

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

Staffed by the Josephites since 1952

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 18, 2025



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> 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, 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 (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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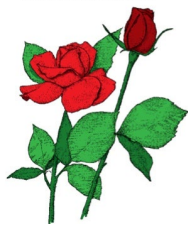
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MASS INTENTIONS

SAT.	05/17/2025	5:00PM
<i>People of the Parish</i>		
SUN.	05/18/2025	7:30AM
<i>Patrick Martell (D) – Joyce Martell</i>		
SUN.	05/18/2025	10:00AM
<i>Kristina M. Chaney – Family & Friends</i>		
TUE.	05/20/2025	7:00AM
<i>Jordan Anthony Demery (D)</i>		
Theresa Rayme		
WED.	05/21/2025	7:00AM
<i>Ezzard Sam (D) – Deborah Sam</i>		
THUR	05/22/2025	7:00AM
<i>Gloria Lazard (D) – Theresa Rayme</i>		
FRI	05/23/2025	7:00AM
<i>Stanley L. Simpson, III (D)</i>		
Red R. Simpson		
<i>Louis Robertson (D) – Rodney Batiste</i>		
SAT	05/24/2025	5:00PM
<i>Joseph Duplechaine (D)</i>		
The Duplechaine Family		

Mother's Day Intentions

Earlene Duplechaine
Keith Duplechaine & Family
Izola Remi & Pearl Stafford
Celeste Stafford

Unity Explosion 2025
Region X Conference

“Awake and Evangelize”

Through Faith, Hope and Love.

Yes! Unity Explosion continues!!! The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston Office of the Vicar for Catholics of African Descent will host the Unity Explosion 2025 Conference on evangelization and liturgy **June 18-20, 2025.**

The Bell Music Institute is included within the Unity Conference! Visit the website below for updates and registration:

<http://unityexplosion-regionx.com>

HOST HOTEL: Hilton Houston Clear Lake NASA, 3000 NASA Parkway Houston, TX 77058

[Unity Explosion 2025 Addendum](#)
[Booking Link](#)

Follow us on:

Facebook: [unityexplosionregionx](#)

Instagram: [unityexplosion](#)



Please
Pray
for...

Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee & Nathan Addison IV, Emmoree Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Mary Allen, Clara Barras, Hazel S. Brown, Tommy Burton, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Sterling Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr, Shelton Darte, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Dalton & Julia Dean, 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, Ernest & Jennifer Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Brooke Joseph, Shirley Ann Joseph, Marylyn Kimble, 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, Kennedy 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, Randolph J. Navy III, Anthony N. Russell **Air Force:** Samuel Houston, Roderick Jones, Joshua Creeks, Joffre Lander **Marines:** Reginald Ward

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus gives his disciples a new commandment: love one another. As his disciples now, we are commanded to do the same. May listening to God's word—of

Paul and Barnabas making disciples all over Asia Minor, of John's vision of God dwelling with the human race, and of Jesus' words to his disciples—strengthen our spirits as we live out that command.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
☐ **Sunday – May 18**

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 14:21-27

Psalms 145:8-13

Revelation 21:1-5

John 13:31-33, 34-35

☐ **Monday – May 19**

Acts 14:5-18

Psalms 115:1-4, 15-16

John 14:21-26

☐ **Tuesday – May 20**

Saint Bernardine of Siena, Priest

Acts 14:1-28

Psalms 145:10-13, 21

John 14:27-31

☐ **Wednesday – May 21**

Saint Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs

Acts 15:1-6

Psalms 122:1-5

John 15:1-8

☐ **Thursday – May 22**

Saint Rita of Cascia, Religious,

Acts 15:17-21

Psalms 96:1-3, 10

John 15:9-11

☐ **Friday May 23**

Acts 15:22-31

Psalms 57:8-12

John 15:12-17

☐ **Saturday May 24**

Acts 16:1-10

Psalms 100:1-3, 5

John 15:18-21



June 30.....6:00pm
10th Grade Additional CCE Class



Youth Choir will rehearse on Saturday, May 24th, at 11:30am in the Harris Center Room 125.

ST. Francis Xavier Altar Server Ministry is Looking for You!



Have you completed all three (3) of your basic Sacraments:

- Baptism
- Reconciliation
- Holy Eucharist

Come and be a part of an exciting, yet faithful Ministry! Contact Mrs. Wanda Johnson at (832) 492-5088. *"All for the Honor and Glory of God"*



The 55 Plus Club is hosting a Casino Bus Trip to Live Casino-Hotel in Bossier City, Louisiana

on June 10-12, 2025. Two-night, Double Occupancy, and Roundtrip Bus Fare is included in the cost of \$300.00 per person. The \$100.00 deposit deadline has been extended to **May 30, 2025**. Contact Wanda Johnson, (832) 492-5088, or Julia Dean, (713) 530-4877, for additional information.

