

Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time  
February 16, 2025

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



## CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Rev. Ugochukwu "Henry" Ihuoma, SSJ  
Pastor

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

### PARISH OFFICE:

MRS. MARVA KADOR WILLIAMS ~ SECRETARY  
1134 JULIA STREET  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802  
9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM  
225.383.3479 OR 225.343.3709  
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REV. UGOCHUKWU HENRY IHUOMA, SSJ.  
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CELL PHONE ~ 240.688.5440

### OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

MR JOHN YOUNG ~ DRE 225.343.3075 EXT 212  
FAX: 225.388.5458  
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### SCHOOL OFFICE:

CHRISTOPHER J. ROGERS, PhD ~ 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: CROGERS@SFXBR.ORG  
WEBSITE: WWW.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:	9:00AM
HOLYDAYS:	9:00 AM & 6:00 PM
FRIDAY:	SCHOOL MASS 9:00AM
SATURDAY:	EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION—3:30 PM

**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. HENRY IHUOMA'S 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 February 2025

16 PSR Class – **6th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Lenten Workshop** – Nursing Home Visit

In this issue we begin a series on Norms and Criteria for Presenting the Gospel in Catechesis.

### **The source from which catechesis draws its message is the word of God:**

*“Catechesis will always draw its contents from the living source of the word of God transmitted in Tradition and the Scriptures, for sacred Tradition and sacred Scripture make up a single sacred deposit of the word of God, which is entrusted to the Church.”*

The “deposit of faith” is like the treasure of a householder; it is entrusted to the Church, the family of God, and she continuously draws from it things new and old.

All God’s children animated by his spirit and nourished by the treasure of the Word. They know that the Word is Jesus Christ, the Word made man and that his voice continues to respond in the Church and in the Word of the eternal Father, when he took on himself the flesh of human weakness, became like men. And so without ceasing to be the word of God, it is expressed in human words. Although Close to us, it still remains veiled, in a “kenotic” state. Thus the Church, guided by the Holy Spirit, has to interpret the word continually. She contemplates the word with a profound spirit of faith, “listens to [it] devotedly, guards it with dedication and expounds it faithfully.

We continue our Bible series with 2 Kings...

### **2 Kings Chapter 1**

*The revolt of Moab-Sickness of Ahaziah, king of Israel. (1-8) Fire called from heaven by Elijah-Death of Ahaziah. (9-18)*

Verses 1-8 When Ahaziah rebelled against the Lord, Moab revolted from him. Sin weakens and impoverishes us. Man's revolt from God is often punished by the rebellion of those who owe subjection to him. Ahaziah fell through a lattice, or railing. Wherever we go, there is but a step between us and death. A man's house is his castle, but not to secure him against God's judgments. The whole creation, which groans under the burden of man's sin, will, at length, sink and break under the weight like this lattice. He is never safe that has God for his enemy. Those that will not inquire of the word of God for their comfort, shall hear it to their terror, whether they will or not.

Verses 9-18 Elijah called for fire from heaven, to consume the haughty, daring sinners; not to secure himself, but to prove his mission, and to reveal the wrath of God from heaven, against the ungodliness and unrighteousness of men. Elijah did this by a Divine impulse, yet our Savior would not allow the disciples to do the like, (Luke 9:54) . The dispensation of the Spirit and of grace by no means allowed it. Elijah was concerned for God's glory, those for their own reputation. The Lord judges men's practices by their principles, and his judgment is according to truth. The third captain humbled himself and cast himself upon the mercy of God and Elijah. There is nothing to be got by contending with God; and those are wise for themselves, who learn submission from the fatal end of obstinacy in others. The courage of faith has often struck terror into the heart of the proudest sinner. So thunder-struck is Ahaziah with the prophet's words, that neither he, nor any about him, offer him violence. Who can harm those whom God shelters? Many who think to prosper in sin, are called hence like Ahaziah, when they do not expect it. All warns us to seek the Lord while he may be found.

## **PRAYER LIST**

John Paul Moore \* Loraine Perry \* Martha Proctor \* Whitney Robiho \* Joyce Decuir \* Patricia Armstrong

Elouise Noel \* Betty Dupas \* Denise Chutz \* Fred Dejuan \* Loretta Warren \* Lorenzia Dardone \* Patricia Tyson

Elizabeth Whitfield \* Linda Gills-Beshears \* Phyllis White \* Mary E. Bourgeois \* Easton Charles \* Walter Gabriel

# Welcome to St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Baton Rouge, LA



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

## 3 Ways to Give St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

\*Online Giving: [www.stfrancisxavier.org](http://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!

