

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



## CATHOLIC CHURCH

Very Rev. Edward Chiffreller, SSJ  
Pastor

Rev. Henry Ihuoma, SSJ  
Parochial Vicar

1120 MYRTLE WALK  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

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

### PARISH OFFICE:

**MRS. EBONY RILEY-COLEMAN - SECRETARY**  
1134 JULIA STREET  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802  
9:00 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  
WEBSITE: SFXBR.ORG



### 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
HOLYDAYS:	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 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

### May 2024

19 Last Day of class – Please get your child’s certificate of completion for their respective grade level -

### Pentecost Sunday

#### Pentecost Sunday

In the baptism of the Spirit, which the Church receives at Pentecost, she is washed clean in the blood of Christ; she arises with Him; she is imbued with the fullness of new life. Today she stands with the divine dowry which Christ earned for her and gave to her. She is bright with the glory of eternal youth and fertility as she stands at the side of her heavenly bride-groom. Now she has been prepared for that arduous life for which she is destined upon earth. She has been prepared to share the life of her bridegroom and to remain faithful to Him in spite of all that may befall her; she is prepared to represent Him under all circumstances, and joyfully to bring forth new generations of children. The Holy Spirit, the Spirit of love and truth, dwells within her and operates in her. He is the soul of the body of the Church. He guides her and leads her to her eternal nuptials with her divine spouse, Jesus Christ. That is the meaning of the mission of the Holy Spirit and of the feast of Pentecost.

#### Judges

We complete our series on Judge Gideon and begin with Abimelech

#### Let No Man Rule in Your Life

Once Gideon had fought the Midianites, the Israelites request he rule over them. They felt that Gideon had saved them from certain demise. In their persuasion, they remind Gideon that his children and grandchildren would have the spoils of royalty.

In Judges 8:23, Gideon turns down the Israelite’s request. He reminds the Israelites that they already have a king. He tells them that the Lord will rule over them.

Gideon’s response reminds us we should let no man be the ruler of our lives. He is telling us that if we have Christ in our lives, then we have all we need. If we let God rule our lives, we can enjoy the spoils of royalty as well because we will be co-heirs with Christ.

#### A Little Can Be a Lot

Gideon was just a young boy when God called Him out. He didn’t feel that he had what it would take to complete the enormous task God was giving him. What he didn’t understand was that God was not looking at Gideon’s qualifications in that moment. His call had nothing to do with the quantity of deeds Gideon had done. He was looking at the quality of Gideon’s heart. Gideon trusted and followed God. Because of his obedience, God gave Gideon a crown. One that has far more value than any earthly crown. God is not look of the best qualities and the most accolades. He is seeking those who, like Gideon, are regular people laboring for Christ in their daily lives.

Serving God faithfully in not about quantity. It is all about quality.

#### It is Easy to Fall Away from God

Gideon accomplished a big, important task. His people were grateful to him. They wanted him to be their king. Gideon did the right thing when he turned down the offer to rule over them. In that moment, Gideon was on a righteous path. He was walking with God.

At the end of Gideon’s story, we are reminded that it is incredibly easy to fall away from God. Gideon had done all the right things, yet he built a golden ephod. In Judges 8:27, we read that once Gideon made the golden ephod, all the people Israel began worshipping it.

After all that Gideon had accomplished with God, it would seem that the Israelites would have learned their lesson. Every battle fought and won had given the Israelites freedom to live as God desired them to.

*Next issue we begin our series on Judge Abimelech.*

## PRAYER LIST

John Paul Moore \* Loraine Perry \* Martha Proctor \* Whitney Robiho \* Joyce Decuir \* Catherine Murray \* Patricia Armstrong \* Lorenzia Dardone

Betty Camble \* Elouise Noel \* Betty Dupas \* Earl Bourgeois \* Mary L. Boutte \* Cecilia Bazile \* Denise Chutz Fred Dejuan \* Loretta Warren

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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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.

