

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

*(Staffed by The Josephites since 1952)*

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 4, 2022



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>  
YouTube: St. Francis Xavier Houston

## 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:

Vy. Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman, SSJ

## PAROCHIAL VICAR:

Rev. John Patrick Tindana

## 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

## WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Sat: Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Sun: 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:15pm

## WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday: 7:00 a.m.

First Friday: 7:00 a.m.

Holy Days: 7:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

## CONFESSIONS

One (1) hour before Weekend Masses or by appointment

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

First Friday: 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

## CHOIR REHEARSALS:

### Adult Choirs

Wednesdays: 6:30p.m.

Thursdays: 7:00p.m.

### Youth Choir

4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays: 12:00 Noon

## CHOIR DIRECTORS:

Jerry Givens 281.772.9276

Daniel Guerrero 281.723.9948

Mikayla Peugh 832.920.6912

## 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. Classes are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays of the month from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Call the Parish Office to register for the class.

## SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact a priest a minimum of six months prior to your proposed wedding date.

## WELCOME VISITORS/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

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Text \$ amount to 281-949-7600

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

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SAT. 12/03/2022 10:00AM**  
*The Scott Family (D)*  
 Stephanie Goodwin  
*Leo E. Prescott, Jr. (D)*  
 Wanda Johnson  
*Joseph Duplechaine (D)*  
*Earlene Duplechaine(D)*  
 The Duplechaine Family  
*Deacon Albert Henry (D) – The Family*  
*Kristina M. Chaney (D)*  
 Family & Friends

**SUN. 12/04/2022 7:30AM**  
*Kristina M. Chaney (D)*  
 Family & Friends  
*Audrey DeCuir Grant (L)*  
 DeCuir/Balthazar Family  
*Gemma Walcott (L) Special Intention*  
*Rev. Dr. Ronald K. Mouton, Sr. (D)*  
 Shirley & Belinda Foreman  
*Ezzard Sam (D) – Theresa Rayme*

**SUN. 12/04/2022 10:00AM**  
*People of the Parish*

**SUN. 12/04/2022 12:15PM**  
*People of the Parish*

**MON. 12/05/2022 7:00AM**  
*Joyce Berotte (L) – Tywana Navy*  
*Irene Hutchins (D)*  
 The Holdman Family

**TUE. 12/06/2022 7:00AM**  
*Geraldine Lewis (D) – Audrey Otis*  
*John Peterson (D) – Olivia Holdman*

**WED. 12/07/2022 7:00AM**  
*Evelyn Herbert-Briggs (L)*  
 Special Intention  
*Daryllyn Harrison (L)*  
 Shirley & Belinda Foreman

**THUR. 12/08/2022 7:00AM**  
*Paul Ledet (D) – Parents*  
*Kerry Ledet (D)*  
 Levan & Dolores Ledet

**THUR. 12/08/2022 6:00PM**  
*The Immaculate Conception*  
*People of the Parish*

**FRI. 12/09/2022 7:00AM**  
*Kristina M. Chaney (D)*  
 Family & Friends  
*Lawrence Hutchins (D)*  
 Olivia Holdman



Donald Abraham, Deacon  
 Alfred Abram, Gary  
 Anderson, Rev. Alfred Ayem,  
 Nova Baker, Clara Barras,  
 Kelly Batiste, Augustina Buckman,  
 Savannah Blackwell, Hal Tracy Bobino,  
 Amber Byas, Julius Cadoree, Margaret  
 Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Sterling Dotson  
 Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr., Joseph  
 Cunningham, Frank Davis Sr., Rev.  
 Henry Davis, SSJ, Marlene Davis, Lois  
 Epps, Barbara Forte', Myrna Franklin,  
 Ulma Grace, Sefronia Greene, Beulah  
 Hadrick, Alvin J. Hebert, Donald  
 Henderson, Darian Ingram, Brooke  
 Joseph, Shirley Ann Joseph, Kennedy  
 Family Members, JoAnn LaSane, Freda  
 Lawdins, Hilary Ledet, Roy Lee, Hazel  
 Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Sammie  
 Louise-Jackson, Eugene Mallery,  
 Cynthia Ann Malone, Charles Martin,  
 Shannon Martin, Diane Miles, Dorothy  
 Milstead, Vy. Rev. William L. Norvel  
 SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Helen Foreman  
 Orsot, Louise Peachers, Cynethia  
 Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Catherine  
 Pierre, Mildred Pierre, Marcelle Prevost,  
 Melody Ratcliff, Elise Richmond, Sylvia  
 Robertson, Wilson Robertson, Oliver  
 Rose, Vy. Rev. Michael K. Saah-  
 Buckman SSJ, Simon Smith, Joyce  
 Stagg, Jeanette Steptoe, Mackenzie  
 Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor,  
 Melvin Thomas, 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 to protect our families and our country.**

