

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

(Staffed by The Josephites since 1952)

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 24, 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
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:

Vy. 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

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., 6:00 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: 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

CHOIR REHEARSALS:

Adult Choirs

Wednesdays: 6:30p.m.

Thursdays: 7:00p.m.

Youth Choir

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 1st and 2nd 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

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MASS INTENTIONS

SAT. 07/23/2022 5:00PM
Terrance Valaire (L) – Wanda Johnson
Earlene Duplechine/Joseph Duplechine
 Agnes Thompson
Agnes Batiste (D) – Bernadine Castleberry
Louis Thompson, Jr. (D)
 Marian Richardson Family
Tanya Potier Lewis (D)
 The Lewis Family

SUN. 07/24/2022 7:30AM
People of the Parish

SUN. 07/24/2022 10:00AM
Kristina M. Chaney(D)
 Family & Friends
M/M Joe Roberts (D)
 James & Bonnie Jefferson
Rev. Houston Okonma (L)
 Tywana Navy
Kendall J. Johnson (L) – P.A. Piper
Jeanette Lyman Haller (D)
 Lynda & Chelsey Cartwright

MON. 07/25/2022 7:00AM
Agnes Williams (L) – Tywana Navy
Patrick Celestine (D)
 Levan & Dolores Ledet

TUE. 07/26/2022 7:00AM
Joyce Berotte (L) – Tywana Navy
Patrick Celestine (D)
 Levan & Dolores Ledet

WED. 07/27/2022 7:00AM
Douglas Bonhomme (D)
 JoAnne Henderson
The Baltrip Family (L) – Theresa Baltrip

THUR. 07/28/2022 7:00AM
Harry Livings (D) – Unella Baber
Shirley R. Jones (L) - P.A. Piper

FRI. 07/29/2022 7:00AM
Kristina M. Chaney(D)
 Family & Friends
Helen Gobert (L)
 SFX Sisters in the Spirit



Donald Abraham, Deacon
 Alfred Abram, Gary Anderson,
 Savannah Blackwell, Hal
 Tracy Bobino, Amber Byas,
 Julius Cadoree, Margaret Cadoree, Nancy
 Calvin, Sterling Dotson Certenberg, Dalton
 Cooper Jr., Frank Davis Sr., Marlene Davis,
 Lois Epps, Barbara Forte', Jimmy Harris,
 Alvin J. Hebert, Donald Henderson,
 Brooke Joseph, Kennedy Family Members,
 Helen Kennison, Fred Landry, JoAnn
 LaSane, Freda Lawdins, Theresa Lazard,
 Marvin Ledet, Roy Lee, Hazel Lewis,
 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 Orsort, Louise
 Peachers, Cynethia Pichon, Percy Pichon
 Sr, Catherine Pierre, Mildred Pierre,
 Marcelle Prevost, Melody Ratcliff, Elise
 Richmond, Sylvia Robertson, Oliver Rose,
 Vy. Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman SSJ,
 Simon Smith, Joyce Stagg, Mackenzie
 Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Anna Mae
 Taylor, Erma Taylor, Melvin Thomas,
 Gemma Walcott, Agnes Williams, Patricia
 Williams, Mary Zenon, 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, Shanta Charles, Josiah Charles, 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:

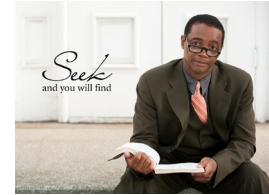
Alvin Balthazar, Debreaanna Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins, Xavier Henry, Randolph J. Navy III, Anthony N. Russell

Air Force:

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

Marines: Reginald Ward

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Abraham fears he's driving the LORD to exhaustion with his pleas on behalf of possible innocents in the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, but in so doing he discovers just how inexhaustible God's mercy truly is. We sing together in the responsorial psalm that when we call for help, our merciful God answers us. Indeed, Jesus tells his disciples, when they pray they should specifically ask the Father for help and mercy. Let today's selections from scripture reassure us of God's infinite mercy.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday – July 24

