

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 7, 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:

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

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SAT. 03/06/2021 5:00PM**  
*Theresa G. Savoy (L)*  
 SFX Sisters in the Spirit  
*Amy Landry Gallow & Dallas Gallow, Sr.*  
 Wanda Dixon/Family  
*Leo E. Prescott, Jr. (D)* – Wanda Johnson  
*Michael Taylor (D)* – Jeanette Steptoe  
*Kristina M. Chaney (D)*  
 Family & Friends

**SUN. 03/07/2021 7:30AM**  
*People of the Parish*

**SUN. 03/07/2021 10:00AM**  
*Zirah Thomas (D)* – Patricia Session  
*John Friedrichs (D)*  
 James & Bonnie Jefferson  
*Aaron Cambre (D)*  
 James & Bonnie Jefferson  
*Kristina M. Chaney (D)*  
 Family & Friends  
*Demetria C. Ford (L)*  
 Cheryl D. Henderson & Family

**MON. 03/08/2021 7:00AM**  
*Vivian Willis (D)* – Annette Willis  
*Ronald Walcott (D)* – Tywana Navy

**TUE. 03/09/2021 7:00AM**  
*Augie Magbual (D)*  
 Shirley & Belinda Foreman  
*Tamara Sanders (D)* – Tywana Navy

**WED. 03/10/2021 7:00AM**  
*Bea Harris (D)* – Ollie Duplechain  
*Ruby Mose (D)* – Tywana Navy

**THUR. 03/11/2021 7:00AM**  
*Joyce Berotte (L)* – Tywana Navy  
*P.A. Piper & Family (L)*  
 The Chaney Family

**FRI. 03/12/2021 7:00AM**  
*Vivian Willis (D)* – Annette Willis  
*Victoria (Ms. Vicki) Powell (D)*  
 Tywana Navy



**Michael Jones**, Brother of Josie Wiltz, passed away this week. Funeral arrangements are pending. Eternal rest grant unto his soul.

**Mary Yvette Darby**, Sister of Patrick Clay, passed away. Funeral services were held on March 2, 2021 in Opelousas, LA. Eternal rest grant unto her soul.



Deacon Alfred Abram, Savannah Blackwell, Julius Cadoree, Margaret Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Wanda Caesar, Sterling Dotson Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr., Barbara Forte', Ursula Gross, Jimmy Harris, Robert Harris, Willie Mae Henderson, Brooke Joseph, Kennedy Family Members, Helen Kennison, JoAnn LaSane, Ophelia Lazard, Sierra Ledet, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Cynthia Ann Malone, Charles Martin, Marjorie Carmouche Martin, Shannon Martin, Dorothy Milstead, Vy. Rev. William L. Norvel, SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Helen Foreman Orsort, Cynethia Pichon, Marcelle Prevost, Carole Pryor, Herman Rayme, Elise Richmond, Evelyn Roberts, Oliver Rose, Simon Smith, Joyce Stagg, MacKenzie Swanks, Kennedy Swanks, Erma Taylor, Agnes Williams, Patricia Williams, Eddie Wilson, 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, 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.

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**



When we celebrate the First Scrutiny, we hear readings that focus on water and it's ability to satisfy our physical and spiritual thirst. God provided

water in the desert to the Chosen People, a miraculous event that quenched their thirst and revealed the LORD's presence. Saint Paul alludes to the promises we made at baptism, which we specifically renew at Easter, that declare our faith, which saves us. In the Gospel, Jesus offers the Samaritan woman water that will bring eternal life. May God's word satisfy our thirst.

**READINGS**

**FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday – March 7**

*3rd Sunday of Lent*

Exodus 17:3-7

Psalm 95:1-2, 6-9

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

John 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42

**Monday – March 8**

*Saint John of God, Religious*

2 Kings 5:1-15

Psalm 42:2-3; 43:3-4

Luke 4:24-30

**Tuesday – March 9**

*Saint Frances of Rome, Religious*

Daniel 3:25, 34-43

Psalm 25:4-5, 6, 7, 8-9

Matthew 18:21-35

**Wednesday – March 10**

Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9

Psalm 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20

Matthew 5:17-19

**Thursday – March 11**

Jeremiah 7:23-28

Psalm 95:1-2, 6-9

Luke 11:14-23

**Friday – March 12**

Hosea 14:2-10

Psalm 81:6-11, 14, 17

Mark 12:28-34

**Saturday – March 13**

Hosea 6:1-6

Psalm 51:3-4, 18-21

Luke 18:9-14



March 8<sup>th</sup> .....6:00pm  
**6<sup>TH</sup>-10<sup>TH</sup> CCE CLASSES**  
 March 13<sup>th</sup> .....9:30am  
**PRE-K-5<sup>TH</sup> CCE CLASSES**



