

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Very Rev. Edward Chiffriller, SSJ
Pastor

Deacon Henry Ihuoma, SSJ

stfrancixavierbr.org

PARISH OFFICE:

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MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY:

SUNDAY:

TUESDAY:

WED -THURS:

HOLYDAYS:

FRIDAY:

VIGIL ~ 5:00 PM

8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA~ 5:00 PM

6:30 AM IN CONVENT

9:00 AM & 6:00 PM

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 2023

08 Class – The Epiphany of the Lord
09 The Baptism of the Lord

The Epiphany of the Lord

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. "The Lord and ruler is coming; kingship is his, and government and power." With these words the Church proclaims that today's feast brings to a perfect fulfillment all the purposes of Advent. Epiphany, therefore, marks the liturgical zenith of the Advent-Christmas season. — *Pius Parsch*

The Baptism of the Lord

Today, January 09, 2023, is the feast of our Lord's baptism by John the Baptizer. This was not a sacrament; sacraments had not yet been instituted. This marks both the beginning of Jesus' public ministry and his identification with us, Jesus would later choose baptism to be the initiation and lifetime lifestyle of the reformation of the Jewish faith. *oblates.org*

Ezekiel's Cultural Context Continued

By that time, Ezekiel was 25 when he was exiled.

Prior to this, he lived during the successful and godly reign of King Josiah and the not so successful kings who came afterward. It didn't help that false prophets ran rampant in Israel at the time and told them they'd be safe from the Babylonians.

Ezekiel's call to the life of a prophet doesn't happen until he reaches the age of 30 (Ezekiel 1), much beyond the mid-life point of many people in ancient times (in fact, Ezekiel dies in his 50s.).

We must keep this cultural context in mind because Ezekiel would've been in his infant years during Josiah's reign. He most likely only saw terrible kings on the throne of Israel and then the Babylonian siege. Sadly, Ezekiel never had the chance to witness the return of the Babylonian captives under the rule of Persia.

The Character of Ezekiel

The Bible often doesn't show us the flaws and shortcomings of prophets and doesn't tend to dive much into their dispositions and personalities. But what do we know about Ezekiel?

Ezekiel started as a priest, which means he came from the tribe of Levi, the tribe specifically consecrated for the priesthood. Before the exile, he received influence from the famous lamenting prophet Jeremiah.

Although Ezekiel does denounce a number of cities and nations as well as Israel for their sins, he also plays the role of comforter and consoler, a typical balance we see amongst many Old Testament prophets such as Daniel and Jeremiah.

Apart from that, we don't know much specifically about his character. We know he pursued God fervently, felt despair and hope in terms of Israel's situation, and knew quite a bit about priestly duties. *christianity.com*

Next issue: What Can We Learn from Ezekiel?

SFX CENTENNIAL COOKBOOKS
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PRAY FOR US

Richard Camble, Jr.	John Paul Moore	Catherine Murray
Frazier Jordan	Loraine Perry	Joyce Decuir
Elizabeth Whitfield	Martha Proctor	John Ristic
Zelda Bates	Maria Rice	Betty Camble
Elaine Johnson	Whitney Robiho	Elouise Noel
Linda Gills-Beshears	Bridget Taylor	Cora Scott-Green
Mary Johnson	Chavon D. White	Betty Dupas

Mass Intentions for January 7 - 10, 2022

Saturday	5pm	Shelvia Stewart <i>By: Janet St. Cry Moore</i>
Sunday	8am	Lester & Ronnie Gauthier <i>By: Edward, Mary, Danna & Damien</i>
	11am	Freddie Smith <i>By: Contemporary Choir</i>
Tuesday	5pm	People of the Parish



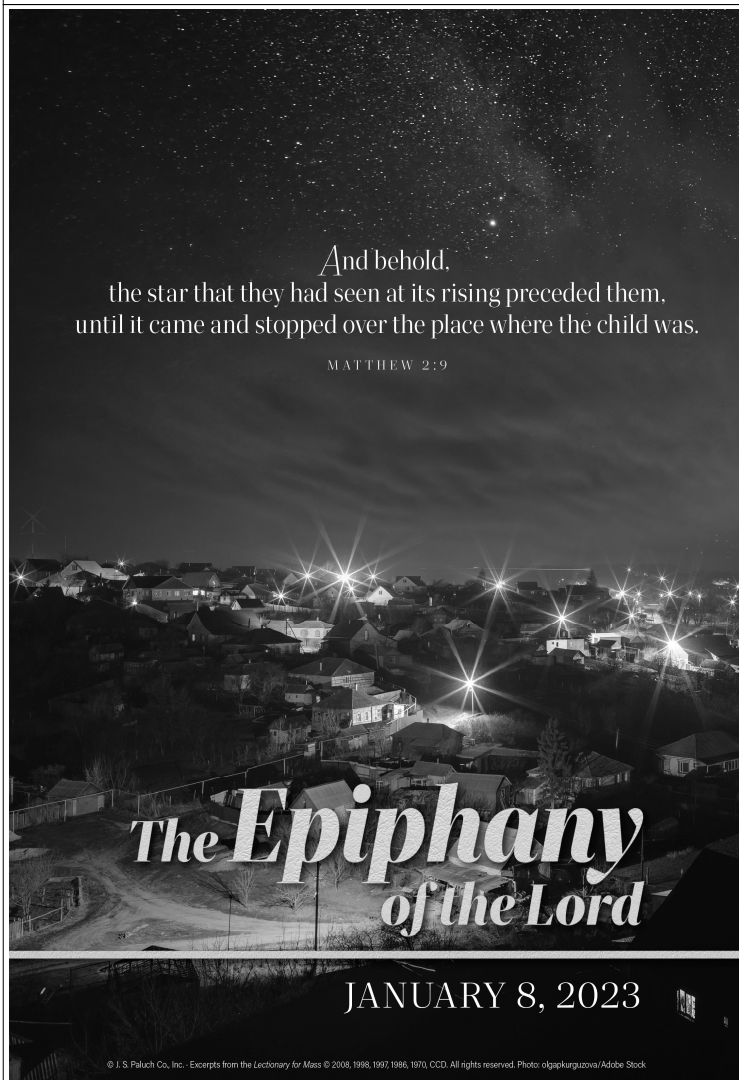
Through trials and tribulations, by God's grace, we triumph!

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 due on Fridays by 12 noon.
Please consider admission at least a week prior to the date of the announcement, when possible.



ALL SHARE IN THE PROMISE

Picture a nativity scene in your mind's eye. The scene likely includes figures arriving on camels, some elaborately dressed, with jeweled boxes containing precious gifts. These magi arrived from distant lands to pay homage to the Christ Child. We know little about the magi, but we do know that these visitors were not Jews. They represent people of all nations who will be drawn to the Lord. "Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance." The Good News of Jesus cannot be limited to one people; all share in the promise of God's mercy through our Lord Jesus Christ.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading - Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

Psalm - All the nations will worship you, Lord (Psalm 72).

Second Reading - The Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Gospel - Magi from the east arrive looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).

Seek God's Will In All That You Do
And He Will Direct Your Path.

Stewardship - January 1, 2023

Regular Collection

\$9,078

Parish Needs

\$533

School Support

\$47

Flowers

\$55



**PLEASE SEND US ONLY 150
COPIES OF THE BULLETIN THAT WE
ARE SUBMITTING FOR
January 8, 2023**