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(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

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FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 13, 2025



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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> YouTube: St. Francis Xavier Houston

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.

PASTOR:

Vy. Rev. Michael Thompson, SSI

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 (OCIA)

Deacon Michael V. Jenkins

SVdP FOOD PANTRY

Closed for Restructure

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 (Tue - Fri): 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

VISITATION OF THE SICK

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

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: www.sfxhouston.com



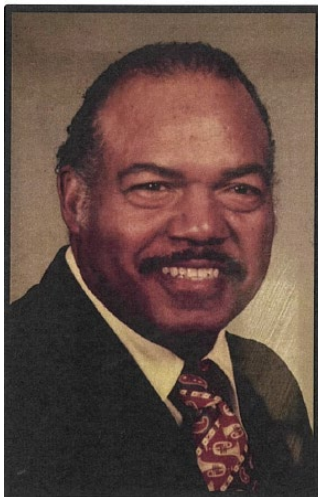
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MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	07/12/2025	5:00PM
<i>People of the Parish</i>		
SUN	07/13/2025	7:30AM
<i>Joe Mott (D) – Tywana Navy</i>		
SUN	07/13/2025	10:00AM
<i>The Mayon Brothers (D)</i>		
<i>Alton Mayon Family</i>		
TUE	07/15/2025	7:00AM
<i>Mary Mouton (D) – Tywana Navy</i>		
WED	07/16/2025	7:00AM
<i>Anita M. Bailey (D) – Tywana Navy</i>		
THUR	07/17/2025	7:00AM
<i>Ophelia Lazard (D) – Theresa Rayme</i>		
FRI	07/18/2025	7:00AM
<i>Beatrice Foreman Dugas (D)</i>		
<i>Shirley & Belinda Foreman</i>		
SAT	07/19/2025	5:00PM
<i>Joseph & Earlene Duplechaine (D)</i>		
<i>The Duplechaine Family</i>		



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CRISIS RESPONSE

Catholic Charities Galveston-Houston and social service agencies are stepping up to bring support and relief to those affected by the deadly floods in Central Texas. You can help by donating items that are needed most: Baby items, Hygiene products & Cleaning supplies. You can also make a financial gift to **Catholic Charities of San Antonio**. If you or someone you know has been affected by the floods and needs assistance, contact Catholic Charities of San Antonio at **210-718-5837**, which offers emergency financial assistance, funeral expenses, counseling assistance, legal services and other immediate needs.



Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee & Nathan Addison IV, Emmoree Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Joseph Alcendor, Clara Barras, Hazel S. Brown, Tommy Burton, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Sterling Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr, Shelton Darteze, Betty Davis, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Mary Duplechain, Lois Epps, Lawrence Frank, Paul Garrick Jr, Anthony Gobert, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, Beulah Hadrick, Mary Hamilton, Mason Harrison, Alvin J. Hebert, Donald Henderson, Anthony Hicks, Diane Houston, Crystal Jackson, Angela Johnson, Deacon Irvin Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Widney Jones, Brooke Joseph, Shirley Ann Joseph, Serral Landry, JoAnn LaSane, Barbara Laugermann, Elon Lawdins, Freda & Shirley Lawdins, Hilary Ledet, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Florence McChristian, Diane Miles, Dorothy Milstead, Cookie Mooring, Vy. Rev. William L. Norvel SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Angela Pena, Cynethia Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Robin Pichon-Mosley, Catherine Pierre, Michael Pierre, Mildred Pierre, Marcelle Prevost, Melody Ratcliff, Effie Rems, Elise Richmond, John & Christine Roberts, Louis Robinson, Oliver Rose, Brian Russell, Grace Russell, Vy. Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman SSJ, Kerry Samuels, Kevin Simon, Joyce Smith, Joyce Stagg, Jeffery Steptoe, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor, Melvin Thomas, Gemma Walcott, Herbert White, Agnes Williams, Patricia Williams, Eddie Rean Wilson, Terrell Wilson, Janice Woods, Alberta Zenon and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family.