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, May 10th and Sunday, May 11th was **640** and the 7:30am Sunday Mass Livestream received **62** views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church.

Journey to Second Chance MINISTRY



The Journey to Second Chance Ministry will provide outreach and support to the formerly incarcerated and their families on Wednesday, **May 21st**, from **10:00am to 2:00pm** in the Harris Center Room 125. Job placement interviews, clothing & shoes, counseling, partner outreach, and notary services will be provided to help you on your JOURNEY TO SECOND CHANCE.



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MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS EVENT

May 24, 2025 11:00am-4:00pm

10023 South Main St Houston 77025
This free, family-friendly event is designed to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and promote mental wellness through a day of connection, education, and joy. The **SFX Second Chance Ministry** is participating as a Vendor for this event. Activities will include:

- Expert speakers
- Mental health screenings
- Wellness workshops
- Resource booths
- Family games, food, and giveaways

Get Free Tickets Here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mental-health-awareness-stronger-minds-brighter-futures-end-the-stigma-tickets-1316815072329>



St. Francis Xavier Church is hosting a Blood Drive Donor Coach on Sunday, **June 29th**, from **8:30am to 1:00pm**.

Successful donors will receive points towards a \$25 e-gift card & complimentary A1C testing! Appointments are preferred, but Walk-ins are welcome. Complete your Health History Interview before you come in for your donation. Go to www.cflexpress.giveblood.org and complete the same day as your appointment. Scan below for an appointment. Sponsor Code:2389.



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

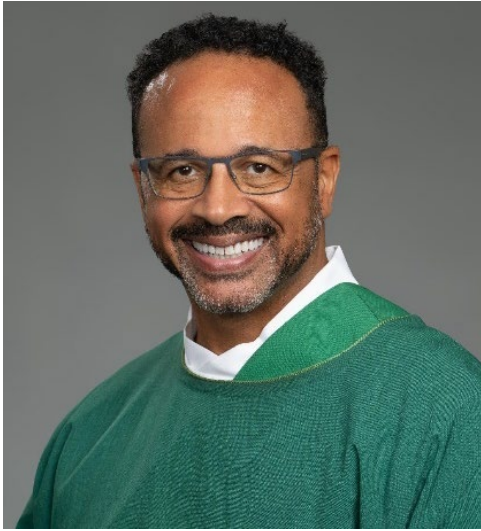
That we have the courage to love someone that I don't like, I don't know, or doesn't look like me. "I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." (John 13:34) "As I have loved you," this is the hard part – Jesus's love is unconditional; our love usually comes with strings attached. It is easy to love someone when they love you back. But it takes mercy and compassion to love someone when you feel unappreciated, feel used or feel like your opinion doesn't matter. It takes courage and the grace of God to "love my neighbor" when they may be someone you don't like, someone you don't know, or someone that doesn't look like you.



To *Cry Out with Joy to the Lord!* is to recognize and thank Him for His abundant gifts. This joy springs from our grateful hearts and reminds us to pause and appreciate God's countless blessings – even the small, everyday miracles that reflect His love for us. As we cultivate gratitude, we create space for even greater joy in our lives. Please consider making your gift in the parish, or online at www.archgh.org/dsf, and join our mission to be Christ's hands and heart in our community.

SCAN HERE TO GIVE





FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 18, 2025

Love in Spite Of, Not Because Of

Happy Sunday! In today's Gospel, Jesus tells His disciples, **"I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another."** That's not just a suggestion; it's a call to a different kind of love. Not a *"because of"* love, but an *"in spite of"* love.

Too often, we love people *because of* something, because they treat us well, because they agree with us, because they fit neatly into our world. But Jesus doesn't love like that. Jesus loves in *spite of*; in spite of betrayal, in spite of denial, in spite of sin.

Brothers and sisters, think about it...He washed Judas' feet, knowing Judas was about to betray Him. He welcomed Peter back, even after Peter denied Him three times. That's agape love, which is unconditional, sacrificial, and undeserved.

And that's the love we are called to show.

Why? Because that's how God loves *us*. We weren't created out of obligation; we were created out of love. God didn't have to make us, but He wanted relationship with us. And not just with *Him*, but with *each other*. We were made to be in communion, to love and be loved.

Jesus says, **"This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."** Not by how holy we look, or how much we know, but by how we love. Real love. In spite of love. So how do we live that out?

First, **remember how God loves you.** He didn't wait for you to be perfect. He loved you at your worst and still does. Let that humble you and soften your heart toward others.

