

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 25, 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: 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

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MASS INTENTIONS

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

SAT. 10/24/2020 5:00PM

Kristina M. Chaney (D)
Family & Friends
Bessie Swindle (D) – Lois Epps
Joseph Duplechaine & Earlene Duplechaine (D)

The Duplechaine Family
Leo Prescott (D) – Wanda/Family
Pat Martell (D) – Florence & Wanda
SUN. 10/25/2020 7:30AM

Kristina M. Chaney (D)
Family & Friends
Jose A. P. Barbosa (D)
Maria S. Jayakumar
All Healthcare Essentials and Their Families (L) – Grateful Neighbors
Mary Duplechaine (L) – Charles Family
Andrew Onochie Nwokobia (D)
The Nwokobia Family

SUN. 10/25/2020 10:00AM

Willie Mae Henderson (L)
The Henderson Family
Vincent Biagas (D) – Patricia Session
Alonzo Richardson (D)
Marian Richardson
Reginald Charles (L) – Charles Family
Mary Theresa Cameron (D)
Pamela Johnson/Family

MON. 10/26/2020 7:00AM

Crystal Baloney (L) – P. A. Piper
Shirley R. Jones (L) – P. A. Piper

TUE. 10/27/2020 7:00AM

Deacon Leonard P. Lockett (D)
Family & Friends

WED. 10/28/2020 7:00AM

Vivian Willis (D) – Annette Willis
Joseph & Lucille Sias (D) – Mary Sias

THUR. 10/29/2020 7:00AM

Kailyn Rankins (L) – P. A. Piper
Kailee Rankins (L) – P. A. Piper

FRI. 10/30/2020 7:00AM

Kristina M. Chaney (D)
Family & Friends
Judy Simon (D) – Henderson Family

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Deacon Alfred Abram, Bridgett Burnett, Julius Cadoree, Margaret Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Mary Augustine Chenier, Nora Coleman, Dalton Cooper Jr., Rita Darjean, Robert Ellis, Nicole Fontenette, Barbara Forte', Ursula Gross, Jimmy Harris, Willie Mae Henderson, Brooke Joseph, Kennedy Family Members, Helen Kennison, JoAnn LaSane, Ophelia Lazard, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Cynthia Ann Malone, Rena Malveaux, Shannon Martin, Dorothy Milstead, Vy. Rev. William L. Norvel, SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Helen Foreman Orsot, Betty Patrick, Cynethia Pichon, William Pierre Sr., Marcelle Prevost, Carole Pryor, Yvonne Randle, Elise Richmond, Marie Riggs, Evelyn Roberts, Wilson Robertson, Oliver Rose, Simon Smith, Joyce Stagg, MacKenzie Swanks, Kennedy Swanks, Erma Taylor, Louis Thomas Sr, Liz Wiley, 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

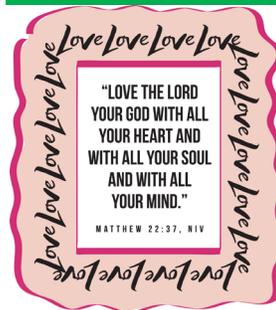
Marines

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

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



In today's first reading, God commands the Chosen People to act fairly and compassionately to

their neighbor and warns them of the consequences if they do not. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the Pharisees that love of God and love of neighbor take precedence over every other commandment. Let us pray for the grace to treat our neighbor as we treat ourselves so that we can be like the Thessalonians, whom Saint Paul calls "a model for all the believers."

READINGS

FOR THE WEEK

Sunday – October 25

The 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 22:20-26

Psalms 18:2-4, 47, 51

1 Thes 1:5-10

Matthew 22:34-40

Monday – October 26

Ephesians 4:32-5:8

Psalms 1:1-4, 6

Luke 13:10-17

Tuesday – October 27

Ephesians 5:21-33

Psalms 128:1-5

Luke 13:18-21

Wednesday – October 28

Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles

Ephesians 2:19-22

Psalms 19:2-5

Luke 6:12-16

Thursday – October 29

Ephesians 6:10-20

Psalms 144:1, 2, 6-10

Luke 13:31-35

Friday – October 30

Philippians 1:1-11

Psalms 111:1-6

Luke 14:1-6

Saturday – October 31

BVM

Philippians 1:18-26

Psalms 42:2-3

Luke 14:1, 7-11

SFX GABRIEL PROJECT

Pregnant? Need Help?

Call 713-225-5826





CCE Classes for Pre-K thru 5th grade are held on **Saturdays** from **9:30am to 11:30am**. Classes for 6th grade thru High School are held on **Mondays** from **6:00pm to 8:00pm**. Parents have the option to register your child for virtual as well as live class participation. Registration forms are available on the Parish Website:

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 from 10:30pm-6:00pm, and on Wednesday & Friday from 9:30am-3:00pm.

RCIA

Thinking of becoming Catholic?

RCIA classes are held on **Thursdays**, at **6:00pm** in the Harris Center. Registration Forms are available in the vestibule of the Church, and on the Parish Website.



KPC 138 CANCER AWARENESS

Pick up a pink ribbon and information on Cancer Awareness from the basket in the vestibule of the Church. These tokens will be available throughout the month of October.

Stewardship Reflection

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind." (Matthew 22:37) Do you put other "gods" before God? Is your love of money, power, status, comfort or some personal possession greater than your love for God? Do you really recognize that everything you have and that everything you are is a gift from God? The good news – it's not too late to put God first in all things in your life.

