

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JANUARY 21, 2024

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

*Very Rev. Edward Chiffrieller, SSJ
Pastor*

*Rev. Henry Ihuoma, SSJ
Parochial Vicar*

stfrancisxavierbr.org

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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:	9:00 AM AM
HOLIDAYS:	9:00 AM & 6:00 PM
FRIDAY:	SCHOOL MASS 9:00 AM

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

January 2024

21 Class – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Beautiful Eucharist

“Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist should be like touching Heaven, and that should change the way we live here on earth.” *Matthew Kelly*

“The Eucharist is the greatest of all the sacraments because it contains in a substantial way the person of Christ, who is the author of life. If life is or if life is ever to live, it must nourish itself. If divine life is to live, it too needs its nourishment. That is the Eucharist.” *Fulton Sheen*

Spend some quiet time with Jesus in adoration.

We continue our series on Judges with: **Ehud (Benjamin)**

One of the most exciting stories in the Bible has faded into obscurity. Likely due to some of its graphic content, we don't see this one often taught in Sunday school or preached in a sermon on Sunday.

After the Israelites had entered the Promised Land, they succumbed to idols and the practices of the world around them, and the countries which bordered theirs. Because of this, God placed rulers known as judges in the land (hence why an entire book of the Bible bears the name Judges, to show the accounts of these people). One such judge was the left-handed man Ehud, who turned out to be rather good with a weapon in his hands.

In this article, we'll dive into the nature of the rule of the judges, more about the man of Ehud, and why we should care about both subjects as Christians today.

Who Was Ehud?

Ehud only gets eighteen verses, but boy, does he make them count ([Judges 3:12-30](#)).

Scripture doesn't give us many details about him, other than that he hails from the tribe of Benjamin. God appoints him as the second judge of Israel, after Israel does evil and ends up taken over by Eglon, the fat king of Moab. The Bible also mentions that Ehud is left-handed. This plays an important role in the story.

Although the Bible doesn't tell us whether most people used their right hand, we don't find any other mentions of someone preferring their left hand in the Bible. The Biblical Archaeology Society suggests the recessive trait of left handedness came specifically from the tribe of Benjamin. This, of course, would make sense then why Ehud has this trait.

But we can hazard a guess, based on what happens in the narrative, that not too many people in the ancient world used their left hands dominantly.

Next issue we continue with Ehud.

PRAYER LIST

John Paul Moore * Loraine Perry * Martha Proctor * Maria Rice * Whitney Robiho * Chavon D. White * Joyce Decuir

Catherine Murray * Betty Camble * Elouise Noel * Betty Dupas * Earl Bourgeois * Mary L. Boutte * Cecila Bazile

Richard Camble, Jr.* Elizabeth Whitfield * Elaine Johnson * Linda Gills-Beshears * Phyllis White * Mary E. Bourgeois



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

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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.

DO YOU DESIRE TO BE OF SERVICE TO THE SFX PARISH COMMUNITY? ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE WELFARE OF ALL PARISHIONERS?

NOMINATE YOURSELF OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW TO GET INVOLVED!

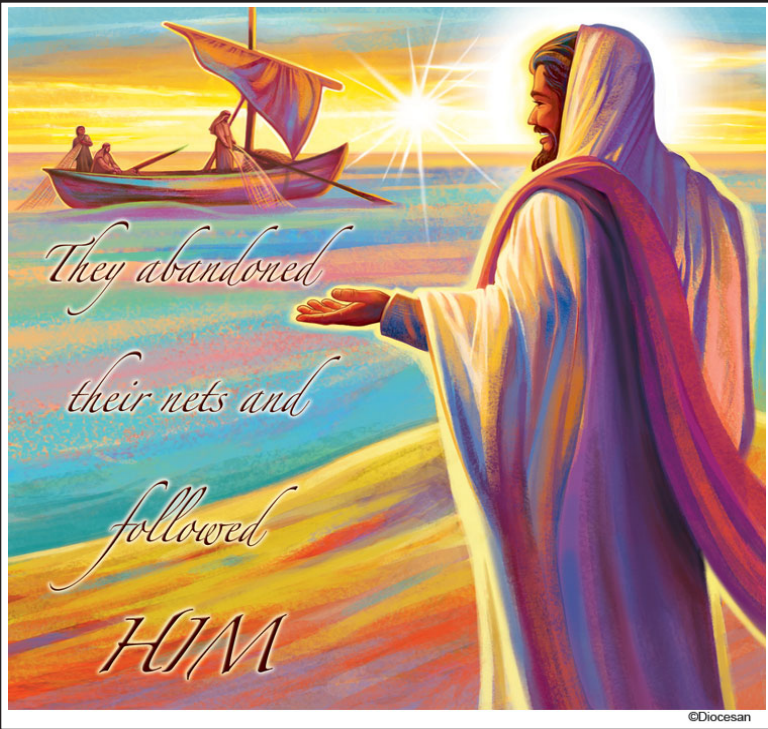
PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATION PERIOD

JANUARY 13TH & 28TH, 2024

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

FEBRUARY 17TH & 18TH, 2024

<u>Weekday Masses</u>		
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday at 9am		
<u>Mass Intentions for Jan 20 - 23, 2024</u>		
Saturday	5pm	Georgie Victorian <i>By: Roger, Ingrid & Heaven</i>
Sunday	8am	William "Tex" Turner <i>By: Wife & Kids</i>
	11am	People of the Parish
Tuesday	5pm	Norma Duell & Gladys Lee <i>By: Tammy Lee</i>



"Come after me,
and I will make you
fishers of men."

Stewardship

Will resume next week...

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time A New Way, A New World

In the reading from Jonah, God told him to preach repentance to the people of Nineveh. When the whole city repented the very first day, they showed it by wearing sackcloth and fasting from food. Sometimes we might think that way: That repenting means punishing ourselves or feeling sorry. Jesus sees things differently.

He preached repentance that was a change of heart, a new way of looking at things, a new way of acting. In the gospel today, we see an example. The first people he calls to be disciples were fisherman. They would have considered their family, their partners, and their boat as the most important things in their lives. You need all of them to be a successful fisherman. One man sitting on a dock with a pole could barely keep himself fed, much less support a family.

Yet the disciples don't even hesitate when called by Jesus. They leave behind their boats, their nets, even their father, to follow Jesus. They don't worry about what they will do, or look back at what they are leaving behind. Now they are fishers of men. Their "repentance" was more than just giving up sins. They were beginning a new life and a new way of looking at the world.

Saint Paul refers to this as a new world. By following Jesus, we put the values of the present world behind us and look forward to a new one. His examples could apply today as much as in his time. Marriages, joy, sadness, buying property are still considered important to worldly people. Paul doesn't expect everyone to stop doing those things. When he talks about not using the world fully, he means not fully engaged in the world, but looking to a better one, where God is more important than any passing pleasure or pain. Is your marriage an example of God's love for your friends and relatives? When you are rejoicing, do you give thanks to God? When weeping, do you ask for his help? When you are shopping, do you buy what you really need, or what you think will make you happy? Jesus calls us all to this new way of living. With Jesus, we can make a new world.

Tom Schmidt

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