

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 17, 2024

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER



CATHOLIC CHURCH

1120 MYRTLE WALK
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

Very Rev. Edward Chiffriller, SSJ
Pastor

Rev. Henry Ihuoma, SSJ
Parochial Vicar

stfrancixavierbr.org

PARISH OFFICE:

MRS. EBONY RILEY-COLEMAN- SECRETARY

1134 JULIA STREET

BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

8:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

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OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

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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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FAX: 225.383.1215

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MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY:

SUNDAY:

TUESDAY:

WED -FRI:

HOLYDAYS:

FRIDAY:

VIGIL ~ 5:00 PM

8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA- 5:00 PM

9:00AM AM

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

March 2024

17 Class - St. Patrick's Day

Saint Patrick, who lived during the 5th century, is the patron St. of Ireland and its national apostle. Born in Roman Britain, he was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave at 16. He later escaped, but returned to Ireland and was credited with bringing Christianity to its people.

In the centuries following Patrick's death (believed to have been on March 17, 461), the mythology surrounding his life became ever more ingrained in the Irish culture: Perhaps the most well-known legend of Saint Patrick is the Irish is that he explained the Holy Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) using the three leaves of the native Irish clover, the Shamrock.

Daylight Saving Time

The underlying reason for Daylight Saving Time—or “summer time” as it’s called in other places around the world - is to make better use of the daylight. Thus, clocks are changed in the spring to, essentially, shift an hour of daylight from the morning to the evening. Then, in the fall, we return to Standard Time and shift an hour of daylight back from the evening to the morning.

But first, let’s get one thing straight. It’s Daylight “Saving” Time, not Daylight “Savings” Time. No “S”. Adjective versus verb. Got it? Great :)

Deborah's Military Leadership

One of the most famous aspects of Deborah's story is her role in leading the Israelites in the military campaign against the Canaanites general Sisera. Under her guidance, the Israelite forces, led by Barak, one of the significant victories over the Canaanites at the battle of Mount Tabor. Sisera, the Canaanite general, played the ball and sought refuge in the tent of a woman name Jael where he was eventually killed.

Upon receiving instructions from God. Deborah called Barak, an Israelite warrior, to bring 10,000 troops Mount Tabor to attack Sisera, Jabin's commander of troops.

Barak responded by saying, if you will go with me I will go if not I will not go (Judges 4:8) in the next verse Deborah agrees to go to battle with Barak and the troops but shares with him, “however, there will be no glory for you in the course you are taking but then the Lord will deliver Sisera into the hands of a woman.” (Judges 4:9).

Judge and warrior Deborah went off to battle with Barak, and, as foretold in prophecy, Cicero bell at the hands of a woman but not Deborah. Rather it was Jael, the wife of clan leader, who would avenge the Israelites by driving a tent peg through Sisera's head with a mallet when he asked for water and respect.

Biblical commentaries and scholars disagree on Barak's acceptance of Deborah's battle leadership some feel that Barak respected her as a leader and properties and willingly heeded her call. Others, however, concluded that with his response and judges 4:8 pointed to his discomfort and taking orders from a woman despite the esteem she held she is held in.

Next issue: Song of Deborah

PRAYER LIST

John Paul Moore * Loraine Perry * Martha Proctor * Maria Rice * Whitney Robiho * Chavon D. White * Joyce Decuir

Catherine Murray * Betty Camble * Elouise Noel * Betty Dupas * Earl Bourgeois * Mary L. Boutte * Cecila Bazile

Richard Camble, Jr. * Elizabeth Whitfield * Elaine Johnson * Linda Gills-Beshears * Phyllis White * Mary E. Bourgeois



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.

Stations of the Cross on Fridays of Lent at 2pm.

Weekday Masses
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday at 9am

Scripture Readings For the Week of March 17, 2024

Sunday	Fifth Sunday of Lent Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33
Monday	Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62; PS 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday	Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Wednesday	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Jn 8:31-42
Thursday	Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 8:51-59
Friday	Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7; Jn 10:31-42
Saturday	Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13; Jn 11:45-56
Sunday	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1—15:47 or Mk 15:1-39

We are collecting candy and monetary donations for our Easter candy project. Please support this project.

We will have a Lenten Penance Service on Thursday, March 21 @ 6pm. Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of preparation for the Feast of the Resurrection.

During March 2024 **Trunk or Treat** will be selling raffle tickets for \$10 to win a sack of boiled crawfish with potatoes, corn and soda. Please support this fundraiser for 2024 Trunk or Treat.

Mass Intentions - March 16 - 19, 2024

Saturday	5pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	8am	Brenda Landry By: SFX Food Pantry
	11am	Geraldine Jack By: Children, grand & great grandchildren
Tuesday	5pm	Juanita Culbert By: SFX Food Pantry

Stewardship - March 10, 2024



Regular Collection
\$7,030
Parish Needs
\$35
Fish Fry & Donations
\$4751



Fifth Sunday of Lent Father, Forgive Them

The promise made by the LORD in the first reading is very bold. He says that all people shall know him, without having to be taught by others. He doesn't restrict the promise to only the holiest people: He says that the way people will know Him is through forgiveness of their sins. Remember, he is speaking to the Israelites, who had so many laws and commandments, they needed scribes and Pharisees to keep track of them. When they broke a commandment or law, they were isolated from the community. So the promise that God would place his law in their hearts meant they would be free to do God's will because they want to, not because they were feared punishment or rejection.

Jesus says something similar in today's gospel. He tells the disciples that his crucifixion would draw everyone to him. Now, Jesus' death showed that he took on the punishment for sins in place of us, who deserve it. In Luke's gospel he even prays for those who crucified him, asking God's forgiveness. (Lk 23:34) By dying on the cross, Jesus shows how much God loves us. By rising from the dead, he shows that we can rise from sin to a new life of faith and love.

Getting back to the first reading, we experience that promise when we bring our sins to God. When we forgive people who have hurt us, we also help them to experience that love. After all, if I can forgive someone, surely God will forgive them. We also help others to know God when we share or experience of being forgiven. Still not sure if God has forgiven you? The sacrament of Reconciliation gives us the assurance of God's forgiveness, as well as the experience. Along with the other sacraments, it helps us keep God's love in our hearts.

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