

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Very Rev. Edward Chiffriller, SSJ
Pastor

Rev. Henry Ihuoma, SSJ
Parochial Vicar

stfrancisxavierbr.org

PARISH 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 ~ 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

19 Class – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

23 **Happy Thanksgiving!**

26 **No Class – Feast of Christ the King** – In celebrating this feast, we will process on the streets surrounding our Church. Please join us to proclaim that Jesus is Lord and King and is present in our lives and worship.

Feast of Christ the King

On the last Sunday of each liturgical year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, or Christ the King. Pope Pius XI instituted this feast in 1925 with his encyclical *Quas primas* (“In the first”) to respond to growing secularism and atheism. He recognized that attempting to “thrust Jesus Christ and his holy law” out of public life would result in continuing discord among people and nations. This solemnity reminds us that while governments come and go, Christ reigns as King forever.

During the early twentieth century, in Mexico, Russia, and some parts of Europe, militantly secularistic regimes threatened not just the Catholic Church and its faithful but civilization itself. Pope Pius XI’s encyclical gave Catholics hope and—while governments around them crumbled—the assurance that Christ the King shall reign forever. Jesus Christ “is very truth, and it is from him that truth must be obediently received by all mankind” (*Quas primas*, 7).

What Is the Book of Malachi About?

Malachi is a beautifully written book using a question-and-answer method to bring God’s message to the people. This places God’s word within a conversation instead of a strict sermon or lecture-type format.

Judah and Jerusalem had been ultimately conquered by Babylon, then Babylon by Persia, all as a result of their sin and dismissal of prophets like Isaiah and Jeremiah. During the time of Persia, the Jews were allowed to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls and the Temple, detailed in Nehemiah and Ezra. Through sacrifice and struggle, the Jews accomplished both.

We might expect the Jews to never take God for granted again, right? Well, even though they had the priests and worship established in the Temple, the Jews became corrupt and selfish in a prophetic cycle. Injustice and poverty became the norm.

Through this question-and-answer method, God deals with six different themes and issues where He and the Jews are in conflict and disagreement. God exposes and confronts their corruption, and God gets the last word. He calls them to remember His love, to return to Him, all so that they can endure the refining fire that is yet to come.

Next Issue: What Are Some Major Lessons from the Book of Malachi?

PRAYER LIST

Richard Camble, Jr.	John Paul Moore	Catherine Murray
Elizabeth Whitfield	Lorraine Perry	Betty Camble
Elaine Johnson	Martha Proctor	Elouise Noel
Linda Gills-Beshears	Maria Rice	Cora Scott-Green
Phyllis White	Whitney Robiho	Betty Dupas
Mary E. Bourgeois	Chavon D. White	Earl Bourgeois
Cecila Bazile		Mary L. Boutte

Mass Intentions for November 18 – 24, 2023

Saturday	5pm	Roy Burkhalter <i>By: Family</i>
Sunday	8am	People of the Parish
	11am	Odogwu Family <i>By: Pat Ejigiri</i>
Tuesday	5pm	Gladys Lee
Wednesday	9am	Joseph Vavasseur <i>By: Gail</i>
Thursday	9am	Souls of Vavasseur family members <i>By: Gail</i>
Friday	9am	Grace Ejigiri <i>By: Pat Ejigiri</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.

THANKSGIVING

November 23, 2023

And now, bless the God of all, who has done wondrous things on earth; Who fosters people's growth from their mother's womb, and fashions them according to his will! May he grant you the joy of heart and may peace abide among you; May his goodness toward us endure in Israel to deliver us in our days.

Sir 50:22-24

**Thanksgiving Day Mass will be at 9 AM.
Come out to give thanks to God for His many blessings.**

Oh give thanks to the LORD for He is good!

United Men of St. Francis Xavier & Knights of Peter Clavier will have a social for all men in the church. Please come out and join us for creole gumbo and fun. The social will be Dec. 2, at 6:00 pm, following 5:00 mass in the Parish Hall.

SOCK IT TO ME!

The 2023 sock drive will begin in November and will 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.

Join us for the Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament
When: Every Saturday from 3:30 - 4:30pm
Where: St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church 1120 Myrtle Street

Weekday Masses

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday at 9am

Stewardship - November 12, 2023

The Junior Daughters Ct# 12 (Little Flowers) are still collecting "Pull Tabs". If you have any, please leave them at the back 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#**



Regular Collection \$7,817
School Support \$15
Building Fund \$650
Parish Needs \$166



Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Use It or Lose It

When I hear the Gospel reading for this Sunday, I wonder what that third servant was doing all that time, after he buried the talent he was given. Probably nothing. What strikes me is that the word for money in this reading is “talent,” which in our language is an ability or skill. So maybe this parable can remind us to use our abilities and not let them go to waste.

It is sad to see someone who is not very good at his job just because he never developed his inborn talents. But if you know what gifts or abilities God gave you, you can develop them to be much more than you expected. A person might be strong and fast, but if she exercises and practices, she could be a great athlete. The same with a spiritual gift. Just having one doesn't make you a saint. So how do you know what gifts you have?

First, ask God in your prayers to show you what gifts you have been given. Find a spiritual director, or even your parish priest, and talk about your life, your strengths and weaknesses. Read about saints and how they used their gifts to serve the Lord. Read the scriptures, especially the Acts of the Apostles or the Letters of Paul (1 Corinthians 12:1–11). Listen humbly to friends or loved ones who can tell you what strengths they see in you.

Second, look for ways to use your gifts. Check the parish bulletin or website or your diocesan newspaper for activities and organizations that you could take part in. Hospitals, schools, shelters, and nursing homes frequently offer opportunities for volunteers. If one kind of service seems attractive to you, that could be God's way of telling you to try it. On the other hand, a job that seems very challenging could be what you need to stretch your spiritual muscles. Or you may see a need for some service that you can get started in the parish or community.

Just remember that you are called to service by your baptism and confirmation. Don't bury that calling by procrastinating or being afraid to try. Remember the “useless servant” with the one talent who was fearful and lazy (Matthew 25:25–26). At least he can remind us to use it or lose it.

Tom Schmidt