

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 10, 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
Parish Hall: 713.731.2725
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 (RCIA)

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.	09/09/2023	5:00PM
	<i>People of the Parish</i>	
SUN.	09/10/2023	7:30AM
	<i>Theresa Lazard (D)</i>	
	<i>Florence McChristian & Wanda Johnson</i>	
	<i>Mary Zenon (L) – Unella Baber</i>	
	<i>JaMaire Baber (L) – Unella Baber</i>	
	<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i>	
	<i>Family & Friends</i>	
	<i>Josephine Cirilo (D) – Cassandra Green</i>	
SUN.	09/10/2023	10:00AM
	<i>Orelia & Sam Stewart (D)</i>	
	<i>Isabelle Thomas & Family</i>	
	<i>The Landry Family (L) – Loretta LeBlanc</i>	
	<i>Hal Tracy Bobino (D) – Family & Friends</i>	
	<i>Floyd Henderson (L)</i>	
	<i>The Henderson Family</i>	
	<i>Ezzard Sam (D) – Tywanna Navy</i>	
SUN.	09/10/2023	12:15PM
	<i>Javon Calvin Moses (L)</i>	
	<i>Barbara Forbes Moses</i>	
	<i>Terry & Ruth Johnson (D) – P.A. Piper</i>	
	<i>Clarence Jenkins (D) – Azielee Addison</i>	
	<i>Jessie Bush (D) – Patricia Morgan</i>	
MON.	09/11/2023	7:00AM
	<i>Joe Mott (D)–Tywanna Navy</i>	
	<i>Makayla Horton (L) – P.A. Piper</i>	
TUE.	09/12/2023	7:00AM
	<i>Shirley Foreman (L) – Tywanna Navy</i>	
	<i>Jessie Bush (D) – Patricia Morgan</i>	
WED.	09/13/2023	7:00AM
	<i>Ruth Celestine (L) – Tywanna Navy</i>	
	<i>Jessie Bush (D) – Patricia Morgan</i>	
THUR	09/14/2023	7:00AM
	<i>Curtis Jones (L) – Special Intention</i>	
	<i>Agnes Williams (L) – Tywanna Navy</i>	
FRI	09/15/2023	7:00AM
	<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i>	
	<i>Family & Friends</i>	
	<i>Joyce Berotte (L) – Tywanna Navy</i>	



Donald Abraham, Deacon
 Alfred Abram, Akaycia
 Addison, Azielee Addison,
 Kayne Addison, Nathan
 Addison IV, Alexis Alfred, Rev. Alfred
 Ayem SVD, Kelly Batiste, Hazel S.
 Brown, Augustina Buckman, Savannah
 Blackwell, Amber Byas, Julius Cadoree,
 Margaret Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Sterling
 Dotson Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr.,
 Foley Davis, Frank Davis Sr., Rev. Henry
 Davis, SSJ, Judy Davis, Marlene Davis,
 Lois Epps, Allison Eskine, Stanley
 Eskine, Barbara Forte', Lawrence Frank,
 Anthony Gobert, Betty Goodwin, Tristian
 Gore, Beulah Hadrick, Mary Hamilton,
 Mason Harrison, Alvin J. Hebert, Donald
 Henderson, Floyd Henderson, Anthony
 Hicks, Edress Hunt, Crystal Jackson,
 Oswald James, Natalie Johnson, Brooke
 Joseph, Shirley Ann Joseph, Kennedy
 Family Members, Ann Kennerson, Leo
 Kennerson, JoAnn LaSane, Joseph H.
 LaVergne, Roy Lee, Hazel Lewis,
 Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery,
 Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Diane
 Miles, Dorothy Milstead, Cookie
 Mooring, Yusuf S. Muwwakkil, Vy. Rev.
 William L. Norvel SSJ, Carolyn Ollison,
 Angela Pena, Cynethia Pichon, Percy
 Pichon Sr, Robin Pichon-Mosley,
 Catherine Pierre, Mildred Pierre, Marcelle
 Prevost, Melody Ratcliff, C. Rems, Elise
 Richmond, Christine & John Roberts,
 Oliver Rose, Grace Russell, Vy. Rev.
 Michael K. Saah-Buckman SSJ, Lilly
 Simms, Joyce Smith, Simon Smith, Joyce
 Stagg, Jeanette Steptoe, Mackenzie
 Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor,
 Craig Temple, Melvin Thomas, Gemma
 Walcott, Agnes Williams, Patricia
 Williams, Janice Woods, and all the sick
 and shut-in in our parish family. **After
 30 days, please call the office to remain
 on this list.**

**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

Today's readings call us to take responsibility for our neighbor. Ezekiel tells us that the LORD holds him personally responsible for turning others away from evil. Paul instructs the

Romans that when we love our neighbor, we fulfill God's law. Jesus teaches his disciples that they must reach out to sinners and seek their repentance. May God's word strengthen us to reach out to our neighbor with love, to reconcile with our sisters and brothers.

