

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 4, 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](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>

## 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

## NEW WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Sat: Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Sun: 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m.

## WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday: 7:00 a.m.

First Friday: 7:00 a.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.

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED

## SACRAMENT:

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

## CHOIR REHEARSALS:

### Adult Choirs

### Judah Choir:

**SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

### God's Chosen Choir:

**SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

### Youth Choir:

**SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

## BIBLE STUDY/

## ADULT CATHECHISM:

**SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

## 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

To register, call, come by the parish office or visit our website at: [www.sfxhouston.com](http://www.sfxhouston.com)

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

**NOTE: THE SUNDAY 12:15PM MASS INTENTIONS HAVE BEEN MOVED TO THE 10:00AM MASS.**

**SAT. 10/03/2020 5:00PM**  
*People of the Parish*

**SUN. 10/04/2020 7:30AM**

*Kristina M. Chaney (D)*

Family & Friends

*Patrick L. Martell (D) – The Family*

*Hermanigilda G. Correia (D)*

Maria S. Jayakumar

*Gaston Joseph, Sr. (D)*

Sr. Theresa Sue Joseph, SSF

*John H. Murray (D) – Murray Family*

**SUN. 10/04/2020 10:00AM**

*Herbert Goodwin (D)*

Stephanie Goodwin

*Yvonne Mullone (D) – Sylvia Spencer*

*All Healthcare Essentials & Their*

*Families (L) – Grateful Neighbors*

*James Fisher (D) – Joy Roy York*

*Ann Linton (D) – Helen Brown*

*Amy Landry Gallow & Dallas Gallow, Sr.*

Wanda Dixon/Family

**MON. 10/05/2020 7:00AM**

*Odessa Davis (D) – Audrey Otis*

**TUE. 10/06/2020 7:00AM**

*Kristina M. Chaney (D)*

Family & Friends

*Mary Duplechain (L) – Charles Family*

**WED. 10/07/2020 7:00AM**

*Fr. Joseph Benjamin, SSJ (L)*

Tywanna Navy

**THUR. 10/08/2020 7:00AM**

*Janice Abram-Calfee (L)*

SFX Sisters in the Spirit

**FRI. 10/09/2020 7:00AM**

*Ronald Walcott (D) – Tywanna Navy*

*Mary Theresa Cameron (D)*

Pamela Johnson & Family



2020 Rosary Rally

America Needs Fatima is a campaign to capture the heart and soul of America with the Message of Our Lady of Fatima. In 1917, Our Lady appeared at

Fatima to three young seers with a message of warning and hope for humanity. Join us in the St. Francis Xavier Prayer Garden as we participate in a Rosary Rally on Sunday, **October 11, 2020**, after the 10:00am Mass. Registration forms are available in the vestibule of the church and the Harris Center.



Deacon Alfred Abram, Mary Barriere, Bridgett Burnett, Julius Cadoree, Margaret Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Mary Augustine

Chenier, Nora Coleman, Dalton Cooper Jr., Rita Darjean, Lois Epps, Nicole Fontenette, Barbara Forte', Ursula Gross, Jimmy Harris, Willie Mae Henderson, Craig Jackson, Roscoe Jones, Brooke Joseph, Kennedy Family Members, Helen Kennison, JoAnn LaSane, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Cynthia Ann Malone, Shannon Martin, Dorothy Milstead, Vy. Rev. William L. Norvel, SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Helen Foreman Orsort, Felicia Paul, Cynethia Pichon, William Pierre Sr., Marcelle Prevost, Carole Pryor, Elise Richmond, Evelyn Roberts, Wilson Robertson, Oliver Rose, Mary Sias, Simon Smith, Angela Stagg, Joyce Stagg, Lupe Stagg, MacKenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor, Louis Thomas Sr, Benito Valdez, Agnes Williams, Patricia Williams, Sharon Zenon Williams, and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family.

