

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 10, 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>

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

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.

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

GIVE without Cash or Check

FAITH DIRECT®
FaithDirect.org

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



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

MASS INTENTIONS**SAT. 01/09/2021 5:00PM***Amy Landry Gallow & Dallas Gallow, Sr.*

Wanda Dixon/Family

*Agnes Thompson (L) – Joy Roy York**Leo E. Prescott, Jr. (D) – Wanda Johnson**Michael V. Johnson (L) – Theresa Baltrip**Jessie Steptoe (D) – Jeanette Steptoe***SUN. 01/10/2021 7:30AM***Lucille Barriere (L)*

SFX Sisters in the Spirit

Gaston Joseph, Sr. (D)

Sr. Theresa Sue Joseph, SSJ

*Marie White (L) – Jeanette Steptoe**Ronald Leroy Walcott (D)*

Charles Family

Kristina M. Chaney (D)

Family & Friends

SUN. 01/10/2021 10:00AM*People of the Parish***MON. 01/11/2021 7:00AM***Beatrice Begron (D) – Audrey Otis**Ulysses Rideaux (D) – Chaney Family***TUE. 01/12/2021 7:00AM***Andrew Onochie Nwokobia (D)*

The Nwokobia Family

Ulysses Rideaux (D)

Ron & Olena Arrington

WED. 01/13/2021 7:00AM*Wonder Victoria Hamilton (D)*

Tywana Navy

*Joseph Holley (L) – Florence & Wanda***THUR. 01/14/2021 7:00AM**
All Deceased Family Members (D)

Albert Family

The Thompson Family Members (D)

The Thompson Family

FRI. 01/15/2021 7:00AM*Kristina M. Chaney (D)*

Family & Friends

Rudolph Livings (D) – Unella Baber

MARY AUGUSTINE CHENIER
1926-2020



Deacon Alfred Abram, Margaret Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Mercelee Dilbert, Sterling Dotson Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr., Elvie Drenon, Nicole Fontenette, Barbara Forte', Ursula Gross, Jimmy Harris, Willie Mae Henderson, Dana Montez Hill, 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, Lee Pickney-Rose, William Pierre Sr., Marcelle Prevost, Carole Pryor, Elise Richmond, Evelyn Roberts, Oliver Rose, Andrea Shelton, Mandy Shelton, Simon Smith, Joyce Stagg, MacKenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor, Marie Webb, 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 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, 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, Christian Johnson, Hope Bethany Johnson

Air Force:

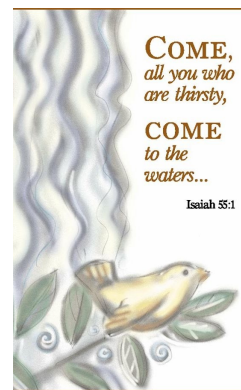
Roderick Jones, Joffre Lander, Bena Sellers, Terrance J Valiare, Thomas Q Valiare II

Marines

Alyssa Dugar, Reginald Ward

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

We encourage all parishioners to take the chalice home for a week and pray for vocations.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Isaiah proclaims the Lord's invitation: "All you who are thirsty, come to the water." John the Baptist invites everyone to come to the water as well, but tells them that the one who is coming

will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John tells us that the Spirit testifies to the truth. Reborn in the waters of baptism and filled with the Spirit, we listen to God's word, searching for the truth.

READINGS**FOR THE WEEK**☐ **Sunday – January 10***Baptism of the Lord*

Isaiah 55:1-11

Psalm Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6

1 John 5:1-9

Mark 1:7-11

☒ **Monday – January 11**

Hebrews 1:1-6

Psalm 97:1, 2, 6, 7, 9

Mark 1:14-20

☒ **Tuesday – January 12**

Hebrews 2:5-12

Psalm 8:2, 5-9

Mark 1:21-28

☒ **Wednesday – January 13***Saint Hilary, Bishop &**Doctor of the Church*

Hebrews 2:14-18

Psalm 105:1-4, 6-9

Mark 1:29-39

☒ **Thursday – January 14**

Hebrews 3:7-14

Psalm 95:6-7, 8-11

Mark 1:40-45

☒ **Friday – January 15**

Hebrews 4:1-5, 11

Psalm 78:3, 4, 6-8

Mark 2:1-12

☒ **Saturday – January 16**

Hebrews 4:12-16

Psalm 19:8-10, 15

Mark 2:13-17

SFX GABRIEL PROJECT

Pregnant? Need Help?
Call 713-225-5826





January 11th6:00pm

6TH-10TH CCE CLASSES


January 16th9:30am

PRE-K-5TH CCE CLASSES

RCIA

Thinking of becoming Catholic?


