

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

Staffed by the Josephites since 1952

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 17, 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:

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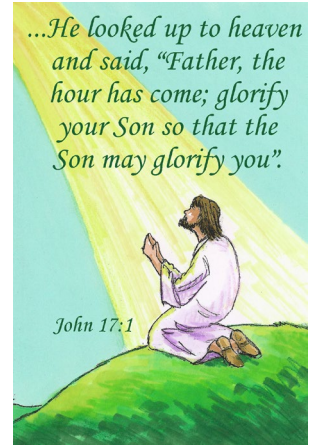
Save the number as a contact in your mobile phone for easy giving.

MASS INTENTIONS		
SAT	05/16/2026	5:00PM
<i>The Soul of Florence McChristian (D)</i> Theresa Rayme		
SUN	05/17/2026	7:30AM
<i>Cedric Jerome Henderson (L)</i> The Henderson Family		
SUN	05/17/2026	10:00AM
<i>Luevenia Marcel-Lewis (D)</i> The Marcel Family		
TUE	05/19/2026	7:00AM
<i>Earline Duplechaine (D)</i> - Tywana Navy		
WED	05/20/2026	7:00AM
<i>Vivian Willis (D)</i> – Annette Willis		
THUR	05/21/2026	7:00AM
<i>Deliverance and Protection for the Charles Family (L)</i> – Cynthia Charles		
FRI	05/22/2026	7:00AM
<i>Irma Charles (D)</i> – Charles Family		
SAT	05/23/2026	5:00PM
<i>People of the Parish</i>		



Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee & Nathan Addison IV, Emmoree Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Joseph Alcendor, Vea Barksdale, Clara Barras, Milton E. Bessard, Hattie Blackmon, Ivy Bobb, Rose Braxton, Hazel S. Brown, Dylan Broussard, Tommy Burton, Jimmy Byas, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Joanna Cook, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Marlene Davis, Dalton & Julia Dean, Joseph Dixon, Atrica Dozier, Mary Duplechain, Lois Epps, Lawrence Forbes, Paul Garrick Jr, Anthony Gobert, Valerie Williams Goode, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, Beulah Hadrick, Mary Hamilton, Mason Harrison, Cheryl Henderson, Donald Henderson, Edmonia Henderson, Anthony Hicks, Diane Houston, Al Jackson Jr, Crystal Jackson, Angela Johnson, Deacon Irvin Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Brooke Joseph, Louella Kelly, Serral Landry, JoAnn LaSane, Barbara Laugermann, Hilary & Patricia Ledet, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Donald May, Diane Miles, Cookie Mooring, Debbie Morris, Carolyn Ollison, Angela Pena, Cynethia Pichon, Margie Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Robin Pichon-Mosley, Catherine Pierre, Michael Pierre, Mildred Pierre, Marcelle Prevost, Melody Ratcliff, Susan Rawls, 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, Melonie Sawar, Mary Sias, Kevin Simon, Joyce Smith, Joyce Stagg, Jeffery Steptoe, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedy Swanks, Erma Taylor, Melvin Thomas, Terral Thomas, Gemma Walcott, Herbert White, Patricia Williams, Terrell Wilson, Janice Woods, Alberta Zenon and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family.

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Our first reading tells us what Jesus' disciples did after he was taken up to heaven. They returned to Jerusalem, went to the upper room where they were staying, and joined the

Blessed Mother and those who hear and keep God's word to pray devoutly with one accord. Let us now with one accord prayerfully listen to God's word.



VINCENT EDWARD LANDRY
1965 - 2026



AGNES MARIE WILLIAMS
1945 - 2026

Lord, we pray for all our military service members who put their own lives on the line to protect our families and country.
Army: Sade Beck, Jacc Blanks, 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, Debreaanna 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

- READINGS FOR THE WEEK**
- Sunday – May 17**
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Acts 1:12-14
Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8
1 Pt 4:13-16
Jn 17:1-11
 - Monday – May 18**
Saint John I, Pope, Martyr
Acts 19:1-8
Ps 68:2-3, 4-5, 6-7
Jn 16:29-33
 - Tuesday – May 19**
Acts 20:17-27
Ps 68:10-11, 20-21
Jn 17:1-11
 - Wednesday – May 20**
Saint Bernardine of Siena, Priest
Acts 20:28-38
Ps 68:29-30, 33-36
Jn 17:11-19
 - Thursday – May 21**
Saints Christopher Magallanes, Priest and Companions, Martyrs
Acts 22:30; 23:6-11
Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11
Jn 17:20-26
 - Friday – May 22**
Saint Rita of Cascia, Religious
Acts 25:13-21
Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20
Jn 21:15-19
 - Saturday May 23**
Acts 28:16-20, 30-31
Ps 11:4-5, 7
Jn 21:20-25



If you are still considering the **Pilgrimage to South Africa** with Father Michael, time is getting short to register! We are just five (5) months away from the travel date of **October 17, 2026**.

