ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON) PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD Staffed by the Josephites since 1952



4600 REED ROAD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77051-2857 Parish Office: 713.738.2311 Fax: 713.738.3337 Emergency Contact: 409.963.5633 CCE: 713.731.2775 Parish Hall: 713.731.2725 SVdP Food Pantry: 713.731.2716 WEB Address: http://www.sfxhouston.com E-MAIL: stfrancishou@sfxhouston.com Parish Office Hours: Tues-Wed 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Fri 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Closed on Mon & Thur Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/StFrancisXavierCatholicChurchHouston

MISSION STATEMENT

We, with the grace of the Holy Spirit, proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ as expressed in the beliefs and traditions of the Holy Roman Catholic Church. Through a passion for righteousness and consciousness of duty to God, we uphold the faithful worship of God in our mission to our church family and the Sunnyside Community.

YouTube: St. Francis Xavier Houston

PASTOR:

Vy. Rev. Michael Thompson, SSJ

DEACONS:

Michael V. Jenkins Darryl K. Drenon Frank J. Laugermann (Retired)

PARISH SECRETARY Shirley M. Foreman......x113

DIR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Unella Baber.....x103

ADULT FORMATION (RCIA) Deacon Michael V. Jenkins

SVdP FOOD PANTRY Curtis Jones 713.731.2716

CONTRIBUTIONS/MEMBERSHIP Agnes Thompson

HALL MANAGER Hilton S. Williams 713.542.0120

PLANT MANAGER/MAINTENANCE Curtis Jones

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE Sat: Vigil 5:00 p.m. Sun: 7:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

 Weekday:
 7:00 a.m.

 First Friday:
 7:00 a.m.

 Holy Days:
 7:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

One (1) hour before Weekend Masses or by appointment

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

First Friday: 7:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

CHOIR REHEARSALS:

Adult Choirs Wednesdays: 6:30p.m. Thursdays: 7:00p.m.

Youth Choir 4th Saturdays: 12:00 Noon

CHOIR DIRECTORS: Jerry Givens 281.772.9276 Daniel Guerrero 281.723.9948 Mikayla Peugh

BIBLE STUDY/ADULT CATHECHISM: SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

VISITATION OF THE SICK

Communion for the sick and shut-in is available. Please call the parish office to make arrangements.

MARCH 24, 2024

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the parish office for information. Preparation classes are required for parents and godparents. Classes are held on the 1st and 2nd Thursdays of the month from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Call the Parish Office to register for the class.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact a priest a minimum of six months prior to your proposed wedding date.

WELCOME VISITORS/NEWCOMERS

To register, call or come by the parish office or visit our website at:<u>www.sfxhouston.com</u>

GIVE without Cash or Check



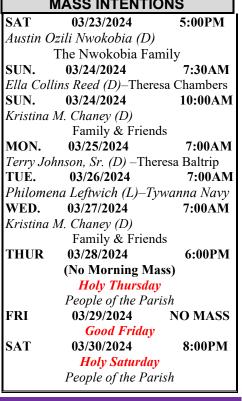
Text-to-Give Text \$ amount to 281-949-7600

(Text

Save the number as a contact in your mobile phone for easy giving.

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

MASS INTENTIONS





Palm Sunday – March 24 Chrism Mass – March 26 Mass7:00pm **Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart** Holy Thursday – March 28 Mass6:00pm (No Morning Mass) Good Friday – March 29 Stations of the Cross...... 2:00pm Passion Play......3:00pm Good Friday Service.....4:00pm (No Mass) Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil) March 30 Mass......8:00pm

(No 5:00pm Mass) Easter Sunday - March 31

Regular Mass Schedules 7:30am and 10:00am

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, March 16th and Sunday, March 17th was 619. The 7:30am Livestream received 111 views online. Please join us via YouTube Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church.