**READINGS
FOR THE WEEK**

Sunday – September 10
 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 33:7-9
 Psalm 95:1-2, 6-9
 Romans 13:8-10
 Mathew 18:15-20

Monday – September 11

Colossians 1:24—2:3
 Psalm 62:6-7, 9
 Luke 6:6-11

Tuesday – September 12

The Most Holy Name of Mary
 Colossians 2:6-15
 Psalm 145:1-2, 8-11
 Luke 6:12-19

Wednesday – September 13

*Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop,
 Doctor of the Church*
 Colossians 3:1-11
 Psalm 145:2-3, 10-13
 Luke 6:20-26

Thursday – September 14

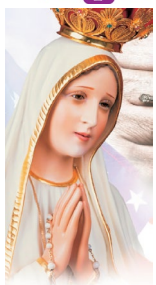
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
 Numbers 21:4-9
 Psalm 78:1-2, 34-38
 Philippians 2:6-11
 John 3:13-17

Friday September 15

Our Lady of Sorrows
 1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14
 Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 11
 John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35

Saturday September 16

*Saints Corneilius, Pope & Cyprian,
 Bishop, Martyrs*
 1 Timothy 1:15-17
 Psalm 113:1-7
 Luke 6:43-49

**AMERICA NEEDS
FATIMA PUBLIC
ROSARY RALLY**

The Rosary Rally will take place on Saturday, **October 7, 2023**, at 10:00am in the SFX Prayer Garden, weather permitting. The Rally is facilitated by the KPC Family of Councils & Courts 138 and the CCE

Department. All ministries are invited to participate and bring a friend. Sign-up sheets are available in the Vestibule of the Church and the Harris Center.

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, Kalah A. Guidry, Kerry Hubbard, Kory Hubbard, 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:** Roderick Jones, Joshua Creeks, Joffre Lander
Marines: Reginald Ward

**CCE REGISTRATION**

CCE Early Registration ends on **September 22nd**. A late fee of **\$15** will be charged after **December 9, 2023**. Classes will begin on **September 23rd** for Elementary Students and **September 25th** for Jr. High & High School Students. If you have any questions call **713-731-2775**.

RCIA*Thinking of becoming Catholic?*

If you're not a Catholic, or you are a baptized Catholic lacking Confirmation and Eucharist, we invite you to explore the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**. Classes will begin on **September 28th**, from **6:00pm - 7:00pm** in the Harris Center. Registration forms are available in the vestibule of the Church and on the Parish Website www.sfxhouston.com



All are invited to join **The Prison Ministry** on **Wednesday, September 13,**

2023 @ 6:00p.m. in the Harris Center Auditorium for our First Open House and Prayer Service.

Please join our **CORRECTIONAL MINISTRY** here at St. Francis Xavier Church. Call **(713) 446-4279**, or email: makeitbetter4us23@gmail.com

**GOD IS THE STRENGTH OF MY HEART**

Next week is DSF Commitment Weekend where we all can support the Diocesan Services Fund. DSF is our opportunity as a community of faith to answer God's call, through His son Jesus Christ, to joyfully love and serve the needs of others. Through your support of DSF, you proclaim the Gospel, help provide 64 ministries that no one parish can do alone and remind all around you that God is the strength of our hearts.

SCAN HERE TO MAKE A GIFT



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3rd Prize.....\$500.00 Gift Card

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: October 15, 2023

Winner Need Not be Present!

BAZAAR TEAM MEETING

The next Bazaar Planning Meeting will be held on **September 12th**, at 6:00p.m. in the Harris Center Auditorium.

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 go beyond the minimum required and give generously in proportion to what God has given each of us. "You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel..." - Ezekiel 33:7 Many of us are generous with our gifts. However, many of us are not generous in proportion to the gifts we have been given. How often do we give at the minimum level required? Remember, the Lord calls us to nurture and develop our gifts and to give back with increase. He calls us to be generous with all the gifts, especially the one that means the most to us.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who promised to stay with us always, until the end of the age. Reawaken our wonder at His presence in the Most Holy Eucharist. May our hearts burn within us as He opens the Scriptures and breaks the bread. Give us the eyes of faith to recognize His presence in our brothers and sisters, especially in the face of the poor and the suffering. Nourished by the Eucharist, send us forth to walk faithfully as missionary disciples, proclaiming the Gospel to every heart and extending Your kingdom to every land. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, September 2nd and Sunday, September 3rd 26th was **350** and the 7:30am Sunday Mass Livestream received **57** views online. Please join us via YouTube Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church.



