#### ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

(Staffed by The Josephites since 1952)

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

**NOVEMBER 20, 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

YouTube: St. Francis Xavier Houston

#### **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** 

#### 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.

#### 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



FAITH DIRECT

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

#### **MASS INTENTIONS**

SAT. 11/19/2022 5:00PM

People of the Parish

SUN. 11/20/2022 7:30AM

Kristina M. Chaney (D)

Family & Friends

Audrev DeCuir Grant (L)

DeCuir/Balthazar Family

Althea Lane (L) – DeCuir Family Ronald Walcott (D) – Gemma Walcott Rev. Dr. Donald K. Mouton, Sr. (D)

Shirley & Belinda Foreman

SUN. 11/20/2022 10:00AM *Eddie Biagas (D)* – Patricia Session

Louis Thomas, Sr. (D)

Isabella & Family

Rose & Henry Jackson (L)

The Lewis Family

Rose M. Roberts (D) – Constance House Ezzard Sam (D) – Theresa Rayme

SUN. 11/20/2022 12:15PM *People of the Parish* 

MON. 11/21/2022 7:00AM

Rev. Dr. Donald K. Mouton, Sr. (D)
Donna Morales

*Ruth Celestine (L)* – Tywanna Navy **TUE.** 11/22/2022 **7:00AM** 

Marie Riggs (D)

Christine Scott & Helen Brown *Earlene Duplechaine(D)* 

Tywanna Navy

WED. 11/23/2022 7:00AM

Devin Taylor (D) – Tywanna Navy Hope Jackson(L) – Special Intention

THUR. 11/24/2022 9:00AM

**Thanksgiving Day**People of the Parish

People of the Parish

FRI. 11/25/2022 7:00AM

Marie White (L)

SFX Sisters in the Spirit

Audrey & Joshua Thymes (D)

Zaydell & Arnold Boutte



# ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS

Families are invited to sign up again this year to be Advent Candle Lighters

during the four (4) weekends of Advent, beginning the weekend of **November 26**<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> and ending the weekend of **December 17**<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>. We have three (4) Masses each weekend, so we will need to have twelve (16) families. The Sign-up sheet will remain in the vestibule of the church until all 16 slots are filled.



Donald Abraham, Deacon Alfred Abram, Akaycia Addison, Gary Anderson, Rev. Alfred Ayem SVD, Kelly

Batiste, Augustina Buckman, Savannah Blackwell, Hal Tracy Bobino, Amber Byas, Julius Cadoree, Margaret Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Sterling Dotson Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr., Frank Davis Sr., Rev. Henry Davis, SSJ, Marlene Davis, Lois Epps, Barbara Forte', Ulma Grace, Beulah Hadrick, Alvin J. Hebert, Donald Henderson, Daphne Ingram, Daron Ingram, Brooke Joseph, Shirley Ann Joseph, Kennedy Family Members, Ann Kennerson, JoAnn LaSane, Lawdins, Roy Lee, Bertha Lewis, Charles Lewis, 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 Orsort, 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, Lillie Sims, Simon Smith, Joyce Stagg, Jeanette Steptoe, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Agnes Sykes, 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, 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

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

<u>Air Force:</u> Joshua Creeks, Joffre Lander, Terrance J Valiare, Thomas Q Valiare II

Marines: Reginald Ward

#### OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE



In the first reading we hear of the moment when David, supported by all the tribes of Israel, was annointed king. Paul praises Jessu as head of the church and firsborn of the dead, ruler over the heavenly kingdom. Luke tells us that as Jesus hung on the cross he promised a place in the heaven to the penitent thief. As we listen to God's word, let us pray that Jesus remembers us as well in his heavenly kingdom.

#### **READINGS FORTHE WEEK**

☐ Sunday – November 20

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe 2 Samuel 5:1-3

Psalm 122:1-5

Colossians 1:12-20 Luke 23:35-43

**■ Monday – November 21** 

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Revelation 14:1-3, 4-5

Psalm 24:1-4, 5-6 Luke 21:1-4

**■ Tuesday – November 22** 

Saint Cecilia, Virgin, Martyr Revelation 14:14-19 Psalm 96:10-13

Luke 21:5-11

■■■ Wednesday – November 23

Saint Clement I, Pope, Martyr; Saint Columban, Abbot; Blessed Miguel Agustin, Pro, Priest, Martyr Revelation 15:1-4

Psalm 98:1-3, 7-9 Luke 21:12-19

■ Thursday – November 24

Saint Andrew Dũng-Ląc, Priest & Companions, Martyrs
Revelation 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9

Psalm 100:1-5 Luke 21:20-28

Friday November 25

Saint Catherine of Alexandria Revelation 20:1-4, 11—21:2 Psalm 84:3-6, 8

Luke 21:29-33

**■** ■ Saturday November 26

Revelation 21:1-7 Psalm 95:1-7

Luke 21:34-36



Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> .......6:00pm

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

Nov 26th .....NO CCE CLASSES

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.



