

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 22, 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](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:

Tuesdays: 7:00p.m.

God's Chosen Choir:

Wednesdays: 7:00p.m.

Combined Adult/Youth Choir:

## SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

## CHOIR DIRECTORS:

Jerry Givens 281.772.9276

Daniel Guerrero 281.723.9948

## BIBLE STUDY/

## ADULT CATHECHISM:

## SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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

## GIVE without Cash or Check



Text-to-Give  
Text \$ amount to 281-949-7600



Save the number as a contact in your mobile phone for easy giving.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>SAT.</b>	<b>08/21/2021</b>	<b>5:00PM</b>
<i>Ruth Celestine (L)</i>		
SFX Sisters in the Spirit		
<i>Florence McChristian (L)</i>		
Wanda Johnson		
<i>Jessie Steptoe (D)</i> – Jeanette Steptoe		
<i>Wesley Wiltz (D)</i> – Wiltz Family		
<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i>		
Family & Friends		
<b>SUN.</b>	<b>08/22/2021</b>	<b>7:30AM</b>
<i>People of the Parish</i>		
<b>SUN.</b>	<b>08/22/2021</b>	<b>10:00AM</b>
<i>Lois Epps (L)</i> – SFX Sisters in the Spirit		
<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i>		
Family & Friends		
<i>Baltrip Children (L)</i> – Theresa Baltrip		
<i>Brittanie Scott (D)</i>		
Pamela Johnson/Family		
<i>Bryan Njoku (D)</i>		
Cameron Johnson/Family		
<b>MON.</b>	<b>08/23/2021</b>	<b>7:00AM</b>
<i>R.L. Henderson (D)</i>		
Willie Mae Henderson & Family		
<i>My-Chi (L)</i> – Susy Suong		
<b>TUE.</b>	<b>08/24/2021</b>	<b>7:00AM</b>
<i>Vivian Willis (D)</i> – Annette Willis		
<i>Tamara Sanders (D)</i> – Tywana Navy		
<b>WED.</b>	<b>08/25/2021</b>	<b>7:00AM</b>
<i>Ozita P. Egby (D)</i>		
Pamela Johnson/Family		
<i>Roger &amp; Ella Collins Reed (D)</i>		
Donald Chambers		
<b>THUR.</b>	<b>08/26/2021</b>	<b>7:00AM</b>
<i>Leo Ladet (D)</i> - Levan & Dolores Ladet		
<i>Cannie L. Dobbins, Jr. (D)</i>		
Tywana Navy		
<b>FRI.</b>	<b>08/27/2021</b>	<b>7:00AM</b>
<i>My-Chi (L)</i> – Susy Suong		
<i>Joyce Berotte (L)</i> – Tywana Navy		



**Michael Albert** passed away on August 13, 2021, at the age of 64. Mr. Albert is the son of Rita Albert. A Funeral Mass was celebrated on Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. Eternal Rest Grant unto his soul.

**ATTENDANCE**

Attendance on August 14<sup>th</sup> & August 15<sup>th</sup> was **268**. The 7:30am Livestream received **101** views online by. Please join us via Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church. Masks will not be required, but they are encouraged.



Deacon Alfred Abram, Savannah Blackwell, Helen Brown, Julius Cadoree, Margaret Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Sterling Dotson Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr., Frank Davis Sr., Lois Epps, Barbara Forte', Jimmy Harris, Willie Mae Henderson, Delilah "Anne" Jordan, Brooke Joseph, Kennedy Family Members, Helen Kennison, JoAnn LaSane, Theresa Lazard, Roy Lee, Hazel Lewis, Joshpa Lewis Jr., Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Cynthia Ann Malone, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Diane Miles, Dorothy Milstead, Vy. Rev. William L. Norvel, SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Helen Foreman Orsot, Cynethia Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Marcelle Prevost, Carole Pryor, Melody Ratcliff, Herman Rayme, Elise Richmond, Evelyn Roberts, Oliver Rose, Simon Smith, Joyce Stagg, MacKenzie Swanks, Kennedy Swanks, Erma Taylor, Michael Thibodeaux, Gemma 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, Debreanna Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins, Randolph J. Navy III, Anthony N. Russell

