

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 12, 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/MAINTENANCE

Curtis Jones

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

Tuesdays: 7:00p.m.

Wednesdays: 7:00p.m.

Combined Adult/Youth Choir:

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

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/NEWCOMERS

To register, call or come by the parish office or visit our website at: www.sfxhouston.com

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MASS INTENTIONS

SAT. 09/11/2021 5:00PM
<i>Thanksgiving – Wanda Johnson</i>
<i>Jasmine N. Johnson (L) – Wanda Johnson</i>
<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i>
Family & Friends
<i>Earlene Duplechaine/Joseph Duplechaine</i>
The Duplechaine Family
<i>Deacon Albert Henry (D) – Family</i>
SUN. 09/12/2021 7:30AM
<i>People of the Parish</i>
SUN. 09/12/2021 10:00AM
<i>Wesley Wiltz (D) – Wiltz Family</i>
<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i>
Family & Friends
<i>Joseph G. Mire (D)</i>
Mire & Knighton Families
<i>Theresa Baltrip (L)</i>
Children & Grandchildren
<i>Amy Landry Gallow & Dallas Gallow, Sr.</i>
Wanda Dixon/Family
MON. 09/13/2021 7:00AM
<i>My-Chi Family (L) – Susy Suong</i>
<i>Silas & Sheryl Channell (D)</i>
Shirley & Belinda Foreman
TUE. 09/14/2021 7:00AM
<i>Thelma Calegon (D) – Paulette Boxie</i>
<i>Charolette Davis (D) – Tywanna Navy</i>
WED. 09/15/2021 7:00AM
<i>Herbert Goodwin, Jr. (D)</i>
The Goodwin Children
<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i>
Family & Friends
THUR. 09/16/2021 7:00AM
<i>R.L. Henderson (D)</i>
Willie Mae Henderson & Family
<i>Sidney & Irene White (D) – Audrey Otis</i>
FRI. 09/17/2021 7:00AM
<i>My-Chi (L) – Susy Suong</i>
<i>Luis Gomez (D) – Tywanna Navy</i>



Lionel Joseph Russell, Jr. passed away on September 2, 2021, at the age of 92. A Funeral Mass was celebrated on Friday, September 10, 2021. Eternal Rest Grant unto his soul.

David Christopher Landry passed away at the age of 47. Mr. Landry is the Son of Cecil Bax. A Memorial Service will be celebrated on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at Mabrie Mortuary Rose Chapel. Eternal Rest Grant unto his soul.



Deacon Alfred Abram, Savannah Blackwell, Helen Brown, Julius Cadoree, Margaret Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Sterling Dotson Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr., Frank Davis Sr., Marlene Davis, 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, 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, Marcelle Prevost, Carole Pryor, Melody Ratcliff, Herman Rayme, Elise Richmond, Evelyn Roberts, Sylvia Robertson, Oliver Rose, Mary Shaw, Simon Smith, Angela Stagg, 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:

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

Marines:

Alyssa Dugar, Reginald Ward

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Living a disciple's life is not easy. Isaiah is proud to serve the LORD, but it's difficult. Facing opposition and abuse, he relies on God's help. James preaches that faith

obligates us to do good, to actually act on our beliefs. Jesus tells the crowd that whoever follows him must take up his or her cross. Listening to today's readings, let us reflect on how our faith both challenges us to do more and comforts us as we act in the Lord's name.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK**Sunday – September 12**

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 50:4-9

Psalms 116:1-6, 8-9

James 2:14-18

Mark 8:27-35

Monday – September 13

Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

1 Timothy 2:1-8

Psalms 28:2, 7-9

Luke 7:1-10

Tuesday – September 14

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Numbers 21:4-9

Psalms 78:1-2, 34-38

Philippians 2:6-11

John 3:13-17

Wednesday – September 15

Our Lady of Sorrows

1 Timothy 3:14-16

Psalms 111:1-6

John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35

Thursday – September 16

Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

1 Timothy 4:12-16

Psalms 111:7-10

Luke 7:36-50

Friday – September 17

1 Timothy 6:2-12

Psalms 49:6-10, 17-20

Luke 8:1-3

Saturday – September 18

1 Timothy 6:13-16

Psalms 100:1-5

Luke 8:4-15



CCE Registration is **Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays**, from **9:30am to 4:00pm**. CCE Classes begin on **Monday, September 20th** for 6th-10th Grade and **Saturday, September 25th** for Pre-K thru 5th 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. 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



ALTAR SERVERS

The next Altar Server Practice is on **Saturday, September 25th**, from **11:00am to 1:00pm**.



