

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

*Staffed by the Josephites since 1952*

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 5, 2024



4600 REED ROAD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77051-2857  
Parish Office: 713.738.2311 Fax: 713.738.3337  
Emergency Contact: 409.963.5633 CCE: 713.731.2775  
Parish Hall: 713.731.2725 SVdP Food Pantry: 713.731.2716  
WEB Address: <http://www.sfxhouston.com>  
E-MAIL: [stfrancishou@sfxhouston.com](mailto: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 Thompson, 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 (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.

## 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.-12:00 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

## 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 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](http://www.sfxhouston.com)

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>SAT</b>	<b>05/04/2024</b>	<b>5:00PM</b>
<i>Joseph Melvin Vallery, Sr. (D)</i>		
Odelia Vallery & Family		
<b>SUN.</b>	<b>05/05/2024</b>	<b>7:30AM</b>
<i>John W. Biagas (D) – Patricia Session</i>		
<b>SUN.</b>	<b>05/05/2024</b>	<b>10:00AM</b>
<i>People of the Parish</i>		
<b>MON.</b>	<b>05/06/2024</b>	<b>7:00AM</b>
<i>Wilbert Bonhomme (D) – Henderson</i>		
<b>TUE.</b>	<b>05/07/2024</b>	<b>7:00AM</b>
<i>Eula Mae Holley (D)</i>		
Florence & Wanda		
<b>WED.</b>	<b>05/08/2024</b>	<b>7:00AM</b>
<i>Gussie Charles (D) – Charles Family</i>		
<b>THUR</b>	<b>05/09/2024</b>	<b>7:00AM</b>
<i>People of the Parish</i>		
<b>FRI</b>	<b>05/10/2024</b>	<b>7:00AM</b>
<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i>		
Family & Friends		
<b>SAT</b>	<b>05/11/2024</b>	<b>5:00PM</b>
<i>All Mothers (L/D)</i>		



**Please Pray for...**  
 Donald Abraham, Den Alfred Abram, Felecia Baul, Savannah Blackwell, Hazel S. Brown, Augustina Buckman, Tommy Burton, Amber Byas, Julius Cadoree, Margaret Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Sterling Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Lois Epps, Barbara Forte, Lawrence Frank, Anthony Gobert, Betty Goodwin, Beulah Hadrick, Alvin J. Hebert, Donald Henderson, Diane Houston-Hawkins, William Jackson, Brooke Joseph, Shirley Ann Joseph, Kennedy Family Members, JoAnn LaSane, Roy Lee, Hilary Ledet, Aundrea Lewis, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Jimmie Mack, Eugene Mallery, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Diane Miles, Dorothy Milstead, Cookie Mooring, Vy. Rev. William L. Norvel SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Cynethia Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Robin Pichon-Mosley, Catherine Pierre, Mildred Pierre, Marcelle Prevost, Melody Ratcliff, Effie Rems, Elise Richmond, Wilson Robertson, Louis Robinson, Oliver Rose, Brian Russell, Grace Russell, Vy. Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman SSJ, Basharn Shanklin, Joyce Smith, Joyce Stagg, Jeffery Steptoe, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor, Melvin Thomas, Gemma Walcott, Agnes Williams, Hilton “Steve” Williams, Patricia Williams, Janice Woods, 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.**

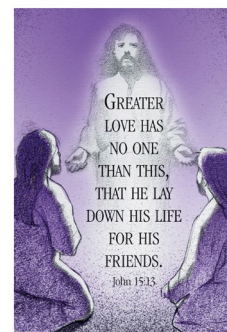
**Army:** Barbara Baber, Sade Beck, Wadie Troy Butler, Patrick Clay Jr, Kalah A. Guidry, Kerry Hubbard, Kory Hubbard, LaTroy King, Gary Christian Robertson, Anthony Lamar Smith II, Jordan T. McCorkle, Essence L. Casteel

**Navy:** Alvin Balthazar, Debreanna Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins-Camp, Xavier Henry, Randolph J. Navy III, Anthony N. Russell

**Air Force:** Samuel Houston, Roderick Jones, Joshua Creeks, Joffre Lander

**Marines:** Reginald Ward

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



We are reminded once again to love one another. Why? John says because love is of God, as witnessed by the Father sending the Son to bring us new life and the Son dying for

us on the cross to save us from our sins. What greater love can there be for us to imitate? Moreover, Jesus promises his disciples that when we follow his command to love one another, we remain in his love and will receive whatever we need. Let us listen to God’s word, inspiring us to put our love for God and for others into action.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday – May 5**

*6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*  
 Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