**Air Force:**

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

**Marines:**

Alyssa Dugar, Reginald Ward

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

"THE WORDS THAT I HAVE SPOKEN TO YOU ARE"



**spirit and life."**

**JOHN 6:63**  
Today's readings emphasize the need to make a commitment. The tribes of Israel are asked to commit themselves to the god that they choose to serve. Paul speaks about spouses' commitments to their partners as a parallel to the relationship between Christ and the church. Jesus asks the Twelve if they will commit to continue to follow him. As we listen to God's word, let us consider how we would answer each challenge and pray that our commitment to our faith be strengthened.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK****Sunday – August 22**

*21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Joshua 24:1-2, 15-17, 18

Psalms 34:2-3, 16-21

Ephesians 5:21-32 or 5:2, 25-32

John 6:60-69

**Monday – August 23**

*Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin*

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8-10

Psalms 149:1-6, 9

Matthew 23:13-22

**Tuesday – August 24**

*Saint Bartholomew, Apostle*

Revelation 21:9-14

Psalms 145:10-13, 17-18

John 1:45-51

**Wednesday – August 25**

*St. Louis;*

*St Joseph Calasanz, Priest*

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Psalms 139:7-12

Matthew 23:27-32

**Thursday – August 26**

1 Thessalonians 3:7-13

Psalms 90:3-5, 12-14, 17

Matthew 24:42-51

**Friday – August 27**

*Saint Monica*

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

Psalms 97:1-2, 5-6, 10-12

Matthew 25:1-3

**Saturday – August 28**

*Saint Augustine,*

*Bishop & Doctor of the Church*

1 Thessalonians 4:9-11

Psalms 98:1, 7-9

Matthew 25:14-30





CCE Registration is **Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays**, from **9:30am to 4:00pm**. CCE Classes begin on **Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup>** for 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Grade and **Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>** for Pre-K thru 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. Please bring: **Birth Certificate, Baptism Certificate and First Communion Certificate** if already celebrated. The Registration Form is available on the Parish Website, [www.sfxhouston.com](http://www.sfxhouston.com). If you have any questions call **713-731-2775**.

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



### KPCLA BAKE SALE

Knights of Peter Claver Court 138 is hosting a Bake Sale after all Masses on Sunday, **August 29, 2021**. Please give them your support

### 55+ Club



The 55+ Club will have a bus trip to the Coshatta Casino on **September 11, 2021**. The bus will load @ **7:30am** and leave @ **8:00am**. The cost per person is **\$30.00**. To reserve your seat contact: **Herbrt "Red" Archer (281) 536-8912, or Anne Polk (713) 738-4983**.

### Elder Abuse

Elder abuse can happen to anyone and it can take many different forms. Texas requires by law the reporting of elder abuse or the suspicion of elder abuse. If you know of someone who cannot care for himself/herself, or who is being abused, neglected or exploited, whether they live alone or with a spouse or caregiver, Texas law requires that you report the abuse. The number is **1-800-252-5400**; your report will remain confidential. For additional information, please contact the Office of Aging at **713-741-8712**.



### ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH FALL RAFFLE



#### Grand Prize!

#### NISSAN SENTRA 4DR SEDAN

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize.....\$1000.00 Gift Card**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize.....\$500.00 Gift Card**

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize.....\$400.00 Gas Card**

**5<sup>th</sup> Prize....\$300.00 Macy's Gift 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 17, 2021**

**Winner Need Not be Present!**

#### BAZAAR T-SHIRTS

Orders are being taken for Bazaar T-Shirts. Sizes range from Youth to 5XL; costs start at \$15.00 up to \$25.00. Color choices are Grey and Pink; V-Neck or Scoop Neck.

#### VENDOR BOOTHS

There will be a limited number of outside Vendor Booths available for the Bazaar. There will be NO booths inside the Parish Hall. The fee for booths is \$100.00. Contact the Parish Office for a registration form or visit the Parish Website [www.sfxhouston.com](http://www.sfxhouston.com).