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, Angel Guillory, 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, Alexander Guillory Jr, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins-Camp, Xavier Henry, Anthony N. Russell

Air Force: Samuel Houston, Roderick Jones, Joshua Creeks, Joffre Lander

Marines: Reginald Ward

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Having shared with the Chosen People the commandments that God spoke to him on Sinai, Moses tells them how simple it is to keep them. If they take them to heart, then they only have to act with all their heart. In Jesus' story of the good Samaritan, it is the Samaritan whose heart is moved with compassion and treats the injured man as God commands we must. May we take God's word to heart.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK**Sunday – July 13**

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 30:10-14

Psalms 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37

Col 1:15-20

Luke 10:25-37

Monday – July 14

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin

Ex 18:14-22

Psalms 124:1-3, 4-6, 7-8

Matthew 10:34-11:1

Tuesday – July 15

St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Ex 2:1-15

Psalms 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34

Matthew 11:20-24

Wednesday – July 16

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Ex 3:1-6, 9-12

Psalms 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7

Matthew 11:25-27

Thursday – July 17

Ex 3:13-20

Psalms 105:1 & 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27

Matthew 11:28-30

Friday July 18

St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest

Ex 11:10 – 12:14

Psalms 116:12-13, 15, 16, 17-18

Matthew 12:1-8

Saturday July 19

Ex 12:37-42

Psalms 136:1 & 23-24, 10-12, 13-15

Matthew 12:14-21



August 2 – Post Confirmation Retreat
10:00am (Includes last 5 years & OCIA Students)

KPC SCHOLARSHIPS

KPC Unit #138 Scholarship Applications are available in the vestibule of the church. Applications are due back no later than July 31, 2025.



Ashlyn Marie Aubrey (8yrs) received the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, July 6, 2025. Ashlyn is the daughter of Angela Loretta Aubrey. Godparents are Michael Beaudoin and Marie R. Thomas.



Wellness On Wheels Event (WoW)

July 18 2025 @ 8AM - 10AM
 World Harvest Outreach Church
 10800 Scott St Houston, TX 77047
 Harris County Public Health in partnership with the African American Health Coalition will be hosting a free mobile health services initiative called Wellness on Wheels, which aims to increase access to services among communities officials deem a priority.



Merlene Johnson passed away on July 7, 2025 at the age of 79. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, July 19, 2025 at 10:00am. Eternal rest grant unto her soul.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH FALL RAFFLE



Grand Prize!

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3rd Prize.....\$500.00 Gift Card
4th Prize.....\$400.00 Gas Card
5th Prize...\$300.00 Macy's Gift Card

Tickets are \$5.00 each or a book of 20 for \$100.00. Each household is asked to sell at least 2 books. Pick up Raffle Books after all Masses this weekend. Call the Parish Office if you would like to receive your Raffle Books in the mail. **Raffle Tickets will soon be available for purchase online as well.**

Drawing: October 19, 2025
Winner Need Not be Present!

BAZAAR TEAM MEETING

The next Bazaar Planning Meeting will be held on **August 5th**, at 6:00p.m. in the Harris Center Auditorium.

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 may strive to be more like the Good Samaritan, helping those in need, without expecting anything in return. "Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'" Luke 10:37 This was Jesus' command at the end of the Good Samaritan story. Did you know that the Samaritans and Jews despised each other? The moral of the story is to love our neighbor. That means loving someone you may not know, or someone that looks different than you, or someone that has different beliefs than you, or someone that you don't like. All without expecting anything in return.

Fresh Start Record Screening & Sealing

Fresh Start helps individuals change course after experiences with the criminal justice system by sealing their eligible criminal records and connecting them to vital community resources. The next **Fresh Start** is scheduled for Saturday, **August 2nd**, from 10:00am to Noon, at Harris County Jury Plaza, **1201 Congress St.** in downtown Houston. Online pre-registration opens at **Noon on Monday, July 14th**. Space is limited to 300 people and slots fill quickly. For more information or to register visit <https://www.ccl.hctx.net/freshstart.htm>

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, July 5th and Sunday, July 6th was **479** and the 7:30am Sunday Mass Livestream received **59** views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church.