Psalm 98:1-4

1 John 4:7-10

John 15:9-17

**Monday – May 6**

Acts 16:11-15

Psalm 149:1-6, 9

John 15:26-16:4

**Tuesday – May 7**

Acts 16:22-34

Psalm 138:1-3, 7-8

John 16:5-11

**Wednesday – May 8**

Acts 17:15, 22—18:1

Psalm 148:1-2, 11-14

John 16:12-15

**Thursday – May 9**

*The Ascension of the Lord*

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47:2-3, 6-9

Ephesians 1:17-23 or 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13

Mark 16:15-20

**Friday – May 10**  
*Saint John of Avila, Priest, Doctor of the Church;*

*Saint Damien de Veuster, Priest*

Acts 18:9-18

Psalm 47:2-7

John 16:20-23

**Saturday – May 11**

Acts 18:23-28

Psalm 47:2-3, 8-10

John 16:23-28

*Baptisms*  
 IN THE CHURCH FAMILY



**Logan Santiago Wesley** (8yrs) received the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, April 28, 2024. Logan is the Son of Danielle Malveaux (Left) and Santiago Wesley (Deceased). Godparents are Daylan Malveaux (Right) and Belinda Sewell (Not pictured). Vy. Rev. Michael L. Thompson, SSJ officiated.

**ATTENDANCE**

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> was 427. Please join us via YouTube Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church.



**May 5<sup>th</sup> .....10:00am**  
**FIRST COMMUNION MASS**  
**May 6<sup>th</sup> .....6:00pm**  
**6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade CCE Last Day!**



**SAVE THE DATE**

**May 18, 2024 – 10:00am**  
**St. Francis of Assisi**  
**Church- 5102 Dabney St.**  
 A Mass of Remembrance honoring Venerable

Henriette DeLille, foundress of The Sisters of Holy Family of New Orleans. Principle Celebrant is Bishop Italo Dell’Oro, CRS; Homilist is Very Rev. Michael L. Thompson, SSJ. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall immediately after Mass. A women’s choir will provide music for the liturgy.

**Sisters In the Spirit**  
**Women in Red Program**  
**Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> @ 3PM**  
**St. Francis of Assisi**

*“We are moving in the spirit with songs”*

This will be an uplifting and inspiring event with praise dancers, local choirs, and a special guest appearance by renowned Gospel singer, Karen Zellers Sevier. Everyone is invited. In the spirit of Pentecost Sunday, please wear red.



Next week, our special collection

supports the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign connects Catholics with Christ in the United States and developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money collected remains here in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston to support local efforts. Your support helps spread the Gospel message! Learn more at: [www.usccb.org/ccc](http://www.usccb.org/ccc).



The SFX Prison Ministry will meet in the Harris Center Auditorium on Wednesday, **May 8<sup>th</sup>**, at 6:00pm. Call (713) 446-4279, or email us for additional information: [makeitbetter4us23@gmail.com](mailto:makeitbetter4us23@gmail.com)



Travel with Fr. Thompson on a Pilgrimage to Italy on Oct 13-21, 2024. We will visit Rome, Assisi, Milan, Tuscany, Florence and Venice. The cost is \$4,299.00

which includes:

- Flights from anywhere in the United States and flights between countries as per your itinerary
- Daily Mass
- Airport Taxes, Security Fees & Fuel Surcharges
- Transfers as per itinerary
- Transportation with luxury bus
- 4 or 5 star hotels in downtown areas
- All breakfasts and all dinners. Wine Included with all dinners.
- All tips to driver, hotel, and tour guide
- Guided Tours and Tour Fees
- Luggage handling
- Single Supplement
- Passengers will never be expected to pay extra for anything

To register, please contact (855) 842-8001 or (508) 340-9370. You can also register online at: [www.proximotravel.com](http://www.proximotravel.com).



**ATTENTION GRADUATES**

If you are a **Registered, Active Parishioner** and you or your child is a Middle School, High School, College, University, Community College, Business or Technical School graduate, please Email the following information to [stfrancishou@sfxhouston.com](mailto:stfrancishou@sfxhouston.com):

- Env No.
- Name of Graduate
- Parent/Guardian
- School Graduating from
- Degree (if applicable)
- School Planning to attend (if applicable)
- Awards (if applicable)

You may include a photo with or without your cap & gown. All Information is needed **NO LATER THAN NOON** on Wednesday, **May 17<sup>th</sup>**. You may also sign up to participate online at: [www.sfxhouston.com](http://www.sfxhouston.com)

**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**

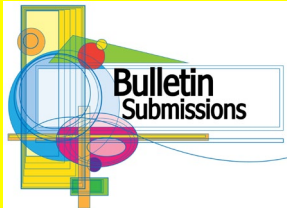
*Stewardship Reflection*

That our discipleship is not out of obligation, but rather out of love. “This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” - John 15:12-13 Do you love Jesus? Do you consider Him your friend? Jesus says that if we love Him we would be willing to offer whatever we have to Him, not because we want praise and glory, but simply because we love Him. Does your giving seem mechanical out of obligation or do you share freely out of love?