#### Dates to Remember

#### **November 27, 2022**

1st Sunday of Advent

November 28-November 30, 2022

Advent Revival – 6:00pm Nightly Livestreamed on You Tube

#### **December 3, 2022**

Feast of St. Francis Xavier 70th Anniversary Mass – 10:00am

Parish Christmas Party - 12:00pm

#### **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**

3rd Sunday of Advent

Gaudete' Sunday (Wear pink/rose)

**December 18, 2022** 

4th Sunday of Advent

<u>December 24, 2022 – Christmas Eve</u> Vigil Mass – 5:00pm

**December 25, 2022-Christmas Day NO MIDNIGHT MASS** 

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

#### ATTENDANCE

Attendance for the Masses on November 12<sup>th</sup> and November 13<sup>th</sup> was **314**, and the 7:30am Sunday Mass Livestream received **56** views online. Please join us via Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church.



Thursday, November 24, 2022

**Thanksgiving Day** 

Mass - 9:00am

(No 7:00am Mass)

Friday, November 25, 2022

Mass - 7:00am

(Parish Office is Closed)

#### ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH FALL RAFFLE



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4th Prize.....\$400.00 Gas Card

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: December 3, 2022 Winner Need Not be Present!





Youth Choir Rehearsal is cancelled this weekend. The next rehearsal is scheduled for Saturday, **December 17**, at **12Noon**.

**Youth Ministry** will meet Sunday, **November 27**<sup>th</sup>, after the 10:00am Mass in the Harris Center Room 125.

# 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

Stewardship Reflection

That we may serve Jesus, Our King, with love and gratitude, generously offering our gifts to help build up the kingdom of God here on earth. "...giving thanks to the Father, who has made you fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light." Colossians 1:12 God wants us to be happy! Instead of looking at the Ten Commandments as being restrictive and telling us what we can't do, look at them as guides for living a joy-filled and peaceful life. Most of our problems arise when we put our own needs first or we spend most of our time trying to acquire more stuff. Instead, try putting God first in all things. We were made for God. Open your heart and let Him in!



This Holiday Season we are expecting an unprecedented number of people throughout our

community to turn to St. Francis Xavier for warm meals, comfort, and shelter. No one in need should be turned away, which is why we are reaching out to our parishioners. We must prepare as early as possible this year to do our best to help those in need. We prayerfully request that you consider signing up for eGiving from your computer, smartphone or tablet. You can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. Sign up today by visiting <a href="www.faithdirect.net">www.faithdirect.net</a> and using our church code: TX632. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

Rev. Michael K. Saah Buckman, SSJ



# Our King's Mercy is greater than ours sins. Our King's Love is greater than our sins.

Today, we approach the end of our liturgical year, our church year. We are ending Year C and will begin Year A next week with the beginning of Advent. The end of Year C also marks the end of the Sunday Gospel readings from Luke. We have accompanied Jesus and His followers from birth to death in the Gospel of Luke. Year A brings us our Sunday Gospel readings from Matthew. As we reflect on our past church year, let us look back and ask ourselves, have we shown mercy to others this past year?

Have we been merciful like our heavenly Father?
Have we lived out our lives as Christ's disciples?
Have we have His hands and His fact in the world?

Have we been His hands and His feet in the world?

Have we made time to help the poor or the hungry or the homeless? Have we visited the sick or helped the elderly? Have we visited those in prison?

Have we helped someone who truly needed our help because they couldn't help themselves?

Have we been active in a ministry or led others to Christ? Have we shown love and mercy like Christ, our King? Today is the feast of Christ the King. We celebrate when Jesus claimed his kingship. Now Jesus was a different kind of king because he was different from what the Jews expected for their king, their messiah, as foretold in the Old Testament. The Jews were looking for a King David kind of king. They were tired of the oppression by the Romans. They were tired of being ruled and controlled. They were tired of being unfairly taxed. They were looking for their king and Messiah, their Anointed One, to establish himself as a ruler and a kingdom that would last for eternity. They wanted a powerful leader, a mighty warrior, like King David, who would once again crush the enemy and unify Israel. We get this sense in the first reading today, from 2 Samuel, when God says David shall be the shepherd of His people and shall be the commander of Israel. But they didn't understand the kind of kingship that Jesus proclaimed to possess. Jesus came to deliver his people, and the whole world, from sin. The cross was his throne. He didn't establish a kingdom ruled by force or fear, but by the power of God's righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. The Reign of Jesus isn't a reign of glory and power, but of service, love, and complete self-giving.

