

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



## CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Very Rev. Edward Chiffriller, SSJ  
Pastor

[stfrancisxavierbr.org](http://stfrancisxavierbr.org)

### PARISH OFFICE:

MS. EBONY RILEY ~ SECRETARY  
1134 JULIA STREET  
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8:00 AM TO 3:00 PM  
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### OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

MR JOHN YOUNG ~ DRE 225.343.3075 EXT 212  
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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 ~ 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

July 2023

23 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

In our last article in the bulletin for July 16, 2023 we see how the gifts of the Holy Spirit and receiving Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, empowers us, the temple in which they dwell. We, who receives them, can be used as Jesus' instruments in carrying out his mission to change what most Catholics believe about the Eucharist. This week's article we will discuss ways to reinvigorate worship.

This is the task of local parishes in this year of Parish Revival, to revive their parishioners in their love with Jesus in the Eucharist and to send them forth to share this love with others. "Man should tremble, the world should quake, and all Heaven should be deeply moved when the Son of God appears on the altar in the hands of the priest." (St. Francis of Assisi)

After the Resurrection, Jesus approaches two despairing disciples on the road to Emmaus. After encountering them, he reminds them. "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke!" (Lk 24:25). Then he interprets the Scriptures, explaining to them how the Prophets had foretold the Messiah's suffering and how it would lead to him entering into glory. Their hearts burned within them while he spoke, but they did not recognize him until "he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them" (Lk 24:30)

For us, too, the Eucharist makes us capable of seeing and believing in our Resurrected Lord. Through the liturgy, we are guaranteed an encounter with Jesus. "Christian faith is either an encounter with him alive, or it does not exist" (*Desiderio Desideravi, no. 10*) Thus, we have become sharers of God's inmost life. Invited into the perfect communion of love between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All members of the Church-ordained ministers and the faithful- enter into and should be formed by the Liturgy. "we are required every day to rediscover the beauty of the richness of the Christian celebration Effort must also be made to encourage a sense of community within the parish, above all in the common celebration of the Sunday Mass. The beauty of the Liturgy should engender in us wonder, which leads to adoration. *Year of Parish Revival*

We continue with the minor prophet, Habakkuk

Habakkuk was a prophet who likely lived at the same time as Zephaniah and Jeremiah. Historians estimate he likely "prophesied a short time before the Babylonian invasions of Judah, which began in 605 B.C. Habakkuk watched with horror as the people of Judah became more and more unrighteous, but he was even more horrified when God used an even more unrighteous nation (Babylon) to judge them through the exile. God's answers to Habakkuk's questions provided insight and encouragement for Habakkuk and the righteous remnant in Judah, and those words preserved in the book of Habbakuk continue to do the same for believers today.

Next issue, 6 things we need to know about Habakkuk

## 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

## Mass Intentions for July 22 – 25, 2023

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>5pm</b>	<b>Deceased family &amp; ancestors</b> <i>By: Van Do</i>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>Sick &amp; deceased Hospitality members</b> <i>By: Hospitality Ministry</i>
	<b>11am</b>	<b>Leslie Riley, Sr.</b> <i>By: Nieces &amp; nephews</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>5pm</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>



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

**3 Ways to Give**  
**St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church**

\*Online Giving: [www.stfrancisxavier.org](http://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**

*Sunday, August 20 at the 8am mass, we will honor the Sisters of the Holy Family for the 104 years of service to our school and parish. We will have a breakfast for them in the cafeteria after mass. We will also take up a second collection at all the masses that weekend to support the Sisters.*

We cannot pray in love and hate and still think we are worshipping God.

**Weekday Masses**

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

**Stewardship - July 16, 2023**

**Regular Collection \$5,895**  
**Parish Needs \$72**  
**Building Fund \$171**  
**School Support \$190**



**SFX Ladies Auxiliary Court #12 Annual Back to School Give-a-way Raffle**

St. Francis Xavier - Ladies Auxiliary Court #12 annual back to school raffle will be held on July 30, 2023. Four (4) Walmart gift cards in the amount of \$50 per card will be awarded to eligible students enrolled in grades k-12.

Raffle forms are located in the back of the church. To be eligible for this year's raffle, the following criteria will be implemented:

- the student/parents/guardian will have to be a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church.
- Only (1) raffle per student  
 Please note that only (1) student per family will be declared a winner.

**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*

## Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### A Mighty God

The first reading says that God's might is the basis for divine justice. We might take this to mean that God uses mighty power to punish sinners, in the legal sense of justice. But the reading also talks about God's lenience and clemency. So maybe God's power is so great that punishment is not necessary. Sinners can be forgiven. After all, we usually punish those we fear will hurt us again. But God is too powerful to be injured by our sins. God can afford to wait for us to repent. That is the point of the parable of the wheat and the weeds.

We are used to expecting swift justice. We like TV shows in which the bad guy is caught and convicted in an hour. The idea of God giving sinners until the end of time to repent is almost un-American—at least, until we realize that we are sinners, too. “But my sins are so minor.” Even the smallest sin says that we know better than God what is right. Yet God is still willing to wait for all of us to repent.

On the other hand, we hear people who say they don't deserve to be forgiven. True, but no one could ever deserve forgiveness. That is the wonder of God's love, that God's Son came to die for sinners, even before we sinned. As we experience that forgiveness, we learn the depth of God's love for us. Hopefully, we also learn to share that love with others.

Of course, that means that we also share forgiveness with others. If God waits till “the end of the age” before burning the weeds, shouldn't we be willing to forgive those who hurt us? The Church encourages us to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation often. Many people today wait till they have a lot of sins, or at least one whopper, to confess. But the more often we go, the more we are reminded of God's love and forgiveness. Those reminders can help us to be more willing to show mercy ourselves. Let us ask God for the courage to seek forgiveness and the strength to forgive.