiness. For example, the Ten Commandments are based on loving God above all else (first three commandments) and loving your neighbor (last seven.) But over the years, rabbis added more and more details to the laws, until it was almost impossible to keep them all straight.

But what if someone needed help on a Sabbath? If you broke a Sabbath rule, even for a good reason, you could not go to the Pharisees to get an exemption. They would say, “Not my problem.” Remember the times Jesus cured the sick on the Sabbath, and how they condemned him for working on the day of rest.

Jesus, however, came to remind us that holiness is more important than scrupulosity. If we truly live the ideal of loving God with our whole being and loving our neighbor, we will find that love is much easier to bear than the fear of doing something wrong. Jesus also gave us his Holy Spirit to help guide us in the path of holiness. And through his death on the cross, Jesus gave us forgiveness if we do commit a sin. All we have to do is confess the sin to experience that forgiveness. So keeping the law of love is no problem.

Tom Schmidt