**Army:** Barbara Baber, Sade Beck, Wadie Troy Butler, Patrick Clay Jr, Kerry Hubbard, Kory Hubbard, Stephen Jones, LaTroy King, Gary Christian Robertson, Anthony Lamar Smith II, Jordan T. McCorkle, Essence L. Casteel

**Navy:** Alvin Balthazar, Debreanna Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins, Xavier Henry, Randolph J. Navy III, Anthony N. Russell

**Air Force:** Joshua Creeks, Joffre Lander, Terrance J Valiare, Thomas Q Valiare II

**Marines:** Reginald Ward

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



“Prepare the way of the Lord,” Isaiah cries through John the Baptist’s words, and we continue to heed that call today. Before we hear John quote him, we hear Isaiah himself, longing for the day

when the Lord’s chosen one would arrive, and justice and harmony would blossom. Let us prepare a pace in our hearts and in our homes for the Lord, so that we may sing, like the psalmist, of a new day of justice and peace for one and all.

**READINGS FORTHE WEEK**

**Sunday – December 4**  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent*

Isaiah 11:1-10  
 Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13 17  
 Romans 15:4-9  
 Matthew 3:1-12

**Monday – December 5**  
 Isaiah 35:1-10  
 Psalm 85:9-14  
 Matthew 5:17-26

**Tuesday – December 6**  
*Saint Nicholas, Bishop*  
 Isaiah 40:1-11  
 Psalm 96:1-3, 10-13  
 Luke 18:12-14

**Wednesday – December 7**  
*Saint Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church*  
 Isaiah 40:25-31  
 Psalm 103:1-4, 8, 10  
 Matthew 11:28-30

**Thursday – December 8**  
*The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
 Genesis 3:9-15, 20  
 Psalm 98:1-4  
 Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12  
 Luke 1:26-38

**Friday December 9**  
*Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin*  
 Isaiah 48:17-19  
 Psalm 1:1-4, 6  
 Matthew 11:16-19

**Saturday December 10**  
*Our Lady of Loreto*  
 Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11  
 Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19  
 Matthew 17:9, 10-13



**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS**

**Dec 3**  
 10:00am.....Syble Jones

**Dec 4**  
 7:30am.....Jean Dozier  
 10:00am.....Bernadette Mitchell





Dec 6<sup>th</sup> .....6:00pm

**6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> CCE CLASSES**

Dec 10<sup>th</sup> .....9:30am

**Pre-K -5<sup>th</sup>**

The CCE registration fee is **\$25.00** per child and **\$35.00** per family. A late fee of **\$15.00** will be charged after

**December 10, 2022.** If you have any questions call **713-731-2775.**



**"CHRISTMAS - A TIME FOR GIVING"**

Parishioners are invited to submit names of families in need of toys for Christmas. You may call the Parish Office during regular business hours. Please provide the Parent/Guardian Name and Phone Number, the Child's Gender and Age. The cut-off for names is **December 12<sup>th</sup>**, no exceptions!

**SOUVENIR BOOK PICK-UP**

70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Souvenir Books may be picked up from the Parish Office on **Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday** during regular business hours. One Souvenir Book per household.

*Stewardship Reflection*

That we realize what we do with the gifts God has given us is our gift back to God. "Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." Matthew 3:10 Do you bear good fruit for Jesus? Do you spend time in prayer, or do you waste it with mindless activity? Do you use your talent to help others or are you too busy? Do you use your treasure to support the Church, or do you buy more things that go unused. Our time, talent and treasure are gifts from God. What we do with these gifts is our gift back to Him. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?

