

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

Staffed by the Josephites since 1952

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 19, 2026



4600 REED ROAD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77051-2857
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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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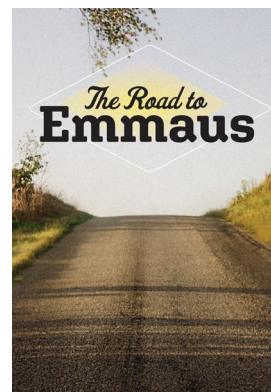
Save the number as a contact in your mobile phone for easy giving.

| MASS INTENTIONS | | |
|--|-------------------|----------------|
| SAT | 04/18/2026 | 5:00PM |
| <i>Soul of Florence McChristian (D)</i> Sheila McDaniel, Court 91, Alex, LA | | |
| SUN | 04/19/2026 | 7:30AM |
| <i>Agnes Thompsom (L) – Special Intention</i> | | |
| SUN | 04/19/2026 | 10:00AM |
| <i>Ezzard Sam (D) – Gracie Sam</i> | | |
| TUE | 04/21/2026 | 7:00AM |
| <i>Deliverance & Protection for the Cynthia Charles Family (L) – Cynthia Charles</i> | | |
| WED | 04/22/2026 | 7:00AM |
| <i>Irma Charles (D) – Abra Charles</i> | | |
| THUR | 04/23/2026 | 7:00AM |
| <i>Gussie Charles (D) – Abra Charles</i> | | |
| FRI | 04/24/2026 | 7:00AM |
| <i>Deliverance & Protection for the Cynthia Charles Family (L) – Cynthia Charles</i> | | |
| SAT | 04/25/2026 | 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, Clara Barras, Milton E. Bessard, Hattie Blackmon, Ivy Bobb, Hazel S. Brown, Dylan Broussard, Tommy Burton, Jimmy Byas, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Dalton & Julia Dean, Atrica Dozier, Mary Duplechain, Lois Epps, Eugenia Forbes, 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, Edmonia 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, Stella Linden, Eugene Mallery, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Donald May, Nona Mayberry, Diane Miles, 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, 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, Kennedy Swanks, Erma Taylor, Melvin Thomas, Terral 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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



As we listen to God's word today, let us imagine the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, who were able to hear God's word directly from the risen Lord. Their hearts burned as he spoke to them

of the Hebrew scriptures. May our hearts burn with joy as we realize Christ's presence in the proclamation of God's word.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday – April 19

Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 2:14, 22-33
Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11
1 Pt 1:17-21
Luke 24:13-35

Monday – April 20

Acts 6:8-15
Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30
Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday – April 21

St. Anselm, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
Acts 7:51-8:1
Ps 31:3-4, 6, 7 and 8, 17 and 21
Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday – April 22

Acts 8:1-8
Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7
Jn 6:35-40

Thursday – April 23

St. George, Martyr
St. Adalbert, Bishop & Martyr
Acts 8:26-40
Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20
Jn 6:44-51

Friday – April 24

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest & Martyr
Acts 9:1-20
Ps 117:1, 2
Jn 6: 52-59

Saturday April 25

St. Mark, Evangelist
1 Peter 5:5-14
Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17
Mk 16:15-20



MARY ANN DENSMAN
1949 - 2026



Deacon's Birthday!

Wednesday, April 29th
Mark your calendars
and wish a Happy Birthday to
Deacon Darryl Drenon!

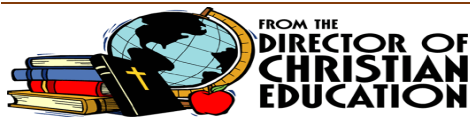
Lord, we pray for all our current military service members who put their own lives on the line every day to protect our families and our country.

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



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



First Communion

We will have seven (7) CCE students receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time at the **10:00am Mass** on Sunday, **April 26th**. Join us as we celebrate these young people as they move one step closer in their walk of faith.



Three (3) new members of our Church Family received the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, April 12, 2026. Pictured with their Parents and Godparents are (L-R):
Patrick Ibrahim Ashiru (11 mos)
 Patrick’s parents are Patrick & Albany Ashiru, his Godparents are Michael Broussard and Celena Rivers.
Jo’Vonni Michael White (16 yrs) and Jamiyah Rachelle Mouton (12 yrs)
 Jo’Vonni & Jamiyah’s parents are Joshua & Jamilia Sonnier, their Godparents are Louis Hill and JoAnne Henderson.