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ^(A)

September 10, 2023

"For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them."
Matthew 18:20

We are to help each other; stay on the right track! All three readings address how believers are to assist each other as we walk with Christ. **Here they are:**

1. The Importance of Relationship. As followers of Christ, we must be connected. **Preceding today's Gospel passage,** Jesus tells His disciples the parable of the lost sheep (Matt. 18:10-14). The caring Shepherd left the ninety-nine to seek out the one who had gone astray. The ninety-nine were fine; it was the lone sheep who was in danger of being destroyed. There was a man **who lived** across the street from his church but hadn't been in a while. One Sunday, after services ended, the Pastor saw the man **barbecuing outside** and went over. "Hey brother, we have been missing you", said the Pastor. "We would love to see you back in God's House." The man said, "Well, I don't have to go to church every Sunday, do I Reverend?" "I am the church, right?", said the man. "Why do I have to be in church", asked the man. The Pastor said, "Can I see that pair of cooking tongs?" The man said, "Yeah, here you go." The Pastor took one of the coals that was so hot it was an orange color. He threw the coal on the concrete, and just watched it. The man looked at it too. The coal went from orange to gray, to a white ashy color; **then it went out.** The Pastor looked at the brother and said, "That's why you need to be in the church." For that coal to burn, and stay lit, it has to be touching other coals. For Christians to stay on fire for God, we have got to be touching. You can't let your fire go out. We have to stay with the other coals because **in today's Gospel,** Jesus promised that, *"where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them"* (Matthew 18:20). We are not to forsake ourselves from assembling (Cf. Heb.12:5).

2. The Importance of Loving each other. In the **second reading** St. Paul tells the Roman Church, "Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another" Rom. 13:8. He also says, "Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of

the law" (Rom. 13:10). Jesus said, *"By this, all men will know you are My disciples if you have love for one another"* (John 13:35). Love is the Christians' identity card.

Everyone has a love tank. As Christians, we help fill each other's love tanks by using words of affirmation to build each other up (Cf. Eph. 4:29). Stay away from toxic people, those who want to kill, steal, and covet what you have (Cf. Rom. 13:9).

3. The Importance of Being God's Speaker. In the **First Reading,** God tells the prophet Ezekiel, *"[If] you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way...I will hold you responsible for his death"* (Ezekiel 33:8). We are to be God's speaker to warn those who are going the wrong way. Notice **God has the microphone.** *"When you hear Me say anything, you shall warn [Israel] for Me"* (Ezekiel 33:7). **The only job of the speaker**

is to project the words of the One who has the microphone.

If you had a cure for cancer, why would you keep that hidden, and thousands of people are dying from cancer? Why not share it? **We know the cure for sin.** What can wash away my sin; **Nothing but the blood of Jesus.** Who do you know is dying in their sins, and you haven't spoken to them about Christ and repentance? **Why would you keep that to yourself?**

◇◇ Dcn. Jenkins



Saint Francis Xavier Soul Food Dinners

Sponsored by the St. Francis Xavier Bazaar Team

Saturday, Sept 16, 12:00pm-7:00pm

Sunday, Sept 17, 2023 (After all Masses)



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What else did Jesus say?

Unscramble the letters and write the words on the correct lines.

- | | |
|--------------|----------|
| 1. ereht | 5. temh |
| 2. reegtttoh | 6. mean |
| 3. heerw | 7. emoc |
| 4. wot | 8. heter |

Jesus said, "For _____ 3

_____ 4 or _____ 1

_____ 7 _____ 2 in _____

My _____ 6, _____ 8

am I with _____ 5 "_____."

Children's Worship Bulletin™

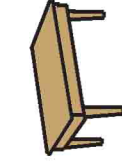
Ages 7+

September 10, 2023 • Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus Teaches About Forgiveness

What should we do when a friend does something wrong to us?

Add and subtract the letters. Then fill in the blanks.



- BLE +

- OC = 1)



