

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

APRIL 11, 2021



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

SAT.	04/10/2021	5:00PM
	<i>People of the Parish</i>	
SUN.	04/11/2021	7:30AM
	<i>Gaston Joseph, Sr. (D)</i>	
	Sr. Theresa Sue Joseph, SSF	
	<i>Irma Charles (L) – Charles Family</i>	
	<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i>	
	Family & Friends	
	<i>Roger & Ella Reed (D)</i>	
	Don & Theresa Chambers	
	<i>Jermaine Walker (D)</i>	
	Don & Theresa Chambers	
SUN.	04/11/2021	10:00AM
	<i>Mary Lewis Charles – Charlotte Black</i>	
	<i>M/M Andouche Cureaux (D)</i>	
	James & Bonnie Jefferson	
	<i>M/M Joe Roberts (D)</i>	
	James & Bonnie Jefferson	
	<i>Kimberly Peacock-Clay (D)</i>	
	Patrick, PJ & Kiara Clay	
	<i>Wesley Wiltz (D) – Wiltz Family</i>	
MON.	04/12/2021	7:00AM
	<i>Augie Magbual (D)</i>	
	Shirley & Belinda Foreman	
	<i>Michael V. Johnson (D)</i>	
	The Chaney Family	
TUE.	04/13/2021	7:00AM
	<i>Alvie Dean Drenon (D)</i>	
	The Chaney Family	
	<i>Deacon Darryl Drenon & Family (L)</i>	
	The Chaney Family	
WED.	04/14/2021	7:00AM
	<i>Shirley Bailey (L) – Theresa Baltrip</i>	
	<i>James D. Johnson (D) – P.A. Piper</i>	
THUR.	04/15/2021	7:00AM
	<i>Irene Hutchins (D)</i>	
	The Holdman Family	
	<i>Shirley R. Jones (L) – P.A. Piper</i>	
FRI.	04/16/2021	7:00AM
	<i>Tanya Potier-Lewis (D) – Red Simpson</i>	
	<i>John Dorsey (D) – Red Simpson</i>	



Charles Ray Guidry passed away on Friday, April 2, 2021 at the age of 81 yrs. Mr. Guidry is the Father of parishioner, Patricia Ashley and the cousin of parishioner, Paul Garrick. A Funeral Service was held on Saturday, April 10, 2021, at O. W. Wiley Funeral Home. Eternal rest grant unto his soul.



Deacon Alfred Abram, Michael Albert, Savannah Blackwell, Julius Cadoree, Margaret Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Sterling Dotson Certenberg, Nora Coleman, Dalton Cooper Jr., Barbara Forte', Ursula Gross, Jimmy Harris, Robert Harris, Willie Mae Henderson, Crystal Jackson, Barbara Nell Jones, Brooke Joseph, Kennedy Family Members, Helen Kennison, JoAnn LaSane, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Cynthia Ann Malone, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Dorothy Milstead, Vy. Rev. William L. Norvel, SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Helen Foreman Orsot, Cynethia Pichon, Mae Poindexter, Marcelle Prevost, Carole Pryor, Melody Ratcliff, Elise Richmond, Evelyn Roberts, Oliver Rose, Simon Smith, Joyce Stagg, MacKenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor, Louis Thomas Sr, Jamie Walcott, Agnes Williams, Patricia 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 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, Kerry Hubbard, Kory Hubbard, 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

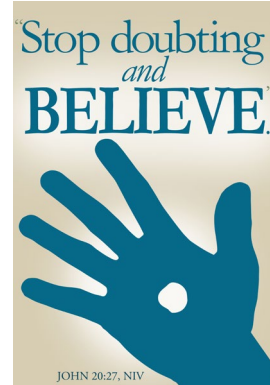
Alyssa Dugar, Reginald Ward



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

We encourage all parishioners to take the chalice home for a week and pray for vocations. You may sign-up in the vestibule of the church, or you may call the Parish Office to receive the chalice.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Today's Gospel features the story of "doubting Thomas," the apostle who refused to believe in the risen Christ until he saw him with his own eyes.