**Let us Know**

Call the Parish Office when you and/or a family member are ill, in the hospital, or having a surgery so that we can put the name on the sick list for prayers. **After 30 days, please call the office to remain on the prayer list.**

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

**Army:**

Barbara Baber, Sade Beck, Wadie Troy Butler, Shanta Charles, Josiah Charles, Patrick Clay Jr, Stephen Jones, LaTroy King, Gary Christian Robertson, Anthony Lamar Smith II, David Stagnoli, Jordan T. McCorkle, Essence L. Casteel

**Navy:**

Alvin Balthazar, Debreaanna Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins, Randolph J. Navy III, Anthony N. Russell, Christian Johnson, Hope Bethany Johnson

**Air Force:**

Roderick Jones, Joffre Lander, Bena Sellers, Terrance J Valiare, Thomas Q Valiare II

**Marines**

Alyssa Dugar, Reginald Ward

**NEW OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday..... Closed**  
**Tuesday.....9:00am to 5:00pm**  
**Wednesday.... 9:00am to 5:00pm**  
**Thursday..... Closed**  
**Friday..... 9:00am to 3:00pm**

**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



The selections from both Isaiah and Matthew feature vineyards in poor shape. In Isaiah's case, the vineyard is prepared diligently, but ends up being overrun by wild grapes. In Matthew,

Jesus tells a parable whose vineyards is commandeered by greedy tenants who abuse and kill the landowner's representatives. Who then will produce good fruit for the kingdom? Paul encourages the Philippians to do so by continuing to do what they have learned from him. Let us learn from scriptures how we can produce good fruit.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday – October 4**

*The 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalms 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20

Philippians 4:6-9

Matthew 21:33-43

**Monday – October 5**

*Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest*

Galatians 1:6-12

Psalms 111:1-2, 7-8, 9, 10

Luke 10:25-37

**Tuesday – October 6**

*Saint Bruno, Priest;*

*Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin*

Galatians 1:13-24

Psalms 139:1-3, 13-14, 15

Luke 10:38-42

**Wednesday – October 7**

*Our Lady of the Rosary*

Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14

Psalms 117:1, 2

Luke 11:1-4

**Thursday – October 8**

Galatians 3:1-5

Psalms 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75

Luke 11:5-13

**Friday – October 9**

*Saint Denis, Bishop & Companions,*

*Martyrs; Saint John Leonardi, Priest*

Galatians 3:7-14

Psalms 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6

Luke 11:15-26

**Saturday – October 10**

Galatians 3:22-29

Psalms 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7

Luke 11:27-28





Saturday CCE Classes for Pre-K thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade will start on **October 10<sup>th</sup>** and Monday Classes for 6<sup>th</sup> grade thru High School on **October 12<sup>th</sup>**. CCE Registration forms are available on the Parish Website:

[www.sfxhouston.com](http://www.sfxhouston.com).

Completed forms can be mailed to the Parish Office or dropped in the Harris Center Mailbox. Any questions please call the CCE Dept at (713) 731-2775 on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday from 9:30am-3:00pm.

## RCIA

*Thinking of becoming Catholic?*



RCIA Catechumen **Brandy Robinson** was received into the Church on Saturday, September 26, 2020 at the 5:00pm Mass. Ms. Robinson (L) is pictured with her Sponsor, **Ashton Guerrero** (R). We welcome Ms. Robinson to the St. Francis Xavier Parish family!



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 [faith.direct/TX632](http://faith.direct/TX632), or text the word **ENROLL** to **281-979-7600**. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

*Rev. Michael K. Saah Buckman, SSJ*

## ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH FALL RAFFLE



### Grand Prize!

**NISSAN SENTRA SV 4DR SEDAN**

**2nd Prize....\$1000.00 Gift Card**

**3rd Prize.....\$500.00 Gift Card**

**4th Prize.....\$400.00 Gas Card**

**5th Prize.\$300.00 Macy's Card**

Tickets are \$5.00 each or a book of 20 for \$100.00. Each household is asked to sell at least 2 books.

Drawing: **October 18, 2020** after the 10:00am Mass.