He ruled humbly.

He ruled as a servant.

He ruled with compassion.

He ruled with love as the one who is love.

He stayed true to his Father's will above all else.

In today's Gospel reading from Luke, Jesus reigns as king by dying on the cross for our sins. So, one might wonder, how can we consider Jesus a King if he is on the cross? He seems helpless. He has a crowd jeering at him. He speaks no words to defend or save himself. Well...we can know that Jesus is King on the cross because His kingdom is a spiritual kingdom and not an earthly kingdom, like David's. Jesus said, in John 18:36,

"My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not here." So our worldview of a kingdom is different from Jesus' reality of a spiritual kingdom. When you look at the two thieves on the cross in today's Gospel, you have one thief with a selfish view or a worldview and another thief with a God view. We see the worldview thief saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us." One way to look at it...is that the thief is saying to himself...heaven is not important to me, living here on earth is. Please get me down off this cross so I can go back to the world pleasures. Let me get back to eating and drinking and being merry. Let me resume committing crimes. Brothers and sisters, how many people do you know who are like this? They care more about the world and living in the world than about getting into heaven. Now the other thief, which some call the 'good thief', had a God view. In spite of his sins, being with God in His kingdom was more important than gaining a few more days on earth. So the good thief said to the other thief, "Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the same sentence we received corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal." Then he says to Jesus, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Brothers and sisters, today, the good thief gives us the formula for salvation. He recognized and confessed his sins and then repented and asked for forgiveness. For this, Christ the King, our King, gave the repentant thief his grace and mercy and allowed him into his kingdom. Jesus says, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." This gives me hope. This brings me to the basis of my message today. That, no matter what, we too, as sinners, can confidently approach our king, call him by name, and ask for forgiveness. No matter how bad our sin, we can confess our sin, repent, and get on the right track. Through repentance, God will forgive us. That's because our King's mercy is greater than our sins. Our King's love is greater than our sins. This is what the prodigal son realizes in his most desperate moment when he is in sin, broke, hungry, and far away from his father. The only way home, the only way back to life and the meaning of life is through repentance. And what did the prodigal son say when he saw his father? He said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." He felt sincere remorse and repented. There are several other times in the Gospels where people sinned and felt they should be punished. There was the woman at the well who knew she was in sin and thought she should be condemned. But what did Jesus do? He showed them love and mercy and forgave them. Why? Because they showed remorse and repented. Brother and sisters, being a member of Jesus' kingdom is about loving him and responding to him through repentance and faith. It means living as a true child of God. It also means that we serve Christ in his kingdom. We serve him in his kingdom when we serve those in need. We are in the King's court when we work for the relief of the deprived, the oppressed, and the outcast. Which kingdom will you serve - today and for all eternity? The world which passes away? or God's kingdom which lasts for all time? If we accept Jesus Christ as Lord and King, we become citizens of an everlasting kingdom which is governed by God's righteousness, peace, and love. Brothers and sisters, I'm happy to know that our God is a loving god. He is a patient God. His mercy and love is greater than our sins. Deacon Darryl Drenon

# IS CHRIST KING IN OUR HEARTS?

When you think of a king, who is the first person to pops into your head? It may depend on how much history you know, or which historical period intrigues you the most. As Americans, the first person we might think of is King George III, whose reign has become synonymous in our national lore with the concept of tyranny.

We don't have much familiarity with kingship in modern American society. Kings tend to make us uneasy. Presidents, on the other hand — we can handle those, because we know we are a president's boss. No matter how much power he has, we are the electorate. We are the source of that power. We're comfortable with this arrangement.

But with kings it is profoundly different. Traditionally, the king derives his power from God. His rule bridges humanity with the divine. We should reflect carefully on whether or not we have made Jesus Christ king in our hearts, or whether we regard him as a president. The difference isn't just one of titles, it's one of roles. Subjects do not demand anything of a king. They beseech. They entreat. They submit, and they accept.

Do we demand of Christ, or do we beseech?