- TOO +



- AR +



- OUSE

= 2) _____



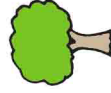
- IG +



- NG +



- N



+

- RE = 3) _____

_____ 1 to _____ 2 in _____ 3 .

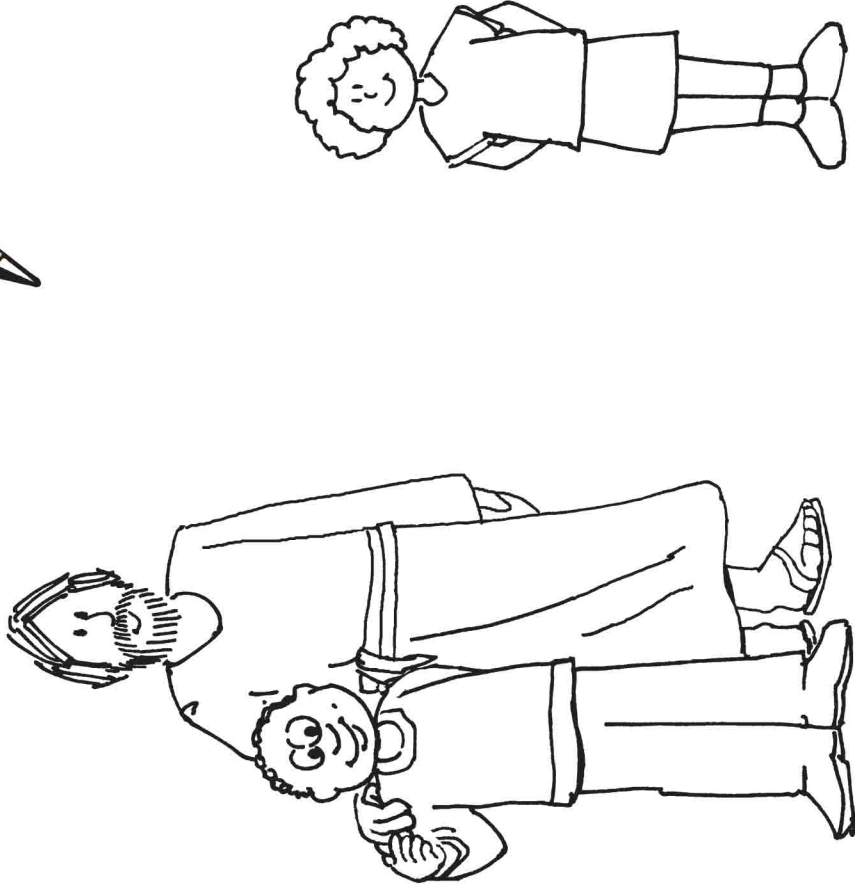
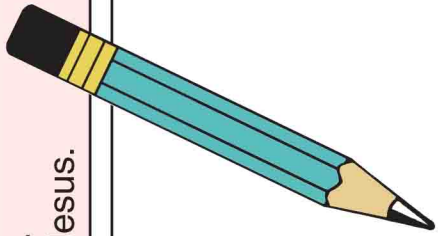
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DMVWY8

Jesus said, "For where 2 or 3 come together in My name, there I am with them."

Finish the picture.

Draw yourself next to Jesus.

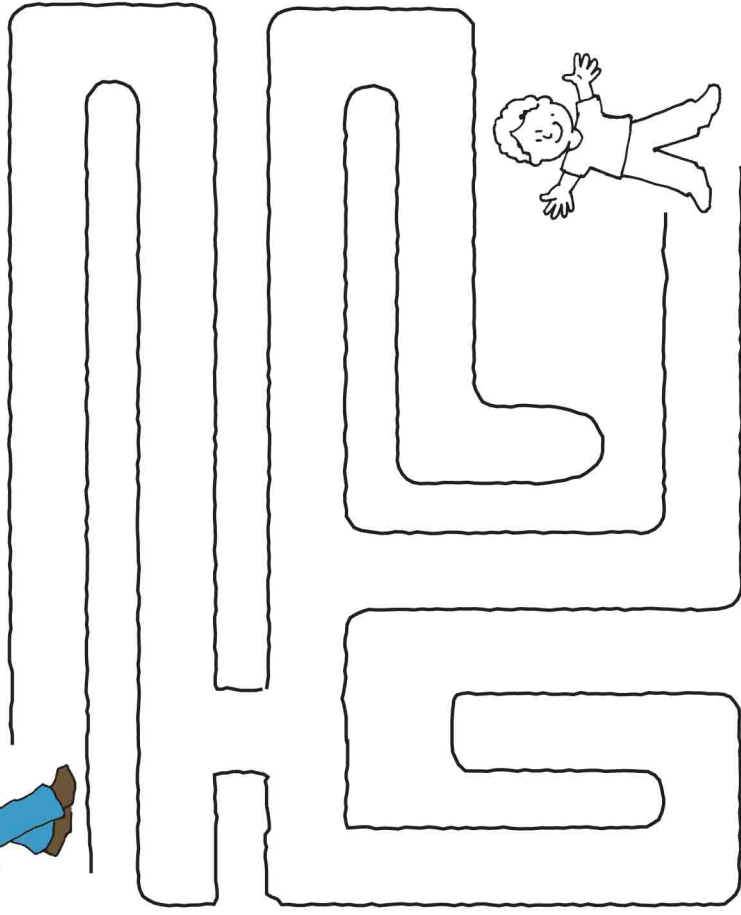


Jesus Teaches About Forgiveness

Jesus said if a person sins against you,
go to that person to work it out.



Follow the maze.



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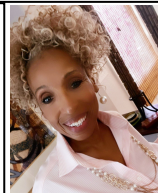


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