Some reflections inspired by online copyrighted

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

When Jesus was telling this parable of the Good Samaritan, after saying that the priest and the Levite passed by, his listeners were probably expecting Jesus would then go on to say that a Jewish layperson came along and did the decent thing. The story would then have a more kind and positive tone, and it would have been appreciated by them. However, the story turned out to be much more subversive than that. It was not a Jewish layperson who responded to the broken traveler, but a despised Samaritan neighbor. A member of a group traditionally demonized by Jews showed what the keeping of God's law really meant in practice. When Jesus asked the Jewish lawyer, 'Which of the three do you think proved himself to be a neighbor?' he could not even bring himself to say, 'the Samaritan.' He simply said, 'the one who showed compassion.'

The story Jesus told, like all his parables, can be heard at many levels. One of the ways we can appreciate this story is to hear it as a reminder to us that those we are tempted to dismiss and look down on can often teach us what it means to live as God intends us to live. The Samaritan in the parable was an image of Jesus - just as Jesus is an image of God, as St. Paul reminds us in today's second reading.

Jesus, in drawing a picture of the compassionate response of the Samaritan to the wounded traveler, Jesus was drawing a picture of his own compassionate ministry. The parable suggests that Jesus figures can be found in unexpected places and come as unexpected servants. It invites us to recognize goodness wherever it is found, especially when it is found among those, we are prone to dismiss or reject.

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."

The parable also reminds us that help can come to us from unexpected persons. The wounded man in the parable was presumed to be a Jew. He would not have expected help to come from a Samaritan. We can sometimes make the same presumption in our own lives. At crucial moments we can receive help from people we would not have expected to help us. In our hour of need we can discover that our assessment of someone was unfair, that our

expectations of others were far too selfish. In the parable Jesus suggests that God can sometimes come to us in unfamiliar disguises, and that his compassionate love can be revealed to us by the outsider, the stranger, the one we would normally have considered enemy to us. There can be a resistance in us to receiving God's service at the hands of those from whom we feel alienated. When people with whom we are at odds reach out in us in our hour of need, we can be tempted to keep them at bay. The Jewish lawyer struggled to accept that God's compassionate presence could be revealed through the despised Samaritan. The parable calls on us to allow God to come to us in and through those of God's own choosing. The parable that Jesus tells, invites us to find our own self within the story, to identify with one or other of the characters there. In the story of the good Samaritan, we might be inclined at times to identify with the half-dead traveler. Life has a way of leaving us half-dead at times. If we are drawn to find ourselves there, by the roadside, we can make our own the prayer contained in today's responsorial psalm, *"Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live."* We might also need to pray for the willingness to accept God's compassion from whoever and whatever direction it comes.

However, today's parable more directly invites us to identify with the Samaritan. What Jesus said to the lawyer, he says to us all: 'Go, and do the same yourself,' in other words, 'Go, and be the good Samaritan.' We all have the potential to make tangible God's compassionate presence to others. The first step in doing that is to notice our brothers and sisters in need. It is first said of the Samaritan that he saw the traveler, he noticed him. Noticing is a small but significant first step. Yet, it is not enough just to notice, we must respond as well. The priest and the Levite(ministers) also noticed, they too saw the wounded person. What distinguished the Samaritan from them was that he allowed himself to be deeply moved by what he saw. Compassion involves that deep inner movement which comes from allowing ourselves to experience something of the pain of the other. That inner movement will lead to some form of outer movement; some proper action on behalf of the other. Such, according to the gospel reading, is the path to life, being good disciples of Christ. *Father Michael Thompson*



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**NEXT MEETING
JULY 22ND 2:00 PM**



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