Dcn

Akaycia

Nathan

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



The Palm Sunday liturgy always focuses on the Passion, but we begin with а short reading from Isaiah, who prophesied of

March 24, 2024

a person who suffered terribly for faithfully speaking God's word. Sound familiar? Indeed, Saint Paul testifies that Jesus "humbled himself... to the point of death." Let today's scripture passages remind us of the physical and emotional suffering that our Lord endured in order to truly proclaim God's word.

Did you know that Catholics can make an Act of Spiritual **Communion?**

When unable to receive Holy Communion, pray the prayer below:

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, Come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

Stewardship Reflection

That we have the strength and courage to stand up for those in need of our help. "Pilate again said to them, 'Then what shall I do with the man whom you call the King of the Jews?' And they cried out again, 'Crucify him.'" - Mark 15:12-13 Jesus told us "whatever you do for the least of my brothers, you do for me." Every day we are presented opportunities to help someone. Every day we have the opportunity to see the face of Jesus in others and be the face of Jesus to others. Every day we pass by someone in need. Pray for the strength and courage to be the answer to someone's prayer.



Abram.

Addison, Azielee Addison,

Addison,

Addison IV, Mary Jane Albert, Alexis

Alfred, Hattie Blackmon, Savannah

Blackwell, Darryl Breedlove, Hazel S.

Brown, Michael Brown, Augustina

Buckman, Tommy Burton, Amber Byas,

Julius Cadoree, Margaret Cadoree, Nancy

Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Sterling

Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank

Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene

Davis, Lois Epps, Barbara Forte,

Lawrence Frank, Paul Garrick Jr,

Anthony Gobert, Betty Goodwin, Rose

Guidry, Beulah Hadrick, Mary Hamilton,

Alvin J. Hebert, Donald Henderson,

Anthony Hicks, Crystal Jackson, Jennifer

Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Brooke Joseph,

Shirley Ann Joseph, Kennedy Family

Members, Ann & Leo Kennerson, JoAnn

LaSane, Roy Lee, Hilary Ledet, Hazel

Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, John Logan,

Eugene Mallery, Charles Martin, Shannon

Martin, Mary Matthews, Diane Miles,

Dorothy Milstead, Cookie Mooring, Vy.

Rev. William L. Norvel SSJ, Michele

Nwokobia, Carolyn Ollison, Angela Pena,

Cynethia Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Robin

Pichon-Mosley, Catherine Pierre, Mildred

Pierre, Marcelle Prevost, Melody Ratcliff,

Elise Richmond, John & Christine

Roberts, Wilson Robertson, Oliver Rose,

Brian Russell, Grace Russell, Vy. Rev.

Michael K. Saah-Buckman SSJ, Joyce

Smith, Joyce Stagg, James Stelly, Jeffery

Steptoe, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedi

Swanks, Erma Taylor, Craig Temple,

Melvin Thomas, Gemma Walcott, Agnes

Williams, Patricia Williams, Terrell

Wilson, Janice Woods, and all the sick

and shut-in in our parish family. Let us

Know: Call the Parish Office when you

and/or a family member are ill, in the

Lord, we pray for all our current

military service members who put their own lives on the line every day to

protect our families and our country.

Army: Barbara Baber, Sade Beck, Wadie

Troy Butler, Patrick Clay Jr, Kalah A. Guidry,

Kerry Hubbard, Kory Hubbard, LaTroy King,

Gary Christian Robertson, Anthony Lamar

Smith II, Jordan T. McCorkle, Essence L.

Casteel Navy: Alvin Balthazar, Debreanna

Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett,

Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins-Camp,

Xavier Henry, Randolph J. Navy III, Anthony

Roderick Jones, Joshua Creeks, Joffre

Lander Marines: Reginald Ward

Air Force: Samuel Houston,

hospital, or having surgery.

N. Russell

Donald

Alfred

Kayne

Please

Pray

for...



