

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 10, 2020



4600 REED ROAD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77051-2857
Parish Office: 713.738.2311; Fax: 713.738.3337
CCE Office: 713.731.2775; SVdP Food Pantry: 713.731.2716
WEB Address: <http://www.sfxhouston.com>
E-MAIL: stfrancishou@sfxhouston.com
Parish Office Hours: Mon - Wed 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Closed on Thursday; Fri 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/StFrancisXavierCatholicChurchHouston>

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:

Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman, 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

Deacon Michael V. Jenkins

SVdP FOOD PANTRY

Curtis Jones 713.731.2716

CONTRIBUTIONS/MEMBERSHIP

Agnes Thompson

HALL MANAGER

Hilton S. Williams 713.542.0120

PLANT MANAGER

Anthony Ray Gobert

MAINTENANCE

Violet & Harold Champ

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Sat: Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Sun: 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:15 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday: 7:00 a.m.

First Friday: 6:30 p.m.

Holy Days: 7:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 4:15p.m. - 4:45p.m.

Sundays: 6:45a.m. - 7:15a.m.

9:20a.m. - 9:45a.m.

11:35a.m. - 12:00p.m.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT:

First Friday: 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

CHOIR REHEARSALS:

Adult Choirs

Judah Choir:

Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.

God's Chosen Choir:

Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.

Youth Choir:

Saturday-12:00pm (Harris Center)

Thursday before the 4th Sunday-7:00pm (In Church)

BIBLE STUDY/

ADULT CATHECHISM:

Tuesday: 6:30 p.m.

CHOIR DIRECTORS:

Jerry Givens 281.772.9276

Daniel Guerrero 281.723.9948

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.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact a priest a minimum of six months prior to proposed date.

WELCOME VISITORS AND

NEWCOMERS

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MASS INTENTIONS

ALL MASS INTENTIONS WILL BE SAID BY FATHER MICHAEL IN HIS DAILY PRIVATE MASS.

SAT. 05/09/2020

All Mothers Living and Deceased

SUN. 05/10/2020

All Mothers Living and Deceased

MON. 05/11/2020

Kristina M. Chaney (D)

Family & Friends

Deacon Leonard Paul Lockett (D)

TUE. 05/12/2020

Irene Hutchins (D) – The Chaney Family

Deacon Darryl Drenon & Family (L)

Florence & Wanda

WED. 05/13/2020

Carl Davis (D) – Margaret Chaney

Rev. Chester Smith, SVD (D)

THUR. 05/14/2020

Vivian Willis (D) – Annette Willis

Mellonee Idlebird (D)

Shirley & Belinda Foreman

FRI. 05/15/2020

Kristina M. Chaney (D)

Family & Friends

Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman, SSJ (L)



Deacon Alfred Abram, Algy Alfred, Joseph Broussard, Margaret Cadoree, Mary Augustine Chenier, Ida Mae Fields, Nicole Fontenet, Ursula Gross, Jimmy Harris, Willie Mae Henderson, Craig Jackson, Brooke Joseph, Helen Kennison, JoAnn LaSane, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Cynthia Ann Malone, Patrick Martell, Ronald Martin, Sr., Shannon Martin, Willie Martin Jr., Dorothy Milstead, Vy. Rev. William L. Norvel, SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Helen Foreman Orsort, Cynethia Pichon, William Pierre Sr., Marcelle Prevost, Carole Pryor, Elise Richmond, Evelyn Roberts, Oliver Rose, Simon Smith, Joyce Stagg, Lee Roy Stagg Sr., MacKenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erna Taylor, Pamela Thibodeaux, Agnes Williams, Elizabeth Williams, Patricia Williams, and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family.

Let us Know

Please let us know when you and/or a family member are ill, in the hospital, or having a surgery, especially if the illness or surgery is serious. Call the Parish Office so that we can put the name on the sick list for prayers and/or visitation if needed. **After 30 days, please call the office to remain on the prayer list.**



Our Pastor's

27th Anniversary

May 15

Rev. Michael Saah-Buckman, SSJ



Visit the Parish Website: www.sfxhouston.com and click on the Facebook Icon at the bottom of the page.



NOTICE!!!

The Parish Office will be **Closed** until further notice.



SFX GABRIEL PROJECT
Pregnant? Need Help?
Call 713-225-5826



Happy Mother's Day

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



"I am the way and the truth and the life," Jesus says to his disciples in the passage from John we hear today. He is the foundation on which we build our lives, the cornerstone of our spiritual home. As we continue to celebrate this Easter season, let us listen to God's word and discern the way, the truth and the life that Jesus reveals to us.