**Lenten Revival:**

*Outdoor Stations of the Cross  
 (In the Prayer Garden)*

*Every Friday during Lent  
 5:30pm*

*Laetare Sunday-Wear Pink/Rose*

*March 14*

**Holy Week**

**Palm Sunday – March 28**

*Palm Procession – Prayer Garden to  
 Church*

**Holy Thursday – April 1**

**Mass.....6:00pm**

**Livestream Available  
 (No Morning Mass)**

**Good Friday – April 2**

**Outdoor Stations..... 2:00pm**

**Good Friday Service.....3:00pm  
 (No Mass)**

**Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)**

**April 3**

**Mass.....8:00pm**

**(No 5:00pm Mass)**

**Easter Sunday - April 4**

**Regular Mass Schedules**

**RCIA**

**Rite of Election**



Parishioners who attended the Vigil Mass on February 24<sup>th</sup>, witnessed a rare ceremony called ‘*Rite of Election*’. After the Homily, Deacon Jenkins declared to Father Michael that two Catechumens, **Tim Burris** and **Kelly Robles**, were ready to participate in the Sacraments on Holy Saturday. Father Michael called the Catechumens and their sponsors up. He asked the sponsors 4 questions to make sure they were ready. Once he heard from the sponsors, he told the Catechumens to give their names for enrollment into the Book of the Elect by Deacon Jenkins. Father Michael then dated and signed the Book, signifying approval. Having their names in the Book of the Elect means they are committed to be faithful to the God who chose them!

**NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION**

Next week, our parish will take up **The Catholic Relief Services Collection**. This collection supports six Catholic agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. The funds from this collection help provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and Christ’s love and respect to all people. Next week, please give generously and help Jesus in disguise.

*Stewardship Reflection*

That we may learn to turn away from the false idols of our society – those visible and invisible. “*You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything...*” - Exodus 20:4. How many “gods” do you put before God? “Idols” do not always take the shape of physical things, things we can touch and feel. Those are easy to recognize. Many times they take the form of things we cannot touch and are much harder to spot like pride, power, ego, time, comfort or health. Pray for God’s help to prune our vices and to grow in virtue.



Filling pantries. Filling lives.

**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 **Mar. 26, Apr. 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](mailto:events@stthom.edu).

**ATTENDANCE**

Attendance on February 27<sup>th</sup> & February 28<sup>th</sup> was **182**. The 7:30am Livestream was viewed online by **345**. 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.

**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.**



## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (Cycle B)

March 7, 2021

*"[Jesus] made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area..."*

John 2:15

**If Jesus came into *your temple*, what would He have to drive out, and would you even allow Jesus in your temple?**

Lent is that period on the church's calendar where Christians prepare to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. We should strive to have a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully.

In today's gospel (John 2:13-25) Jesus arrives in Jerusalem to conclude His three and a half year ministry. The Scripture tells us that the "*Passover is near*" John 2:13.

Once in Jerusalem, Jesus went to His Father's house (the temple). In the temple area, Jesus "*found those who sold oxen, sheep and doves as well as the money-changers*" John 2:14. People would travel for miles to worship and celebrate the Passover and offer their sacrifices so they could atone for their sins. It would take some of them weeks to get to Jerusalem, so instead of traveling with live animals—they would purchase the animals when they arrived in Jerusalem and exchange money. The Jewish worshippers would also have to bring and pay a temple tax. Even today when you travel overseas—you must use the currency of that country to negotiate trade. The money exchangers would take the currency of a Jew from another country and exchange it for Jerusalem's currency.

When Jesus saw all of this occurring in the temple area, "*He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen and spilled the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables, and to those who sold doves*" John 2:15. Jesus also said, "*take these out of here, and stop making My Father's house a marketplace*" John 2:16.

In St. Paul's epistle to the church in Corinth, Paul

wrote, "*your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you*" I Corinthians 6:19. Just like the temple in Jerusalem, our temple needs to be cleansed and swept out by Jesus.

How do you know what needs to be swept or driven out of your temple? Please read the first reading (Exodus 20)—which list the Ten Commandments. If you are breaking any of the commandments, then those violations need to be driven out of your temple.



Will you [even] allow Jesus into your temple? Years ago I was at a hotel in another city and when I returned that afternoon, housekeeping had not cleaned my room. When I notified housekeeping that my room was not cleaned, a lady in that department said, "you have a **DO NOT DISTURB** sign on your door, and we are not allowed to enter a room when we see that sign." **Remove that sign**, if you have it on the door of your temple, so Jesus can enter in and clean up.