**ATTENDANCE**

Attendance for the Masses on November 26<sup>th</sup> and November 27<sup>th</sup> was **316**, and the 7:30am Sunday Mass Livestream received **87** views online. Please join us via Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church.



**Lester Holloway** passed away on Thursday, 11/24/2022, at the age of 80. A Funeral Mass is scheduled for Tuesday, 12/06/2022 at 10:00am. Eternal Rest Grant unto his soul.

Youth Ministry will collect **Children Hats and Gloves** for The Star of Hope. You may place your donations in the gift-wrapped box in the vestibule of the church after all Masses. Contact Demetra Lewis at **(832) 978-4247** for additional information.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**

Please remember to use your Christmas Flowers/Decorations envelope to sponsor the Christmas Poinsettias in Honor or in Memory of your loved one. The minimum donation is **\$10.00.**



**RCIA RITE OF WELCOMING**

The St. Francis Xavier Parish family welcomed **Ms. Desyre Mitchell (L)** and **Ms. Mariah Smith (R)** at the 5:00pm Mass on November 26, 2022, as they publicly declared their intention to continue their journey toward full communion with the Catholic 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**



**Dates to Remember**

**December 4, 2022**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**December 8, 2022**

**The Immaculate Conception**

**Morning Mass – 7:00am**

**Evening Mass – 6:00pm**

**December 11, 2022**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Gaudete' Sunday (Wear pink/rose)**

**December 18, 2022**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**December 24, 2022 – Christmas Eve**

**Vigil Mass – 5:00pm**

**December 25, 2022-Christmas Day**

**NO MIDNIGHT MASS**

**Regular Sunday Mass Schedule**



If you will need a copy of your 2022 contribution statement for

tax purposes, please call the Parish Office after **December 31<sup>st</sup>** at **(713) 738-2311**. Statements will be sent only upon request.

