

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

*Very Rev. Edward Chiffriller,
SSJ*

*Rev. Joseph Rodney, SSJ
In Residence*

stfrancisxavierbr.org

PARISH OFFICE:

MRS. EBONY GARNETT ~ SECRETARY
1134 JULIA STREET
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802
8:00 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 CHIFFRILLER CELL: 225.571.8233
EMAIL~ PASTOR@SFXC.BRCOXMAIL.COM

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

MR JOHN YOUNG ~ DRE 225.343.3075 EXT 212
FAX: 225.388.5458
EMAIL:SFXPSSR@SFXC.BRCOXMAIL.COM

SCHOOL OFFICE:

MS. PAULA FABRE ~ 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: STFRANCISXAVIER@CSOBR.ORG
WEBSITE: STFRANCISXAVIERBR.COM
EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTER (DAYCARE)
AVE' FRAZIER-HONORE~ DIRECTOR
1145 TERRACE AVE.
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802
7:00 AM TO 5:30 PM
225.387.4877
EMAIL: STFRANCISELC@BELLSOUTH.NET



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.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By now, the first Christmas carols are heard in the home, but usually not yet in church. What is a "carol" anyway? Originally, a carol was any kind of communal song sung at a festival such as a harvest. By the thirteenth century or so, carols were associated with household celebrations. "Carol" comes from the Old French *carula*, meaning a circular dance. Carols weren't for church, since the language of liturgy was Latin and the carols were in the common language. Their characteristic sound comes from medieval chord patterns, and they often have strong refrains for everyone to sing. Even in the churches of the Reformation, carols didn't make it into church services until the 1870s or so, since there was a preference for psalms. Anglicans resisted popular carols; most of our beloved carols came via the Methodists, an offshoot of the Church of England. The Catholic Church generally didn't admit carols to liturgy either, but we didn't make laws against them.

We are told that the beloved carol "Silent Night" comes from Catholic Austria and a harried parish music director. Joseph Mohr, the priest of St. Nicholas in Oberndorf, had written the words in 1816, but offered them to his music director, Franz Gruber, when the church's organ broke. Mohr asked him to write a melody that could be played on guitar as a prelude to Mass. Gruber finished the tune just hours before midnight Mass in 1818. The people were shocked to hear a guitar in church, but were charmed by the sweet lullaby. The church was swept away by a flood in the 1990s and the village later relocated, but the townspeople have set up the "Silent Night Memorial Chapel" at the site. Today the carol is in print in some three hundred languages. How wonderful that the pipe organ broke on that night!

GETTING EVEN

The only ones you should try to get even with are those who have helped you.

The Jr. Daughters: Little Flowers Court #12 are still collecting pull tabs off can drinks. "Ronald McDonald" houses are in the back of the church.

SUMMONED BY GOD

As Christmas draws near, Advent's scriptures lure us into a world of dreams, signs, wonders, and the miracle of the virgin birth. Too often we allow the great stories of our faith, the ones that are most familiar, simply to wash over us. Today's Gospel account of the events leading up to the birth of the Lord reads like a present-day soap opera. Yet Joseph's courage, even in the midst of what must have been an incredibly confusing time, provides a model for us. Each week, we are summoned by God to embrace the way of goodness and truth through the proclamation of God's holy word. Like Joseph, we are called to do as the Lord commands us. As we stand at the threshold of Christmas, let us have the courage to be open to whatever it is that the Lord will require of us as we celebrate the miracle of Bethlehem.

Mass Intentions for December 17-20, 2016

- Saturday 5:00 Charles N. Scott**
By: Dr. Melvin & Mrs. Carmen Jones
- Sunday 8:00 Eric Beshears**
By: The Sisters
- 11:00 Alvin Domingue, Jr.**
By: The Family
- Tuesday 5:00 People of the Parish**

In Bible Study we are studying Paul's Epistles Thursdays at 6:00 pm

PRAY FOR US

Geraldine Bell	Viola Landry	Walter Lewis
Richard Camble, Jr.	John Paul Moore	Catherine Murray
Zula Comeaux	Loriene Perry	Joyce Decuir
Diane Edwards	Martha Proctor	Kenia Richard
Patsy Irvin	James Raby	Vivian LeDuff
Ora Lee Jordan	Maria Rice	Rebecca Nelson
Frazier Jordan	Whitney Robiho	Ceola Marcelle
Elizabeth Whitfield	Shelvia Stewart	Mildred Anderson
Rosemary Daniels	Mary Johnson	Charles Taylor
	Myrtle Moran	

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2016

PSR News

December 23, 2016

This evening at 5 pm will be the final rehearsal for the Nativity. Please ensure your child is present.

December 24, 2016

The Nativity at the 5 pm Mass.

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 18, 2016

They shall name him Emmanuel,
which means "God is with us."
— *Matthew 1:23*



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading - You will be given this sign: the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:10-14).

Psalm - Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory (Psalm 24).

Second Reading - God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).

Gospel - The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. He shall be Emmanuel, "God is with us" (Matthew 1:18-24).

Stewardship December 11, 2016



Regular Collection
\$8,872.34
Parish Needs
\$104.00
Flowers
\$239.34



St. Francis Xavier Food Bank: is in need of non-perishables to assist the needy in our community. Please donate: Canned Corn, Peas, String Beans, Carrots, Fruit, Chili, Pasta, Grits, Cereal, Tuna, Rice, Bread, Soup, Soap, Tooth Paste, Deodorant etc. We also accept monetary donations to purchase food.

**Christmas Eve Mass
5pm & Midnight**

Christmas Day Mass at 9am

JUSTICE AND OBEDIENCE

Justice is the insurance we have on our lives, and obedience is the premium we pay for it.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent
Tuesday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter Solstice
Thursday: St. John of Kanty
Friday: The Vigil of Christmas
Saturday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

CHRISTMAS CHILDREN

It is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas.

New Church Pews & Flooring

We have begun a pledge campaign to raise \$100,000 (\$60,000 pews & \$40,000 flooring) to replace our pews and flooring. In order to begin the project we need the cash on hand. Please prayerfully consider a generous pledge to this important project in preparation of our 100th Anniversary in 2018. Please turn in your pledge commitment form by November 28, 2016.