

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

*Staffed by the Josephites since 1952*

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

APRIL 5, 2026



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 Conference: 713.731.2716  
WEB Address: <http://www.sfxhouston.com>  
E-MAIL: [stfrancishou@sfxhouston.com](mailto: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

4<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.sfxhouston.com)

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



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

MASS INTENTIONS		
SAT	04/04/2026	5:00PM
<i>Joseph &amp; Earlene Duplechaine (D)</i> The Duplechaine Family		
SUN	04/05/2026	7:30AM
<i>People of the Parish</i>		
SUN	04/05/2026	10:00AM
<i>People of the Parish</i>		
TUE	04/7/2026	7:00AM
<i>Kimberly Harris (L) – Mary Provost</i>		
WED	04/08/2026	7:00AM
<i>Lloyd Eubanks (D) – Tywana Navy</i>		
THUR	04/09/2026	6:00PM
<i>Mary C. Green (L)</i> Red Simpson & Family		
FRI	04/10/2026	NO MASS
<i>Timothy Burriss (L) – Stephanie Goodwin</i>		
SAT	04/11/2026	8:00PM
<i>Deacon Albert Henry (D) – The Family</i>		



Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee & Nathan Addison IV, Emmoree Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Joseph Alcendor, Clara Barras, Milton E. Bessard, Hattie Blackmon, Ivy Bobb, Hazel S. Brown, Dylan Broussard, Tommy Burton, Jimmy Byas, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Sterling Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Dalton & Julia Dean, Atrica Dozier, Mary Duplechain, Lois Epps, Paul Garrick Jr, Anthony Gobert, Valerie Williams Goode, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, Beulah Hadrick, Mary Hamilton, Brittany Jacob Hardeman, Mason Harrison, Cheryl Henderson, Donald 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, Lester Mose, 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 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, Terrell Wilson, Janice Woods, Alberta Zenon and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family.

**EASTER SUNDAY  
OF THE RESURECTION  
OF THE LORD**



Over the last week we have journeyed with the Lord and his disciples through all the pivotal events that have led to this day. We welcomed him into Jerusalem, ate his Body and drank his Bood at the first Eucharist, prayed with him as he approached the cross, witnessed his crucifixion, and wept with his mother as his body was laid in the tomb. On this most holy day, we join with Mary Magdalene, Simon Peter, and John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, in rushing to the empty tomb to see for roursleves the miracle of the Resurrection.

"Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.'"  
MATTHEW 28:7, NV



**GEORGE J. BREAUX "SHORTY"**  
1939-2026



Mary Densman passed away on March 31, 2026 at the age of 77yrs. Mary served as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion for the 10:00am Mass. *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

**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, 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, 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

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Sunday – April 5**  
*Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord*  
Acts 10:34, 37-43  
Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23  
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6-8  
Jn 20:1-9 or 41; Mt 28:1-10
- Monday – April 6**  
Acts 2:14, 22-33  
Ps 16:1-2, 5-7, 11  
Mt 28:8-15
- Tuesday – April 7**  
Acts 2:36-41  
Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22  
Jn 20:11-18
- Wednesday – April 8**  
Acts 3:1-10  
Ps 105:1-4, 6-9  
Lk 24:13-35
- Thursday – April 9**  
Acts 3:11-26  
Ps 8:2, 5-9  
Jn 24:35-48
- Friday – April 10**  
Acts 4:1-12  
Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27  
Jn 21:1-14
- Saturday April 11**  
Acts 4:13-21  
Ps 118:1, 14-15, 16-21  
Mk 16:9-15



April 4 & April 6  
**NO CCE CLASSES-EASTER HOLIDAY**

April 11.....9:30am  
 PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> CCE Classes  
 April 13.....6:00pm  
 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> CCE Classes  
 April 18.....9:30am  
 PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> CCE Classes  
 April 20.....6:00pm  
 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> CCE Classes  
 April 25.....9:30am  
 Last Day for PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> CCE Classes  
 April 26.....10:00am  
 First Holy Communion Mass  
 April 27.....6:00pm  
 Last Day for 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> CCE Classes  
 May 16.....5:00pm  
 Confirmation Mass



**Ministry Fair**

The *St. Francis Xavier Ministry Fair* is scheduled for Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00am to 1:00pm in the Parish Hall. All Ministry Heads are invited to the Final Planning Meeting on Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00pm in the Harris Center Auditorium. Please plan to attend this very important meeting.

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**VOTER EDUCATION INITIATIVE**

The Houston Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. will be with us on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, after all Masses as part of their *Second Sundays* initiative. Sorority members will be available to help register voters, check voter registration status, Provide voter education, and answer questions about the voting process.



will be served.

