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(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

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THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 25, 2026



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Emergency Contact: 409.963.5633 CCE: 713.731.2775
Parish Hall: 713.731.2725 SVdP Conference: 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)

SACRISTAN

Orell Dargin

PARISH SECRETARY

Shirley M. Foreman.....x113

BOOKEEPER

Stacie Boisseau.....x109

DIR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Unella Baber.....x103

ADULT FORMATION (OCIA)

Deacon Michael V. Jenkins

Tierra Ledet

ST VINCENT de PAUL CONFERENCE

Erica Smith

CONTRIBUTIONS/MEMBERSHIP

Agnes Thompson.....x107

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Hope Jackson

HALL MANAGER

Hilton S. Williams 713.542.0120

PLANT MANAGER/MAINTENANCE

Curtis Jones/Eugene Wilson

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 DIRECTOR:

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	01/24/2026	5:00PM
	<i>People of the Parish</i>	
SUN	01/25/2026	7:30AM
	<i>Ezzard Sam (D) – Lydia & Roger Sam</i>	
SUN	01/25/2026	10:00AM
	<i>Andrew O. Nwokobia (D)</i>	
	<i>Nwokobia Family</i>	
TUE	01/27/2026	7:00AM
	<i>Cody Lee (D) – The LaSane Family</i>	
WED	01/28/2026	7:00AM
	<i>Deliverance/Protection for the Charles Family – Cynthia Charles</i>	
THUR	01/29/2026	7:00AM
	<i>Beatrice Foreman Dugas (D)</i>	
	<i>Shirley & Belinda Foreman</i>	
FRI	01/30/2026	7:00AM
	<i>Deliverance/Protection for the Charles Family – Cynthia Charles</i>	
SAT	01/31/2026	5:00PM
	<i>Deacon Daryl Drenon (L)</i>	
	<i>Special Intention</i>	

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

Happy Anniversary!
January 31st
Deacon Darryl Drenon
(11 years)



The Funeral Mass for **Ms. Phyllis Moore** is scheduled for January 31, 2026 at 10:00am. Viewing will begin at 8:45am. *Eternal rest grant unto Phyllis, O Lord, and perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

MASS INTENTION REQUESTS

We have several open dates available for Mass Intentions. Access the online software via this link:

<https://web4ucorp.com/massintentions/sfxhouston>. The required donation for each Mass is **\$10.00**. You can pay online using the Donation Link, or you can mail your check to the Parish Office.



Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee & Nathan Addison IV, Emmoree Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Joseph Alcendor, Clara Barras, Ivy Bobb, Hazel S. Brown, Tommy Burton, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Sterling Dotson-Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Dalton & Julia Dean, Mary Duplechain, Lois Epps, Saquara Fields, Paul Garrick Jr, Anthony Gobert, Valerie Williams Goode, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, Beulah Hadrick, Perry Hall, Mary Hamilton, Mason Harrison, Cheryl & Eric Henderson, Donald & JoAnne Henderson, Anthony Hicks, Diane Houston, Al Jackson Jr, Crystal Jackson, Angela Johnson, Deacon Irvin Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Brooke Joseph, Serral Landry, JoAnn LaSane, Barbara Laugermann, Hilary & Patricia Ledet, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Donald May, Diane Miles, Dorothy Milstead, Cookie Mooring, Debbie Morris, Very Rev. William L. Norvel SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Angela Pena, Cynethia Pichon, Margie Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Robin Pichon-Mosley, Catherine Pierre, Michael Pierre, Mildred Pierre, Marcelle Prevost, Melody Ratcliff, Effie Rems, Elise Richmond, John & Christine Roberts, Wilson Robertson, Louis Robinson, Oliver Rose, Brian Russell, Grace Russell, Very 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, 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: Sade Beck, Wadie Troy Butler, Patrick Clay Jr, Kalah A. Guidry, Angel Guillory, LaTroy King, Essence McMillan, Gary Christian Robertson, Anthony Lamar Smith II

Navy: Alvin Balthazar, Debreanna Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett, Mason Guidry, Alexander Guillory Jr, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins-Camp, Xavier Henry, Anthony N. Russell, Robert Lee Smith

