

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
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 JOHNSON ~ PRINCIPAL
1150 SOUTH 12TH STREET
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802
7:30 AM TO 4:00 PM
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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

January 2022

- 9 PSR Class - **The Baptism of the Lord**
- 16 PSR Class - Professor Warner - Science vs. Religion 9:30 am - 2:00 pm
- 17 **MLK Day**

The Baptism of the Lord -

In the liturgical calendar, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord signifies the end of the Christmas season. The Baptism of the Lord is notable because it marks the beginning of Jesus' ministry and confirms his identity as the Son of God. This event is documented in all the gospels except John.

The Gospel of Mark describes the event:

It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." (Mark 1:9-11)

Christ's baptism remarkably shows all three Persons of the Trinity at the same time: the Son being baptized, the Holy Spirit descending, and the Father speaking from the heavens. In this event, the Father and the Holy Spirit confirm the deity of Christ, and Jesus submits to his Father's will.

Why Is Jesus Baptized?

When Jesus comes to John, John hesitates to baptize him. John's is a baptism of repentance, and Jesus has nothing for which he needs to repent. Why then does Jesus insist on being baptized? By choosing to be baptized, Jesus fulfills all righteousness – preparing himself to be a perfect sacrifice for us.

The account in Matthew demonstrates this:

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed him. (Matthew 3:13-15)

The Baptism of the Lord portrayed in mosaic tile in the Rosary Walk and Garden.

What Does Baptism Mean for Us?

As we reflect on Christ's baptism, we are reminded of our own baptism. Pope Benedict XVI said on the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord:

[Baptism] is communion with the One who conquered death and holds in his hand the keys of life. Belonging to this circle, to God's family, means being in communion with Christ, who is life and gives eternal love beyond death.

Thanks be to God, who has redeemed us from our sins and given us eternal life through Jesus Christ. *The National Shrine*

To Judge the Living and the Dead

Following in the steps of the prophets and John the Baptist, Jesus announced the judgement of the Last Day in his preaching. Then will the conduct of each one and the secrets of hearts be brought to light. Then will the culpable unbelief that counted the offer of God's grace as nothing be condemned. Our attitude to our neighbor will disclose acceptance or refusal of grace and divine love. On the Last Day Jesus will say: "Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me."

Christ is Lord of eternal life. Full right to pass definitive judgement on the works and hearts of men belongs to him as redeemer of the world. He "acquired" this right by his cross. the Father has given "all judgement to the Son". Yet the Son did not come to judge, but to save and to give the life he has in himself. By rejecting grace in this life, one already judges oneself, receives according to one's works, and can even condemn oneself for all eternity by rejecting the Spirit of love.

In Brief

Christ the Lord already reigns through the Church, but all the things of this world are not yet subjected to him. the triumph of Christ's kingdom will not come about without one last assault by the powers of evil.

On Judgement Day at the end of the world, Christ will come in glory to achieve the definitive triumph of good over evil which, like the wheat and the tares, have grown up together in the course of history.

When he comes at the end of time to judge the living and the dead, the glorious Christ will reveal the secret disposition of hearts and will render to each man according to his works, and according to his acceptance or refusal of grace. ecc 678-682

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 January 8 - 11, 2021

Saturday	5pm	Zula Comeaux <i>By: Catherine Veazie</i>
Sunday	8am	Keith J. Thierry <i>By: Men's Choir</i>
	11am	Agnes Bonnefaye Jackson-Ross <i>By: Contemporary Choir</i>
Tuesday	5pm	People of the Parish



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.

Thank You

Father Rodney and I want to thank you for all of the Christmas cards and gifts.
 We are deeply grateful.
 Father Ed

When my arms can't reach the people close to my heart,
 I always hug them with my prayers!

If you would like to nominate a fellow parishioner as a candidate for Parish Pastoral Council, Nomination forms are at the entrance to the church. Please complete the form and place it in the box provided. You may also submit your nomination on our website at:

www.stfrancisxavierbr.org

Nominations will close after the 11:00 mass on January 23, 2022

BAPTISMAL DEATH AND RESURRECTION

As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, we also honor our own baptism as our initiation into the Christian life and community. In the Gospel, the baptism of Jesus, with his immersion and then emergence from the water, points to his later submission to God at his death, and his emergence from the grave at his resurrection. This pattern of death and resurrection is our path too, as followers of Jesus.

Throughout life, often in small ways, we learn to surrender our limited and self-centered agendas. This surrender often feels like death.

The sacrament of Baptism

ritually enacts this pattern to remind us of Jesus' death and resurrection, so that we too might embrace the deaths and resurrections of our own lives. As Jesus emerged from the water, he encountered his Father and the Holy Spirit. Like Jesus, we can know we are God's beloved, empowered by the Spirit.

Bishop's Annual Appeal

The theme for this year's appeal is
 "Caring for our Families in the Spirit of St. Joseph."

In October, Bishop Duca contributed \$25,000 to our School Playground Project from the Bishop's Appeal.

Please consider contributing to this years Bishop's Appeal in appreciation for Bishop Duca's donation.

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

Regular Collection
\$8,512

Parish Needs
\$380

Food Pantry
\$850



**PLEASE SEND US ONLY 200
COPIES OF THE BULLETIN THAT
WE ARE SUBMITTING FOR
JANUARY 9, 2022**