ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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 *e of the Holy Spirit, proclaim the*

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:

Wednesdays: 7:00p.m. Combined Adult/Youth Choir: Wednesdays before 4th Sundays: 7:00p.m. 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.

JUNE 13, 2021

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:<u>www.sfxhouston.com</u>



MASS INTENTIONS



RUBY MAE WILLIAMS 1925-2021

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



Deacon Alfred Abram, Michael Albert, Savannah Blackwell, Wanda Caesar, 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, Roy Lee, 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 Orsort, Cynethia Pichon, Marcelle Prevost, Carole Pryor, Melody Ratcliff, Elise Richmond, Evelyn Roberts, Oliver Rose, Myrtle Rubin, Carlos Ruff, Mary Sias, Simon Smith, Joyce Stagg, MacKenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor, 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, Christian Johnson, Hope Bethany Johnson

Air Force:

Roderick Jones, Joffre Lander, Terrance J Valiare, Thomas Q Valiare II <u>Marines</u>

Alyssa Dugar, Reginald Ward



SFX GABRIEL PROJECT Pregnant? Need Help? Call 713-225-5826

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



We hear Jesus tell two parables today, each especially relevant at this time of year when our fields and gardens teem with growing plants. To describe the kingdom of God, first Jesus compares it to someone scattering seed on a fertile field. Then he compares it to a tiny mustard seed, which grows into a huge plant. Let today's readings sweep us away in wonder at the way God's creation blooms.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK **Sunday** – June 13 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time Ezekiel 17:22-24 Psalm 92:2-3, 13-16 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 Mark 4:26-34 Monday – June 14 2 Corinthians 6:1-10 Psalm 98:1, 2, 3-4 Matthew 5:38-42 **Tuesday** – June 15 2 Corinthians 8:1-9 Psalm 146:2, 5-9 Matthew 5:43-48 Wednesday – June 16 2 Corinthians 9:6-11 Psalm 112:1-4, 9 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18 Thursday – June 17 2 Corinthians 11:1-11 Psalm 111:1-4, 7-8 Matthew 6:7-15 Friday – June 18 2 Corinthians 11:18, 21-30 Psalm 34:2-7 Matthew 6:19-23 **E** Saturday – June 19 Saint Romuald, Abbot 2 Corinthians 12:1-10 Psalm 34:8-13 Matthew 6:24-34



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



June 2 Michael & Stephanie Campbell (31 yrs)



We remember ... our deceased Veteran Thomas "Tom" Burney 1939-2019



55+ Club Fifty-Five Plus Club Dues for 2021 will be collected during the month of June. Members may drop

your dues in the Harris Center Dropbox, or you may mail it to the Parish Office.



7:30am & 10:00am Choir Rehearsals Resume

VOICES FOR CHRIST

The 7:30am & 10:00am Choir rehearsals have resumed on Wednesdays at 7:00pm. We will have a combined rehearsal with the Youth Choir on June 23rd. Come on people, let's sing about the goodness of the Lord!

Stewardship Reflection

That all of our parish ministries work together for the glory of God's name and not for our own pride and ego. "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil." - 2 Corinthians 5:10 We are all accountable for all of the gifts God has given us - our time, our talent and our treasure; everything we have and everything we are. Each of us is accountable not only for our own life but for the lives of others as well. One day God will ask each of us what did we do with the gifts we were given. How will you respond?

2021 LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Together with the Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), The Metropolitan Organization (TMO) is offering Leadership Training!

This training is for leaders who want to:

- During this pandemic, How are we the Church?
- Develop more leaders for the Church
- Work together for the Common Good
- Fight for issues important to our Communities
- **Training Dates**
- Friday, June 25th 7pm 8:30 pm
- Saturday, July 26th 10am 3:30 pm There is no cost to participate. We ask that you attend both days and that you register at:

www.tmohouston.org/2021 rts.





Kenneth Earl Davis passed away on June 8, 2021. Funeral arrangements are pending. Mr. Davis is the son of Edward Davis, Eternal Rest Grant unto his soul.

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.

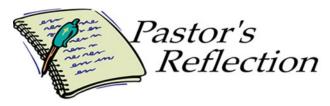


The Foundation for Women's Energy Network (FWEN) is pleased to offer several scholarship opportunities this year. The WEN Foundation Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to women in preparation for careers in energy or STEM-related fields. Scholarships are typically awarded in June for use in the upcoming academic year. Amount awarded to successful candidates are at the discretion of the FWEN Scholarship Committee.

more information For contact: www.wenfoundation.org. **DEADLINE: JUNE 15, 2021**

ATTENDANCE

Attendance on June 5th & June 6th was 287. 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.