RCIA classes are held on **Thursdays**, at **6:30pm** in the Harris Center. Registration Forms are available in the vestibule of the Church, and on the Parish Website.



Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston
36th Observance of the Annual Celebration

"A Mass of Remembrance"


Honoring the birthday of
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart
1111 St. Joseph Parkway
Houston, Texas 77002

**SUNDAY
AFTERNOON**
January 17, 2021
3:00PM

Most Rev. Daniel Cardinal DiNardo
Archbishop
MAIN CELEBRANT



Deacon Darrell N. Green
Saint Francis Xavier Parish
HOMILIST

Are Your Christmas Decorations Still Up?

The Church's liturgical season of Christmas ends in the Ordinary Form of the Roman Rite with the movable feast of the **Baptism of the Lord**, which falls in early to mid-January. After revisions to the missal in 1962, the calendar of the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite marks the end of Christmas on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, fixed to Jan. 13. Previously, it had been long standing tradition to mark the end of Christmastime on Feb. 2 — the feast of the Lord's Presentation in the Temple, which is literally 40 days after Christmas, as indicated in Scripture.

Stewardship Reflection

That we work in collaboration with the Holy Spirit in discerning how God is calling us to use our gifts. "And a voice came from the heavens, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'" – Mark 1:11 Through our baptism, we too, are daughters and sons of God. We are disciples of Jesus. As true disciples we are called to actively participate in our Catholic faith, not just be mere bystanders. This means working in collaboration with Holy Spirit and discerning how we are being asked to use our gifts. Using our gifts for the benefit of others and not just for our own interests and comfort.

STOCK/GIFT DONATION

Many parishioners donate annually during this holiday season with gifts of stock. Contact the Parish Office at (713) 738-2311 for assistance in making a gift or stock donation to St. Francis Xavier.

Stewardship Intention Card



God has blessed us with another New Year! Just as in the past, you are given the opportunity to again make a financial commitment to St. Francis Xavier parish. You are invited to commit to giving tithes and offerings by completing a **Call to Stewardship Intention Card**. These cards were mailed in your January Envelope packet and collected during all Masses on Stewardship Intention weekend. If you do not receive envelopes, contact the Parish Office and a card will be mailed to you. Thank you in advance for renewing your financial commitment to God and to your church family.



Annual Giving Statements

If you will need a copy of your 2020 contribution statement for tax purposes, please call the Parish Office at (713) 738-2311. Statements will be sent only upon request.

Please note: Contributions received after December 31st will not be reflected on statements for 2020.

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.



Save the Date

KPC 138 Virtual Retreat

Theme: Being Thankful and Trusting in God during a Pandemic

Saturday, February 13, 2021

10:00am – 10:30am Log In

10:30am – 12:00pm Retreat

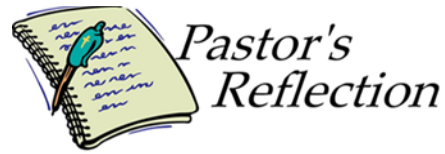
This is a FREE event! Contact Ingrid Singleton at 832-545-4411 or Gwendolyn Reed-Lamothe at 832-594-5255 for additional information.



The Pastoral Council will meet via Conference Call on Wednesday, January 13th, at 6:00pm.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance on January 2nd & January 3rd was **200**. The 7:30am Livestream was viewed online by **423**. 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.



With Baptism We are Charged to Continue the Mission of Jesus Christ

With the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, the Christmas season has come to an end. Tomorrow we begin the period called ordinary time. We use green as our liturgical color. The Christmas paraphernalia and decorations come down and are stored for another year. Baptism marks the beginning of the believer's life. It is an auspicious sacramental initiation which begins the believer's mission. For the believer to mature and bear good fruits, it behooves the baptized to follow through the mission to the end. This means living a graced life rooted in a relationship with the one in whom you are baptized and who inspires and influences all other relationships and life experiences.

In the Biblical times, many people, including kings, prophets and holy people were called to serve God. However, it is only in the Book of the Prophet Isaiah that God spoke of someone with whom he was especially pleased. Even there, the identity of the people or person(s) were not revealed. Those statements were made 500 years before Christ was born and were made in poetic forms. They are referred to in Isaiah's writings as songs, but they perfectly describe Jesus. In Mark's recording of Jesus' baptism, the voice of God is heard introducing him to the whole world, not only as God's Son, but as His **beloved** Son.