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 18:20-32
 Psalm 138:1-3, 6-8
 Colossians 2:12-14
 Luke 11:1-13

Monday – July 25

Saint James, Apostle
 2 Corinthians 4:7-15
 Psalm 126:1-6
 Matthew 20:20-28

Tuesday – July 26

Saints Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Jeremiah 14:17-22
 Psalm 79:8-9, 11, 13
 Matthew 13:36-43

Wednesday – July 27

Jeremiah 15:10; 16-21
 Psalm 59:2-4, 10-11, 17-18
 Matthew 13:44-46

Thursday – July 28

Jeremiah 18:1-6
 Psalm 146:1-6
 Matthew 13:47-53

Friday July 29

Saints Martha, Mary & Lazarus
 Jeremiah 26:1-9
 Psalm 69:5, 8-10, 14
 John 11:19-27 or Luke 10:38-42

Saturday July 30

Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
 Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24
 Psalm 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34
 Matthew 14:1-12



Marie Riggs passed away on July 16, 2022 at the age of 84. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, July 27th, at 10:00am. Eternal rest grant unto her soul.

BUS TRIP TO BEAUMONT

Cardinal Wilton Gregory, Archbishop of Washington, DC, will be in Texas (Diocese of Beaumont) **November 5, 2022!** Please contact the Parish Office at **(713) 738-2311** if you would be interested in a bus trip to this event. Further details are pending.

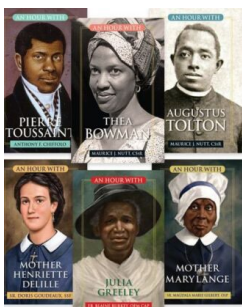


His Eminence **Daniel Cardinal DiNardo** was the Celebrant for the Confirmation Mass on July 17, 2022. The seven (7) students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation are: **Janiya Ain Andrews, Richard Goodwin Jr, Tristian Davon Gore, Charles James Guerrero, Ava Michelle Norman, Lindsey Marie Norman and Hannah Olivia Washington.**



DATES TO REMEMBER

CCE Registration begins on **Tuesday, August 10th at 11:00am.** Registration will be accepted on **Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 11:00am to 5:00pm** and Sundays after the **10:00am Mass** beginning **August 14th.** Registration forms will be available in the Vestibule of the Church, the Harris Center and the Parish Website. “*CCE Open House*” is scheduled for August **28th** after the 10:00am Mass in the Harris Center If you have any questions call **713-731-2775.**



The Josephites have embarked on a campaign, to inform our community on how to encourage Pope Francis to canonize the six black American candidates for Sainthood:

Servant of God Sr. **Thea Bowman**, Venerable Sr. **Henriette Delille**, Servant of God **Julia Greeley**, Servant of God **Mother Mary Lange**, Venerable Fr. **Augustus Tolton** & Venerable **Pierre Toussaint.** Please send a letter to Pope Francis. Remember, the more letters Pope Francis receives, the more he will understand the determination of our effort.



BUS TRIP TO COUSHATTA

KPC Council & Court #138 will have a bus trip to the Coushatta Casino on **Saturday, August 6, 2022.** We will start boarding at 7:30am; Departing from St. Francis Xavier Church at 8:00am; Leaving Coushatta at 5:00pm to return. The Cost per person is **\$35.00.** To reserve your seat contact:

Jeanette Steptoe (713) 733-6210
or **Anne Auzenne (291) 451-6249**

KPC JR's SUMMER READING PROGRAM

The Junior Knights & Jr. Daughters of Branch/Court 138 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church is sponsoring a **SUMMER READING** Program. The Summer Reading Program is for **elementary (1-5), middle (6-8), & high (9-12) school youth** at St. Francis Xavier Church. There will be a **1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners per grade group.** Prizes include: **Houston Rockets Game Tickets, \$100.00 Cash, \$50.00 Gift Card, \$25.00 Gift Card & \$15.00 Gift Cards.** Summer Reading ends Sunday, **July 31, 2022.**

ATTENDANCE

Attendance for the Masses on July 16th and July 17th was **397**, and the 7:30am Sunday Mass Livestream received **54** views online. Please join us via Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church. Masks are not required, but they are encouraged.