◇◇ Deacon Jenkins



## Covid-19 Rental Assistance

**St. Vincent De Paul Society** and **Saint Francis Xavier Young Adults** secured a grant from ACAM (Alliance of Community Assistance Ministries) to help with rental assistance for those at risk of eviction. Call the SVdP Food Pantry at **(713) 731-2716** for more information.

### **Qualifications:**

- Must live in area code 77033 or 77051
- Must have a valid state or federal identification and social security card
- Must have legal U.S. citizenship or resident status (or kids are citizens & parents are on the birth certificate)
- Must be below 80% average median income for Harris County
- Must have proof of income: 30 days of paycheck stubs, workmen's compensation letter, all award letters (ex. SSI/SSDI, TANF, food stamps, pension vet benefits, child)
- Applicant must be head of household
- You must provide a valid Lease or mortgage statement
- You must demonstrate proof of need such as vacate notice with the client's name on it, a documented hardship or proof of exhausting income
- Your Landlord or Mortgage Company must be willing to work with Harris County & guarantee residency for the next 30 days

### **The Following are Additional Rent Relief Programs:**

- The Houston-Harris Rental Assistance Program <https://houstonharrishelp.org>
- The Texas Rent Relief Program <https://texasrentrelief.com> or call (833) 989-7368
- The Texas Eviction Diversion Program [www.TexasRentRelief.com](http://www.TexasRentRelief.com) or call (833) 989-7368
- Texas Emergency Rental Assistance Program Administered by the Harris County Community Services Department (TERAP) [www.HousingandCommunityResources.net/covid-19-rental-assistance](http://www.HousingandCommunityResources.net/covid-19-rental-assistance)
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Eviction Moratorium <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-eviction-declaration.html>

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## **#1 Webinar**

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Mar 9, 2021 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Topic: IGNITE Campaign Webinar #1



Please click the link below or scan the barcode to join the webinar:

<https://guidanceingiving.zoom.us/j/81527308583?pwd=dExVNHMxNVdESDRGY2hjQ1ora2UrZz09>

Passcode: 031325

## **#2 Webinar**

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Mar 11, 2021 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Topic: IGNITE Campaign Webinar #2



Please click the link below or scan the barcode to join the webinar:

<https://guidanceingiving.zoom.us/j/82364336333?pwd=QVlxd0VxZGthSW1ZeFBpdHRNdDB4UT09>