### Bible Study

We will be having our Bible Study every Thursday at 6 pm at the Parish Office.

### Birthday & Wedding Anniversary Celebration

On the last Weekend of each Month, we will say a prayer at each mass for those celebrating their birthday and anniversary for that Month and have a light refreshment for them on Sunday at 9:30 am. Join us.!

### Parish Office

2024 Annual Statement of Offerings were mailed on January 31, 2025. If you do not receive your statement, contact the parish secretary.

A number of parishioners requested envelopes in 2024 and did not receive them. Please contact the new parish to verify your new address in order to receive your envelopes. Thank you.

### Black History Artifacts Display

Help us give our youth and young adults a window into the past by sharing artifacts—any very old items no longer in use but priceless in meaning. We can safeguard the stories of our ancestors by offering a physical connection to the past. The display will be in the school library on the last weekend in February. Please bring your labeled artifact to the library on Saturday, February 22nd. For more information, please contact Ruby Jordan @ 225-337-0766 or Janice Smith at 225-754-5757

We are receiving donations for our fish fry fundraiser. Each family can support us by donating \$100 for a case of fish. We receive cash and check. You can also give online on the Parish Website. Please indicate the purpose of your collection on your check or envelope or online giving. Thanks for your continued support.

### Upcoming Events in the Parish

\*GriefShare Ministry— Wednesday, 6 pm.

\*Black History— Throughout the Month of Feb.

\*30 days Prayers to St. Joseph, Feb. 18- - Mar. 19

\*PSR Family Day – Cake Bingo Fundraiser- Saturday, Feb. 22, after the Vigil Mass.

\*Black History Month Celebration -Feb. 23, after the 8 am mass.

### Mass Intentions

Feb 15-19, 2025

Saturday 5pm **Shelvia & Wilson Stewart**  
By: *Betty Camble*  
**Julie Ann Franklin**  
By: *Backrow Angels*

Sunday 8am **Ora Lee Jordan**  
By: *The Family*

11am **People of the Parish**

Tuesday 5pm **Griefshare Ministry**

Wednesday 9am **Parish Council Election**

### Stewardship February 09, 2025

Regular Collection:	\$11,760.38
Online Support:	\$1085.00
Parish Needs:	\$96.00
School Support:	\$555.00



Thanks for your Generosity!

**Today's Readings**  
**Jeremiah 17: 5-8, 1 Corinthians 15: 12, 16-20, Luke 6: 17, 20-26**

Woe is Me?

In Luke's version of the Beatitudes, he has only four blessings and he adds four woes. These woes correspond to the blessings: 1. the poor and the rich, 2. the hungry and the filled, 3. those who weep and those who laugh, and 4. the hated and the well-treated. Did you notice that all the things that we work forty or more hours a week to give to our family are considered "woes"? So is Jesus saying we should not have savings for the future, food for the kids, a happy, safe environment, or a good reputation?

I suspect that the disciples and the others listening to Jesus wondered the same thing. Jesus may have been exaggerating a little but he had a point. The values of this world are not necessarily the values of God's Kingdom. For example, self-reliance, usually considered a virtue, can be taken to an extreme of not relying on God for our needs, or for justifying the belief that poverty is the fault of the poor. Jesus himself is the extreme example of reversing worldly values: His death was not a tragic ending, but the saving action that brought us forgiveness and new life in the Resurrection.

So how do we experience the blessings of the poor, the hungry, the mourning, or the unpopular? Do we have the faith to let go of self-reliance and to trust in Jesus? How much money does it take to meet the needs of our family? How much do we really need and how much is just extra? Are we really helping our children if we give them anything they want? We teach them to do their best in school and sports. Do we also teach them to give to the poor or to help other children struggling with schoolwork? We buy them nice clothing; do we teach them to see Jesus in others? How can we say this is all too idealistic, and still claim to believe in the Resurrection?

I don't expect everyone to go around saying "woe is me." Some of the happiest people are those who live simple lives of faith and trust in God. When we learn to trust the Lord and love one another, we not only can see Jesus in the poor or the lonely, he can also be seen in us.

*Tom Schmidt*