Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 15, 2026

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

The Josephites
josephite.com

Rev. Ugochukwu "Henry" Ihuoma, SSJ
Pastor

1120 Myrtle Walk
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

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: STFRANXAVIERCCD@BELLSOUTH.NET

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:	**Eucharistic Adoration—3:30 PM**

Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the 3rd 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
November 2026

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Coming to the end of the Church year, we can wonder how we got "extreme unction" out of "anointing of the sick." "Extreme" comes from a Latin phrase, *in extremis*, which in English refers to the last struggle of a dying person. "Last rites" is a phrase in common usage, and refers to the fact that years ago everyone waited until the last crisis of illness to summon the priest. The goal of anointing had always been healing and forgiveness, but in time it began to be seen as a preparation for death. In a hard world, almost anything from a hangnail to a sneeze could be life-threatening, so perhaps the change was inevitable. The emphasis on the penitential aspects was heightened, even to the odd practice of Rome in the twelfth century, when the sick person was sprinkled with ashes mixed with holy water and given a hair shirt as a sign of penance.

The reformers thankfully overlooked some of these oddities of history, and today the sacrament of the sick is much more generously applied to persons in a wide range of situations. Still, it is a sacrament of reconciliation, and for that reason is not celebrated for an infant or toddler, although there is a rite for a visit to a sick child not including anointing or Communion.
—Rev. James Field

SAINT OF THE WEEK
November 18

Pope Benedict once declared himself struck by how remarkably diverse our American saints are—some native born: Mother Seton, Katherine Drexel, Kateri Tekakwitha; most, like many Catholics today, immigrants: Padre Serra, Bishop Neumann, Mother Cabrini, Rose Philippine Duchesne. When the French Revolution that dispersed her convent ended, Rose joined the Religious of the Sacred Heart, volunteering for their United States mission, opening the first free school west of the Mississippi. Only after lengthy service as Superior did Rose—now seventy-one—realize her life's dream, undertaking a mission among the Potawatomi Indians. When some worried about her advanced age and failing health, the Jesuit mission leader overruled them: "She must come! She may not be able to do much work, but she'll bring the mission success by praying for us!" Frustrated by her inability to learn their languages, Rose nevertheless "spoke" to the Native Americans by her prayerful presence before the tabernacle. "Quah-kah-ka-num-ad," they named her, "Woman-Who-Prays-Always"—their way of bestowing the title the Church would later make official: saint! —Peter Scagnelli

PRAYER LIST

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

Elouise Noel * Betty Dupas * Fred Dejuan * Loretta Warren * Lorenzia Dardone, * Roslyn Jones *Robert Alfred *Walter Johnson

*Elizabeth Whitfield *Linda Gills-Beshears *Phyllis White * Mary E. Bourgeois *Easton Charles *Erica H. Louis *Russell Rice

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

All online methods are safe and secured. Thank you for your generosity!

SCAN ME

Parish Census

Have you submitted your census form? Remember to complete your census form by December 31. Please see the ushers for a form. Thank you.

Parish Fall Fair 2026

We want to use this opportunity to thank you all for supporting our Fall Fair 2026. Thanks to all our volunteers, sponsors, and parishioners that make our fair remarkable.

Thanksgiving Mass

Our Thanksgiving mass will be held on Thursday at 9 am. Please join us in giving God thanks for his goodness in our lives. Don't miss out.

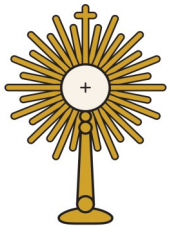
POSTPONED
SCHOOL GALA
City Club of Baton Rouge
SFXGala2026.netlify.app

POSTPONED

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"Register your child for the SFX School 2026-2027, The Mustang Experience Awaits You." For more information, visit 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

***Food Pantry Distribution, Thursday, November 19, 10 am.**
***Christ the King, Sunday, November 22.**
***First Sunday of Advent, November 29.**
***Feast of St. Francis Xavier, December 03.**
***Adoration, Praise, and Worship, Saturday, December 05, 3 pm.**

Mass Intentions
November 14-15, 2026

Saturday	**5 pm**	**Charles Gills** *By: Debra Johnson* **Johnny Narcisse** *By: Vernon Martin, Jr.* **Howard L. Louis** *By: Euradeen A. Stewart* **Aline "Cookie" Vaughn** *By: Family*
Sunday	**8 am**	**Ike Harris, Sr.** *By: Ike Harris, Jr.* **Red Bajoie** *By: The Fish Fry Committee*
	11 am	**The People of the Parish**

Stewardship
November 08, 2026

Regular Collection:	**$11,831.45**
Online Support:	**$2954.36**
Parish Needs:	**$98.00**
School Support:	**$80.00**

Thanks for your Generosity!

Today's Readings
Proverbs 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, Matthew 25:14-30

Use It or Lose It

When I hear the Gospel reading for this Sunday, I wonder what that third servant was doing all that time, after he buried the talent he was given. Probably nothing. What strikes me is that the word for money in this reading is "talent," which in our language is an ability or skill. So maybe this parable can remind us to use our abilities and not let them go to waste.

It is sad to see someone who is not very good at his job just because he never developed his inborn talents. But if you know what gifts or abilities God gave you, you can develop them to be much more than you expected. A person might be strong and fast, but if she exercises and practices, she could be a great athlete. The same with a spiritual gift. Just having one doesn't make you a saint. So how do you know what gifts you have?

First, ask God in your prayers to show you what gifts you have been given. Find a spiritual director, or even your parish priest, and talk about your life, your strengths and weaknesses. Read about saints and how they used their gifts to serve the Lord. Read the scriptures, especially the Acts of the Apostles or the Letters of Paul (e.g., 1 Corinthians 12:1–11). Listen humbly to friends or loved ones who can tell you what strengths they see in you.

Second, look for ways to use your gifts. Check the parish bulletin or website or your diocesan newspaper for activities and organizations that you could take part in. Hospitals, schools, shelters, and nursing homes frequently offer opportunities for volunteers. If one kind of service seems attractive to you, that could be God's way of telling you to try it. On the other hand, a job that seems very challenging could be what you need to stretch your spiritual muscles. Or you may see a need for some service that you can get started in the parish or community.

Just remember that you are called to service by your baptism and confirmation. Don't bury that calling by procrastinating or being afraid to try. Remember the "useless servant" with the one talent who was fearful and lazy (Matthew 25:25–26). At least he can remind us to use it or lose it.

By Tom Schmidt