

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

(Staffed by The Josephites since 1952)

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 8, 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. 01/07/2023 5:00PM
Ruth Celestine (L) – Tywana Navy
James Navy (D) – M. Chaney
Michael Albert (D) – Rita Albert
Anna Mai Nho (D) – Ruth Celestine
Anthony Ellis (D) – Mrs. Sylvia Spencer

SUN. 01/08/2023 7:30AM
People of the Parish

SUN. 01/08/2023 10:00AM
Ezzard Sam (D) – Tywana Navy
Joe Mott (D) – Tywana Navy
U.L. Biagas (D) - Patricia Session
Herbert Goodwin, Jr. (D)
 The Goodwin Family
Kristina M. Chaney (D) – The Family

SUN. 01/08/2023 12:15PM
Clematis V. Potts (D)
 Chynell Potts Fisher
Sylvia Robertson & Family (L)
 M. Chaney
Deborah Scott & Family (L)
 M. Chaney
Joe Raiborn (L) – Tywana Navy
Baby Landry (L) – The LeBlanc Family

MON. 01/09/2023 7:00AM
Joseph Duplechaine (D)
 Duplechaine Family
Anthony Ellis (D) – Sylvia Spencer

TUE. 01/10/2023 7:00AM
Lucille Barriere (L)
 SFX Sisters in the Spirit
Michele Nwokobia (L)
 Nwokobia Family

WED. 01/11/2023 7:00AM
Anna Mai Nho (D) – Bertha Lewis
Edward Monette (D) – Mary Provost

THUR. 01/12/2023 7:00AM
Agnes Williams (L) – Tywana Navy
Ruth Celestine (L) – Tywana Navy

FRI. 01/13/2023 7:00AM
Wonder Victoria Hamilton (D)
 Tywana Navy
Vernice White (L) – Tywana Navy



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, Corine Hawkins, 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,
 Catherine Pierre, Mildred Pierre,
 Marcelle Prevost, Melody Ratcliff,
 Marie Richards, 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

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



Isaiah's excitement bubbles over as he describes how the glory of the Lord will attract pilgrims to Jerusalem from all over the world. Paul preaches that all people—Gentiles as well—are equal partners in this new faith, coheirs to the kingdom. In the Gospel, we hear the story of the magi, journeying to Bethlehem to offer their gifts to the newborn king. May God's word inspire us as we make our own journeys to the new Jerusalem.

READINGS FORTHE WEEK

Sunday – January 8

The Epiphany of the Lord
 Isaiah 60:1-6
 Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13
 Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6
 Matthew 2:1-12

Monday – January 9

The Baptism of the Lord
 Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38
 Psalm 29:1-2, 3-4, 9-10
 Mathew 3:13-17

Tuesday – January 10

Hebrews 2:5-12
 Psalm 8:2, 5-9
 Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday – January 11

Hebrews 2:14-18
 Psalm 105:1-4, 6-9
 Mark 1:29-39

Thursday – January 12

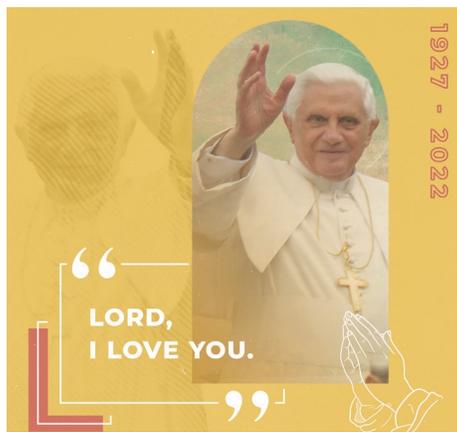
Hebrews 3:7-14
 Psalm 95:6-7, 8-11
 Mark 1:40-45

Friday January 13

Saint Hilary, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
 Hebrews 4:1-5, 11
 Psalm 78:3, 4, 6-8
 Mark 2:1-12

Saturday January 14

Hebrews 4:12-16
 Psalm 19:8-10, 15
 Mark 2:13-17



POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI



Jan 10th6:00pm
 6th – 10th Grades
 Jan 7th9:30am
 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.

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.



Pastoral Council Meeting is CANCELLED this month. The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 15th at 6:00pm** in the Harris Center.



SISTERS * TALK * LIVE
"The Pandemic and the Church"

Wed – Jan 11, 2023 7:00pm-8:00pm

The Positive and Negative Impact on the Priests and the Faithful.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89555145718?pwd=Z3JiWi93Tml5Sk9uVDIldndBMmZpdz09>

Meeting ID: **8955514 5718**

Passcode: **258758** LOG IN BY **6:45pm**



Father Michael will be out of the office thru **February 2nd**. Please 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 on **Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday** during regular business hours. The donation is \$10 per book.



The new year is filled with hope and promise as we seek to grow our vital ministries, explore new ways to share the good news of Christ's love, and reflect His care and mercy to those in need throughout the community. To continue to make a difference in 2023, St. Francis Xavier is reaching out to our parishioners.