**Please note: Contributions received after December 31<sup>st</sup> will not be reflected on statements for 2022.**

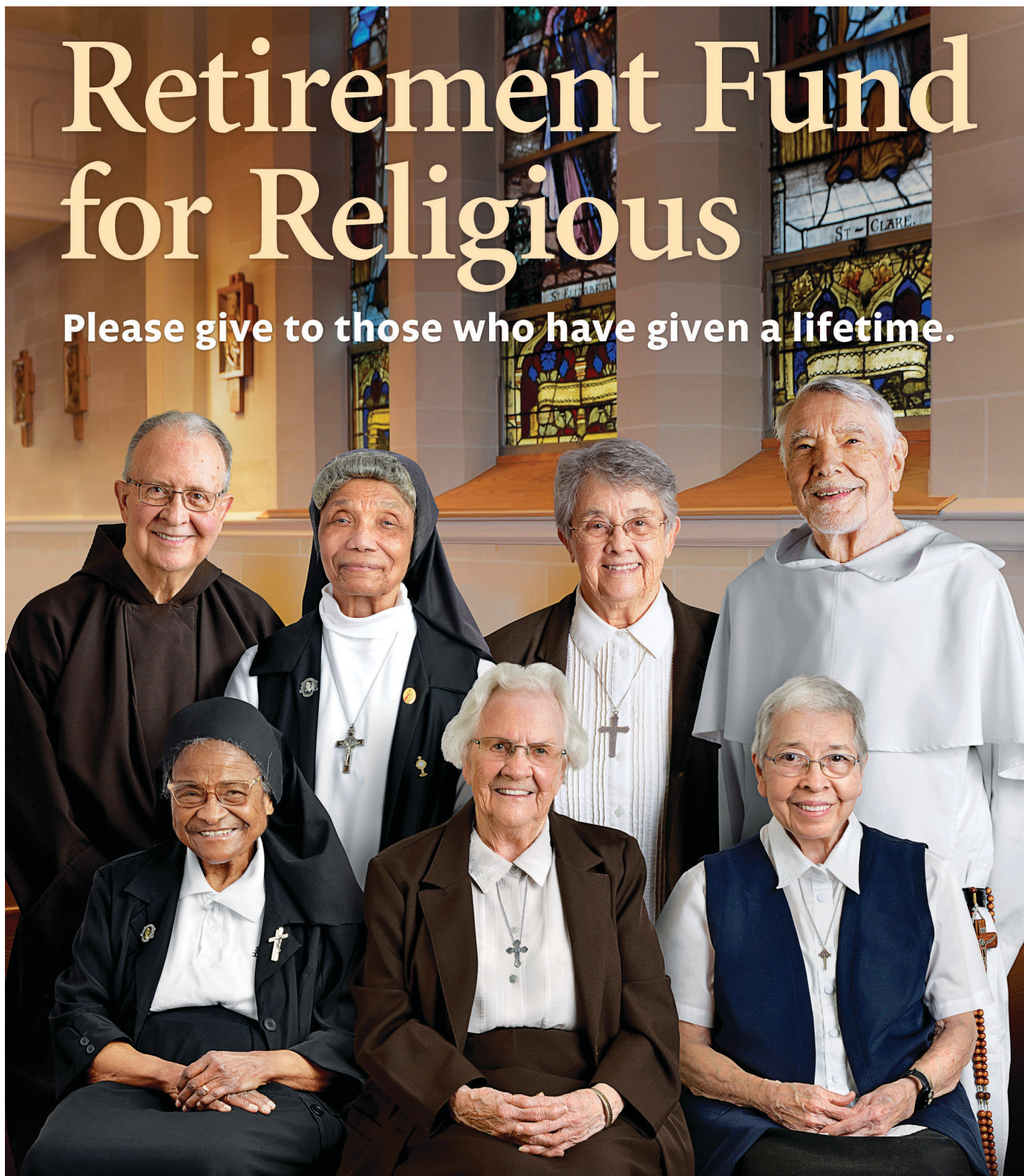


***NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION******Archdiocesan Collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious (Sisters' Collection)***

Your donation works for aging religious. "I read that roughly 95% of donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious aid senior religious," a donor writes. "That's wonderful when we truly want our donations to *work*." Your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please support next week's collection and give to those who have given a lifetime.

# Retirement Fund for Religious

**Please give to those who have given a lifetime.**







# AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON

## Employment Opportunities

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

## 175 Years of Faith

On May 4, 1847, the Apostolic See in Rome established the Diocese of Galveston; May 4, 2022 marks 175 years since the founding of our Diocese. We will be celebrating this milestone all year! Visit our website for information: [www.archgh.org/175](http://www.archgh.org/175) Coverage can also be found in the Texas Catholic Herald.

## Beware of Scams and Fraud

Please use caution if you receive phone calls from vendors or “community” organizations that want access to the senior group in your parish. Seniors are often targets for scammers and unscrupulous individuals wishing to prey on vulnerable or unsuspecting seniors. Please feel free to refer callers to the Office of Aging before connecting them to your senior group. The Office of Aging can speak with the vendor, check credentials with the Better Business Bureau and assist your parish senior group with connecting to legitimate service organizations. The Office of Aging can be reached at **713-741-8712**.

## Year of St. Joseph

The Archdiocesan website has a page dedicated to the Year of St. Joseph, which began in December and runs through the liturgical year. Please visit <https://www.archgh.org/resources/year-of-st-joseph/>, which includes the history of St. Joseph in the church, prayers of devotion and more.

## Assistance for Parishioners in Need

**Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston** continues to serve people in need during the COVID-19 pandemic through all of its programs. Food pantries are open for drive-through food distribution with hours each week at our three locations: **Guadalupe Center in Houston; Mamie George Community Center in Richmond; Beacon of Hope Center in Galveston.** For hours or other information, visit [www.catholiccharities.org/covidfooddistribution](http://www.catholiccharities.org/covidfooddistribution) or call the COVID Assistance Line at **713-874-6521**.