ATTENDANCE

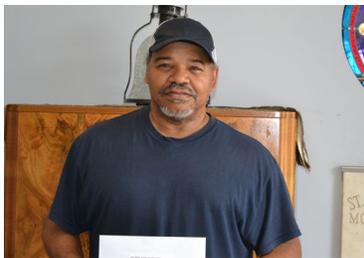
Attendance on October 17th & 18th was **200**. The 7:30am Livestream was viewed online by **257**. Please join us on Facebook, or bring a friend and come worship with us in the church. You must wear a mask to attend all services in the church.

RAFFLE WINNERS



Rebecca Savoy
Grand Prize!

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Percy Castille

2nd Prize-\$1000 Gift Card



Eboni Graham

3rd Prize-\$500 Gift Card



Marlene Hebert

4th Prize-\$400 Gas Card



Travis McGee

5th Prize-\$300 Macy's Gift Card

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**.



October is "Respect Life Month"

Please remember the many lives unjustly lost, whether through abortion, the death penalty, murder, or any other ungodly manner.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE



Oct 13-Oct 30...Early in-person voting
Nov 3.....Election Day

24-hour voting from 7 a.m., Thursday, October 29 to 7 p.m., Friday, October 30, 2020 at 7 locations:

1. Kashmere Gardens Multi Service Center
2. Juergen's Hall Community Center
3. Victory Houston
4. Tracy Gee Community Center
5. McGovern Texas Medical Center Commons
6. NRG Arena
7. East Harris County Activity Center

Love God and Love Others

God created us out of His love. He created us to love us. He created us to love Him back. He created us to love each other. This is foundational to our faith.

Brothers and sisters, this is what relationships are all about. It's the emotional connection we have with God and with each other. We are to seek a relationship with God, and we should appreciate His grace for His relationship with us.

Everything else makes it more complex.

Some of us want rules in our relationships. We have expectations of others in our relationships. We can have conditions in our relationship.

The Good News today is that God loves us unconditionally. He loves us in spite of our flaws. He loves us in spite of our sins. When we sin against God, we turn away from Him. When we sin against each other, we turn away from each other and we harm each other. In essence, we don't do right by each other.

Jesus give us the right example. When we genuinely love, when we love unconditionally, then it's like that St. Paul kind of love. St. Paul describes it in 1 Corinthians, chapter 13. St. Paul says "**Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, love is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.**"

We hear this scripture from St. Paul often during weddings. But this love is not restricted to just the love between husband and wife. This is how we should love one another.

Some of us, however, think that this kind of love is impossible. And if so, it's because we make it too complicated. We make it complicated because we have rules and because we have expectation of others. Just like love, we can make "religion" complicated. This is what Jesus deals within today's Gospel.

The Pharisees were still trying to trap Jesus. "**Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?**" That sounds simple and direct. If they were talking about the Ten Commandments, any answer had a 10% chance of being right. But they were talking about the commandments in their law, which is something else. Their law had 613 commandments: 248 positive dos and 365 don'ts. One could say that they had a don't for each day of the year. Do you see how the Pharisees complicated their religion?

But again, brothers and sisters, Jesus rose above their trap. "**You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind,**"

Jesus answered, and "**you shall love your neighbor as yourself.**" This...is my favorite scripture. Jesus told them that the whole law, all 613 of them, depended on these two. Do you see how Jesus simplified our religion? He went from 613 to two, but he did even more than that. He reduced the law from 613 to one because Jesus made the commandment to love God and the commandment to love our neighbor the same law. These are not two loves, one going up and one going out. It is one circle of love embracing God and our neighbor.

We cannot love God and not love people. Our love of people shows our love for God. St. John said it bluntly in his first letter, "**We love because He first loved us. If anyone says, 'I love God,' but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.**" (1 John 4:19-20)

Oh how simple Jesus made our religion. But we still like to complicate things. Like the Pharisees, we have made the one commandment of love overly complicated. We might ask, what is love? Who is my neighbor? Can I love someone I don't like? Can I love a person at the same time that I hate what the person does? On and on we go. We could fill a warehouse with books trying to explain love. God must have a great sense of humor when he sees what we have done with His simple commandment.

Jesus is asking the utmost from us. He asks for wholehearted love. We will be working at this for as long as we live. And we will always be imperfect lovers. And God understands this. But because love is difficult, we tend to look elsewhere for our spirituality. We sometimes substitute for love. We may substitute with prayers, self-discipline, and various religious practices. Now all these things are good, but they are a means to an end...they are a means to make us more loving people.

I often give the example that the Pharisees and Sadducees went to the temple often. They knew scripture. They preached the Word of God. They said elaborate prayers. But some of them, on their way to the temple, passed by the poor, passed by the sick, and passed by the lepers. It's like the parable about the good Samaritan. Jesus, on the other hand, loved and cared for the poor; He loved, cared, and healed the sick; and He loved, cared, and healed the lepers.

Brothers and sisters, my prayer is that we can all love like Jesus loves. Let us stay focused on God's one commandment of love. Let us stop analyzing it and just do it. Life may be complicated, but let's keep our love and our religion simple.

Love God and Love Others

Deacon Darryl Drenon

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER FAMILY FUN DAY

October 18, 2020



The Young Adults would like to thank everyone for attending the **Family Fun Day**. We would like to give a special thank you to Mrs. Evelyn Hebert-Briggs, Ms. Bernadette Mitchell, Ms. Cassandra Batchan, Mr. John Martin, and Mr. Curtis Jones for their help in the kitchen. We would like to also thank our Pastor and Office Staff for their love, patience, and guidance.





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