But let us not overlook Jesus giving the Holy Spirit to the apostles, telling them "whose sins you forgive are forgiven them." May we be forgiving people, calling upon the Holy Spirit, whom we received in baptism, to extend that divine mercy to all in need of forgiveness, to all of us.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Sunday – April 11**
Divine Mercy Sunday
Acts 4:32-35
Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
1 John 5:1-6
John 20:19-31
- Monday – April 12**
Acts 4:23-31
Psalm 2:1-9
John 3:1-8
- Tuesday – April 13**
Saint Martin I, Pope & Martyr
Acts 4:32-37
Psalm 93:1-2, 5
John 3:7-15
- Wednesday – April 14**
Acts 5:17-26
Psalm 34:2-9
John 3:16-21
- Thursday – April 15**
Acts 5:27-33
Psalm 34:2, 9, 17-20
John 3:31-36
- Friday – April 16**
Acts 5:34-42
Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14
John 6:1-15
- Saturday – April 17**
Acts 6:1-7
Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
John 6:16-21



April 12.....6:00pm
 6th – 10th CCE CLASSES
 April 17.....9:30am
 Pre-K – 5th CCE Classes

RCIA

Thinking of becoming Catholic?

If you're not a Catholic, or you are a baptized Catholic lacking Confirmation and Eucharist, we invite you to explore the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Registration forms are available in the vestibule of the Church and on the Parish Website at www.sfxhouston.com.

Stewardship Reflection

That we may learn to see all of our blessings as abundant gifts from God so that we may use them for the benefit of all God's people. "The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own..." - Acts 4:32 All that we are and all that we have is a gift from God! Think of your family, your friends, your life, your talents and your money – these are all gifts from God! We aren't really owners of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has blessed us with. We are called to be grateful and generous with all of our gifts for the benefit of others.



St. Francis Xavier Health Ministry is reorganizing. We are recruiting members, age 16 and up,

interested in promoting awareness about health. We will bring back the second Sunday blood pressure check and much more. Future plans include hosting seminars, bringing in health professionals and sharing knowledge regularly. See the Health Ministry page on the Parish Website (www.sfxhouston.com) for health observances during the month of April. You do not need to work in the health field, just have an interest in helping others. This is an excellent opportunity for those who are considering a career in health. For further information, please Email marysias@att.net and place "Health Ministry" in the subject line. Volunteers must have met all Safe Environment (Virtus) requirements for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.



THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

Our Lord gave St. Faustina a set of prayers to invoke His mercy, called the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. On standard rosary beads, pray the following prayers:

First, on the Crucifix, one Our Father, Hail Mary and the Apostles' Creed.

On each Our Father bead pray: *"Eternal Father, I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins, and those of the whole world."*

On each Hail Mary bead pray: *"For the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us, and on the whole world."*

Repeat for five decades. To conclude, pray three times: *"Holy God, holy mighty One, holy immortal One, have mercy on us, and on the whole world."*



MOBILE FOOD DRIVE

The University of St. Thomas and the Houston Food Bank are offering Mobile Food Drives once a month. These are open to the entire Houston community and are not limited to UST students. Distribution will be on campus in the Link Lee Parking Lot, 3800 Montrose Blvd. from **4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on April 30 and May 28**. To meet the needs of everyone who attends, we kindly ask that you follow instructions upon arrival. If you have any questions, please contact the University Events Department at: events@stthom.edu.



Thank you to: Evelyn Briggs, Leona Washington, Elaine Mathews, Joyce Tyler, Angela Duplechain and Michelle Duplechain for decorating the church so beautifully this year!

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.



KPC SCHOLARSHIPS

Knights of Peter Claver Council and Court 138 Scholarship Applications are available in the vestibule of the Church and the Harris Center Lobby. Completed applications MUST be received by the Scholarship Committee and Postmarked no later than **May 10, 2021**.