STATEMENT FROM THE JOSEPHITES

The Josephites join the universal Church in offering our prayerful support and deep respect to Pope Leo XIV, entrusted with the spiritual leadership of the global Catholic Church. In this moment of grace, we reaffirm our communion with the Holy Father and our shared mission to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ with fidelity, courage, and hope.

We remain steadfast in our commitment to the teachings of the Gospel and the living tradition of the Church as safeguarded by the teachings. In a world often marked by division and competing ideologies, we are reminded that our first allegiance is not to political frameworks, but to the person of Jesus Christ, whose truth transcends every human system.

We encourage all the faithful to remain deeply rooted in prayer, formed by Sacred Scripture, and open to the transforming grace of the Holy Spirit. It is through this spiritual grounding that we discern rightly, act justly, and bear witness to the dignity of every human person.

Guided by the example of Pope Leo XIV, may we continue to be a Church that listens, accompanies, and evangelizes – faithful to Christ and attentive to the needs of the world.

Saint Joseph’s Society of The Sacred Heart



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.



Next week we will take up the **Catholic Home Mission Appeal**. Today, nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories are unable to fund the essential pastoral work their communities need. Your support for this appeal helps them meet these faith formation and sacramental needs. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal. Find more information at www.usccb.org/home-missions.

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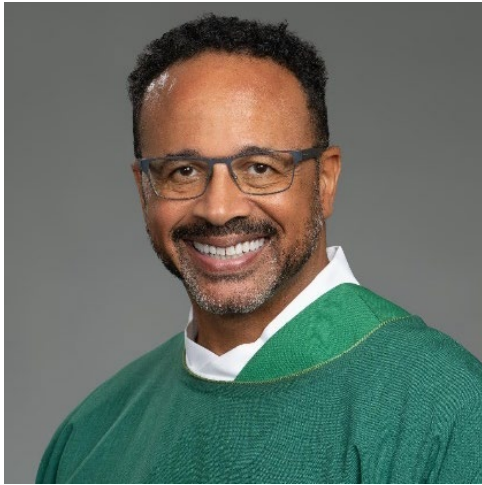
DRAWING – Sunday, June 28, 2026
Only 250 tickets will be sold
Contact:
Theresa Chambers (713) 857-2787
Curtis Jones (713) 417-8341

Tickets will be available for purchase in the lobby of the church on the following dates:
April 25
May 2, 3, 9, 10, 17, 23, 24, 30, 31
June 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28
Need Not be Present to Win

CRS RICE BOWL
 As we end our Lenten journey, let us reflect on what it has meant for us and how the pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving impact not only our lives but also the lives of our sisters and brothers in our local community and around the world. Your gifts to CRS Rice Bowl help communities in more than 120 countries overcome the challenges of hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity. Please return your Rice Bowl Donation Boxes no later than Sunday, **April 26, 2026**.

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, April 11th and Sunday, April 12th was 494. The 7:30am Mass Livestream on Sunday received 75 views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream or bring a friend to come and worship with us in the church.



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

April 19, 2026

Jesus Will Meet Us Wherever We Are

Happy Sunday! In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear the powerful story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. They were walking away from Jerusalem, away from everything they had hoped for. Jesus, whom they believed was the Messiah, had been crucified. Their hopes were shattered, and they were left confused and discouraged.

As they walked, Jesus Himself came alongside them, but they did not recognize Him.

This moment is deeply relatable. How often do we find ourselves walking through life carrying disappointment, confusion, or even quiet despair? We begin with hope and direction, but life's challenges...loss, uncertainty, strained relationships, or the weight of the world...can leave us feeling lost.

Like those disciples, we may not realize that we are not alone.

The central message of this Gospel, and my reflection this week, is this: **Jesus will meet us wherever we are.**

Jesus did not wait for the disciples to "get it together" before approaching them. He met them in their confusion. He walked with them in their doubt. He listened, spoke, and gently revealed the truth to them.

And He does the same for us.

Jesus meets us in our daily lives:

- In moments of anxiety and uncertainty
- In times of grief and loss
- In seasons of doubt or spiritual dryness
- In our struggles and shortcomings

He does not require perfection, only openness.

The turning point in the Gospel comes when the disciples recognize Jesus in the breaking of the bread. This moment reminds us of the Eucharist, where Jesus continues to reveal Himself to us. At every Mass, we encounter Him in both the Word and the Eucharist.

The question is: **Do we recognize Him?**

When the disciples finally recognized Jesus, everything changed. Their despair turned into hope. Their confusion became clarity. They immediately returned to Jerusalem, renewed and energized.