The Coming of the Kingdom of God

If I may be allowed to make an assumption, we all have a future desire that we wish is realized today. We want instant gratification. For that reason, we read the Bible and pray for prosperity now. We do want to reap and enjoy the fruit of our labor now. We behave and pray with the king-baby attitude: I want what I want now!

For us, in an incredibly challenging way, Jesus presents two puzzles to describe the Kingdom of God that we desire to be part of. The first is about a farmer who scatters seeds and goes to sleep. Hearing this parable for the first time seems to contradict the first commandment God gave to Adam and his descendants to be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it (Gen 1:28). According to the parable, after spreading the seeds, the farmer does nothing else but sleep and wake-up day after day, awaiting the harvest. It stresses the power of the seed to grow in and of itself. It miraculously produces the blade, ear, and finally the ripe grain. All that the farmer needs to do is to gather at harvest time. But Jesus knew better. Tending the land and planting, as well as taking care of the crops until harvest is a full-time job.

Jesus knew that his call to make present the reign of God has earned him some mortal enemies who have malevolent intentions. His teachings and actions have been insulting to them. So, this parable is intended to plant the seed of faith and remove weeds. His approach to ministry, i.e. welcoming people, healing activities, seeking the poor and the outcast, were like water on the parched ground. It did not seem to produce any fruit. God does not operate on human timetable. Thus, Jesus tells his disciples with this parable that the object of their hope and the results of their work were beyond their control. The right attitude to adopt is to let God act on the seed in His own terms, and that they remain true to themselves and their purpose. With the parable of the mustard seed, Jesus tells his followers that although they could not do anything to establish His kingdom, God had a better plan already in operation. This is because God is unmanageable and as prolific as weed. All that is needed is trust in Him. The Kingdom of God will be a problem to everyone who wants to maintain control because no one can see or understand it.

Prior to Jesus' parables of the sower and the mustard seed, the Prophet Ezekiel had criticized Israel's unfaithfulness to the covenant and reminded the people that the Lord is their only consolation. In an allegorical way, using a tender shoot from the cedar which will bear fruit and become a majestic tree, the Prophet describes the restoration of Israel. By God's grace this graft, the tender shoot, planted on the mountain heights will grow massively. All the other trees (nations) will recognize the grandeur of this one. This tree, Israel, will serve as a sign and a witness to God, and not as a source of domination.

Any of Jesus' disciples who considers him/herself as God's majestic cedar ought to remember that their vocation is to bear fruit and be a shelter to all. The prosperous people are those who allow God to work through them.

Jesus tells these farming parables to illustrate the future we are working toward. He reminds us that just as the tiny mustard seed can grow into a large tree, everyone one of us is called to grow in our lifetime. We are to plant proverbial seeds and nurture them into something that will endure into the next generation. Though we may not see our destination, we must trust that our efforts will one day bring us across the gap we have built. When we become despaired at the slow pace of our work and its results, we encourage and support each other with stories of humility, justice and mercy. May we pray for a world where we all can take root like on the mountain top cedar and enjoy blessings that are enough for everybody.