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

Marines: Reginald Ward

THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

As we begin this final week of January, it does our hearts good to hear that a great light has shone through darkness and gloom. We realize, though, that Isaiah is speaking of the Lord, especially after Matthew

writes in the Gospel that Jesus fulfills this passage. He is the light of the world, shining throughout Galilee, peaching repentance, calling disciples, proclaiming the gospel, and healing the sick. We also hear Paul urge the Corinthians to unity. In Christ, we have enlightenment, unity, and salvation. On this Sunday of the Word of God, may God's word light our way.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK**Sunday – January 25**

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 8:23—9:3

Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14

1 Cor 1:10-13, 17

Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

Monday – January 26

Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishop

2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5

Ps 96:1-3, 7-8, 10

Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday – January 27

Saint Angela Merici, Virgin

2 Sm 6:12-15, 17-19

Ps 24:7-10

Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday – January 28

Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest,

Doctor of the Church

2 Sm 7:4-17

Ps 89:4-5, 27-30

Mk 4:1-20

Thursday – January 29

2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29

Ps 132:1-5, 11-14

Mk 4:21-25

Friday January 30

2 Sm 11:1-4, 5-10, 13-17

Ps 51:3-7, 10-11

Mk 4:26-34

Saturday January 31

Saint John Bosco, Priest

2 Tm 12:1-7, 10-17

Ps 51:12-17

Mk 4:35-41



January 26.....6:00pm

6th – 10th CCE CLASSES

January 31

NO CCE CLASSES

February 2.....6:00pm

6th – 10th CCE CLASSES-Circle of Grace

February 7.....9:30am

PreK – 5th CCE CLASSES-Circle of Grace

February 9.....6:00pm

6th – 10th CCE CLASSES-Black History Program

February 14.....9:30am

PreK – 5th CCE CLASSES-Black History Program

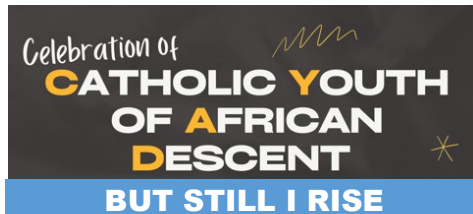
February 16 & February 21

NO CCE CLASSES

2025-2026 OCIA CLASSES

January 29.....6:00pm

February 5.....6:00pm



We are excited to invite all Middle & High Schoolers to our Celebration of Catholic Youth of African Descent on **February 21st** in the Parish Hall. It's a day for teens to celebrate their faith, culture and community. Contact Ms. Unella Baber in the CCE Office for more information or to register.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

The St. Francis Xavier St. Vincent de Paul Conference will meet on Tuesday, **January 27th**, at 2:00pm in the Harris Center Auditorium. The Conference is still in the development stage and anticipates going operational after the 2nd quarter of the year.

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, January 17th and Sunday, January 18th was **410**. Please join us via YouTube Livestream, or bring a friend to come and worship with us in the church.

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

We will celebrate Black History Month again this year by recognizing our **Historically Black Colleges & Universities**, our **Divine 9 Sororities and Fraternities** and our traditional **Black History Month Attire** on the following weekends:

Jan 31-Feb 1: HBCU Weekend



Feb 7-8: Divine 9 Weekend



Feb 14-15: Traditional Black History Month Attire



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 faithfully follow Jesus, wherever and whenever He calls. "He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed Him." Matthew 4:22 Just as Jesus called the first apostles, He calls each of us to follow Him, too. Not everyone is called to leave their business or family behind, but we are expected to put God first in everything. In gratitude to God, we should give our first and best of everything to Him: our time in daily prayer, our talent in participating in one of our parish ministries and our treasure to support the financial needs of our parish mission.



The **55+ Club** will host a Bus Trip to Delta Down in Lake Charles, LA on Saturday,

February 7th. The Bus will load at **6:30am** and depart from St. Francis Xavier at **7:00am**. The Cost is **\$45.00** per person. Seats are available. Contact: Wanda Johnson @ (832) 492-5088.

