

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

(Staffed by The Josephites since 1952)

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 22, 2023



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

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. Fr. 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

4th 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.	01/21/2023	5:00PM
<i>J. Chynell Fisher (L)</i>		
SFX Sisters in the Spirit		
<i>Mandy Jackson-Wheatfall (L)</i>		
SFX Sisters in the Spirit		
<i>Joseph/Earlene Duplechaine (D)</i>		
Duplechaine Family		
<i>Theresa Lazard (D)</i>		
Albert Cooke, Jr. & Family		
<i>Theresa A. Seals (D) – Wanda Johnson</i>		
SUN.	01/22/2023	7:30AM
<i>Anthony Ellis (D) – Sylvia Spencer</i>		
<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D) – The Family</i>		
<i>Sylvia Robertson & Family (L)</i>		
M. Chaney		
<i>Deborah Scott & Family (L)</i>		
M. Chaney		
<i>P.A. Piper (L) – M. Chaney</i>		
SUN.	01/22/2023	10:00AM
<i>Supreme Knight Dr. Christopher Pichon</i>		
Agnes Thompson		
<i>Claudette Martin (D)</i>		
Elaine Collins/Family		
<i>Leona L. Joseph (D) – M. Chaney</i>		
<i>Monique Clark (D) – Tywana Navy</i>		
<i>Loretta Landry (L) - LeBlanc Family</i>		
SUN.	01/22/2023	12:15PM
<i>People of the Parish</i>		
MON.	01/23/2023	7:00AM
<i>Beverly Williams (L) – Theresa Baltrip</i>		
TUE.	01/24/2023	7:00AM
<i>Earlene Duplechaine (D)</i>		
Tywana Navy		
WED.	01/25/2023	7:00AM
<i>Tamara Sanders (D) – Tywana Navy</i>		
THUR.	01/26/2023	7:00AM
<i>Andrew Nwokobia (D)</i>		
Nwokobia Family		
FRI.	01/27/2023	7:00AM
<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D) – The Family</i>		
<i>Tanya Potier-Lewis (D) – The Family</i>		



Please Pray for...

Donald Abraham, Deacon Alfred Abram, 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', Betty Goodwin, Beulah Hadrick, Howard Harrison, Alvin J. Hebert, Donald Henderson, Brooke Joseph, Shirley Ann Joseph, Kennedy Family Members, JoAnn LaSane, 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 Orsot, Louise Peachers, Cynethia Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Robin Pichon-Mosley, 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, Jeanette Steptoe, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor, Melvin Thomas, Gemma Walcott, Agnes Williams, Patricia Williams, Amiah Yearby 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 surgery. **After 30 days, please call the office to remain on this 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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



On this Sunday of the Word of God we hear a dramatic example of how words written in one era come alive centuries later in a new context. Isaiah saw that Judah's king had turned his back on his own people, but also saw a day when God's ultimate triumph would be realized. Eight hundred years later, Matthew noted that Jesus came from the same region Isaiah mentioned, giving new meaning to the "great light" who overcame the darkness. Listening to God's holy word, let us reflect on how the light of Christ continues to overcome the darkness.

READINGS

FORTHE WEEK

Sunday – January 22
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 8:23—9:3
 Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14
 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17
 Matthew 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

Monday – January 23
Saint Vincent, Deacon, Martyr
Saint Marianne Cope, Virgin
 Hebrews 9:15, 24-28
 Psalm 98:1-6
 Mark 3:22-30

Tuesday – January 24
Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop,
 Hebrews 10:1-10
 Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8, 10-11
 Mark 3:31-35

Wednesday – January 25
The Conversion of Saint Paul
The Apostle
 Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22
 Psalm 117:1-2
 Mark 16:15-18

Thursday – January 26
Saints Timothy & Titus, Bishops
 2 Timothy 1:1-8 or Titus 1:1-5
 Psalm 96:1-3, 7-8, 10
 Mark 4:21-25

Friday January 27
Saint Angela Merici, Virgin
 Hebrews 10:32-39
 Psalm 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40
 Mark 4:26-34

Saturday January 28
Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest
 Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19
 (Psalm) Luke 1:69-75
 Mark 4:35-41



Pastor's on Vacation

Father Michael will be out of the office thru **February 2nd.**

Please continue to pray for his safe travels and return.

70th Anniversary Souvenir Books

70th Anniversary Souvenir Books may be purchased in the vestibule of the church after all weekend Masses, or from the Parish Office during regular business hours. The donation is \$10 per book.



Jan 24th6:00pm
 6th – 10th Grades
 Jan 28th9:30am
 Pre-K -5th Grades

The CCE registration fee is \$25.00 per child and \$35.00 per family. A late fee of \$15.00 is currently in effect. If you have any questions call 713-731-2775.



