

# 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  
FAX: 225.388.5458  
EMAIL~SECRETARY@SFXC.BRCOXMAIL.COM  
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 June 2025

**Vacation Bible School (VBS)** will be held on June 23 thru 27, 2025. This year's theme is EGYPT, Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace. Registration forms are at the entrance of the church or please register online at <https://www.stfrancisxavierbr.org>

Beginning the 25-26 session, one major announcement is the change for Confirmation. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated for those who are prepared to receive the sacrament in 7th grade. Confirmation next year will be celebrated for those who have completed the 7-11 grade preparation requirements.

Those who are in grade levels 7-11 and for whatever reason have not been attending PSR, must receive special instructions prior to being eligible to receive the Sacrament. Those in 12th grade or entering college will be offered adult classes. These classes are called the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). These classes will be held outside of regular Sunday PSR Classes.

**RCIA**, is also for those who, are already Confirmed and would like to know more about their faith, those who are not Catholic and would like to become Catholic, or those who just want to learn more about the Catholic faith.

As always, we are seeking volunteers to assist with PSR Classes, Baptism Preparation Classes, Vacation Bible School, Altar Server Preparation and Proclaiming the Word, and Youth Retreats. If you are interested or just have questions please contact John Young @ [stfranxavierccd@bellsouth.net](mailto:stfranxavierccd@bellsouth.net) or [sfxpsr@sfxc.brcoxmail.com](mailto:sfxpsr@sfxc.brcoxmail.com) or Office number 225.383.3479.

Please join the team as we prepare to witness an exciting future in the Lord.

Christ's Peace!

### **TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

The paschal candle, blessed at the Easter Vigil, carried in procession into the darkened church, and aflame with the light of Christ to be passed hand to hand to renew our baptism, burns for the fifty days of Easter whenever we gather as Christ's risen body. In the last fifty years, we have grown to see this candle as the sign of Christ's enduring presence with us. Before then, it was often seen more as a kind of signpost pointing backwards to events in Christ's life. Therefore, in some places, on the fortieth day after Easter, in order to portray the disappearance of Jesus at the Ascension, the candle was hidden.

Now we see the paschal candle as a sign of the great baptismal season of grace and it remains in a prominent place throughout the entire fifty days. We do know of some churches that did not hide the candle after the Ascension. In England before the Reformation, the candle was left in place for fifty days, since on Pentecost Eve there was a vigil, and the candle was used to consecrate the waters of the font. In Salisbury cathedral, the candle was thirty-six feet high, and in Westminster Abbey weighed over three hundred pounds. On Pentecost, the candles were melted to make tapers for the funerals of the poor.

—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](http://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.

### 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](mailto:secretary@sfxc.brcoxmail.com).

### 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. We can't wait to serve with you.



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

**Enrolling Grades K - 8**

(225) 387-6639



Join us for  
*Adoration, Praise, and Worship*

*Every First Saturday from 3:00 - 4:30 pm*

### Upcoming Events in the Parish

- \*Second Collection: Catholic Communication Campaign, June 1.
- \*Adoration, Praise, and Worship, June 7, 3 pm.
- \*Pantry Distribution, June 12, 10 am.
- \*Father's Day, June 15.
- \*Parish Fair Planning Meeting, June 17, 6 pm.
- \*Vacation Bible School, June 23 - 27, 6pm - 8pm.

### Mass Intentions May 31- June 01, 2025

Saturday	5pm	<b>Rebecca Nelson</b> <i>By: Fran &amp; the Gang</i>
		<b>Denise Booze</b> <i>By: Fran &amp; the Gang</i>
		<b>Lillie Mae Posey</b> <i>By: Fran &amp; the Gang</i>
		<b>Bridget Taylor</b> <i>By: Fran &amp; the Gang</i>
Sunday	8am	<b>The People of the Parish</b>
	11am	<b>Chavon D. White</b> <i>By: Denise Williams</i>
		<b>Lester &amp; Ronnie Gauthier</b> <i>By: Mary, Danna, Edward</i>
		<b>Geraldine Jack</b> <i>By: Carmalita, Celiaka</i>

### Stewardship May 25, 2025

Regular Collection:	\$8223.00
Parish Needs:	\$5.00
School Support:	\$283.00



Thanks for your Generosity!

**Today's Readings**  
**Acts 1: 1-11, Ephesians 1: 17-23, Luke 24: 46-53**

**Coming or Going?**

One way of looking at the Ascension is that Jesus can do much more for us in his glory than he could while on earth. How does this work? It happens in two steps. First, he sends the Holy Spirit to the disciples. Second, the disciples become his witnesses to all the nations. So let's look at the first step.

The Gospel of John that is read on the Vigil of Pentecost says that "there was . . . no Spirit yet, because Jesus had not yet been glorified" (John 7:39). Obviously the Spirit is co-eternal with the Father and the Son, so John is trying to get our attention. He means that we could not experience the gifts of the Spirit until Jesus had died and risen from the dead. While Jesus walked the earth, he chose to be limited in time and space, so that a few people could get to know and love him. But after his resurrection, he could be more effective by sending his Spirit to all believers. Because he is ascended into glory, he can live in all of us. Just as the power of the Holy Spirit caused Mary to be the mother of Jesus, so that same power enables Jesus to live in us. And that leads to the second step.

Before his death, Jesus began to collect a group of followers. Some got to know him more deeply and became disciples. The rest of the followers were merely curious or attracted by stories of miracles he had performed. They did not have the faith and courage to bring others to Jesus; some only stayed with him a short time. But after his ascension the disciples began to experience Jesus in each other. They could not help but be excited about that and spread that excitement to others. From the time of Jesus' ascension to our own time, people have boldly proclaimed the gospel. So Jesus' ascension actually makes him present to more people, not fewer. May we all experience that presence in the Spirit, seeing Jesus in ourselves and others.

Tom Schmidt