READINGS

FOR THE WEEK

- Sunday – May 10**
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 6:1-7
Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
1 Peter 2:4-9
John 14:1-12
- Monday – May 11**
Acts 14:5-18
Psalm 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16
John 14:21-26
- Tuesday – May 12**
Acts 14:19-28
Psalm 145:10-11, 12-13, 21
John 14:27-31
- Wednesday – May 13**
Acts 15:1-6
Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 5
John 15:1-8
- Thursday – May 14**
Acts 1:15-17, 20-26
Psalm 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8
John 15:9-17
- Friday – May 15**
Acts 15:22-31
Psalm 57:8-9, 10, 12
John 15:12-17
- Saturday – May 16**
Acts 16:1-10
Psalm 100:1-2, 3, 5
John 15:18-21



"There's a lot of silence at this moment. May this silence, which is a bit new to what we are accustomed, teach us how to listen."

- Pope Francis



Thank you to our 2019-2020 Teachers and Assistants:

Demetra Lewis, Josephine Wiltz, Veal Barksdale, Theresa King, Phyllis Moore, Ruth Thomas, Mary Zenon, Jeanie Ashiru, JoAnne Henderson, Karen Higgins, Louis Hill, Elaine Lewis, Shannon Marshall, Kim Salinas, Deacon Michael Jenkins, Bonnie Jefferson, Tierra Ledet, Candice Embers, Tina Johnson, Rica Eaglin, and Krystal Willis.

Continue being the light for our students that the Lord has sent you to be. God Bless and keep you and your families safe.

Unella Baber, DRE

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults gives provision for the initiation of catechumens and candidates at a time other than the Easter Vigil “because of unusual circumstances and pastoral needs” (RCIA26). We will schedule initiation at an appropriate time before the year ends.

ATTENTION GRADUATES



The 2020 Graduate Recognition Mass has been cancelled this year. However, we would like to acknowledge all of our Graduates in the **May 24th** Bulletin. If you or your child is a Middle School, High School, College, University, Community College, Business or Technical School graduate, please contact the Parish Secretary @ **713-410-6535 NO LATER THAN NOON** on Wednesday, **May 20th**.

SFX Scholarship Applications

are available in the Vestibule of the Church, in the Harris Center Lobby and on the Parish Website (www.sfxhouston.com). Due to the early end of the school year, the deadline to submit applications has been extended to **Friday, May 29th**.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Mary Sias on receiving an invitation to the Lay Advisory Board for Lupus research at the University of Houston. The focus of this research will be to detect renal flares in minority women.



To everyone on the front line during these challenging times:

CLERGY: Rev. Michael Saah-Buckman, Deacon Michael Jenkins, Deacon Darryl Drenon

HEALTH CARE: Michelle Chenier, Artrica Yvette Dozier, Margaret Drenon, Barbara Forbes-Moses, Shaylor Goodwin, Cassandra Green, Sheila Harris, Syble Jones, Lois Obiozor, Annie Robertson, Shewana Rochon, Dr. Chantee Vavasseur, Dr. Anna Viltz, Felecia Ward

MAIL DELIVERY: Wanda DeBose, Stephanie Jackson

BULLETIN SERVICE: Jenero Mitchell

VIDEO SERVICE: Abra Charles

PARISH STAFF/VOLUNTEERS:

Unella Baber, Evelyn Briggs, Violet & Harold Champ, Orell Dargin, Michael Dozier, Shirley Foreman, Jerry Givens, JoAnne Henderson, Hope Jackson, Curtis Jones, Agnes Thompson, Edwin Vallery



Catholic Charities has expert bilingual counselors who can help for free during the COVID-19 pandemic. Call Catholic Charities' Mental Health Line at **713-874-6590** from **9:00am to 4:00pm** to request a session, and a licensed counselor will call you back within a day. Food pantries are open for drive-through food distribution with hours each week at our three locations: **Guadalupe Center** in Houston; **Mamie George Community Center** in Richmond; **Beacon of Hope Center** in Galveston. For hours call the COVID Assistance Line at **713-874-6521**.

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

Prayer in Time of the Coronavirus

Comfort us, O Lord, for we are like your disciples on the storm-tossed seas, unsettled by what lies ahead. We turn to You, our Healer and Guide, to still our hearts in our time of need and hear our prayer:

Heal those who are sick with the coronavirus and protect the elderly and most vulnerable. Give strength to all who tend to our health and wisdom to researchers who work toward a cure.