BAKE SALE/BOUDIN SALE

KPC 138 will have a Bake Sale and Boudin Sale on Saturday, **January 28th** after the 5:00pm Mass and Sunday, **January 29th**, after the 7:30am and 10:00am Masses.

KPC 138 will sell Boudin on Saturday, **February 4th**, after the 5:00pm Mass and Sunday, **February 5th**, after the 7:30am and 10:00am Masses.

Stewardship Intention Card



God has blessed us with another New Year! Just as in the past, you are given the opportunity to again make a financial commitment to St. Francis Xavier parish. You are invited to commit to giving tithes and offerings by completing a **Call to Stewardship Intention Card**. These cards were mailed in your January Envelope packet. If you do not receive envelopes, we have cards in the vestibule of the church and the Parish Office.



If you will need a copy of your 2022 contribution statement for tax purposes, please call the Parish Office at (713) 738-2311. Statements will be sent only upon request.

Please note: Contributions received after December 31st will not be reflected on statements for 2022.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance for the Masses on January 14th and January 15th was **388**, and the 7:30am Sunday Mass Livestream received **81** views online. Please join us via Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church.



SUNNYSIDE HEALTH & MULTI SERVICE CENTER GRAND OPENING

Join Houston Mayor, Sylvester Turner, and Sunnyside Mayor Sandra Hines, for the Grand Opening of the Sunnyside Health & Multi Service Center on Saturday, **January 28, 2023** at **11:00am**. The new center is located at **4410 Reed Rd, Houston, TX, 77051**. Sunnyside Seniors are encouraged to arrive a few minutes early and to wear Red and Black. For more information call: **(832) 374-5585**.



The family of **Mr. Roy Lee, Sr** invites St. Francis Xavier Parishioners to help celebrate his **90th Birthday** in the Parish Hall on Saturday, **January 28, 2023** from 7:00pm to 11:00pm. Mr. Lee's Birthday is on Thursday, January 26th.

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION



Have you ever wondered how Eucharistic hosts for Mass are made, and who makes them? Orders of religious sisters and nuns commonly manufacture hosts as a means of supporting the work of their communities. The Conceptionist Sisters of Fortaleza, Brazil, is one community that makes the hosts used at Masses in the diocese. Your generous donations to the **Collection for the Church in Latin America** are your way of participating in the sisters' work and that of communities throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.



SFX GABRIEL PROJECT
Pregnant? Need Help?
 Call 713-225-5826

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



ANIMA CHRISTI

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
 Body of Christ, save me.
 Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
 Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
 Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
 O good Jesus, hear me.
 Within your wounds conceal me.
 Do not permit me to be parted from you.
 From the evil foe protect me.
 At the hour of my death call me.
 And bid me come to you,
 to praise you with all your saints for ever and ever. Amen.

Stewardship Reflection

That we may faithfully follow Jesus, wherever and whenever He calls. "He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed Him." Matthew 4:22 Just as Jesus called the first apostles, He calls each of us to follow Him, too. Not everyone is called to leave their business or family behind, but we are expected to put God first in everything. In gratitude to God, we should give our first and best of everything to Him: our time in daily prayer, our talent in participating in one of our parish ministries and our treasure to support the financial needs of our parish mission.



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Isa 8:23-9:3/ Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/ 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/ Matt 4:12-23

Rev. Fr. John Patrick TINDANA

Come after Me

The First Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah begins by stating, “First the Lord degraded the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali; but in the end he has glorified the seaward road, the land west of the Jordan, the District of the Gentiles.”

These territories mentioned are those which the Assyrian king Tiglath-pileser III took from Israel and incorporated into the Assyrian provincial system as a result of the Syro-Ephraimite War of 735–732 B.C. (2 Kgs 15:29). Galilee in those days had a large non-Israelite population.

As a result of the devastation of the war, the people could have been said to have been living in darkness, situations of gloom and distress. But as it has been demonstrated over and over again, God never abandons his people. He is always on call to attend to his children.

In the midst of this hopeless situation, the prophet foresaw the redemption of the people. He said, “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone” (Isa 9:1).

The presence of the great light over the people has a consequence – the consequence of joy. The presence of the Lord brings joy and merriment. In God there is no darkness and gloom. St Pope John Paul II will say that “joy is the keynote of the Christian message.”

In much the same way, the prophet Isaiah says, “You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils” (Isa 9:2). Alleluia, they are no longer slaves, “For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian” (Isa 9:3).

In the Gospel reading according to Matthew, we have an account of the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus. This was after the arrest of John. In order to fulfil the words of the prophet, as heard in the First Reading, Jesus launched his public ministry from Galilee, living in Capernaum, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali.