BUS TRIP TO COUSHATTA

KPC Ladies Auxiliary Ct. #138 will have a bus trip to the Coshatta Casino on **Saturday, October 9, 2021**. We will start boarding at **7:30am**; Departing from St. Francis Xavier Church at **8:00 am**; Leaving Coshatta at **5:00pm** to return. The cost per person is **\$30.00**. To reserve your seat contact:

Jeanette Steptoe (713) 733-6210, or Anne Auzenne (281) 451-6249

ATTENDANCE

Attendance on September 4th & September 5th was **261**. The 7:30am Livestream received **191** views online. 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.



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5th 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.

The last **Bazaar Team** Meeting is scheduled for **October 5th** at 6:00p.m. in the Harris Center Auditorium.

Stewardship Reflection

Remembering that absolutely everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God. "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." Mark 8:34 Living a stewardship lifestyle means not only being responsible for my own life, but for the lives of others as well. We realize that our gifts are not intended for ourselves, rather they are meant to be shared with others. "Taking up my cross" means doing things when someone else needs me and not when it's convenient for me.

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.

Exaltation OF THE Cross

Question:

What is the history behind the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross?

Answer:

Emperor Constantine's mother, Helena, is credited with having discovered the true cross around 330. She traveled to the Holy Land and uncovered the places associated with Jesus' life. Legend has it that Helena uncovered three crosses but was not able to detect the true cross until each of them was laid on a leper. Only one of them cured the leper, proving it to be the true cross. A great church was built at the site, and soon various portions of the cross were sent to other churches as relics to be venerated.

The day after the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, **September 14, 335**, the actual cross was displayed for veneration. Egeria, a woman traveler to Jerusalem around the year 386, kept a diary that has survived. She tells of the unique veneration of the wood of the cross that took place on Good Friday, something maintained ritually to this very day.

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross focuses on the gift of love that Jesus manifested by his total gift of self, offered for all. The cross, the ultimate form of capital punishment in its day, has become for us the ultimate symbol of love and triumph over evil and death.

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Marked by Suffering Who do you say that I am?

What is your favorite story about Jesus Christ? How would you describe him to others from your own experience? How would you behave if someone were to tell you that your understanding of Jesus as: Savior, understanding friend, a merciful and forgiving person, a great teacher, a powerful healer, a good shepherd, the Sacred Heart, an advocate for the poor, an eternal king, the Son of God, and a great storyteller does not paint a complete picture of Jesus?

Rationally speaking, none of us like pain and suffering. Thus, if someone were to tell you that the correct description of Jesus is that he is a suffering servant who requires anyone who wants to be his follower to be like him, a suffering servant, would you accept it? I do not believe that any of us wants to be defined by suffering. We will most certainly reject the notion that we can only get to know God through suffering.

The Prophet Isaiah reminds us today of what we hear on every Palm Sunday and Wednesday of the Holy Week. The Prophet describes to us a servant whom God has chosen from before his birth to, through suffering, be a light to Israel, and the nations' and his people. The Prophet in vivid details describes the suffering that this unidentified servant would endure for the sake of his ministry. For him to speak words that would rouse his colleagues, he would endure their rejection. In establishing justice for the nations, he would let himself be beaten and mocked. To be a light to the nations and bring freedom to prisoners, he must accept being spat upon. To bring healing and wholeness to the blind, the lame and the deaf, he must set his face like flint and give himself over to the wrath of those he has come to save.

This suffering servant is identified at Caesarea Philippi in the person and through the mission of Jesus Christ. With divine assistance Peter identified Jesus as that person. Jesus then provides the template for understanding what a suffering servant means. But the problem of a suffering Messiah made Peter and many people lose faith in God and in Jesus

Christ. Without divine assistance Peter could not have identified Jesus as Christ, the suffering Messiah. Even when Jesus instructed Peter and those who were with him that the Messiah must suffer if he is to fulfil the role identified by Isaiah, Peter could not accept it. He rejected it, and for that Jesus reprimanded him.

Jesus insisted that His followers must be identified in the same way. Through suffering, his disciples would become who they really are. Suffering that Jesus prescribed for His disciple is not suffering for suffering's sake. This suffering brings unity with Jesus and effects redemption.

In his book *"Civilization and Its Discontents"* (1989), Sigmund Freud suggests that three types of suffering threaten us: a) physical suffering which comes from our own body and ends overtime. It does not do more than bring pain and anxiety; b) Suffering from the external world, which is the overwhelming and merciless forces of destruction; and c) finally, suffering from our relationships with other people. The latter suffering is the most painful. It is this suffering that the Prophet Isaiah talked about, and Jesus realized it. Jesus immersed himself completely in human condition and experienced every aspect of this suffering in order to translate his experience into an eloquent expression of love. Our suffering, when identified this way, makes us Christ's own.