**Ministers of Hospitality** will meet on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30am in the Harris Center Auditorium. Brunch

**2026 RAFFLE**  
 Knights of Peter Claver

Knights of Peter Claver – Ladies Auxiliary Council & Court #138  
**Win Gift Cards - \$11,000.00**  
 1<sup>st</sup> Place-\$5000.00 2<sup>nd</sup> Place-\$2000.00  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place-\$1000.00  
 4<sup>th</sup> Place thru 9<sup>th</sup> Place-\$500.00

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

**DRAWING – Sunday, June 28, 2026**  
 St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church  
 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:**  
 April 11, 18, 19 (in the Parish Hall), 25  
 May 2, 3, 9, 10, 17, 23, 24, 30, 31  
 June 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28

*Benefiting KPCLA Initiatives*  
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**IN THE ONE, WE ARE ONE**  
 IN ILLO UNO UNUM



Your donation to DSF will support these **Teaching, Evangelizing and Worship ministries:** •Apostleship of the Sea •Catholic Schools Office •Chapels (Holy Cross and Warren) •Communications Office •Ecumenism Commission •Office of Evangelization and Catechesis •Office of Worship •Pastoral and Educational Ministry

Your donation to DSF will support these **Ministering to the Poor, the Sick and the Incarcerated ministries:** •Angela House •Catholic Chaplain Corps •Catholic Charities •Correctional Ministries •Foreign Missions •Office of Justice & Peace/Catholic •Campaign for Human Development •Our Daily Bread •San José Clinic •Special Youth Services •St. Dominic Center for the Deaf

These are only **18** of the **64** ministries supported by DSF.  
 50% of every gift made by a first time giver is returned directly to the parish!

**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 put God first in everything and not let earthly possessions become gods to us. “Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.” Colossians 3:2 Do you put God first in all things? Possessions, money, power, ego can easily become gods to many of us. Do a quick check of what is important to you. Is God at the very top of the list? If not, your priorities need to be readjusted. Don’t let earthly things become a god before God. This is also the first commandment – I am the Lord your God, you shall not have any strange gods before me.



Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make the Lenten Fish Fry a success! This is our second biggest fundraiser, and we could not do it without dedicated, hard-working volunteers. As we pull together the financial report, we applaud you and thank God for your continued support each and every Lenten season.

**ATTENDANCE**

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> was **619**. The Sunday 7:30am Livestream received **45** views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream or bring a friend to come and worship with us in the church.

*Happy Easter*





## EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (Cycle A)

The death of a loved one can be one of the most distressing experiences of life. The landscape of our life changes, as someone who has been such a vital presence for us is no longer visibly there. It can take time to begin to live with the loss and re-orientate us. That is probably how the disciples of Jesus felt after his cruel death at the height of his human powers. The one who had given meaning to their lives was gone. The men seemed to have gone into hiding after Jesus' crucifixion.

The women, in contrast, rendered Jesus a final service; they visited his tomb as soon as the Sabbath was over to anoint his body with their spices. They were paying their respects to his mortal remains, which is what people have always done when a loved one dies. It was a conventional and reassuring service to the deceased. Similar reassuring acts of loving service by men and women for the living and the deceased have been a light in the darkness of these recent difficult days and weeks. Yet, what the women discovered early on that first day of the week was not, initially, reassuring to them. They found that the tomb of Jesus was empty. All four gospels tell the story of the women's discovery of Jesus' empty tomb slightly differently. According to John's account, which we have just heard, the first thing Mary Magdalene did on discovering Jesus' empty tomb was to run from the tomb. Thinking the body of Jesus had been stolen, she had to tell her strange tale to the other disciples. It was only after the risen Jesus appeared to them that the women and the other disciples understood why the tomb was empty. Jesus had passed beyond death into a new kind of life, a glorious life. What happened on that first Easter morning was far more than the disciples could have imagined.

What happened on that first Easter Sunday had enormous implications not only for those first disciples but for all of us who are trying to be the Lord's disciples today. On the cross Jesus absorbed all human sin. In his resurrection from the dead, he defeated sin with life-giving love; he showed that God's love cannot be shut up in a tomb. Because of Jesus' resurrection, we can be sure that God's love present in Jesus is stronger than sin and death. Jesus' resurrection assures us that beyond death there is new life, beyond darkness there is light, and beyond sin there is forgiveness. Jesus died and rose from the dead out of love for us all, so that we might have life and have it to the full. His resurrection shows us that our own death, like his death, can be a gateway to a new form of life. Not only can we look forward to this new life as our ultimate

destiny, but we can begin to experience this new life in the course of our earthly lives.