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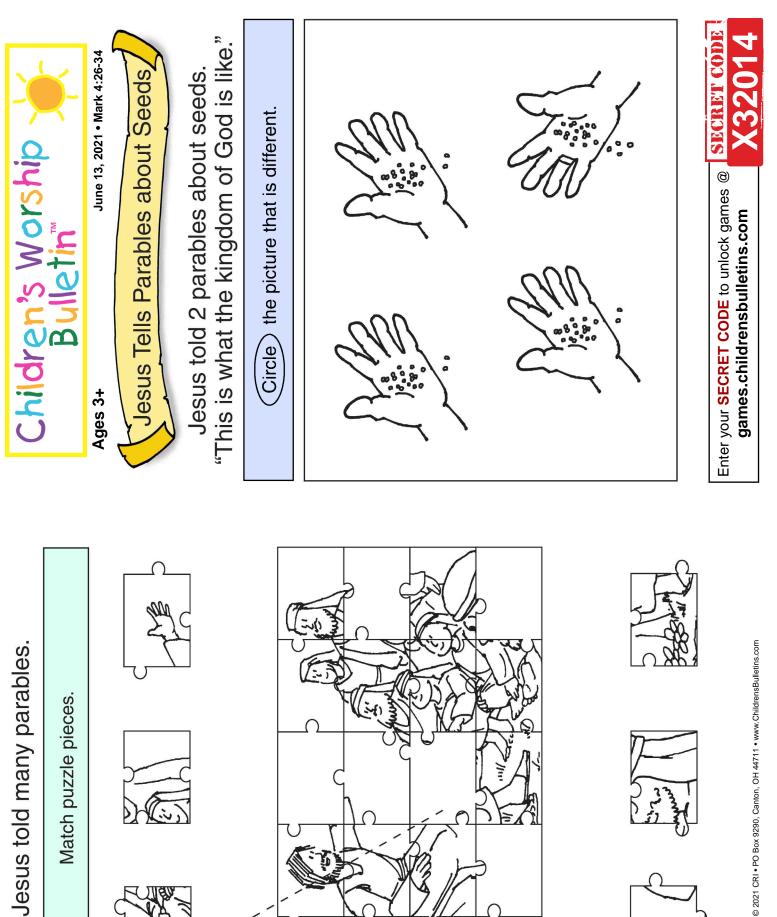
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SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 2021

11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

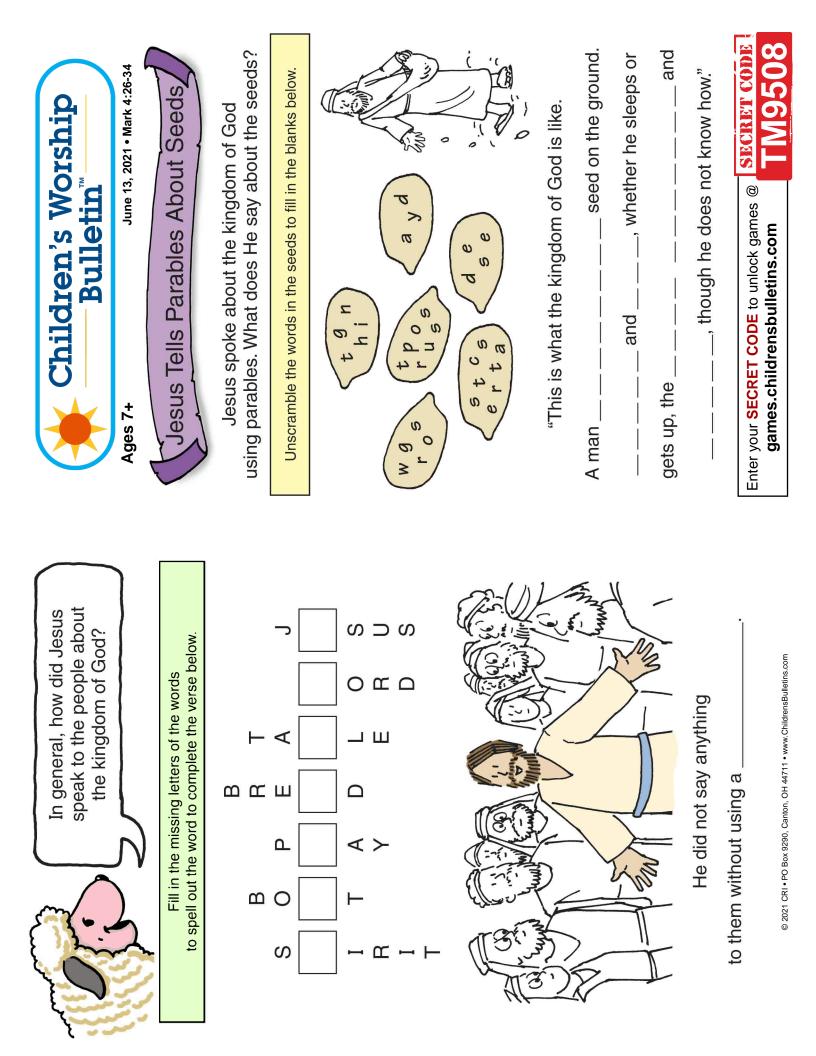
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"To what shall we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it? It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth. But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants."- Mk 4:30-32b



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