Do we tolerate God's edicts with grumbling, or
do we embrace His word as the means of our
reconciliation with Him?

The "good thief" treated Christ as a king. His counterpart treated him as a president. And it's worth remembering that Jesus Christ is not the President of the Universe.

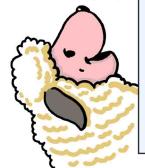
—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

# The Assumption isn't in the Bible. What proof do we have that it really happened?

Since the beginning of the Church, Christians have venerated the relics of the saints. We can see this in the catacombs of Rome, in the crypts of churches, and in the reliquaries that contain tiny fragments of bone. Throughout Church history, there have been no relics of Mary nor any legitimate claims to her bones. Even the tomb of Mary, visited as a site of pilgrimage, stood empty. At the Council of Chalcedon in 451, the Roman emperor asked the bishop of Jerusalem to bring Mary's relics to the council. The bishop reported that there were no relics of Mary. Upon finding her empty tomb, the Apostles had concluded that her body was taken up into heaven. Soon afterward, the Church began celebrating this miraculous event.

The Assumption is an article of faith. Within the context of salvation, its meaning and logic is clear. Being born without original sin, Mary did not suffer its consequences. She is already participating in what we, too, will experience one day — the resurrection and glorification of our bodies as they reunite with our souls.





other one knew He was innocent. He said, "Jesus, remember me when One criminal mocked Jesus. The You come into Your kingdom."

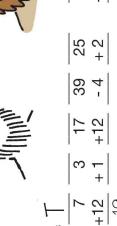
# Solve the math problems.

Then use this code to find out what Jesus said to him.

114

W = 14	Y = 27	
S=24	T=19	0 = 72
0=4	P=7	R=22
L=39	M=81	N=12
E=40	H=17	I=75
A=35	B=132	D=29





- 33

39

7

+10 30

138



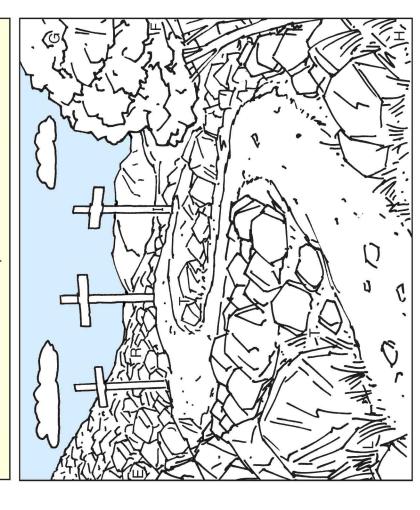
Ages 7+

November 20, 2022 • Luke 23:33-43

# Christ, the King

Jesus was hung on a cross on a hill called "The Skull." There was a criminal on each side of Him: one on His right, the other on His left.

LEFT RIGHT Find these letters in the picture:

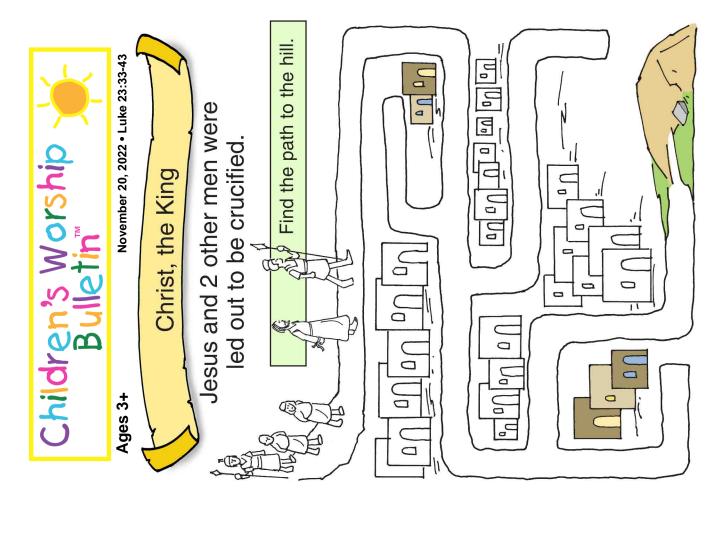


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The 2nd man said, "Jesus, remember me

when You come into Your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with Me in paradise." 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 • 24 Connect the dots. <u>e</u>. <u>ی</u> / 20 34 S



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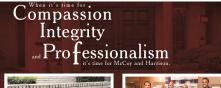
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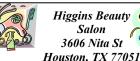
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