NO CCE CLASSES – Easter Monday

Palm Sunday marks **UCRSRICE** the beginning of Holy BOWL Week. As we walk with Jesus this week, we remember the countless women, children and men who carry heavy crosses even today: crosses of hunger, of vulnerability to climate change, or of a lack of resources. Howlike Simon of Cyrene-can you help to carry the crosses of our sisters and brother in your local community and the world? Visit around www.crsricebowl.org to learn more.

Impostor Priest Email/Texting Scams

Recently, there has been an increase in reports of fraudulent email solicitations for financial support, usually in the form of gift cards. These reports are coming from email accounts or text messages identifying as Archdiocesan priests. To minimize fraudulent impact, pastors are encouraged to remind their membership that priests/churches would never make such appeals to the parish community. **Please notify the church office immediately** if they receive any unfamiliar donation requests.

PONTIFICAL GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land, where they are now less than 2% of the population. Your support is essential to help the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines of Christianity. For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit: www.myfranciscan.org





DONATIONS ARE NEEDED GREEN BEANS (gallon size) WHOLE KERNAL CORN (gallon size) CAKES (a day or two prior) Monetary Donations are Welcome We will do the shopping for you. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Congratulations to Knights and Ladies who have devoted **50 or more years** in service to the church and community as members of The Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary. We congratulate:

- Lady Evelyn Briggs
- Lady Louella H. Bernard
- Lady Mary Duplechain
- Lady Ollie Duplechain
- ♦ Lady Victoria Eaglin
- Lady Barbara Johnson
- Lady Gwen Reed-Lamothe
- Lady Florence McChristian
- Lady Theresa Rayme
- Lady Pamela Rems
- Lady Mary Grace Rodriquez
- ♦ Lady Grace Russell
- Lady Teresa D. Savoie
- Lady Eddie R. Wilson
- Knight Michael Dozier
- Knight Mitchell Duplechain
- ♦ Knight Edward Etienne
- Knight Joseph Rodriquez
- Knight Howard Lewis
- Knight Lawrence Johnson
- Knight Robert Harris

Thank you for your service!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK Sunday – March 24 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16 Isaiah 50:4-7 Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 Philippians 2:6-11 Mark 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39 **Monday** – March 25 Isaiah 42:1-7 Psalm 27:1-3, 13-14 John 12:1-11 **Tuesday** – March 26 Isaiah 49:1-6 Psalm 71:1-4, 5-6, 15, 17 John 13:21-33, 36-38 Wednesday – March 27 Isaiah 50:4-9 Psalm 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34 Matthew 26:14-25 **Thursday – March 28** Holv Thursday Isaiah 61:1-3, 6, 8-9 Psalm 89:21-22, 25,27 Revelation 1:5-8 Luke 4:16-21 Friday – March 29 Isaiah 52:13—53:12 Psalm 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25 Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 John 18:1—19:42 Saturday – March 30 (1) Genesis 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31 Psalm 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12-14, 24, 35 or Psalm 33:4-7, 12-13, 20, 22 (2) Genesis 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9, 10-13, 15-18 Psalm 16:5, 8-11 (3) Exodus 14:15—15:1 (Psalm) Exodus 15:1-6, 17-18 (4) Isaiah 54:5-14 Psalm 30:2, 4-6, 11-12, 13 (5) Isaiah 55:1-11

HOLY WEEK

(Psalm) Isaiah 12:2-3, 4-6

(6) Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4

Psalm 19:8-11

(7) Ezekiel 36:16-17, 18-28

Psalm 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or

Psalm (Isaiah) 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 or

Psalm 51:12-15, 18-19

(8) Romans 6:3-11

Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

(9) Mark 16:1-7

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church





PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (B) March 24, 2024

This Sunday we celebrate Palm Sunday. In the days following Palm Sunday, we journey with Jesus during his final days here on earth. We remember his passion, death, and resurrection. We will rise with him in the Paschal Feast

During these weeks we have been preparing with those who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This is an opportunity for all of us who are baptized in Christ to renew our commitment to him. At the heart of our faith is God's commitment to us in sending his only son to die for us. God's passion is that we will be one with Him. Jesus enters into our history to show us what it really means to be human. In essence, he shows us that sometimes we will be praised by the crowd and at the moment he needed them the most, they will shout- crucify him!