An encounter with Christ always leads to transformation.

This Gospel invites us to reflect on where we are in our own journey. Are we feeling discouraged? Distracted? Distant from God?

Wherever we find ourselves, we are reminded that Jesus is already there...walking with us, speaking to us, and inviting us to recognize His presence.

Let us ask for the grace to open our eyes, to see Him in our lives, to hear Him in His Word, and to encounter Him in the Eucharist.

Because the truth remains:

We never walk alone. Jesus will meet us wherever we are.

Deacon Darryl



**Our
Church's**
Graduates

If you are a **registered parishioner** with an **Active Membership** and you or your child is a High School, College, University, Community College, Business or Technical School graduate, please complete the following information form and deliver it to the Parish Office or Email it to stfrancishou@sfxhouston.com:

Env/Parish ID No _____

Name of Graduate _____

Parent/Guardian (under 18 yrs) _____

School Graduating from _____

Degree (if applicable) _____

School Planning to attend (if applicable) _____

Awards (if applicable) _____

You may include a photo with or without your cap & gown. All Information is needed **NO LATER THAN NOON** on Friday, **May 15th**, for inclusion in the Bulletin and participation in the *Graduate Recognition Mass* on **May 31, 2026**.

You may also sign up to participate online at:

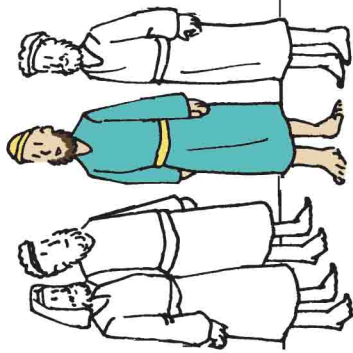
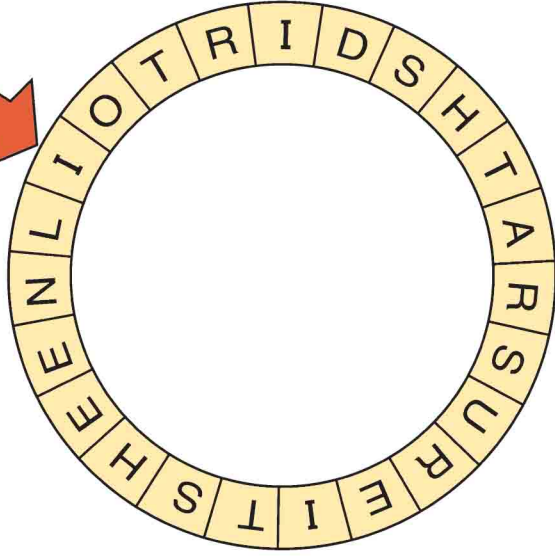
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The men went back to Jerusalem right away. They found the disciples and said ...

Begin at the arrow.

Go around the circle clockwise, writing down every other letter.
Go around a second time.



“ I _____ !”