Begin the new year with eGiving to help sustain and build ministries throughout 2023 that reflect the steadfast promise of God's love. The need is great in our community, and your generous online gifts will help people all around us. 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 www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: **TX632**, or **text the word ENROLL to 281-949-7600**. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. God Bless You,

Vy. Rev. Michael Saah-Buckman, SSJ

ATTENDANCE

Attendance for the Masses on December 31st and January 1st was **360**, and the 7:30am Sunday Mass Livestream received **60** views online. Please join us via Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the 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



ANIMA CHRISTI

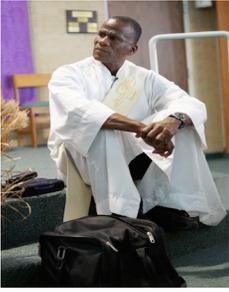
Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
 Body of Christ, save me.
 Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
 Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
 Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
 O good Jesus, hear me.
 Within your wounds conceal me.
 Do not permit me to be parted from you.
 From the evil foe protect me.
 At the hour 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 are generous with all of our gifts, especially the one thing that means the most to us. "Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." Matthew 2:11 The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow each day. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be generous with everything, but especially that one thing that means the most to you.

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EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (A)

January 8, 2023

“Behold, Magi from the East arrived in Jerusalem, saying, ‘Where is the newborn King of the Jews?’”
Matthew 2:1-2

Lessons from the Magi, and the gift we must bring to Jesus Christ

We have unwrapped our Christmas gifts, and the recycle bin is full of torn Christmas paper and boxes. For some, the Christmas tree has been taken down and the nativity scenes have been placed into storage. **Christmas is not just a one-day celebration, but a seasonal feast.**

Epiphany is a part of the Christmas season. It is Jesus' physical manifestation to the Gentile world. Gentiles (the Wise Men), as well as Jews (the shepherds in the fields, cf. Luke 2:8-20), have **now** come to worship Jesus. The Epiphany is recorded in **Matthew 2:1-12**, where Magi (Gentiles) from the East arrived in Jerusalem. Magi (singular, *magus*) described a group of scholars who were engaged in astrology and predictions of the future. **Matthew is silent** about how many Magi there were or their names. **Traditions** later added names to the Magi and the number of them. We can learn important lessons from the actions of the Magi as we journey in **our pursuit of Jesus**. Since the Magi brought gifts to the Child, **we must also know the most important gift we can bring to Jesus.**

(1) The magi depended on both science and God's Word to lead them to the Lord. As **stargazers**, they carefully observed the night sky and studied the alignment and movement of the planets. They noticed one remarkable star and realized that it was significant and **journeyed to Jerusalem**. *“For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him”* (Matthew 2:2). Still a few miles from their destination, they needed guidance from **the chief priests and scribes** (who quoted from Micah 5:2) **to direct them to Bethlehem**. **Science alone** was not enough; **they needed faith** in Micah's prophecy (God's Word) to complete their journey and reach Christ. Christians need faith in the **Word of God** to pursue, know and be in a relationship with Jesus.

(2) The Magi found Jesus because they were being guided. Jesus doesn't want us to be wanderers with **no purpose or direction**. Most Biblical scholars believed the Magi came from Persia. This meant they would have had to travel nearly one thousand miles. That's months on the road. They were perhaps tempted to turn around and return home, but they continued because they were being **led by the star**. Being guided helps us to understand that we didn't get to where we are by ourselves. **Your steps have been ordered by the Lord** according to Psalms 37:23. Jesus said, *“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow Me”* (John 10:27). Jesus wants us to know Him so well that we are **guided and instructed** by His voice.



The Magi presented **gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh** to the Child. **What's the greatest gift you can give Jesus?** First, let's see what was the greatest gift God gave us. He **wrapped His Son in human flesh**, sent Him to earth to **save us**. That's God's gift to us-**Emmanuel** (cf. Matthew 1:23). **Christ tells us what He wants as a present from us!** **Romans 12:1** says, *“Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy acceptable to God which is your reasonable service.”* **We are to give ourselves to Jesus!** That is what He wants from us. <> Dcn. Jenkins



The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

38th Annual Mass of Remembrance of

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sunday

January 15, 2023

3:00 PM

Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart

1111 St. Joseph Parkway Houston Texas, 77002

Principal Celebrant:

Cardinal Daniel DiNardo

Archbishop of Galveston-Houston

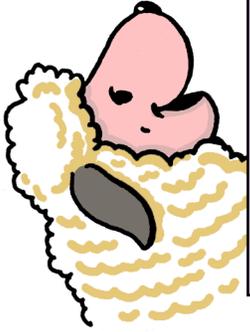
and

Homilist:

Most Reverend Curtis J. Guillory, S.V.D.

Bishop Emeritus-Diocese of Beaumont

**Reception to Follow
Cathedral Center**

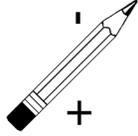


What gifts did the Magi bring?