Last week the Magi helped us realize that this **beloved** Son, Jesus is also the King of the universe. This week God again reveals Jesus at his baptism by John, not just as the **beloved** son but also the King of the Universe "with whom I am well pleased".

Baptism is also an initiation rite that makes a person become a full member of a group with all its rights and privileges. It, therefore, impels the baptized person to follow the mission of the organization through from the moment of baptism to the end. The bible talks about different forms of baptisms e.g., the baptism of the Pharisees, John the Baptist, and Jesus, etc. Since John's baptism was that of repentance which calls for preparation for the coming of the Lord, it was puzzling to him, John, why Jesus wanted his Baptism of repentance.

We can understand who the magi were and their role as representing the gentiles in the presence of the newborn King of the Jews, as Pilate called Jesus. The challenge is why the sinless King of the Universe had to subject himself to John's baptism of repentance. Several explanations have been given and I submit the one given by Fr. Joe Robinson in the Cycle B Issue of the Guiding Light.

Fr. Robinson gives four reasons why Jesus got the "Johnnie baptism". First, some church fathers have suggested that Jesus went into the Jordan river, not to be made holy, but to make the water holy so that all waters of the world would become life giving through the sacrament of baptism. For others, Jesus' baptism shows us what baptism will do, that is, it brings the Spirit down on the baptized to become the **beloved** children of God. Many also believe that the baptism of Jesus was the official inauguration of the work of his father. With his baptism, Jesus was ready to proclaim the gospel, the good news, and invite people to turn their hearts to God. God the Father and the Holy Spirit put their approval seal on him and promised to guide him in this ministry to the world. Jesus baptism is, therefore, an example for us who dare to be baptized and become God's children. This is inferred from Mathew 28:16-20 where Jesus commanded his followers to "go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you."

So, whether we were baptized when we were infants or adults, baptism gives us the nourishment and the opportunity to grow spiritually. It gives the direction for God's life in us.

John acknowledged that the nature of his baptism was to prepare hearts for the coming of God's Kingdom and so was a visible means to seal conversion. For Jesus, baptism is a total allegiance to God's kingdom. The mission of Jesus juxtaposed that of John is not simply for conversion of heart, but to establish a relationship for his followers to believe that they are loved by God.

The celebration of the baptism of the Lord, therefore, reminds us of our own baptism and re-affirms our total allegiance to serve in the mission of Jesus Christ. Through baptism we have been given the nourishment and the opportunity to grow spiritually. We are charged then with the command to "go and make disciples" and initiate them into the Triune God.

SAVE – THE - DATE

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston *Virtual Celebration of Catholic Youth of African Descent* Middle & High School Students

(MORE INFORMATION LATER)

(This is a free event everyone must registration)

Hosting Parish - Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church

1401 Fidelity St., Houston, Texas 77029

Attn: DRE, Youth Ministers, KPC, Young Adults, Parents

Saturday, February 27, 2021 / 10am-2pm / log in 9:30am

DO YOU KNOW THE WAY?

USING  AS OUR  SYSTEM

John 14:1-6 I Am The Way The Truth And The Life

MIME PRAISE DANCERS – OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA 9:45am

Spiritual Motivational Speakers



Fr. Reginal Samuels



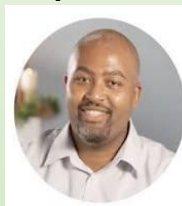
Fr. Stephen Sohe, SSJ



Fr. Tony Ricard



Sr. Odessa Standord, SFCC



Brian Greenfield



Sr. Nicole Trahan, HMI



Fr. Canon Gerard Jordan O. Praem

Fr. Reginal Samuels, Pastor St. Hyacinth, Deer Park, TX & Archdiocese of Galveston Houston
Vicar for Catholics of African Descent

Fr. Stephen Sohe SSJ, Pastor of Our Lady Star of the Sea Church Houston, TX,
And Vocations Director for the Josephite

Brian Greenfield, Motivational Speaker for Youths

Fr. Tony Ricard, M. Th., M.Div. the Pastor of St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish and the Campus Minister at
St. Augustine High School in New Orleans.

Sr. Odessa Standord, SFCC is a member of the Sisters for Christian Community located in Houston.