Steps For Registration

- Call (855) 842-8001 or register online at www.proximotravel.com with a credit card and pay your \$500 deposit per person to save your spot. The \$500 deposit is part of the total price of the trip.
- A \$1,000 Additional Deposit (AD) per person is due one month from the registration. The AD is paid **ONLY** in the form of check (personal, money order, or bank check).
- The balance is due 4 months before the trip departure date. The balance is paid **ONLY** in the form of check (personal, money order, or bank check).
- Mail all checks and correspondence to: **Proximo Travel**
PO Box 561
Auburn, MA 01501



KPC 138 Scholarships will be awarded to students who plan to attend a 4-year College/University, Junior College/Community College, or any accredited Business, Vocational or Technical Training program. **Applications must be returned by July 31, 2026**. Applications are available in the Lobby of the Church, the Harris Center.

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, May 9th and Sunday, May 10th was **647**. The 7:30am Mass Livestream on Sunday received **55** views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream or bring a friend to come and worship with us in the church.



Andrew Alexander passed away on May 10, 2026, at the age of 69 yrs. Mr. Alexander is the Brother of Curtis Jones. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

Ira C. Drenon passed away on May 12, 2026, at the age of 90 yrs. Mr. Drenon is the Father of Deacon Darryl Drenon. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

2026 RAFFLE

**Knights of Peter Claver
Ladies Auxiliary Council & Court #138**

Win Gift Cards - \$11,000.00
1st Place-\$5000.00 2nd Place-\$2000.00
3rd Place-\$1000.00
4th Place thru 9th Place-\$500.00

******* TICKETS - \$100.00*******

DRAWING – Sunday, June 28, 2026
Only 250 tickets will be sold
Contact:
Theresa Chambers (713) 857-2787
Curtis Jones (713) 417-8341

**Tickets will be available for purchase in the lobby of the church on the following dates: May 17, 23, 24, 30, 31
June 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28**

Need Not be Present to Win



The **Stewardship Committee** will meet on Tuesday, **May 19th**, at 6:00pm. Anyone who signed up for this Committee at the recent Ministry Fair is invited to attend.

IN THE ONE, WE ARE ONE
IN ILLO UNO UNUM

SCAN HERE TO MAKE A GIFT

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.

Stewardship Reflection

That we learn to pray not only in bad times, but also in good times. Pray for family, friends and those that may not treat us well. "I am praying for them..." John 17:9 Prayer is the foundation of our Faith and the foundation of Stewardship. Prayer is always the first best option in any situation - not just our last resort. Pray for friends and family, and especially for those that don't treat you very well. Pray to give praise, to thank, and to ask God for help. Pray to see what God wants you to do with the gifts He has given you. Teach others how to pray. It has been said that teaching someone how to pray is the best gift you can give someone.



Today we take up the collection for the **Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC)**. Your support helps CCC fulfill its mission of love to share the gospel message of hope with people in the United States using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half the funds we collect remain here in the Galveston-Houston Archdiocese to support local efforts. The other half support the communication activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and other projects across the United States and abroad. Be part of this campaign to spread the gospel message! Support the collection today! Learn more at www.usccb.org/cc.



Some reflections inspired by online copyrighted commentaries and homilies

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord Jesus (Cycle A)

For the disciples, the Ascension of Jesus involved another moment of letting go. When Jesus died on the cross, they believed they had lost him forever. Then, unexpectedly, he appeared to them again, risen from the dead. Over a period of time, he revealed himself to many of his followers in a transformed, yet recognizably bodily, way.

In the first reading, we hear that the risen Lord was taken up before the eyes of the disciples, and they stood gazing into the sky. Their lingering gaze suggests an unwillingness to let that visible connection with Jesus end. Having once thought they would never see him again, they now wanted to hold on to his presence for as long as possible.

Yet this period of visible appearances was drawing to a close. As the disciples continued to look upward, two men in white addressed them: “Why are you standing here looking into the sky?” This question gently redirects them. If they wish to encounter the Lord from now on, they must look elsewhere.

