

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
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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 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

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EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTER (DAYCARE)

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.

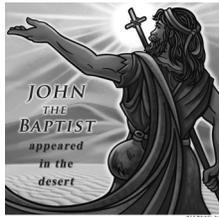
CARE OF THE SICK: PLEASE CALL THE PRIEST FOR THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK AND /OR HOSPITAL VISITATION. IF THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK IS CRITICALLY NEEDED, PLEASE CALL REV. EDWARD CHIFFRILLER NUMBER LISTED ABOVE OR THE CHAPLAINCY OFFICE AT THE HOSPITAL.

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.

NEWS OF COMFORT

In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, "Comfort, give comfort to my people, / says your God" (Isaiah 40:1). In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a shepherd leading the flocks with care and tenderness. Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our salvation.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

I am the Immaculate Conception.

In Bible Study every Thursday at 6:00 pm

Mass Intentions for December 9-12, 2017

Saturday 5:00 Fred LeDuff
By: Shirley Rivers

Sunday 8:00 Corita Auzenne
By: Norma Duell

11:00 Faith Bowie
By: Contemporary Choir

Tuesday 5:00 Albanie LeDuff
By: Shirley Rivers

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Many people think that Saint Francis originated the Christmas crèche, but its origins go far back. The Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome has housed what is said to be relics of the cradle of Jesus since the seventh century. In time, every year during the Christmas season the reliquary (container for relics) was surrounded by an increasingly grand three-dimensional scene of the place of Jesus' birth. Rocks and trees, houses, streams, figurines of villagers going about their daily tasks were all included. It was a very dramatic presentation. If you've ever seen an elaborate model train installation, you get the idea. The proper term for this depiction is *presepio*, from the Latin word for "surround" or "hedge."

Over the centuries, the custom spread first to churches, and then to aristocratic homes. In Italy, whole chapels are often set aside for the *presepio*, and it is not unusual to have hundreds of figures. It can sometimes be a challenge to locate the Holy Family amid the crowd, almost like a *Where's Waldo?* children's book. The oldest surviving *presepio* is in St. Mary Major and dates from the thirteenth century, although many pieces have been broken or lost. Saint Francis of Assisi took a decidedly creative step in 1233 in the village of Greccio, when he directed his followers to fill a manger with hay and tether an ox and ass nearby. He then invited the villagers to attend Mass outdoors near the crib, the worshipers themselves becoming a living *presepio*. By the seventeenth century, the tradition was well-established, particularly in Naples, and had a firm hold in Portugal, Spain, and in the Provence region of France. Today, it is not unusual to find *presepios* with five hundred figures, a vivid reminder of Emmanuel, God-with-us!

PRAY FOR US

Richard Camble, Jr.
Zula Comeaux
Diane Edwards
Ora Lee Jordan
Thelma Jackson
Frazier Jordan
Elizabeth Whitfield
Rosemary Daniels
Zelda Bates

John Paul Moore
Loriene Perry
Martha Proctor
James Raby
Maria Rice
Whitney Robiho
Shelvia Stewart
Mary Johnson
Myrtle Moran

Walter Lewis
Catherine Murray
Joyce Decuir
Cenia Richard
Vivian LeDuff
Rebecca Nelson
Mildred Anderson
Charles Taylor

Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2017

PSR News

December 10 - Coffee and Christ - Our LPTE series continues with the virtue of Fortitude. Today is rehearsal for our Christmas Programs.

December 17 - "Gaudete" Sunday - The color of the Third Sunday of Advent is rose. This color symbolizes joy and represents the happiness we will experience when Jesus comes again. The Third Sunday is a day of anticipatory celebration. It is formerly called "Gaudete" Sunday; gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin.

December 22 - Christmas rehearsal will be at 6 pm.

December 24 - Christmas Performance 5 pm Mass.

December 25 - MERRY CHRISTMAS!

December 31 - No PSR

January 1 - 2018 - HAPPY NEW YEAR! Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

CHRISTMAS MASSES

December 23 - 5pm, 4th Sunday of Advent

December 24 - 8am, 4th Sunday of Advent, No 11am Mass

December 24 - 5pm, Vigil of Christmas, Family Mass

December 25 - Midnight Mass

December 25 - 9am, Christmas Day

New Church Pews & Flooring

Thank you to all the parishioners who contributed to our Church Renovation project. Please continue paying on your pledges so that we can begin saving to build a Parish Center.

Stewardship December 3, 2017



Regular Collection
\$15,132.67
Parish Needs
\$853.00
School Support
\$235.00



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.

100th Anniversary Brunch Tickets Available

The 100th Anniversary Opening Mass Brunch will be held on January 21, 2018, immediately after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Tickets are available for purchase after weekend Masses and at the Parish Office. Prices are \$10.00 for youth and \$15.00 for adults.

Like a Shepherd



He feeds His Flock

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Pre-Sales for the SFX 100th Anniversary Cookbook will continue after each mass until they arrive. This cookbook will be a great keepsake and would be an awesome gift at \$20 each. Contact Vanessa Pourciau at 225 923-2397 if you have any questions. Gift certificates are available for Christmas gifts.