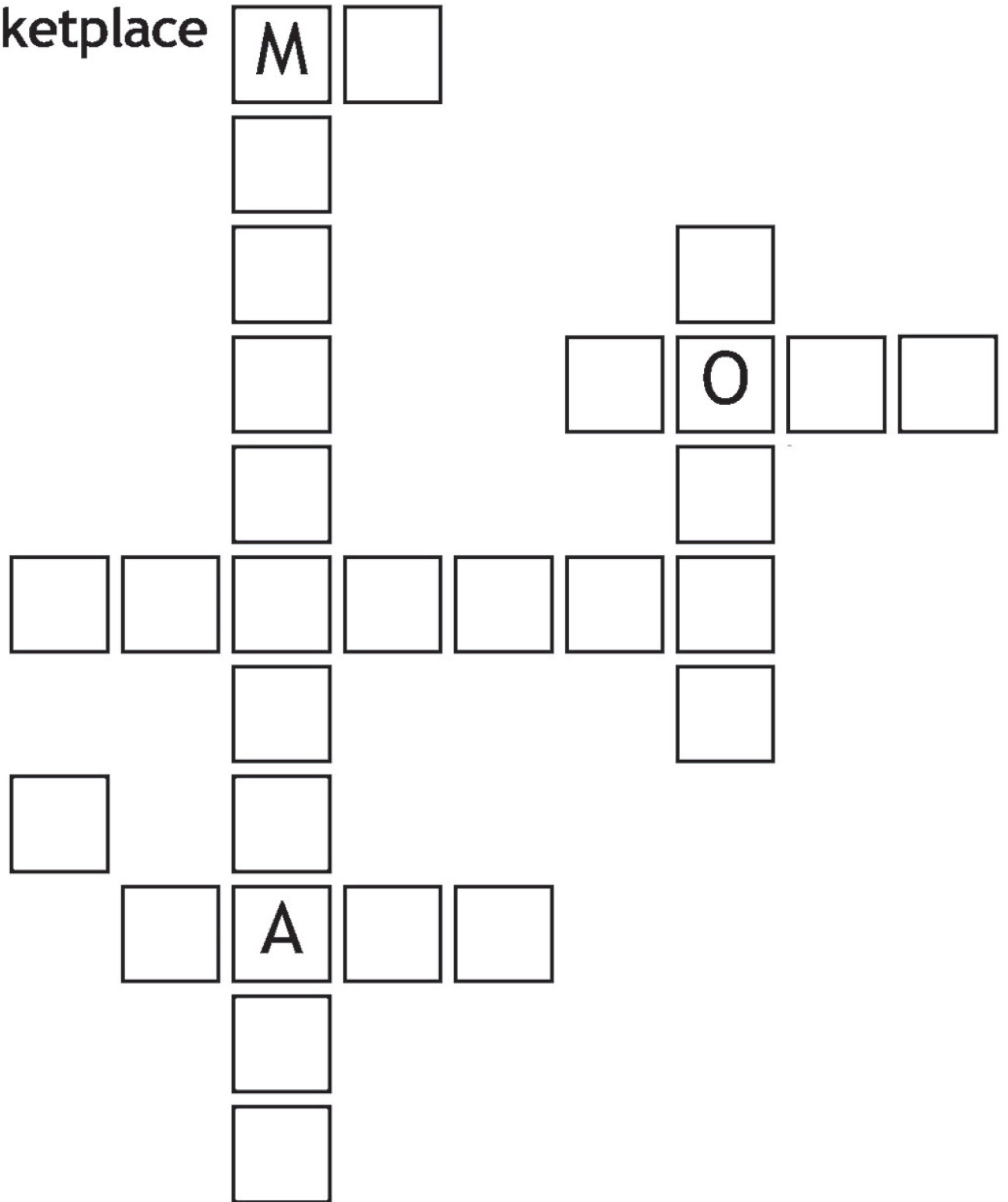
Passcode: 291769

# KIDS CORNER

## READ THE GOSPEL AND COMPLETE A PUZZLE!

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

Don't make my Father's house a marketplace



### SHARING THE GOSPEL

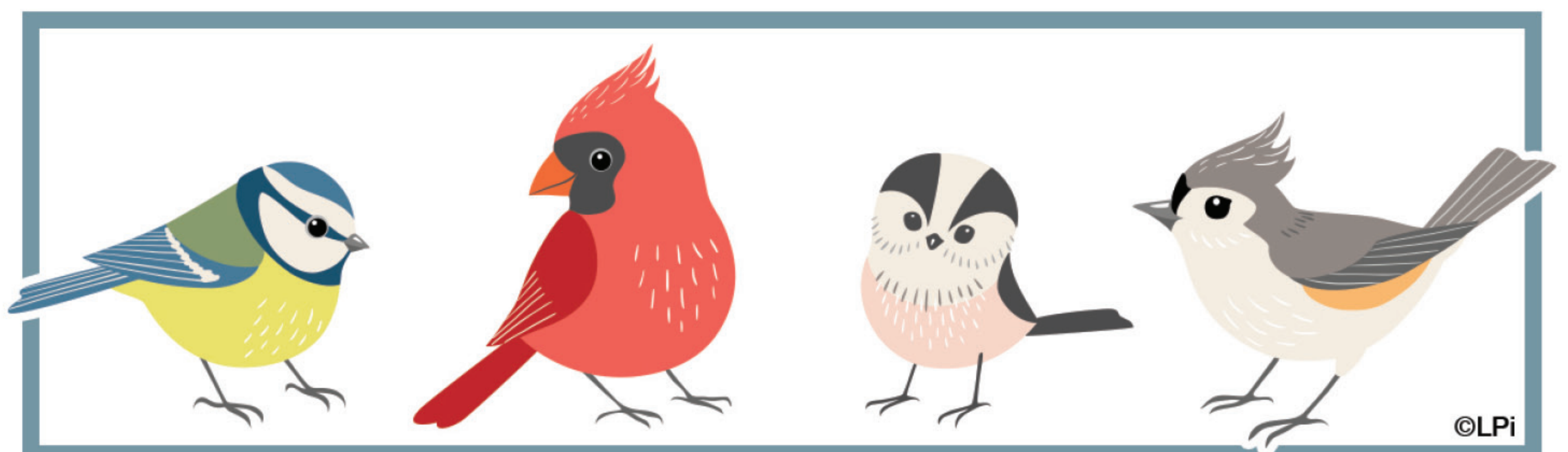
Imagine coming to your church to pray. All around your church, you see people selling animals. It smells like a barn. The animals are loud. The people are shouting. You cannot even pray with all the noise and activity going on around you. That is what Jesus found in today's Gospel. It broke his heart and made Jesus angry. God's house is not supposed to be turned into a barn or a store. It should be special place where people can meet with God and talk to him. Jesus cleaned out his Father's house. He turned it back into a place of prayer.

### PRAYER

God, my church is a place for prayer. Help me to remember that always.

### MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Read John 2:13-25 with your family. Ask God to help you keep your church clean. Church should never be a store or a barn. It should be a special place to pray.





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