So, suffering for the sake of Christ means being marked by what the Prophet Isaiah said about the suffering servant. This means losing our life by getting rid of our selfishness, pride, negative attitudes, and the unholy side of ourselves that blocks our closeness to God through Christ. To answer the question: **"who do you say I am?"** is not a matter of giving the right answer. Rather it is getting to know Jesus Christ better and not trying to make him into who we want him to be as Peter attempted to do. It is living and abiding in God's word that is expressed through the living experience of Jesus Christ.

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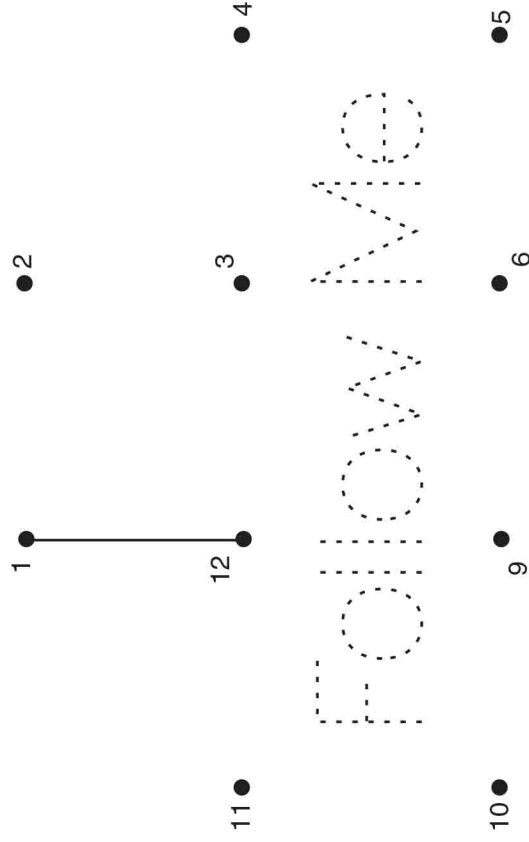
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Then Jesus told the crowd and His disciples, "Whoever wants to be My disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me."

Trace the letters.

Connect the dots. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12



8 ● 7

Who Do You Say I Am?

Some people thought Jesus was John the Baptist, Elijah or another prophet.

Match the pictures.



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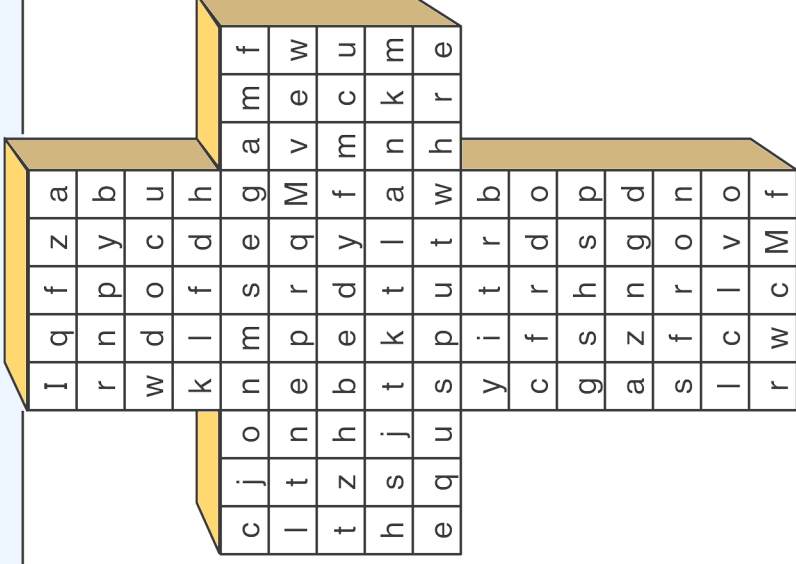


Ages 7+

Begin with the second letter and cross out every other letter.
The letters that remain are the words Jesus said to the crowd.
Write them in order on the lines.

Jesus Is the Christ

Use the graph to find their answer.



They replied, "Some say

4.10	2.8	1.10	1.7	1.6	4.6	4.10	2.9	4.9	4.10
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1.10	3.7	2.9	2.10	1.6	2.8
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3,10 3,9 1,10 3,10 2,6 4,10 2,8 1,10

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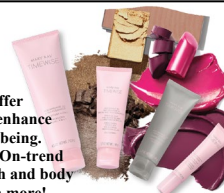
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