Add and subtract letters to find out.

1.  - at +  - fower +  - og

2.  - inge +  - c +  - tte +

 - ow +  - pcil +  - hor

3.  - ilk +  - an +  - at

+  - ouse

= _____

Children's Worship Bulletin

Ages 7+

January 8, 2023 • Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi Visit Jesus

Some Magi came to Jerusalem. What did they ask?

Match the numbers with the words in the stars.

“ _____ 11 _____ 9

_____ 2 _____ 7

_____ 8 _____ 5 _____ 12

_____ 10 _____ 21

_____ 15 _____ 19 _____ ?

_____ 6 _____ 3

_____ 18 _____ 4 _____ 24

_____ 17 _____ 20 _____ 25

_____ 16 _____ 22 _____ 23 _____ ”

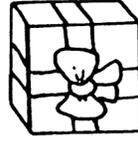
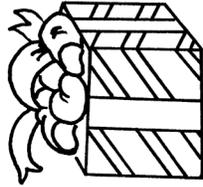
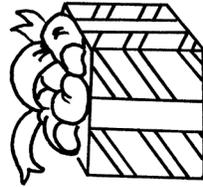
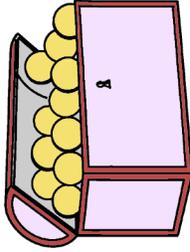
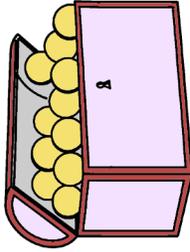
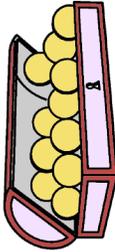
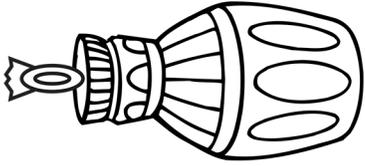
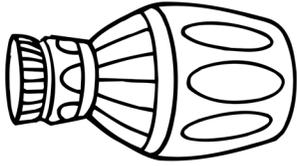
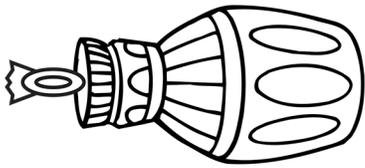
_____ 1 _____ 14

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QQB041

These Magi worshiped Jesus
and gave Him gifts.

In each row, circle the gifts that match.



Ages 3+

January 8, 2023 • Matthew 2:1-12

Children's Worship Bulletin™

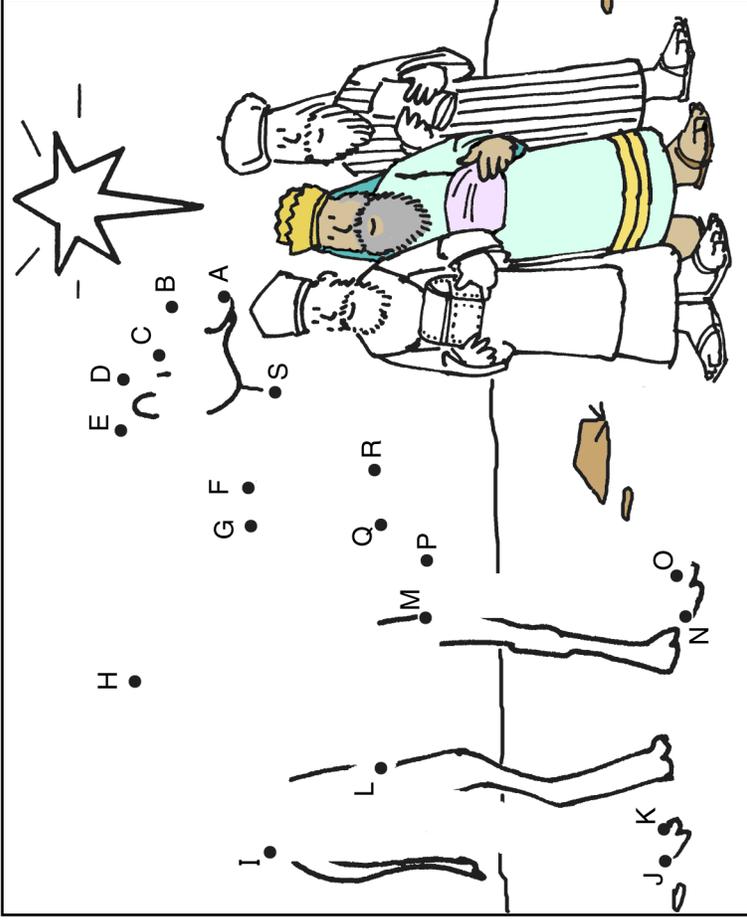


The Magi Visit Jesus

The Magi traveled a long way to find the baby who was born to be king.

Connect the dots.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S



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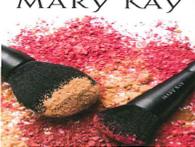
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