The Gospel tells us that Jesus enters triumphantly into Jerusalem riding on a borrowed donkey. Jesus was greeted by the crowds as they praised God and shouted "Hosanna!" All four Gospels record this event. This year we read the passion from Luke's Gospel. In the reading of the Passion, we hear the details of several events: Jesus' Last Supper, his prayer in the garden of Gethsemane, Judas's betrayal, the arrest of Jesus, Peter's denial of Jesus, and how Jesus was accused and sentenced to death. Through Jesus' death, we have been set free for holiness and life. Let's prayerfully listen to the reading of this Gospel. When Jesus died on the cross, he felt abandoned and alone, and he cried out to God. In his death, Jesus identified with all those who feel alone and abandoned in our world.

As a Church and as individual Christians here at St. Francis Xavier, we are called to look for ways to reach out to all those who feel alone, to share with them God's love and care. In the Gospel passage that we read today. Jesus' disciples do not show themselves as models of faith. As we look at their actions, we wonder if they can really continue Jesus' ministry after his death. Like the disciples, we too question our aptitude to do ministry like Jesus, with compassion and respect for others. Jesus knowing that he would be leaving us a legacy of faith and the Holy Spirit will guide us.

On Holy Thursday, we end our Lenten observance, and we will celebrate Jesus at the Last Supper, the disciples all said that they would not betray Jesus. Jesus preforms the ultimate act of humility as he washes their feet to express his love. He then comforted them even though their faith was to be shaken. Peter protested and said, "Lord, I will never betray you." Peter denied Jesus, and the disciples were not present during Jesus' passion and death. Only the women who had been followers of Jesus in Galilee are said to have been present at the Crucifixion, but they remained at a distance. In spite of this, Jesus still loves us and says we will be with him in God's kingdom.

During this Holy Week, let us reflect on how strong is our faith in Jesus when we see him suffering under the weight of the Cross? Are we still willing to stand by him even when it seems impossible for him to get out of this situation,? Have we forgotten all the times we saw miracles happen and how God removed us from situations that could cause us harm? Will you be there when they crucify my Lord? Are you willing to be there when they nail him to the Cross? Will you be there when they put him in the thumb. Oh yes! Sometimes it causes us to tremble, tremble, tremble. When we contemplate on our journey of faith. But, oh what a great comfort to know that we are there when that roll away the stone. And the Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, always have mercy on us.

Vy. Rev. Michael L. Thompson, SSJ

CONGRATULATIONS

KPC #138 Jr. Knights & Jr. Daughters

KPC #138 hosted the 2024 Jr. Texas State Conference at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. Listed below are our Jr. Texas State Conference Awards.

ELECTED OFFICERS

Jr. National Parliamentarian - Travis Washington Jr. Texas State President - Madison Guerrero Jr. Texas State Treasurer - Christian Holmes

Essay: Kassadi Neal - 1st Place Jailyn Sydnor - 1st Place Makai Guerrero - 2nd Place LaNiya Joseph - 2nd Place Aniyah Williams - 2nd Place

<u>Math:</u> Makai Guerrero - 3rd Place Christian Holmes - 3rd Place

<u>Science:</u> Travis Washington - 1st Place Blessing Mgbemje - 2nd Place Madison Guerrero - 3rd Place

<u>KPC Trivia:</u> Jeana Sydnor - 2nd Place

<u>Poetry:</u> Blessing Mgbemeje - 1st Place Dance (Group): - 1st Place Aniyah Williams Armonie Broussard Azmera Alleyne Jailyn Sydnor Jeana Sydnor Kassadi Neal Keira Neal LaNiya Joseph London Browder Madison Guerrero Makai Guerrero