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



Would you like your family legacy to be a part of the new Sunnyside Multipurpose Service Center (MSC)?

Sunnyside residents are encouraged to bring their found objects to contribute to the **Dreamcatcher sculpture** by **Jesse Lott** at the new MSC.

Found Item Criteria:

- Durable items (metal preferred but not required)
- Things that have a story are preferred (Sunnyside or personal)
- Can be any type of item
- Anecdotes, ideas, drawings are all also welcomed

For further information, and to schedule an appointment bring your item to the church, please contact **Mary Sias** at siasmaryk@gmail.com.

Stewardship Reflection

That we may learn to see the difference between the things we need and the things we want. “Ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” Luke 11:9 Jesus assures us that if we ask, God will take care of what we need. The problem is that our culture often confuses what we really need with what we simply want. The truth is that many of us need very little. However, we usually want so much more! Stewardship is simply being grateful for all that we are and all that we have been given, and generously sharing all of our God-given gifts with others. Generosity is a gift that opens doors to new relationships with others and with God.



Seminarian's Page

Reflection on the Readings

In our own life experiences, we have come to know how friends can get familiar with each other. Familiarity creates the free space for friends to communicate. Abraham welcomed into his tent strangers which happened to be God and his angels. He prepared a meal for them, and they all ate together. Intimacy was established in this act of eating with strangers. If Abraham had reduced God to a mere ideology, he would not have treated his guests with such kindness. But Abraham knew God is real and alive. So, Abraham's deeds won him familiarity with God so that he could now speak freely with God. He pleaded with God for mercy upon Sodom and Gomorrah which were about to be destroyed for the sins of depravity and immorality. The long persistent conversation between Abraham and God was only possible because of the intimacy that Abraham had formed with God. God granted Abraham's requests but as we read in the story, not even ten righteous men were found to save the cities from destruction. God already knew that there were no righteous men left in the city, but he continued dialogue with Abraham. This is evidence that God listens to our prayers, and he will listen to all that we say to him. God never gets tired of dialoguing with us, no matter how long the dialogue.

But how is it possible to develop a close relationship with God in the midst of all the evil things that we are experiencing in our world these days? How do we remain focused on God with the conflicting political ideas, the moral crises in our world and the different economic and health challenges that each day presents to us? Jesus Christ supplies the answer. Jesus himself has an intimate relationship with the Father, which Jesus' disciples noticed. Jesus was calling God his father; this amazed his disciples. They then asked Jesus to teach them how to pray to God in such an intimate way. The disciples as Jews, knew how to pray. They now wanted a deeper relationship as Jesus did with his father. Jesus taught them to call God their Father because Jesus has made them his adopted brother. In the words of St. Paul, we can call God "Abba", Father, because of the spirit of adoption which we received through Christ (**Rom. 8:15**). This is the familiarity we are talking about, because Christ has become our brother and God is our father, and so we have an intimate relationship between us and God, like Jesus and God. Since God is so awesome, we cannot call his name, so whatever your name is, we say holy be your name and then we pray for the kingdom in heaven to be realized on earth. We then ask for forgiveness in the measure that we forgive others. We then ask for our daily sustenance and we pray that he may deliver us from the final test. Which father could hand his son a snake if the son had requested for fish? Not even the most wicked person gives their child poison instead of food. How much more will our Father in heaven grant our requests in his everlasting love. God will grant every single petition we present to him since we are his adopted children. Do our prayers sometimes seem to be unanswered? Yes, they do. But this does not mean God will not answer our prayers, he always answers our prayers in his own time just as our parents answer our requests at the appropriate time. Sometimes it is the way we pray or the intention of our prayers that delay our answers. Christ teaches us to pray persistently without stopping. Ask until you receive, knock until the door is opened, seek until you find. God is always waiting to hear our prayers, so keep asking him to answer you. Therefore, pray and pray and pray and the Lord will answer you! Amen.

