

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday)
May 11, 2025

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Rev. Ugochukwu "Henry" Ihuoma, SSJ
Pastor

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
FAX: 225.388.5458
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WEBSITE~STFRANCISXAVIERBR.ORG
REV. UGOCHUKWU HENRY IHUOMA, SSJ.
EMAIL~ HENRY95UGO@GMAIL.COM
CELL PHONE ~ 240.688.5440

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

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

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.

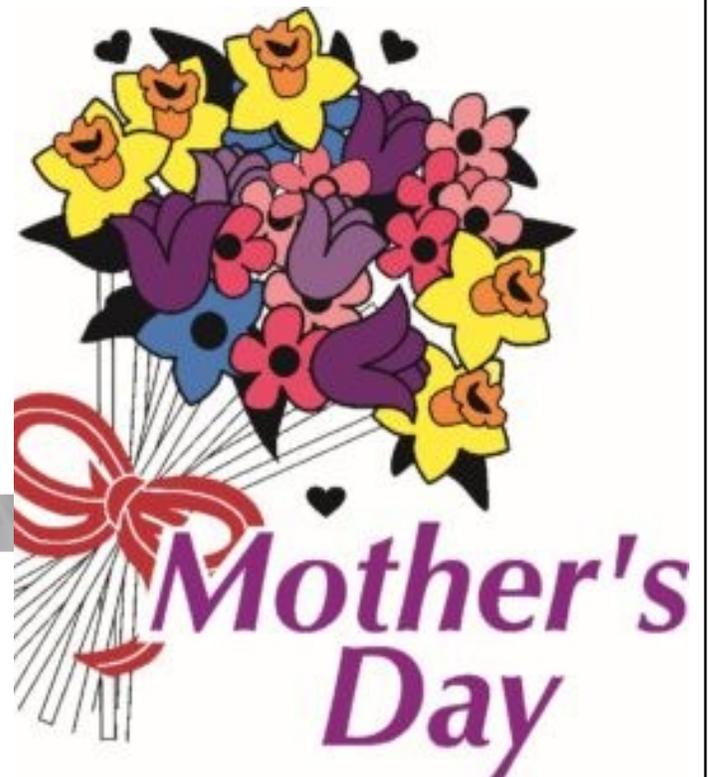
PSR News May 2025

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The reception of Holy Communion at Sunday Mass is such an expected feature of the Mass these days that it is surprising to realize that for many centuries, receiving Communion was a relatively rare event in the life of a faithful Christian. “Easter duty” means that Catholics must celebrate reconciliation if aware of serious sin, and receive Holy Communion during the Easter season. For a while, this was a requirement of Easter week, and later extended to the whole season of fifty days, and even beyond that by a few weeks. For the majority of people long ago, this meant Communion was a once-a-year moment. A rather complex bureaucracy grew up around this rule in the Middle Ages. Amazingly, people received a kind of token at confession admitting them to Communion in their home parish, which then kept careful records and reported them to the bishop.

Surviving records can tell us a great deal about our ancestors. In fact, people were encouraged to journey to the church of their baptism in order to fulfill their duty, and therefore the Easter duty includes in its origins a grateful pilgrimage to the font in which you were first embraced by Christ. If your “Holy Mother Church” is within a drive, why not make a pilgrimage to that font be a feature of your Easter celebration of these fifty days?

—James Field



PRAYER LIST

John Paul Moore * Geraldine Christopher * 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 * Erica H. Louis

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 *Text the word "GIVE" to (225) 396-4347 or scan the QR Code.
Mail: St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 1120 Myrtle Walk Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802



SCAN ME

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.

Upcoming Events in the Parish

- *GriefShare Ministry– Wednesday, 6 pm.
- *School Graduation, Tuesday, May 13, 5 pm.
- *Fair Planning Meeting, Saturday, May 17, 11 am.
- *Pantry Distribution, Thursday, May 22, 10 am.
- *Birthday and Wedding Anniversary Celebration, Sunday, May 25, 9:30 am.
- *Memorial Day, Monday, May 26.
- *Parish Council Meeting, Tuesday, May 27, 6 pm
- *Holy Spirit Novena Begins, Friday, May 30.
- *Junior Daughters Initiation, Saturday, May 31, 10 am.