Sr. Nicole Trahan, FMI is a native of Orange, Texas, is a member of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate

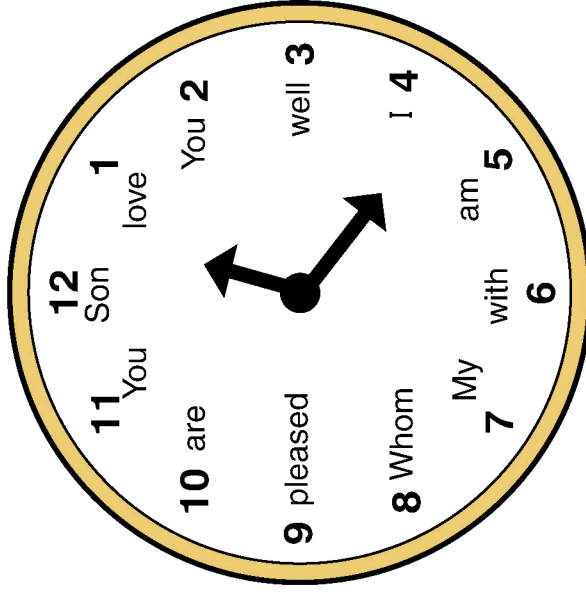
Fr. Canon A. Gerard Jordan O. Praem, Serving as the special assistant to the postulator for the
Tolton cause who served as the moderator and host.



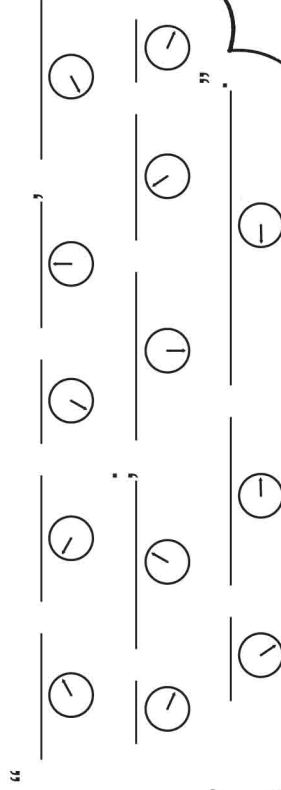
Ages 7+

Use this clock code to fill in the blanks.

What happened next?



A voice came from heaven and said,



Circle 12 differences in the second picture.



SECRET CODE

SJG589

Jesus was also baptized by John.
This pleased God.

Find these pictures.



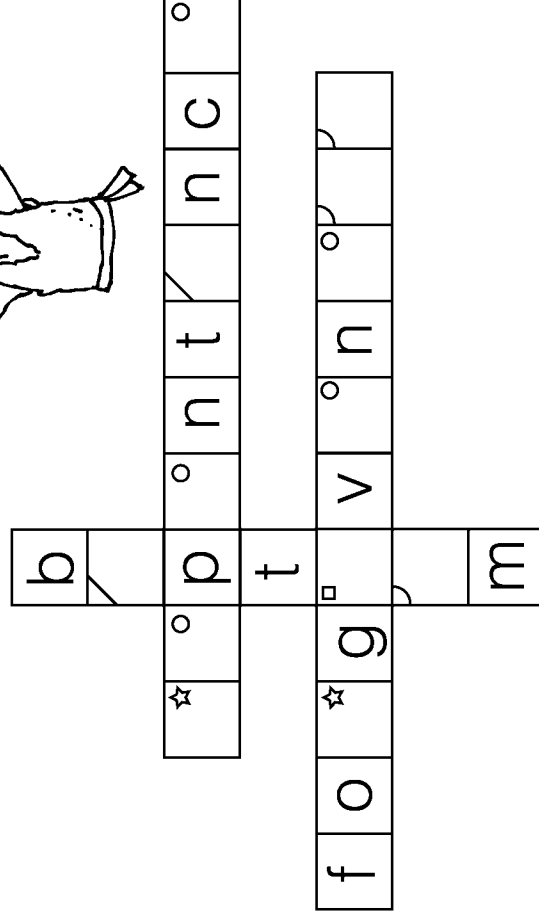
The Baptism of Jesus

John the Baptist was
in the wilderness preaching about ...

Use the code to fill in the missing letters.

☐ = a ☐ = e ☐ = i

☐ = r ☐ = s



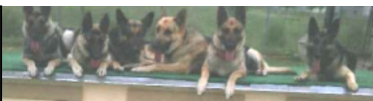


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