*Paul Oyie, Seminarian
Archdiocese of Tororo, Uganda
Notre Dame Seminary, New Orleans, LA.*

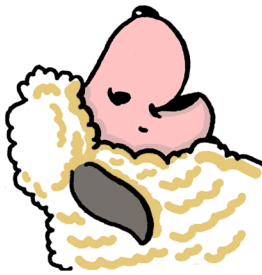


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








AUGUST 20, 2022
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
PARISH HALL

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Drive






Jesus told the disciples, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." What else did He say?


Use the code to write the words on the blanks.

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
|  children |  good |  heaven |  Spirit |  Him |
|  Holy |  gifts |  ask |  Father |  give |





"If you know how

to _____  _____  _____ 

to your _____  _____, how much more will your

_____  _____ in _____  _____ 

the _____  _____  _____

to those who _____  _____  _____!"

Children's Worship Bulletin™

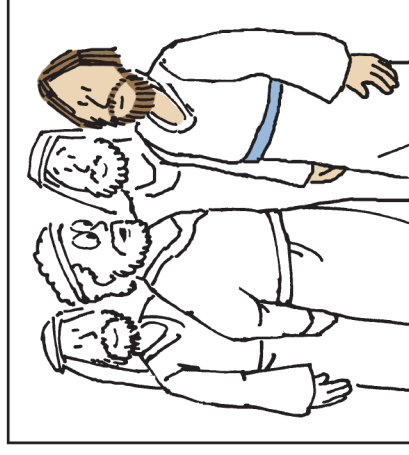
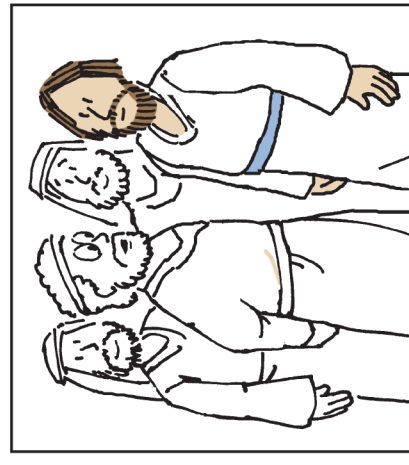
Ages 7+

July 24, 2022 • Luke 11:1-13

Jesus' Teaching on Prayer

One day Jesus was praying. One of His disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray."

Circle the picture that is different.



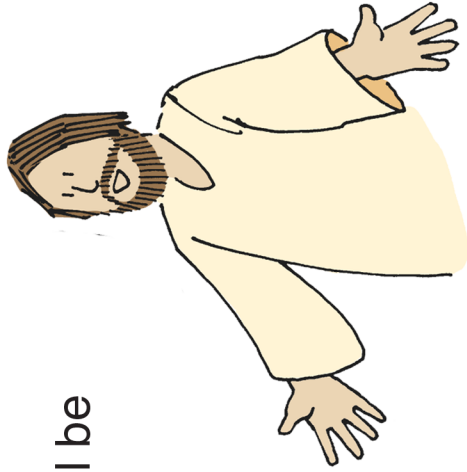
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SECRET CODE!
VJGZT1

What more did Jesus tell the disciples?

Use the code to write the words on the lines.

☆ = you △ = and



“Ask _____ it will be _____”

given to _____; _____”

seek _____ _____”

will find; knock _____ the door _____”

will be opened to _____”

Jesus' Teaching on Prayer

One day Jesus was praying. One of His disciples said, “Lord, teach us to pray.”

Trace the lines to finish the picture.



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