#### PRE-BAZAAR DINNER SALES

The Bazaar Team is hosting a Pre-Bazaar Dinner Sale on the weekend of **September 11 - 12**. The menu will include: Chicken or Pork Steak, Green Beans, Cabbage, Rice & Gravy, and Corn Bread. The cost is \$15 per plate. Phone orders for delivery and Pre-Paid orders for Curb-side pick-up will be provided.

#### SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston requires that all clergy, employees, volunteers, members of groups, and organizations over the age of 18 who work, volunteer or participate in any capacity are required to complete the Archdiocesan Safe Environment Training and a criminal background check. This applies to all Bazaar volunteers.

The next **Bazaar Team Meeting** is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00p.m. in the Harris Center Auditorium.

### 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.**

### Stewardship Reflection

That we experience the Peace and Joy God wants for us in serving Him and others. *"If it does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve...As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."* Joshua 24:15 When we commit to serve the Lord, we must be willing to become a disciple in the work of the Lord. A disciple is a person who spends time in prayer every day, joyfully participates in charitable works and generously supports their local parish and Church mission. If we say we serve God, we must actually do something and not merely talk about it!

### Wedding Anniversary Jubilee Masses

The Family Life Ministry announced the dates for the annual Archdiocesan Wedding Anniversary Jubilee Masses. Daniel Cardinal DiNardo will celebrate both Masses. The 50th Wedding Anniversary Jubilee Mass is set for **Sunday, Sept. 26** at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart at 3:00pm. The 25th Wedding Anniversary Jubilee Mass is scheduled for **Sunday, Oct. 24** at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart at 3:00pm. A \$25 registration cost includes an Archdiocesan certificate, special issue worship aid and commemorative pin. For more registration information, visit [archgh.org/weddingjubilee](http://archgh.org/weddingjubilee).

### Employment Opportunities

The Archdiocese has job openings in several departments and in parishes and schools across the Archdiocese. See the latest job postings online at [www.archgh.org/employment](http://www.archgh.org/employment).



### *Do You Also Want to Leave?*

Happy Sunday! Many of the hearers left him, while others decided to stay with him. Today's Gospel is about coming to a decision and sticking by it. Jesus had the rare ability to offer a straight option; you were either for Him, or against Him. He himself was fully committed to His mission, and to all that was best for us, even if at times His disciples complained. He was used to being criticized by his enemies, but when He could not depend on the loyalty of His friends, He had to call them to account. In a way it was hard on the disciples, because, by the nature of what Jesus

offered, it could not just be some sort of an 'a la carte' menu, from which they could choose whatever suited them. You may hear some people today call this being "Cafeteria" Catholics. Some of us want to pick and choose which of the Church's moral teachings and doctrine we want to follow. It's like Joshua in today's first reading. They had finally reached Shechem, their Promised Land. Joshua thought they might be inclined to adopt and worship the **"the gods of the Amorites"** that their new neighbors served. Joshua said, **"If it does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are now dwelling."**

### *Do You Also Want to Leave?*

Then Joshua said, **"As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."** In other words, Joshua was not willing to adopt the gods or the will of the inhabitants of the land. So, for us today, do we stay true to our God and the Church? Or do we bend for the world. Do we leave our Catholic faith for the majority? Do we bend for our friends and family? Do we want to pick and choose from the buffet? For instance, do we go with the world and accept abortion? We may think it's okay to use contraception. We may think it's okay to 'shack-up' and live together before marriage. This is what many of Jesus' disciples said in today's Gospel. They said, **"This saying is hard; who can accept it?"** They said this after Jesus insists that the disciples must eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood to have life within them. Understandably, they struggled to accept this teaching. Jesus raises an even more shocking issue when He asks, **"What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where He was before?"** When some of His followers began to walk away, He didn't run after them and try to reason with them. Rather He turned to those who stayed and challenged them to commit themselves. There are three types of people in every gathering...those who cause things to happen; those who watch things happening; and those who don't know what is happening! Peter was the one who stepped up to the occasion. Lord, he said, **"You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."** For Jesus, losing the others was worth it, if it left him with loyal followers like Peter. I read in an article that a group of Christians were gathered for a secret prayer meeting in Communist Russia, at the height of the Stalinist era. Suddenly the door was broken down by the boot of a soldier, who entered the room, and faced the people with a gun in his hand. They all feared the worst when he said, "If there are any of you who don't really believe in Jesus, get out now while you have a chance." There was a rush to the door and in the end only a small group remained. The soldier closed the door and stood in front of those who remained, gun still in hand. Finally, a smile appeared on his face, and as he turned to leave the room he whispered "Actually, I believe in Jesus, too. And believe me, you're much better off without those others!"