On Saturday, June 1, 2024, there will be an Adoration, Praise, and Worship at SFX at 3 pm. Please save the date and make plans to attend. It is important that we give thanks where thanks are due.

**Next weekend, May 25, Father Ed. will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Catholic Priesthood. Please pray for him and Congratulate him.**

The Historic National Eucharistic Procession will be stopping in Baton Rouge On June 7, 2024, the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, on its route to the National Eucharistic Congress taking place on July 17-21, 2024, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Below is the schedule for the day and you are welcome to join us.

- 8am - Mass | Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church
- 9am - Grab-and-Go Breakfast | Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church
- 9:30am - Eucharistic Procession Begins The procession will begin at Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church and go to St. Joseph Cathedral.
- 10:20am - Bishop Duca Addresses Diocesan Pilgrims & Eucharistic Adoration | St. Joseph Cathedral
- 11:30am - Call to Service Presentation | St. Joseph Cathedral
- 12:30pm - Lunch and Perpetual Pilgrim Testimonies | St. Joseph Cathedral
- 1:30pm - Program ends at St. Joseph Cathedral, depart for Christ the King Catholic Church
- 2pm - Eucharistic Prayer Service | Christ the King Catholic Church

**Pentecost Sunday**  
**May 19, 2024**

Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours; yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion looks out on the world, yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good and yours are the hands with which He is to bless us now. *St. Teresa of Avila*

**Mass Intentions - May 18 - 24, 2024**

- |                 |             |  |
|-----------------|-------------|--|
| <b>Saturday</b> | <b>5pm</b>  | <b>Jaunita Culbert</b><br><i>By: Camille Fleet</i>                         |
| <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>8am</b>  | <b>Louis Jones</b><br><i>By: Wilma Greene &amp; Family</i>                 |
|                 | <b>11am</b> | <b>People of the Parish</b>  |
| <b>Tuesday</b>  | <b>5pm</b>  | <b>Thelma LaMotte Jackson</b><br><i>By: Patrick &amp; Desmarie Jackson</i> |
| <b>Friday</b>   | <b>5pm</b>  | <b>Paul Overstreet</b><br><i>By: Family &amp; Friends</i>                  |

**Stewardship - May 12, 2024**



Will resume next week....





## Pentecost Sunday      **Caution: Spirit at Work**

If Pentecost celebrates the gifts of the Spirit, it can tempt us to separate the Spirit from the Father and Jesus. Sometimes we think of the Father as the God of the Old Testament, Jesus as center of New Testament, and the Spirit as God of the present age, almost as if the Father and Jesus were enjoying their retirement. Actually, all three persons share one God-life. Instead of three gods debating the fate of the universe, we have one God who is over all and in all.

The Spirit has been active in all ages. The prophets were empowered by the Spirit to proclaim God's word to Israel. Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit led Jesus into the desert at the beginning of his ministry. (Search the word "spirit" in the four gospels and it appears 75 times.) Jesus was filled with the Spirit as he preached and worked miracles. Then at Pentecost the disciples were filled with the Spirit.

So what about Pentecost? It is really about using our gifts and sharing the good news. The Spirit gives us the power, courage, and energy to do this. The Spirit's gifts are meant to be shared. The prophets could not help proclaim God's message. Jesus shared all he knew with his disciples. The disciples went out to the world to spread the news of Jesus' death and resurrection. So we, too, are given gifts to be shared.

The greatest gift we have been given is the news of our salvation. This feast reminds us to share that with others. We may do that by example, as when we worship together, forgive others, give to the poor or help someone in need. We can also share that news by teaching our children about God and his love for them, teaching them to pray, or sharing our faith with other adults. As we come to realize how much God has done for us and how close he is to us, we will want to share that with others. Obviously, we can't make everyone believe in Jesus. But how sad would it be if someone we know was looking for the truth and we neglected to offer it?

Tom Schmidt

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