The feast of Easter invites us to be alert to the unique way that the risen Lord wants to touch our lives. We are invited to open ourselves to the Easter life that the risen Lord offers us, with all its hopes and possibilities. As an Easter people, we are full of hope, because each of us can say with Saint Paul, 'I can do all things through him who gives me strength.' We can live already, here, and now in the strength of the Lord's risen life, while looking forward to its fullness beyond death.

It is also true to say that if the crucifixion reveals the faithfulness of Jesus to all of us, his faithful love for us, the resurrection reveals the faithfulness of God the Father to all of us. In raising Jesus from the dead, God the Father ensured that the life-giving movement that Jesus began would endure to embrace future generations, including all of us here today. If God had not raised his Son from the dead, Jesus would have been reduced to an historical footnote.

Without the discovery of the empty tomb on that first Easter Sunday, with all it stood for, the gospel would not have been preached, the church would not have been born, and we would not be gathering here this morning. As Paul writes to the church in Corinth, 'if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain, and your faith has been in vain.' Easter is by far the most important feast in the church's calendar. A whole season is given over to the celebration of this feast. This season of Easter lasts seven weeks, extending from today, Easter Sunday, until Pentecost Sunday.

During this Easter season we give thanks to God who, in raising Jesus from the dead, assures us that he can raise us from death also. Because of that first Easter, we live in the assured hope of sharing in the risen life of Christ, beyond our earthly lives. Because of that first Easter we also believe that God can work powerfully in all our own Calvary experiences. We each travel our own way of the cross from time to time. Like Jesus on his way to Golgotha, we can experience hostility, misunderstanding, rejection, desertion by former companions, betrayal, and isolation.

Easter assures us that God works to bring new life out of the suffering and loss we experience, as he brought Easter Sunday out of Calvary. In that sense, Easter invites us to expect to be surprised by God here and now, as Mary Magdalene was on that first Easter Sunday.

*Very Rev. Michael L. Thompson, SSJ*

# Are you ready for a FRESH START?



FREE

## WHAT IS FRESH START?

Fresh Start helps individuals get back on track after experiences with the criminal justice system by sealing their eligible criminal records and connecting them to community resources. Our goal is to help people meet their basic needs and become more productive citizens, which reduces recidivism and makes our community safer.

## REGISTRATION

- Online registration is required for criminal record screening: [ccl.hctx.net/FreshStart.htm](http://ccl.hctx.net/FreshStart.htm).
- Registration is only open at designated times.
- Space is limited, and seats fill extremely fast.

## SCREENING & ELIGIBILITY

- Eligibility is determined by state law. We cannot admit you into the program if you are not legally eligible.
- Criminal records must be from Harris County. Records from other counties and states do not qualify for this program.
- Eligibility results will be emailed to you. You may receive them as late as the Tuesday before the event. Be sure to enter your email correctly on the registration form and check your inbox and junk mail regularly.

## RESOURCES

- Learn more: [ccl.hctx.net/FreshStart.htm](http://ccl.hctx.net/FreshStart.htm)
- Get registration reminders: [bit.ly/FreshStartAlerts](http://bit.ly/FreshStartAlerts)
- Review FAQs: [ccl.hctx.net/fsfaq.html](http://ccl.hctx.net/fsfaq.html)
- Contact us: [FreshStart@ccl.hctx.net](mailto:FreshStart@ccl.hctx.net)

## 2026 FRESH START CRIMINAL RECORD SCREENING AND SEALING DATES

REGISTRATION	EVENT	LOCATION
Feb. 2, 2026 12 p.m.	Feb. 21, 2026 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.	
April 27, 2026 12 p.m.	May 16, 2026 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.	Harris County Jury Plaza 1201 Congress St.
Aug. 3, 2026 12 p.m.	Aug. 22, 2026 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.	Houston, Texas 77002
Oct. 26, 2026 12 p.m.	Nov. 14, 2026 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.	

**SCAN FOR MORE INFO** >>>



LEARN MORE: [CCL.HCTX.NET/FRESHSTART.HTM](http://CCL.HCTX.NET/FRESHSTART.HTM)



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John & Gloria Marcel

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Agnes B. Taylor / My Mother

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PRESIDENT & CEO



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Herman J. Mabrie, III, M.D. Justin Mabrie

*We encourage you to come by for a tour, reach out for at-need service coordination, or meet with us to develop a pre-need plan.*



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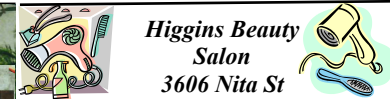
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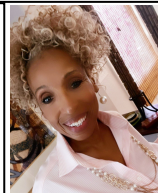


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