Jesus’ preaching was “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (Matt 4:17). Jesus as the light of the world is inviting humanity to abandon the ways of darkness and embrace his sweet light. His is a kingdom of light and anyone who desires to enter it must abandon the ways of darkness. That is repentance.

To be able to undertake this “rescue mission” of winning souls for the kingdom of heaven, he called some men (and of course, later, some women) to help propagate the message of repentance far and wide.

He saw two brothers, Simon Peter and Andrew, casting a net into the sea, and he said to them, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men” (Matt 4:19). At once they left their nets and followed him. Going further, Jesus saw two other brothers, James and John, sons of Zebedee. They were with their father mending nets when Jesus called them. They immediately left their boat and their father and followed him.

These first disciples of Christ responded promptly to his call. They abandoned their family and former way of life.

Even today, the Lord is still calling people to share in his work of calling people from darkness to light. And we, as his followers, cannot allow anything to distract us from this mission. We must remain focused and resolute.

The one dangerous thing which can distract us, the followers of Christ, is division in our midst. The tendency to be divided as a result of our sinful nature has always been in the church. That is why St Paul in the Second Reading made a passionate appeal to the Church in Corinth to be united.

St Paul says, “I urge you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree in what you say, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and in the same purpose” (1 Cor 1:10).

Sad to say, the division within Christendom remains as one of the biggest scandals and wounds within the church. How on earth would followers of the Prince of Peace mutilate him into parts by saying, “I belong to Paul”, “I belong to Apollos”, “I belong to Cephas”, or “I belong to Christ”?

As we hear Jesus call us to repentance and to the proclamation of the gospel to others, let us resolve to do all we can to avoid divisions and quarrels. Let us continue to use channels of dialogue and reconciliation. These would give credibility to the message we proclaim. And at the end, we shall experience joy and peace.

SUNNYSIDE

NEW YEAR – NEW CENTER!

Please join

Mayor Sylvester Turner

for the

**Sunnyside Health and Multi-Service Center
Open House**

Saturday, January 28, 2023 | 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

4410 Reed Road, Houston, TX 77051



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DEPARTMENT**



Mayor Sylvester Turner



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Complete
Communities**

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EVANS-SHABAZZ**
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Whom did Jesus meet next?

Write the words for the pictures.

Then, place the letters from the boxes in order on the lines below.



_____ and _____

Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

January 22, 2023 • Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus Starts His Ministry

When Jesus heard that John was in prison, He left His home.

Find out where Jesus went by labeling the map.

Leaving _____, 1

Jesus went and lived in

_____ 5

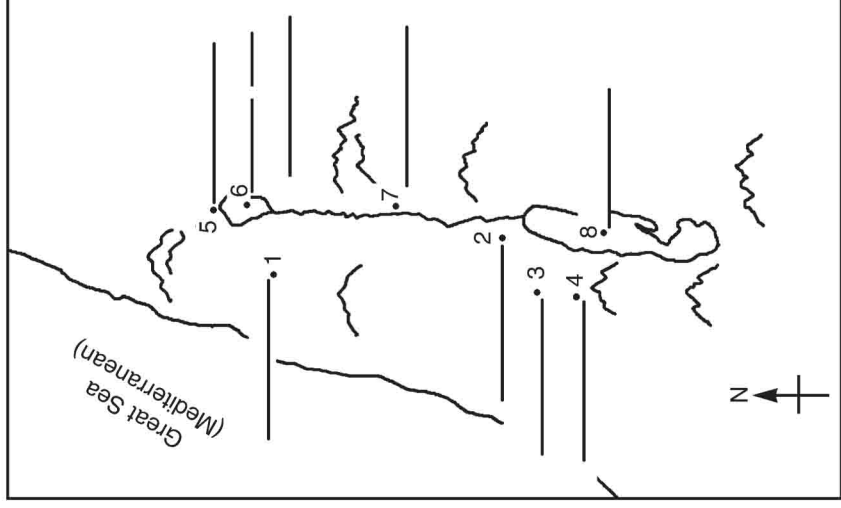
was by the

_____ 6

to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah.

Label these places mentioned in the Bible.

- 1 - Nazareth
- 2 - Jericho
- 3 - Jerusalem
- 4 - Bethlehem
- 5 - Capernaum
- 6 - Sea of Galilee
- 7 - River Jordan
- 8 - Dead Sea



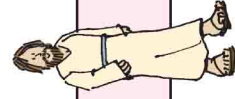
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He told them,
 “The kingdom of heaven is near.”
 What else did Jesus tell the people to do?

Follow the lines to write the letters in the blanks below.

Jesus Starts His Ministry

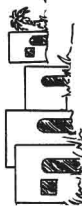


Jesus went to Galilee.

Help Jesus get to Galilee.

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

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



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