Open our eyes and hearts, as you did during Hurricane Harvey, that we may look beyond our immediate needs to care for others who need help. Through the Holy Spirit, guide our leaders to make wise decisions for the welfare of all the people they serve. Grant eternal rest to those who have died from the virus.

May Mary, Our Mother, who has heard our pleas in the storms of our lives, intercede to her Son, that we may find healing and a prompt end to this illness.

Mary, Star of the Sea, pray for us. Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior, heal us.

Amen

Stewardship Reflection

That we encourage those who are struggling to find direction in their life and help them discern how they might use their gifts. “The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.” (1 Peter 2:7) Every person has been given gifts from the Holy Spirit. These are called “charisms” and they are used to build God’s kingdom of earth. While many people are able to recognize their natural talents and abilities, they may be unsure of their charisms. If you know someone who is struggling for a direction in life, give them a little encouragement. Help them discern their charisms and how God is calling them to use them. Remember - no gift is too small or insignificant in God’s salvation plan.



During this time of social distancing, St. Francis Xavier depends on online donations to continue our ministry. We prayerfully invite you to sign up for eGiving from your computer, smartphone or tablet and set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. Sign up today by visiting www.faith.direct.net/TX632, or text ‘Enroll’ to **281-949-7600**.



Pastor's Reflection

Anything is Possible if You Have Faith

Many of us can relate to the scene of the child whose mother/father leaves to run some errands for a short period of time. After settling down from a tantrum, the child promises not to let the parent out of his sight again. When the parent returns, the child meets the parent with joy and, holding on to their hands, resolves never to let go. There is the assurance that this will not happen again. This usually brings some degree of calmness and consolation but there is always some anxiety that lingers on.

The Gospel reading today starts with Jesus asking his disciples to have faith in him and ends with a statement that those who do so will accomplish even greater works than he (Jesus) himself had done. Faith in Jesus and the accomplishments that come with it has become the fundamental principle of the Christian community throughout its existence.

Realizing that the end was drawing near, Jesus, at the last supper, prepared his apostles for what was going to happen to him. He would be arrested, put on trial, tortured, and finally die on a cross. Before dinner, he taught them by example how they were to serve one another by washing their feet. While this was going on, they were preoccupied with positions on earth and in the kingdom of God.

It was at the Last Supper that the disciples seem to have gotten Jesus' departure message and began to react to it. Peter and the other disciples believed that they had found the messiah. They believed that the messiah is immortal, a strongman able to deliver them from their foreign occupation and usher in an everlasting kingdom of peace. No wonder when they became aware that Jesus was giving a farewell discourse, they became terrified. Their whole belief system was collapsing at the dinner table right in front of Jesus.

It is like the child who sees their parent(s) leaving without knowing where mom or dad is going. The assurance that Jesus gave did not go far enough to calm their anxiety: "*do not let your hearts be troubled*" (Jn 14:1). Thomas tries desperately to understand what Jesus is saying. Neither he nor any of his brothers understand what Jesus is telling them. Why would Jesus leave them?

Desperately trying to grasp what was going on, Philip asks: "Let us see the Father and we shall be satisfied" (Jn14:8). Did he get the answer he was looking for? No. But he got reassurance of "*trust me!*" and "*believe in what I say and the works I do*".

Jesus said that God is concerned about the same things we care about: the corporal works of mercy, i.e. feeding the hungry, welcoming the rejects of society, changing the outdated laws and precepts, taking care of the widows and strangers, etc.

When dissension came to the early Church in Jerusalem, as recorded in our 1st reading, (Acts 6:1-7) it is this same spirit of God that guided it through to an amicable solution. This faith and trust in Jesus and his works have sustained and guided the Church until this day. It is, therefore, quite refreshing and comforting, as we prepare to celebrate the Solemnities of Ascension and Pentecost, to remember that the Spirit, the Advocate, promised to his disciples, will continue to guide us through these challenging times. Jesus knew then and knows now how traumatic it would be for his followers after he was put to death and so he told them and us not to let our hearts be troubled. He not only tells us, but also gives us the means to avoid distress: "You have faith in God, have faith also in me". AMEN!



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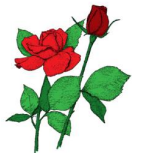
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Meeting needs

The Bible emphasizes the importance of giving to people in need. In Matthew 6:1-4, Jesus describes the proper attitude for giving.

*Directions: Starting at the *B and going counterclockwise, write every other letter on the lines below. Continue until you've completed Matthew 6:3, NIV.*



“B _____

_____ g.”

MATTHEW 6:3, NIV

Answer: "But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing." Matthew 6:3, NIV



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