### *Do You Also Want to Leave?*

In our culture, success can often be a game of numbers. A successful television program is one that has a very large viewing audience. Democracy is based on majority vote. The schools with the biggest number of graduates going on to a university are considered the better schools. People post extreme pictures or videos on social media to get the most likes. The gospel this morning suggests that Jesus was not too concerned about numbers. He did not make any effort to soften His teaching in order to hold on to His numbers. Rather, He insists that the words He has been speaking, all His words, **"are Spirit and life."** As a result, the gospel tells us that **"many of His disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied Him."** Jesus suddenly lost a whole bunch of His following. From the perspective of the culture of the time and of our own culture he was suddenly less successful. According to the gospel, Jesus even turned to the Twelve apostles, His core group, and asked them, **"What about you? Do you want to go away too?"**

### *Do You Also Want to Leave?*

He was prepared to suffer a departure from that core group rather than compromise on the teaching that He had given. On this occasion Jesus held onto the Twelve. Peter, their spokesperson, grasped the moment to declare their faithfulness to Jesus, **"Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."** Yet, Jesus would go on to lose even some of the Twelve. At the time of His passion Judas betrayed him and Peter denied Him. If success is to be measured by numbers, by the end of His earthly life, Jesus was a total failure. The whole life of Jesus shows that the value of something does not bear any necessary relation to the number of people who support it. We follow Jesus not because He was or is popular but because, in the words of Peter in the gospel, we recognize that He has the message of eternal life. We may not be troubled so much by His identification of Himself as the Bread of Life or His call to eat His flesh and drink His blood. It may be His challenging words in the Sermon on the Mount, to love our enemies, to pray for those who persecute us. Some people react negatively to some of Jesus' parables. They feel sorry for the older son in the parable of the prodigal son and for the men who worked all day and who got the same wages as those who worked for the last hour in the parable of the Workers in the Vineyard. It has been said that Jesus comforts the afflicted and afflicts the comfortable. We all need Jesus to do both for us. We need His comforting and sustaining presence when we are afflicted, but sometimes we need His disturbing presence in our comfort.

The teaching and the life of Jesus will always challenge us at some level of our being. At times we will feel like walking away from it. That is why it is so important for us to keep renewing our response to the Lord's presence and invitation. The Eucharist is one of the primary moments when we commit ourselves again to the Lord's vision for our lives; it is our weekly opportunity to make our own those words of Peter in today's gospel, **"Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."**



You are cordially invited to participate with the  
**St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church**  
Health Ministry  
Free Zoom Seminar  
**Saturday, August 28, 2021**  
**11:00AM to 12Noon**

**Registrants are asked to sign beginning at 10:30AM to 11:00AM**

**No entrance after 11:00AM**

**August is National Immunization Awareness Month** which is an annual observance to highlight the importance of vaccination of all ages. Immunizations are not just for children. Adults need to keep their vaccinations up to date because immunity from childhood vaccines can wear off. We are also at risk for vaccine preventable diseases as an adult due to age, job, travel, or health conditions. **Immunizations help prevent getting and spreading serious diseases.**

Guest Speaker:

**Dr. Amanda Gilbert | Board Certified in Family Medicine**

She treats patients of all ages, from birth to the elderly. She treats a variety of acute and chronic medical conditions, such as the common cold, the flu, diabetes, high blood pressure and cholesterol. Additionally, she performs physicals and well woman exams. Dr. Gilbert particularly enjoys caring for adolescents, women, and patients with chronic conditions.