Graduate Recognition

Calling all 2024-2025 graduates, from 8th grade diplomas to post graduate degrees. Let us help you celebrate your wonderful accomplishment. You will be recognized at the 11:00 mass on Sunday, June 8, 2025. If you are a graduate, or the parent of a graduate, please sign- up. The sign-up sheet is on the table at the entrance of the church. If you have a graduation picture you would like to share please email it to secretary@sfxc.brcoxmail.com. Also, please wear your cap and gown to church that Sunday. The last day to sign-up will be May 18, 2025.

Ministry

Is God calling you to join a ministry in our parish? Please feel free and sign up. There are applications at the back of the church for various ministries. You can meet the pastor or the ushers for further information. Thanks. Happy Easter.

Mass Intentions May 10-11, 2025

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| Saturday | 5pm | Lester Malveaux
<i>By: Shaloma Malveaux</i>
Ceola Marcelle & Marcella Keyes
<i>By: Weesie</i> |
| Sunday | 8am | The People of the Parish |
| | 11am | Mary Lavern Boutte
<i>By: Shaloma Malveaux</i> |



"Register your child for the SFX School 2025-26, The Mustang Experience Awaits You." For more information, visit www.sfxbr.org or scan the QR Code.

Enrolling Grades K - 8

(225) 387-6639



Stewardship May 04, 2025

Regular Collection:	\$10,742.45
Online Support:	\$2,575.75
Parish Needs:	\$321.00
School Support:	\$80.00

The knights of Peter Claver, Ladies Auxiliary, Inc., St. Francis Xavier Court 12 is offering its Annual Scholarship of \$500.00 to a worthy young lady or young man graduating from high school this year that plan to attend college or university of their choice. The applications are located in the back of the church. The application must be returned on or before May 28, 2025. For additional information, please contact the Grand Lady Janet @ 572-4681.



Thanks for your Generosity!

Today's Readings
Acts 13:14, 43 - 52, Revelation 7: 9, 14b -17, John 10:27-30

A Lot of Nerve

Last week we saw how the disciples rejoiced to suffer for their faith. This week we see them turn away from their persecutors and begin preaching to the Gentiles. Even though they are thrown out of town, they still are filled with joy (Acts 13:50-52). Rejected by their own people, they are happy that the pagans not only listen to them, but also spread the word of the Lord. What I find interesting is that the disciples' joy comes from their failure to convert the Jewish leaders in Antioch. If those Jews had become believers and had not rejected Paul and Barnabas, the disciples probably would never have thought to preach to non-Jews about Jesus.

I think that failure to convert their own people allowed them to see how God's power was working for them. That's why their joy was so great. They were not just congratulating themselves on how well they were preaching. No, they saw how God was doing the real work. That took the pressure off of them. They could stop worrying about every word of their preaching, wondering if they looked holy enough to impress people, or afraid that someone might make fun of them (or do a background check: "Isn't that Saul, who used to persecute Jesus' followers? He's got a lot of nerve thinking he could now be one of them."). None of that mattered, because they knew that the Spirit was leading them, as our second reading says, "to springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe every tear from their eyes" (Revelation 7:17). They knew they were in God's hands, as we heard in the Gospel (John 10:28).

Can we be like those disciples? Instead of getting angry at frustrations, can we see them as an opportunity to experience God's grace? Do we let our failures get us down, or do we let God bring us through them, teaching us to rely on the Lord? When people reject us, do we give up, or do we trust God to help them? Are we ashamed of our past sins, or grateful for God's forgiveness?

Of course, the disciples didn't go around looking for ways to suffer. But they did look for ways to share their great news that Jesus is risen from the dead. Let us ask the Lord to send us the Spirit to show us how we can spread that same news.

Tom Schmidt