**The Office of Aging Ministry** offers a variety of practical and pastoral planning resources on their website. The resources address:

- Caregiving
- Aging in place
- End-of-life planning

For more information, contact the Office of Aging at 713-741-8712; visit their webpage at <https://www.archgh.org/aging> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Office-of-Aging-Ministry-Archdiocese-of-Galveston-Houston113054663832133>

## New Fully Online Marriage Preparation Program

Great news for our engaged couples! At the Family Life Office we have completed the revision of the Online Marriage Preparation Program from Agape Catholic Ministries, and it is now available for our couples to check it out and register. For more information, please see <https://www.archgh.org/media/14926/ca081320agape.pdf>. If you have any questions, contact Ricardo Medina, Director of Family Life Ministry, at [rmedina@archgh.org](mailto:rmedina@archgh.org) or 713-741-8709.

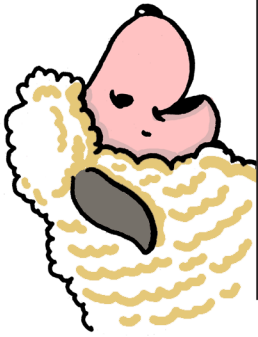
## Marriage Encounter Weekends

All married couples are invited to live the Marriage Encounter experience. This is a live conference – typically held on a weekend – where three mentor couples and a priest provide tools, use examples, and help couples work through common themes we can all relate to. The experience helps participants to listen, share, and connect more deeply. Nine in ten couples who attend a Marriage Encounter recognize a long-lasting positive effect on their lives. For details, calendar, and registration, please visit the **Marriage Enrichment** section at [www.archgh.org/familylife](http://www.archgh.org/familylife).

## Elder Abuse

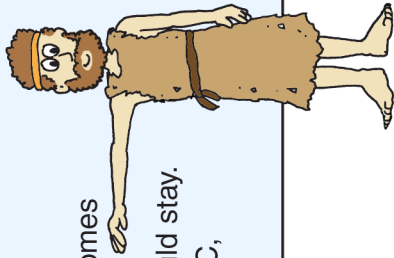
Elder abuse can happen to anyone and it can take many different forms. Most cases of abuse reported to Adult Protective Services involve “self-neglect.” Many of these people are vulnerable to abuse because they live alone or are dependent on someone else for their care. Texas requires by law the reporting 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**.





What else did John say?

- 1) Change all the 5's to A's and all the 7's to R's.
- 2) For all the Q's, U's, J's, and P's, write the letter that comes before it in the alphabet.
- 3) Change all C's to H's, and all the Z's to W's.
- 4) Change all the G's to D's.
- 5) For all M's, K's, and X's, write the letter that comes after it in the alphabet.
- 6) Where you find a B, an F, and an E, they should stay.
- 7) Change the ☆ to M, the △ to U, the ○ to C, the □ to S, and the ✱ to Z.



# Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

December 4, 2022 • Matthew 3:1-12

## John Prepares the Way for Jesus

John the Baptist came, preaching in the desert of Judea. What did he say?

Add and subtract letters to find out.



- op + - au =



- rg + - ain =



- imbl =



- pump + - ift + - g + - ap



=



- mp + - ish =



- ous + - pple + - an + - h



- fh =

=



- ickl + - m =



5 M G Z J U C F J 7 E

Z J K K O P ☆ E P M E Z C P

J □ ☆ P 7 E Q P Z E 7 F △ K

U C 5 M J C E Z J K K

B 5 Q U J ✱ E X P △ Z J U C

U C E C P K X □ Q J 7 J U

Enter your **SECRET CODE** to unlock games @ [games.childrensbulletins.com](http://games.childrensbulletins.com)

**SECRET CODE!**  
**B99736**



# Who was John the Baptist talking about?

Connect the dots and trace the name.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

J E S U S

Ages 3+

December 4, 2022 • Matthew 3:1-12

## John Prepares the Way for Jesus

John the Baptist preached in the desert.

Find and circle the hidden objects in the picture.



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**SECRET CODE!**  
**PSRJN8**



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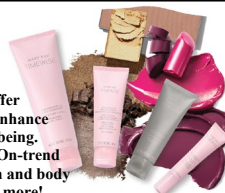


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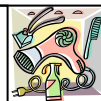
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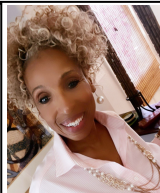
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