**Winner Need Not Be Present**

### 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.**

## Living with Christ

Living with Christ Daily Mass Missalettes are available for purchase in the vestibule of the church after all weekday and weekend Masses or the Parish Office during regular business hours. The cost is **\$2.00**.

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance on September 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> was **199**. The 7:30am Livestream was viewed online by **294**. Please join us on Facebook, or bring a friend and come worship with us in the church. You must wear a mask to attend all services in the church.



**Russel J. Pete** passed away on September 23, 2020 at the age of 79. His funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Francis Xavier on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Leo Prescott, Jr.** passed away on September 27, 2020 at the age of 72. His funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Francis Xavier on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00am.

### Stewardship Reflection

“The stone the builders rejected has become the corner stone...” Matthew 21:42 Jesus was rejected by the religious and political leaders of his day, as well as ordinary citizens. Living a stewardship lifestyle may cause you to be “rejected” by others in today’s society. For example, saying grace before a meal in a restaurant may attract some strange looks from some. But to others it is sign that God is alive and well!

### PREPARE NOW TO VOTE



**Oct 5.....**Last day to register to vote

**Oct 23.....**Last day to request an at-home ballot

**Oct 13-Oct 30...**Early in-person voting

**Nov 3.....**Election Day



### Get your Pneumonia, Flu and Shingles Vaccine

Walgreens Pharmacy will host an off-site immunization clinic in the Parish Hall on Saturday, **October 10<sup>th</sup>**, from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Vaccinations will be by appointment only. **DO NOT** attend if you are feeling sick, have a fever, or are exhibiting any respiratory symptoms. You must wear a face mask for the duration of your visit. The pharmacist will take your temperature using the touch-free digital thermometer. Immunization should be deferred if you have a fever. If possible, wear clothing that allows the immunizer to easily access the shoulder area. Contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.



## God, the Disappointed, Yet Hopeful Gardener

With Covid-19 breathing heavily on our neck, many have not paid attention to the passing of the calendar year and our liturgical times. We have had a hot summer and a busy hurricane season. Many of our vacation plans have either been cancelled or put on hold. We are nervously opening the educational institutions. Despite everything, the year is speeding towards the end and to Christmas. Our scripture readings have begun to focus on the end of time. The parables and stories we shall read from Matthew's Gospel from now through November come from the events in the last week of Jesus' life on earth.

According to the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus comes to Jerusalem to find the Temple being defiled by money changers and people buying and selling animals for sacrifice. He drove them out and dared to teach and even heal the sick in the Temple (something which the Law prohibits). So, the Chief Priests and elders challenge his authority to do such things. Jesus answers them with three parables. The first is what we read last week about the vineyard owner and his sons. They both were asked to go and work in the vineyard. The first son said **"no"** but later changed his mind and went to work in the vineyard. The second son said **"yes"** but did not go to the vineyard at all. Jesus compared the first son to sinners who repented and reformed their lives. The second son was compared to the elders and the high priests who did not see the need to walk in the path of righteousness.

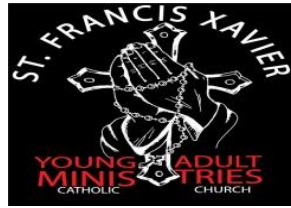
Today we hear the second parable of Jesus addressed to the high priests and the elders. Since farming was the main stay of the Jewish community, and Israel was often referred to as the Lord's vineyard, Jesus, branching off from Isaiah's song about and his friend's vineyard, uses the vineyard as the frame for his parable. In Isaiah's vineyard song, the complaint was about the grapes. They were too sour to eat or be used for wine. In Jesus parable, it is the tenants.

Some of us like to plant gardens in the spring and fall seasons. In addition to the joy and fun of gardening, we do expect good harvest from what we plant. This year I planted a vegetable garden next to the Prayer Garden with the help of some of the Church members. I rented a soil tiller and bought good vegetable plants and fertilizers. It took some days to get the ground ready for planting. The vegetables were planted and watered often. Despite the summer heat, I expected some good crops, which Thank God, I did get. How would I have felt if all that labor came to not!