Second, **choose love, even when you don't feel it.** "Agape" love isn't a feeling; it's a decision. You won't always feel like forgiving, or listening, or being kind, but love shows up anyway.

And third, **stay in community.** God didn't create just one person. He made us for relationship. Church isn't just about coming to Mass; it's about growing in love together. That's where we practice patience, mercy, and grace. Our world is filled with conditional love; love that divides, judges, and disappears when things get hard. But we are called to something better. When we love in spite of, we reflect the heart of Jesus, and we give the world a glimpse of God.

Let's be that kind of community at St. Francis Xavier. Let's love not, because it's easy, but because it's who we're called to be. In spite of. Not because of. Just like Jesus.

Amen.

Deacon Darryl



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

Join a group of wonderful people like you, working together to serve our neighbors in need. See the people you help face to face and make a direct impact on their lives.

Anyone with a heart for service is welcome in the Society.

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**WE MEET EVERY 4TH TUESDAY
OF THE MONTH AT 2:00 PM**

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Be the face of Christ.

SVDP

↗ www.svdphouston.org

SCAN HERE FOR INFORMATION



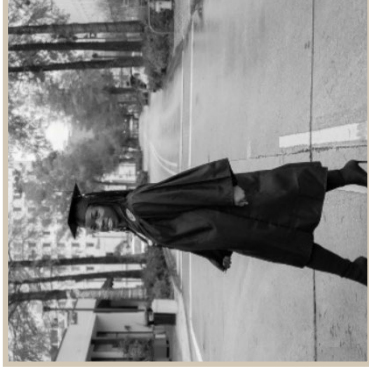
**NEXT MEETING
MAY 27TH 2:00 PM**

OUR COLLEGE & HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



**TAMARA MONIQUE
ARMELIN**

Tamara is graduating from The University of St. Thomas with a Doctorate in Education & Ethical Leadership. Tamara is a member of Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society.



**JAMILIA CHRISTINA
SONNIER**

Jamilia has graduated from National University in San Diego, California with a Master of Arts in Psychology, Specialization in General Psychology. Jamilia is an Honor Society Graduate with a 3.7 GPA.



DALAYSHA DOZIER

Dalaysha is the daughter of Yvonne Dozier. Dalaysha is graduating from Manvel High School. She plans to attend Prairie View A&M University in Prairie View, TX, where she will pursue a degree in Nursing. Dalaysha has been awarded a Certificate of Completion in Medical Assistant.



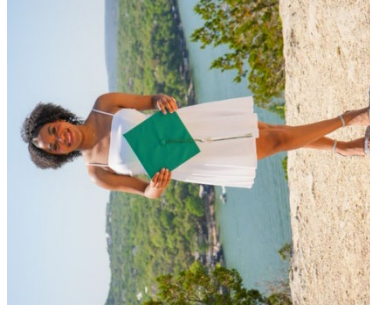
NAUSHUA EARL PETERS

Naushua is the son of Ricky & Cyd Peters. Naushua is graduating from Manvel High School. He plans to attend Alvin Community College in Alvin, TX.



REGIS S. PENN

Regis is the son of Everette & Tracy Penn. Regis is graduating from Strake Jesuit College Preparatory High School. He plans to attend the US Naval Academy. His awards and accomplishments include: Eagle Scout, Proficiency in Mandarin Chinese, National Honor Society and School Newspaper Editor.



JAILYN SYDNOR

Jailyn is the daughter of Janice Dozier. Jailyn is graduating from Spring High School in the Top 5% of her class. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Drill Team Captain and has received the Texas State University Distinguished Scholarship Award. Jailyn plans to attend Texas State University.

OUR MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADUATES



BRIONNE GRACE DRENON

Brionne is the daughter of Deacon Darryl & Margaret Drenon. Brionne is graduating from St. Thomas More Parish School where she is a member of the National Junior Honor Society, Faculty Honor Roll and Athlete of the Year. She plans to attend St. Agnes Academy.



HARLEY QUINN WILTZ

Harley is the daughter of David & Valencia Wiltz. Harley is graduating from Rodeo Palms Jr High School. She plans to attend Manvel High School. Her achievements include Science Master and Excellence in Math.



JASON NICHOLAS PEUGH

Jason is the son of Jason & Nyamekye Peugh. Jason is an Honor Roll student, graduating from St. Thomas More Parish School. He plans to attend St. Thomas High School.



JOSHUA VINCENT PEUGH

Joshua is the son of Jason & Nyamekye Peugh. Joshua is an Honor Roll student, graduating from St. Thomas More Parish School. He plans to attend St. Thomas High School.

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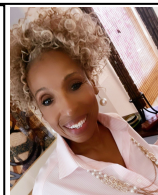


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