

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:

MS. EBONY RILEY ~ SECRETARY
1134 JULIA STREET
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8:00 AM TO 3:00 PM
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REV. EDWARD CHIFFRILLER CELL: 225.571.8233
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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
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802
7:30 AM TO 4:00 PM
225.387.6639 OR 225.387.6630
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EMAIL: PJOHNSON@SFXBR.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 ~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

December 2021

12 PSR Class - Nativity rehearsal - **Third Sunday of Advent**

The word "Advent" comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "coming." Advent in the 4th and 5th century was a time of preparation for the baptism of new Christians. Christians would spend 40 days in prayer and fasting to prepare for the celebration that accompanied the baptism of new believers.

Over time, advent was connected to the coming of Christ. Originally, Christians used this term to reference Christ's second coming, but by the Middle Ages, Advent was connected to Christ's first coming that we celebrate at Christmas. Today, we celebrate Advent over the four weeks leading up to Christmas each year.

Advent season is an invitation to set your mind off the stresses of the year. We can take our focus off of the crazy hustle of the season and the sadness that could accompany the different ways some of us may be choosing to observe the holiday season this year. Even when things feel chaotic, we can find peace in Jesus. Advent is a chance to focus our thoughts on the gift God has given us in his son Jesus who stepped down from heaven and took the form of a man *so that we might believe*.

The tradition for the third Sunday of Advent includes lighting a third sometimes pink candle that is a symbol of **joy**. This third Sunday of Advent we read, pray, and reflect on the joy that God's plan gives us (foretold by the prophets and fulfilled by the life and death of Christ), and we meditate on the promise of Christ's coming glory-filled return.

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word for **rejoice**, and this Sunday is the time for us to rejoice because Jesus came and died so that we may live forever with him!

"From Thence He Will Come Again to Judge the Living and the Dead"

He Will Come Again in Glory

Christ already reigns through the Church. . .

"Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living." Christ's Ascension into heaven signifies his participation, in his humanity, in God's power and authority. Jesus Christ is Lord: he possesses all power in heaven and on earth. He is "far above all rule and authority and power and dominion", for the Father "has put all things under his feet." Christ is Lord of the cosmos and of history. In him human history and indeed all creation are "set forth" and transcendentally fulfilled.

As Lord, Christ is also head of the Church, which is his Body. Taken up to heaven and glorified after he had thus fully accomplished his mission, Christ dwells on earth in his Church. The redemption is the source of the authority that Christ, by virtue of the Holy Spirit, exercises over the Church. "The kingdom of Christ (is) already present in mystery", "on earth, the seed and the beginning of the kingdom".

Since the Ascension God's plan has entered into its fulfillment. We are already at "the last hour". "Already the final age of the world is with us, and the renewal of the world is irrevocably under way; it is even now anticipated in a certain real way, for the Church on earth is endowed already with a sanctity that is real but imperfect."^{cc 668-672} Christ's kingdom already manifests its presence through the miraculous signs that attend its proclamation by the Church. . . until all things are subjected to him

Though already present in his Church, Christ's reign is nevertheless yet to be fulfilled "with power and great glory" by the King's return to earth. This reign is still under attack by the evil powers, even though they have been defeated definitively by Christ's Passover. Until everything is subject to him, "until there be realized new heavens and a new earth in which justice dwells, the pilgrim Church, in her sacraments and institutions, which belong to this present age, carries the mark of this world which will pass, and she herself takes her place among the creatures which groan and travail yet and await the revelation of the sons of God." That is why Christians pray, above all in the Eucharist, to hasten Christ's return by saying to him: Maranatha! "Our Lord, come!"

Before his Ascension Christ affirmed that the hour had not yet come for the glorious establishment of the messianic kingdom awaited by Israel which, according to the prophets, was to bring all men the definitive order of justice, love and peace. According to the Lord, the present time is the time of the Spirit and of witness, but also a time still marked by "distress" and the trial of evil which does not spare the Church and ushers in the struggles of the last days. It is a time of waiting and watching^{cc 668-672}

Next Issue: The glorious advent of Christ, the hope of Israel

SFX CENTENNIAL COOKBOOKS
MAKES A GREAT GIFT
FOR ONLY \$20.00

PRAY FOR US

Richard Camble, Jr.	Gwen Carriere	Catherine Murray
Frazier Jordan	John Paul Moore	Joyce Decuir
Elizabeth Whitfield	Lorraine Perry	Cenia Richard
Zelda Bates	Martha Proctor	John Ristic
Elaine Johnson	Maria Rice	Betty Camble
Linda Gills-Beshears	Whitney Robiho	Geraldine Christopher
Mary Johnson	Shelvia Stewart	Elouise Noel
Betty Dupas		Cora Scott-Green

Mass Intentions for December 11 - 14, 2021

Saturday	5pm	Elsie Bates <i>By: Weesie & Family</i>
Sunday	8am	People of the Parish
	11am	Elaine Ewell <i>By: Carol L.</i>
Tuesday	5pm	Louie Jene Harris <i>By: Wife</i>



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

3 Ways to Give
St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

*Online Giving: 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 Mondays by 12 noon. Please consider admission at least a week prior to the date of the announcement, when possible.

Christmas Schedule

**Christmas Eve - Mass at 5pm
 Midnight Mass**

**Christmas Day - Mass at 9am
 No Vigil Mass on December 25**

Sunday, December 26, - Mass at 8am & 11am

New Year's Eve December 31 - Mass at 5pm

**Trust in God's timing.
 It's better to wait a while
 and have things fall into place,
 than to rush
 and have things fall apart.**

This weekend is the 2021 Retirement Fund Collection for Religious men and women throughout the United States. Your donation will help provide for retirement needs, nursing care and medications for retired religious whose lives have been spent in service to others in schools, hospitals and parishes. Thank you for sharing in this effort.

For more information go to <https://retiredreligious.org>

United Men of St. Francis Xavier

Over the last several years, the United Men of SFX worked tirelessly raising funds for the church and school through the semi-annual BBQ, provided scholarships to our church families, and many other things.

Since we have been outstanding stewards and showed our love of God through Matthew 6:21, it is now our time to ask the Church community to give us something in return. Over the life of the organization, we have lost many members through attrition by illness and death. For the United Men to continue its good works, we need additional, dedicated participants.

We are inviting you to show your love of God through this effort; please get in touch with us through the following means: **Call me 225.205.8542, text, or email les.pourciau@gmail.com, unitedmenstfx@gmail.com or any member of the organization** or come to the cafeteria after the 8 o'clock mass 10/24/2021

I use the framework of "We are blessed to bless others" to appeal to "YOU" the men of the SFX Catholic Church community. Please assist us in this effort.

Thank you

JOIN US FOR PRAYING THE ROSARY
EVERY SUNDAY EVENING @ 7PM

Just dial **1 720 7409653**

And enter access code **5217381#**

**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*

Stewardship
December 5, 2021

Regular Collection
\$11,166
Parish Needs
\$357
Flowers
\$55



**PLEASE SEND US ONLY 200
COPIES OF THE BULLETIN THAT
WE ARE SUBMITTING FOR
DECEMBER 12, 2021**