With this little experience, I can imagine how much work is involved with setting up an entire vineyard as described by Isaiah and Jesus. With the imagery of a farmer working in the field, Isaiah sang the disappointing garden experience of God. He prophesied the destruction of God's vineyard (Israel) by the Assyrians, and the Babylonians because of their unfaithfulness to God. Jesus takes this Isaiah song and concentrates the problem of unfaithfulness not on the grapes (the people of Israel) but on the tenants (religious leader). The priests and elders were in charge with caring for the vineyard. They thought that the vineyard belonged to them, and so refused to recognize both the owner and his son. They also thought they could get by with their greediness. This ended up with them losing everything they had.

However, before we misinterpret the song and parables as "us versus them" and use them as a pretext for condemnation, the prophet and Jesus want to shock us into conversion. This teaching is to call us to change our ways. It is the hope of God that we will heed his calling to action before his kingdom is taken from us and given to those who will produce its fruits. Our hopeful God looks for holiness from the people with not only religious powers, but everyone entrusted with the responsibility to direct God's people. These are the people St. Paul refers to as those who live a life of prayer, thanksgiving, a life of trust in God's providence; a life of whatever is pure, honorable, just, gracious and following the teachings and example of Jesus.

Even though the Vineyard story and the parable of Jesus end on a rather tragic and evil note, God brought something good out of them. So we draw strength from our God who we often disappoint, yet he remains hopeful in us.



**Save the Date**

Free

# Family Fun Day

Social Distancing w/Mask -12pm



Horse



Relays



Football Toss

**October 18, 2020**

**St. Francis Xavier**

Must Sign up to attend by 10/10/2020

Sign-up sheets in the church or Sign-up online.





Some people in the crowd knew that Jesus was talking about them. Who were these people?



Write the letter that is missing in each sequence. Then fill in the blanks.

1. BCDFG =          6. OPQRT =
2. YZBCD =          7. HJKLM =
3. BDEFG =          8. PQSTU =
4. QRSUV =          9. BCDEG =
5. FGIJK =          10. OQRST =

     4        5        1        3        5        7        1        9

     10        8        7        1        6        4        6

and      4        5        1

     10        5        2        8        7        6        1        1        6

## The Tenants in the Vineyard

Jesus told a parable.

Read about this parable. Find 15 differences in the second picture below.