The Pastoral Council will meet via Conference Call on Wednesday, **April 14th**, at 6:00pm.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance on April 3rd & April 4th was **330**. The 7:30am Livestream was viewed online by **472**. Please join us via Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church. You must wear a mask to attend all services in the church.



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (Cycle B)

April 11, 2021

"These are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ...."
John 20:31

Have you read and believed the text messages from God, concerning the Resurrection of His Son, Jesus?

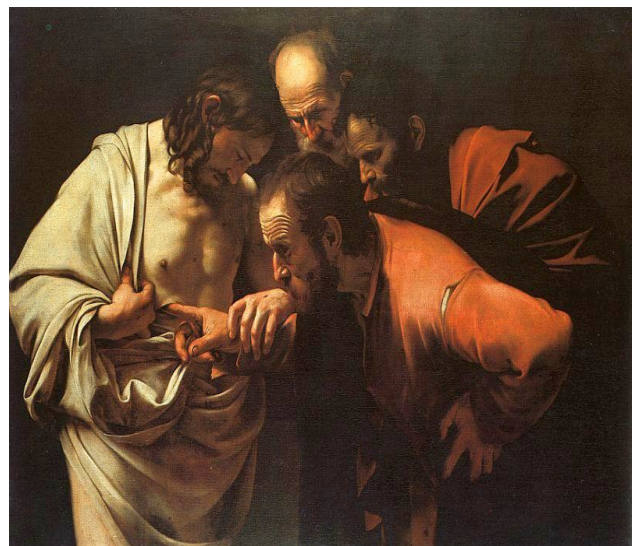
In Luke 16:19-31, Jesus told a fascinating story about **The Rich Man and Lazarus**. There was a rich man who dressed in fine linen and feasted on great meals daily. Lazarus a beggar was covered with sores and laid at the rich man's gate. He wanted so much to eat the food that fell from the rich man's table. Both of them died. Lazarus was carried by angels to Abraham's bosom, but when the rich man died he was buried and in Hades [the realm of the dead] he lifted his eyes. The rich man was in torment and he could see in the distance Lazarus in Abraham's bosom. He called out and asked father Abraham to **have mercy on him** and to send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and come to cool his tongue; for he was engulfed in flames and in anguish. Abraham said to the rich man, *"my child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad"* Luke 16:25. Abraham explained that a great chasm was fixed between them so Lazarus couldn't pass over to his side anyway. He then asked Abraham to send Lazarus to his five brothers to warn them of this place of torment. Abraham said, *"they [the five brothers] have Moses and the prophets let them listen to them"* Luke 16:29. The rich man then said to Abraham, *"Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent [amend their ways]"* Luke 16:30. Abraham said, *"if they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead"* Luke 16:31.

Since I was a child, I remembered hearing the story of the **Rich Man and Lazarus** read at Mass, and I would silently disagree with Abraham. I would say to myself if a dead person (that I knew) came back from the grave and told me to repent, I would believe and change my life. Then one day I read Matthew 28:16-17, which said the Risen Christ met

with His eleven disciples in Galilee, *"and when they saw Him they worshiped Him, but some doubted."* Even though they **saw** that Jesus had come back from the dead, some still **weren't convinced**. Father Abraham was right; even if Lazarus had gone back to the rich man's brothers, they would have still doubted, **just like Thomas** in today's gospel.

Years ago, I missed a very important meeting because I didn't take the time and read **my text messages** on my iPhone. When it comes to the Lord, we need to **listen and believe** because He has already **texted us** about the Resurrection of His Son, Jesus. The **words of Moses and the Prophets** are contained in the **Hebrew Text**. Biblical scholars adhere that the Gospels and the Epistles were originally written in the **Greek Text**.