HICC MARDI GRAS DANCE

Houston Texas – Houston Inter-City Councils & Courts announces our Mardi Gras Dance, Saturday, **January 31, 2026**, from 7:30pm to 11:30pm. The dance will be held at St. Francis of Assisi Parish Hall, 5102 Dabney St. Tickets are \$35.00 each. The attire is "*Boots on the Ground*" Western Wear with a mix of the Mardi Gras colors. For additional information contact Knight Paul H. Ledet, Jr. at phledet64@aol.com.



Some reflections inspired by online copyrighted commentaries and homilies

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

In the Book of the Gospels, the word “disciple” usually refers to those who followed Jesus around Palestine and who listened to his teaching and wanted to know more about his message. At one point in the Gospel of Luke, we hear of Jesus sending out seventy-two of his disciples to hand on the Gospel message to those living in the various villages.

Once they have fulfilled their mission, they return rejoicing saying that ‘even the demons submit to us in your name.’ The Apostles, however, are those whom Jesus has specially sent out as his representatives. The word Apostle means ‘one who is sent’ but perhaps it has more of the meaning of an ambassador rather than a messenger boy. An Apostle represents his leader and can in certain circumstances stand in for him. Today we regard the bishops and priests as the successors of the Apostles through Apostolic Succession, and we must hold them in remarkably high esteem, as we regard them through their ordination rite, as Christ’s official representatives to us. They become depositors of the faith and promoters of the sacraments, from baptism to reconciliation. We are told that Jesus began his teaching with the message, ‘Repent for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.’

This is very much along the same lines as the teaching of John the Baptist who preaches a remarkably similar message in the Gospel two Sunday’s ago, of repentance. It seems then that this is the precondition before anyone can truly accept Jesus’ message; they must repent. What we repent of is, of course, our sins. We come to the realization that we can only live decent and proper and truly fulfilled lives if we follow God’s laws. We discover for ourselves that God makes these laws not for any arbitrary reason but because his laws are in our own best interests and that following them is the only way to achieve true happiness.

Once we have expressed sorrow for our sins, we can then start living our lives following Christ’s Gospel of love. We too are called to discipleship and to spread the gospel message of love. It is then that we begin to understand that following his teaching brings us great rewards. Although the things Christ tells us seem to be the opposite to the way the world sees things, we discover that they actually bring us more fulfillment than anything the world could offer.

The basis of Christ’s teaching is that the strongest bond in the world is the bond of love. He tells us too that God especially loves the poor. Although the poor will always be with us, we are to recognize them as Christian brothers and sisters, God’s own people as well.

He also instructs us to love our enemies. He urges us to put great faith in the power of prayer. The strength we receive to do the work of missionary discipleship come from prayer and faith in our call from God. He reveals to us that it is the hidden things that are the most important of all, and he recommends that we put our trust in the spiritual and not the material. All these things are part of his Gospel as well as many other truths such as his teaching that status and worldly power are without merit in God’s eyes. He invites us to live our lives with truth and justice as our main priorities, and he tells us to prefer doing good to others than striving to achieve our own grandiosity.

When we start to live our lives in this way we find that we become more true disciples and we want to share Christ’s insights with others. We do not pass on this teaching as if we were sales associates with a product to peddle or authoritarian types who want to impose these rules of life on those who are not naturally disposed to receive them. No, the way of a true disciple of Christ is the way of gentleness and love.

We get our message across by simply suggesting these ideas to those around us, we do not ever impose them on others. I recall the words from the song, “...and they will know we are Christians by our love....” We show that these teachings are worthwhile through the example of our lives and not by means of long sermons. We show profound respect to our brothers and sisters in the human family, and we speak to them words which demonstrate Christian love living out the values of the Gospel.

We speak to them words of forgiveness, words of hope, words of charity, words of truth and love. Because we know that it is only by living the out values of the Gospel as well as we can that we will be able to give an authentic example of what it is to be a Christian Disciple. This is what it means to be a true Apostle of the Gospel of Jesus.

Very Rev. Michael L. Thompson, SSF

A MASS OF REMEMBRANCE



Twins, Noah and Naomi Knighten, proclaimed the Readings for the 41st Observance of the Annual Celebration honoring the birthday of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on January 18, 2026 at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart.

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GOOD GAME *Super Bowl Dinners* GOOD FOOD



KPC JRS. FUNDRAISER

February 7th and 8th
Saturday 4pm to 7pm
Sunday 8 am to 12pm

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