<u>Dance (Group) - 2nd Place</u> Kassadi Neal Keira Neal

<u>Dance (Solo):</u> Makai Guerrero - 1st Place Arts & Crafts:

LaNiya Joseph - 1st Place London Browder - 1st Place Jailyn Sydnor - 1st Place Keira Neal - 2nd Place Jeana Sydnor - 2nd Place

<u>Photography:</u> London Browder - 1st Place Kassadi Neal - 2nd Place

<u>Paintings & Drawings:</u> Makai Guerrero - 2nd Place Madison Guerrero - 2nd Place Laniya Joseph - 3rd Place

JR. BRANCH #138 - OUTSTANDING JR BRANCH

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US



EASTER EGG HUNT

SUNDAY, March 31, 2024 AFTER 10:00 A.M. MASS

IN THE PRAYER GARDEN

EASTER EGG HUNT FOR CHILDREN UP TO 12 YEARS OLD. PLEASE BRING YOUR BASKET. WATER WILL BE PROVIDED.

SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY TWO EASTER BUNNIES

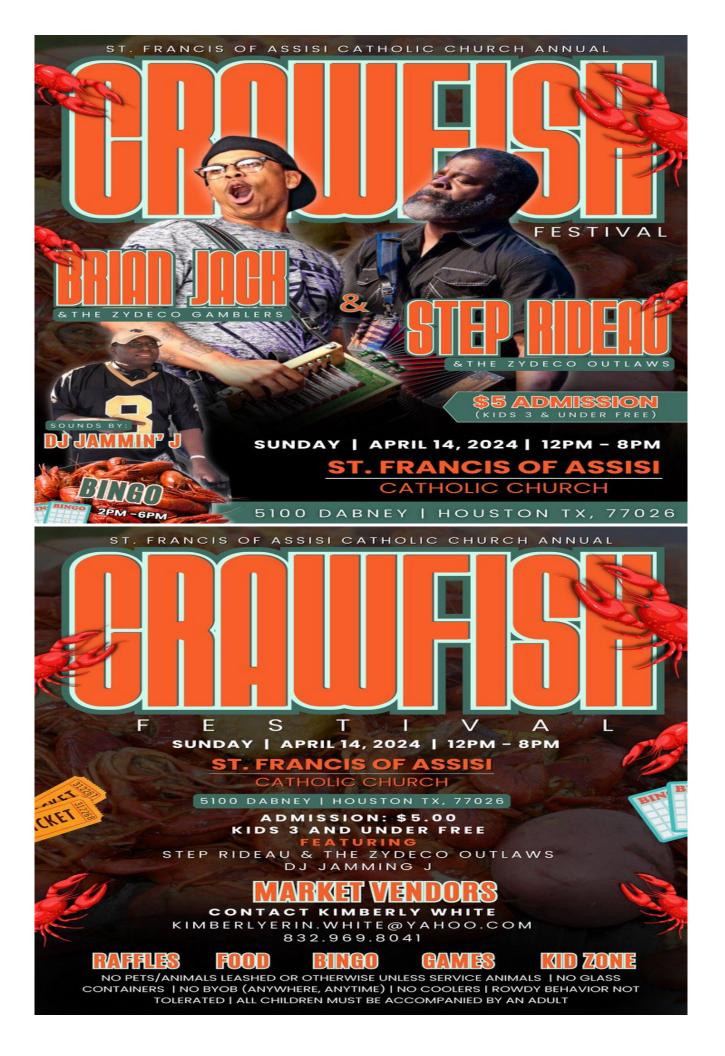
Bring your camera & take a picture with an Easter Bunny.





FIND the GOLDEN EGGS SUPRISES in two Golden Eggs. Sponsored by the Junior Knights & Junior Daughters Division Branch/Court 138 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church







Please support these businesses. They support our parish and community. For advertising information, contact the Parish Office at (713) 738-2311.