John's Gospel tells us that signs-including the **Resurrection of Jesus from the dead** was *"written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and that through this belief you may have life in His name"* John 20:31. We place so much value in everybody else text messages. We should **read and believe** in the **text messages from God**. <> Deacon Jenkins

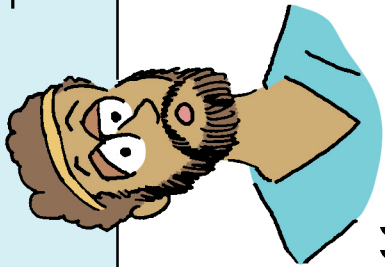


Easter Vigil

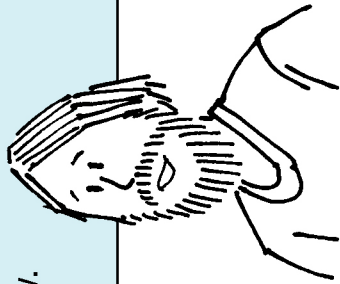


Kelly Robles and Tim Burris were received into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday, April 3, 2021. We welcome our new converts and pray that their new life in the Lord may bring new life to the Church and the world around them.

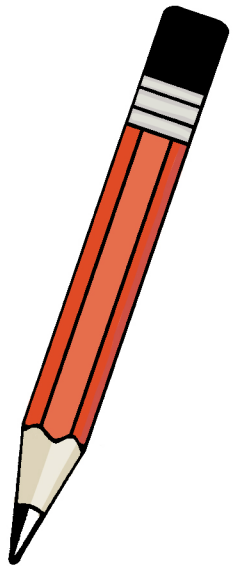
Thomas believed Jesus.
What did he say?



Trace the letters below.



“My Lord and my Lord!”

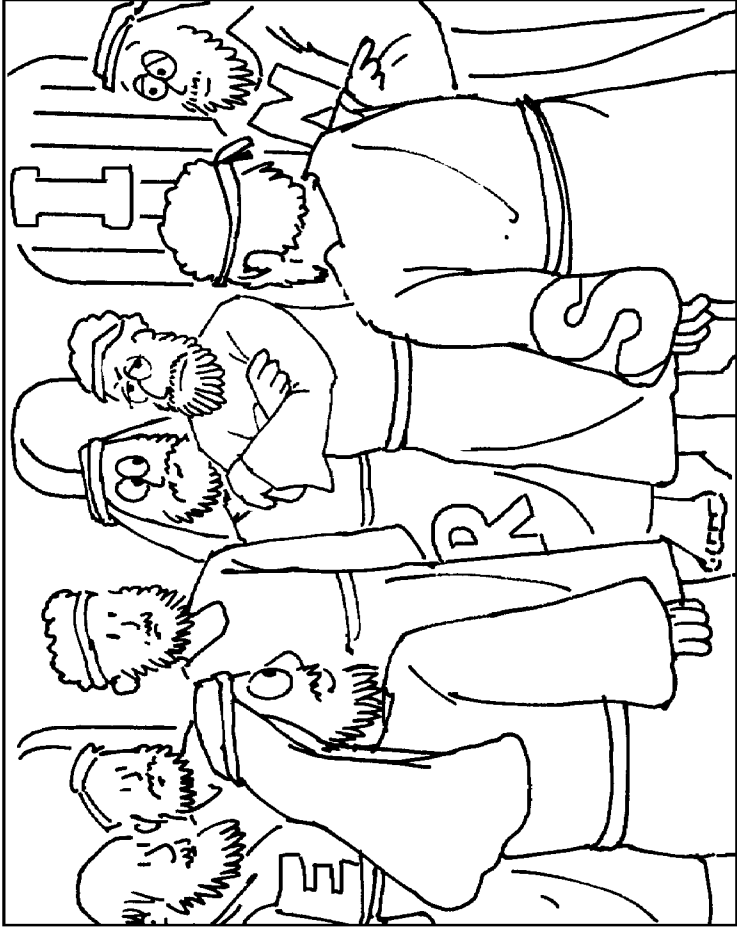


Jesus Appears to His Disciples

The disciples told Thomas that they had seen Jesus! He was risen!

Find the hidden letters in the picture below.

R I S E N





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