**Contact: Memorial Hermann Medical Group Central Pearland**

3203 E Broadway Street, Pearland, TX 77581 | [\(281\) 485-8876](tel:(281)485-8876)



**Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86457717967?pwd=SkJSNHZBcktLaWxqTFZOWHdXWkNqZz09>

Meeting ID: 864 5771 7967

Passcode: 783831

**Mobile**

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 864 5771 7967

Passcode: 783831

*Please register for the seminar by emailing your name to [marysias@att.net](mailto:marysias@att.net) and put Health Seminar in the subject.*

*We do not share nor sell email addresses.*

**Name:**

**Email:**

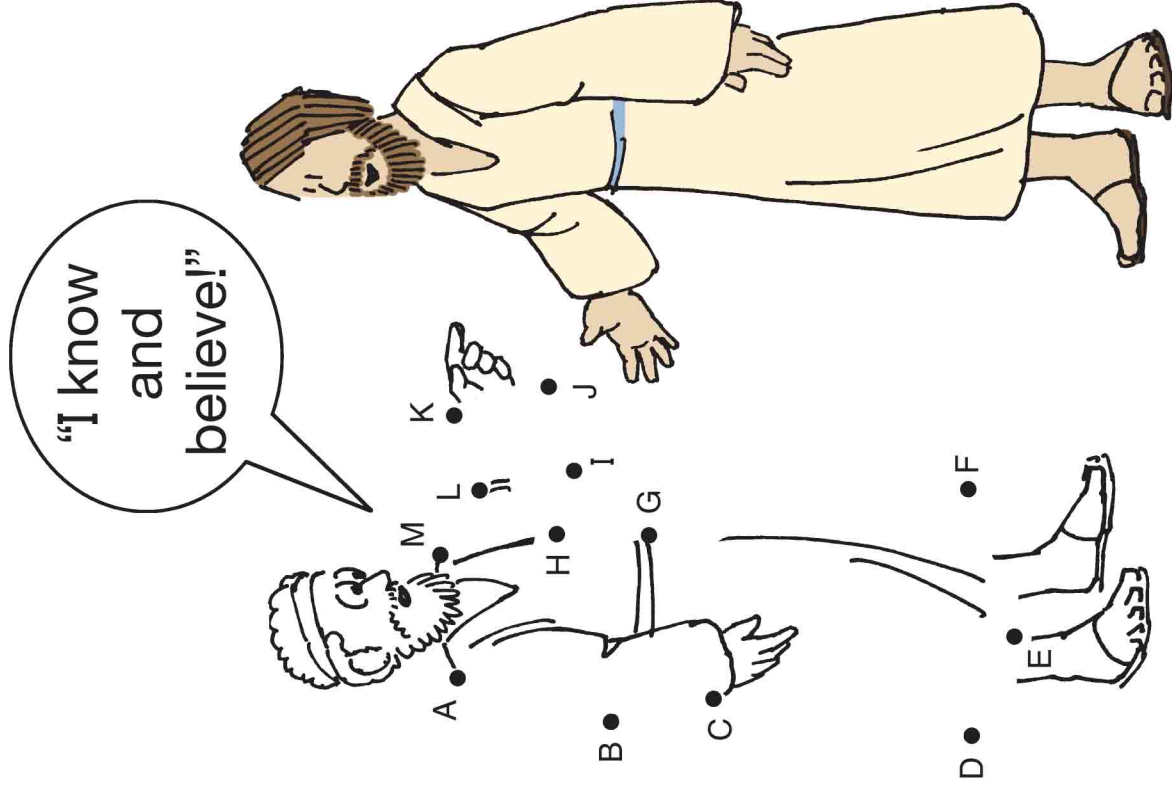
**For further information, please contact the Health Ministry Chair Mary Sias at 713-320-9210 (text please) | [marysias@att.net](mailto:marysias@att.net).**



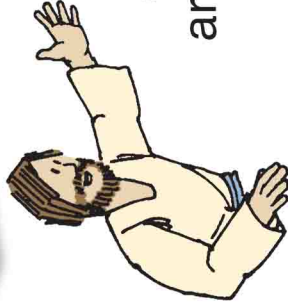
Peter said, "We know that You are the Holy One of God."