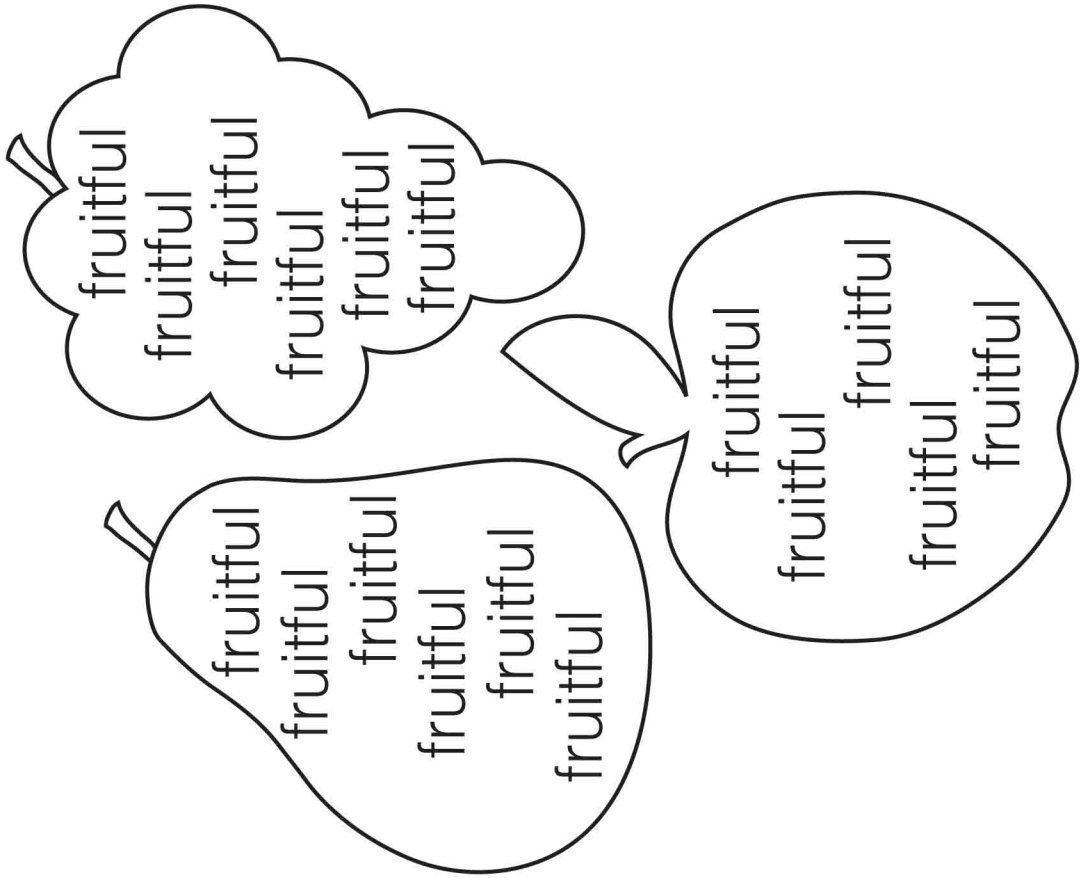


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The kingdom of God is the same. It will be given to those who are fruitful for God.

Count the word "fruitful" in the picture below.  
 Circle the correct number.  
 How many? 14 15 16 17 or 18 ?



The Tenants in the Vineyard

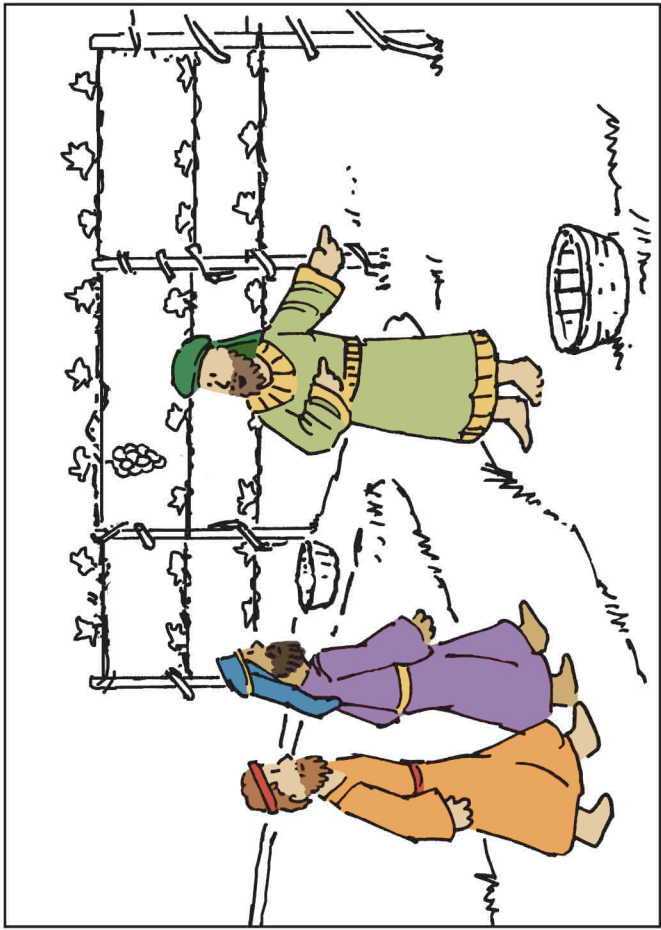
A man had a vineyard. He rented it to farmers to take care of it.

Add these items to the picture.

the sun

grapes on the vines

baskets



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