Children's Worship Bulletin™



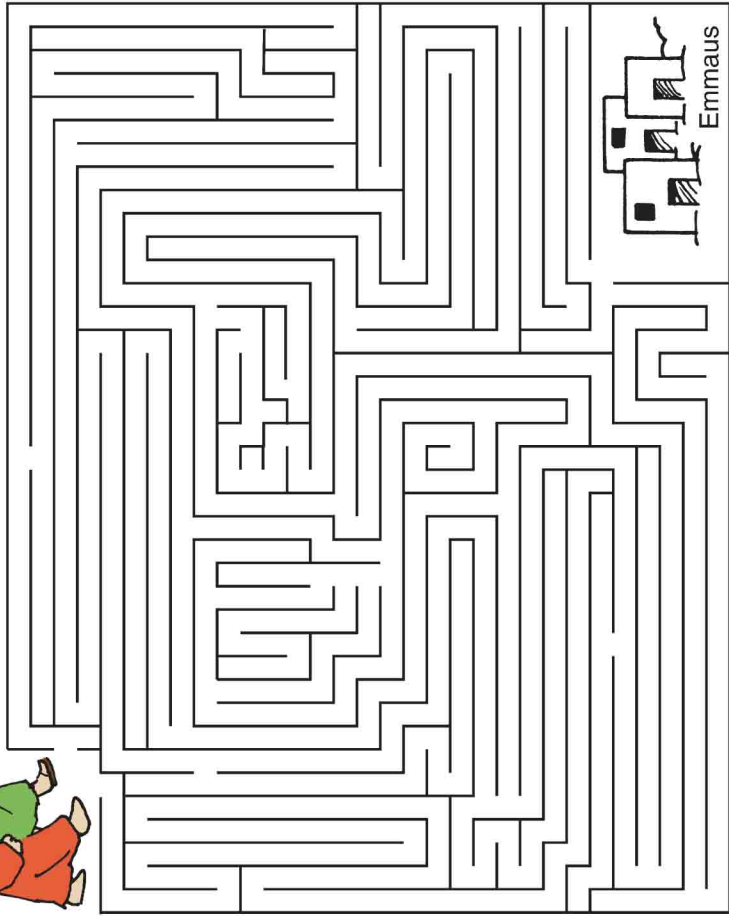
Ages 7+

April 19, 2026 • Luke 24:13-35

On the Road to Emmaus

Two friends of Jesus were walking on the road to Emmaus, a village about 7 miles from Jerusalem. It was the same day the tomb was found empty.

Help them on their way.

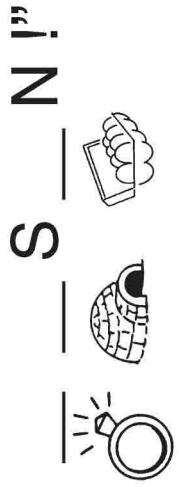
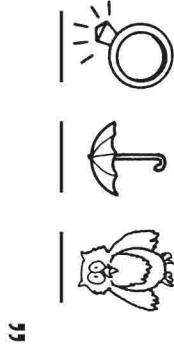


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SECRET CODE
VKG875

All at once, the men knew it was Jesus.
What did the men tell the disciples.

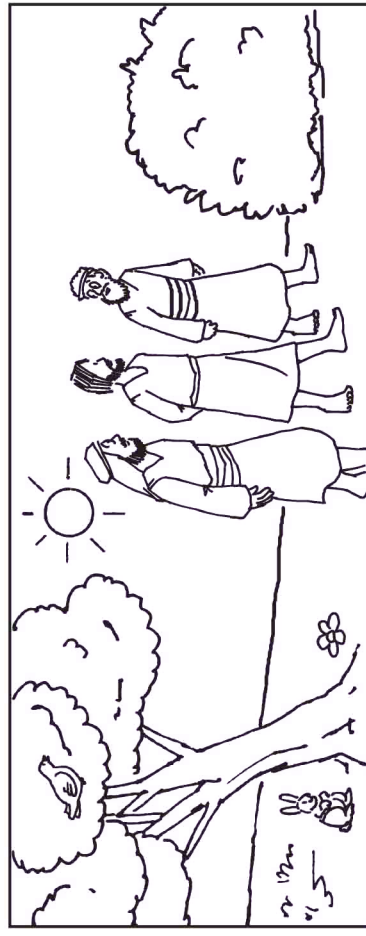
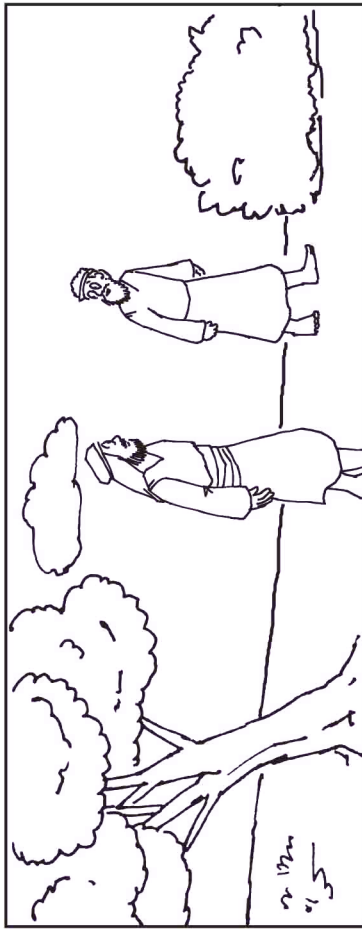
Use the code to fill in the missing letters?



On the Road to Emmaus

Two men were walking along a road. Someone else joined them. They did not know it was Jesus.

Circle 7 differences in the 2nd picture.





Mark Gibson
PRESIDENT & CEO



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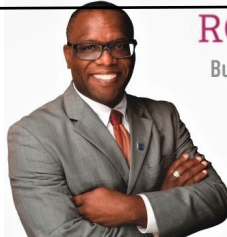


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