The second reading points to where the disciples are to look: to the Body of Christ, the Church. At his Ascension, Christ bestowed gifts upon his followers. As Saint Paul tells us, each person has received a share of grace according to Christ’s gift. Through the sending of the Spirit, these gifts formed the Church, the living Body of Christ, of which we are all members through baptism.

It is now through his Body, the Church, that the risen Lord remains present and visible in the world. Rather than searching the skies, we are called to recognize Christ in one another. The baptized are meant to be a living sacrament of Christ’s presence, making him known through faith, service, and love.

We naturally want those we love to remain visible to us. Seeing a familiar face often means more than messages or phone calls. That is why, in airport departure lounges, we watch loved ones for as long as we can. The disciples’ gaze into the sky reflects that same human longing.

It was to this imperfect and hesitant group that Jesus made his enduring promise: “I am with you always, until the end of time.” The Church needs to hear this

promise repeatedly, especially when we become aware of our shortcomings and failures.

To these same disciples, Jesus entrusted an immense mission: to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to live according to his commands. The feast of the Ascension celebrates Christ’s confidence in his Church—flawed though it is—and in us who carry on that mission today. This responsibility belongs not only to the ordained, but to all who are baptized. To be a disciple is to help form other disciples. Parents who present their children for baptism respond directly to this call. Those who are baptized must be helped to grow in faith, and the primary place for that growth is the home, supported by the wider Church community.

Those who are not parents share in this mission in other ways—by encouraging, supporting, and strengthening the faith of others through prayer, witness, and service. Together, we help one another become more faithful disciples. As we carry out this work, we rely on the Lord’s promise that sustains us still: “I am with you always, until the end of time.”

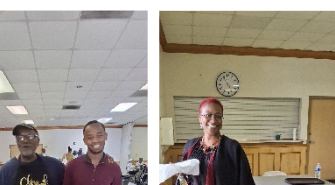
The Acts of the Apostles says that when they went back to Jerusalem, they gathered in an upper room where they were constantly devoting themselves to prayer. For us too, waiting on the Lord takes the form of prayer. In prayer we open ourselves to receive from the Lord all that we need in order to be his witnesses in the world.

That is why prayer is at the heart of our lives as Christians, whether it is the public prayer of the church, such as the Eucharist, or our own personal prayer. We often think of prayer as asking God for something. That is one aspect of prayer.

More fundamentally, though, prayer is about waiting. Prayer is more about waiting on what the Lord wants to give us than about asking him for what we want. Such prayer of waiting does not always need words. It is an attitude of heart, and silence can express that attitude of heart more fully than any words we might speak. We know from our own experience that waiting on others is often best done in silence. The feast of the Ascension invites us to enter more fully into that prayer of waiting as we prepare ourselves for the feast of Pentecost next Sunday.

Thank *Just* Moms

MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST 2026





St. Francis Xavier JOURNEY TO SECOND CHANCE...We're BETTER TOGETHER!!

Let's *SHAKE* the *SHAME*

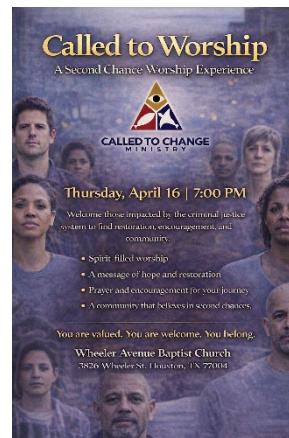
You're not *ALONE*

Share your *GIFTS*



We can make a difference!! Our JOURNEY begins with taking the first step... we're so MUCH BETTER when we come TOGETHER!! Here's a few shots of our JOURNEY TO SECOND CHANCE MINISTRY joining hands with SUNNYSIDE MULTI SERVICE CENTER, WHEELER AVE BAPTIST CHURCH CALLED TO CHANGE MINISTRY, THE AFRICAN AMERICAN WELLNESS AGENCY, CROSSWALK RE-ENTRY, SPEAKING BOLDLY and making a difference in OUR communities!! ACTION speaks LOUDER than words!!

Journey to Second Chance Ministry
Attn: Sharon Zenon
4600 Reed Rd
Houston, TX 77051
szenon@sfxhouston.com



BLOOD DRIVE

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church
4600 Reed Road, Houston

Saturday, July 25
8:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Mobile Collection Bus on site

For appointments scan the QR code or visit:

[TinyURL.com/SFX725](https://tinyurl.com/SFX725)



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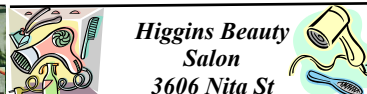
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