Connect the dots.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M



Jesus Has the Words of Eternal Life



Jesus told His disciples, "My words are full of Spirit and life."

Circle 2 words that are alike in each line.

words

WORDS

words

life

life

LIFE

SPIRIT

spirit

SPIRIT



How did Simon Peter  
reply to Jesus?

Use this code to find out.

7	You	God	have	we
6	know	go	of	Lord
5	We	are	life	Holy
4	One	eternal	the	of
3	to	have	shall	come
2	that	words	to	and
1	whom	the	You	believe

	A	B	C	D
"	D6	C2	A1	C3
?	D7	B6	A7	C7
	B2	D4	B4	C5
	A5	B3	D3	C2
	D1	D2	A3	A6
	A2	C1	B5	C4
"	D5	A4	C6	B7

# Children's Worship Bulletin™

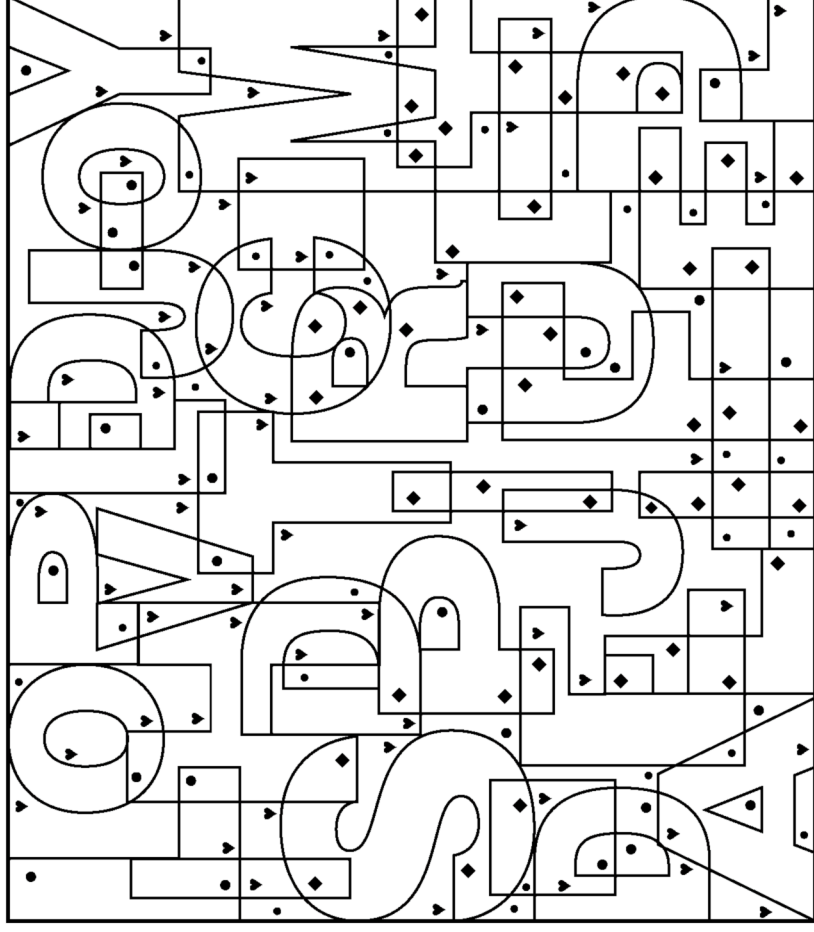
Ages 7+

August 22, 2021 • John 6:56-69

## Jesus Has the Words of Eternal Life

Jesus told His disciples that His words are full of two things. What are they?

To find the answer, shade in the shapes with ♦ .



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[games.childrensbulletins.com](http://games.childrensbulletins.com)

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