**Mother's Day Breakfast**



Everyone is invited to join the Mothers of St. Francis for breakfast after the **7:30am** and **10:00am** Masses on Mother’s Day, **May 12<sup>th</sup>**. Breakfast is **free** for all Mothers. A **\$5.00** donation per person is requested for Family and Friends.



**Bulletin Submissions**

Submissions to the Bulletin must be received by **1:00pm**, at least **ten (10) days** prior to the Bulletin Publication date. Example: For the *May 19, 2024* Bulletin, input must be received by *1:00pm on Thursday, May 9, 2024*.





Some reflections inspired by online copyrighted commentaries and homilies

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B) May 5, 2024

For our reflection this Sunday we are presented with the very heart of the Gospel message: “Love one another as I have loved you”. We are all familiar with love in some way. We have experienced love in our lives both on the giving and the receiving end. We know what love is and it is something that we all probably feel qualified to speak about. We have grown up feeling love towards our families and being loved in return by them. In our teens and early twenties most all of us surely found ourselves having strong feelings of love towards someone we were particularly attracted to.

Very frequently this love would blossom into marriage, and in marriage that love was deepened and matured. Some of us might consider that we are even experts in this area because at times in our lives we have been unhappy in love as well, disappointed and frustrated. We have experienced the pains of love as well as the joys. It might be that our love was returned or that we were deceived or betrayed in love, or a long relationship went sour. We know the hurts that love can sometimes cause us. However, as in all things, what we humans think we know about love is insignificant in comparison to love in God’s understanding. Jesus chooses his words very carefully when he says: Love one another as I have loved you. He doesn’t say: Love one another as you think you want to love them. No, we are to love in the same way that he loves, unconditionally. Jesus presents himself as the example and model of how to love. And this is just as it should be because Christ is, of course, the very embodiment of perfect love.

We have already recognized that the love we normally experience as human beings frequently has its basis in either attraction, lust or proximity. We love the ones we are attracted to and we love those with whom we live closely and with whom we were maybe grew up with. However, the opposite of love is hate. And we usually hate those we are repelled from or those who are foreign to us. Those who don’t have our similar interests and values, we usually shut out these persons, choosing not to show love to them.

But with Christian love, we are asked to go beyond these human limitations. We are challenged to love everyone regardless of whether we like them or not; regardless of whether they have hurt us; regardless of whether they share our beliefs, or customs, or way of life. Each human being is created out of love by God and in his own image. Each human being is loved by God even if they are stuck in the very depths of sin. God will never alienate himself from that which he has created. If God loves everyone and he asks us to love one another just as he loves us, then we must love everyone regardless of unattractive qualities or any other obstacles. This is not easy to understand or practice. But this love we are talking about is not about going google eyes over someone. It is about appreciating and valuing that person, whoever they might be, as a child of God and a worthy object of God’s love. So, when we speak about Christian love we mean that we treat all around us with the special regard that is due one created by God out of love for us.

There may be no special attraction to that person, indeed there may be many things about them that we dislike, but we overcome these personal preferences because we see in them the beauty of a being created by God. An important aspect of the emotion we call love is the willingness to make sacrifices for the person we love. We must be willing to make enormous sacrifices for the sake of love, even in extreme circumstances going so far as to give our own lives.

Jesus is, of course, a great example and inspiration in this regard. But what is different about Jesus is that he sacrificed himself in order to redeem the sins of the world. He gave his life for the salvation of those who caused him harm, for those who rejected him, for those who gave no thought to the things of God. He gave his life for us sinners. The sacrifice we are asked to make is to forgive all hurts. In this way we move beyond the emotional state, and we deliberately choose to exercise the virtue of love. The Christian way to do this is, with our eyes of faith, we recognize the presence of the divine, the Christ, in all those we meet along the way.

*Vy. Rev. Michael L. Thompson, SSJ*



# SAVE THE DATE

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church  
Archdiocese Galveston-Houston  
Health Ministry Presents

**The Spring Forum and Medical Scholarship Luncheon**

**Theme:**

# Hats On, Hats Off, to Good Health!

## May 18, 2024

Featuring Mistress of Ceremony, Ms. Donna Franklin of KTSU

**Doors Open at 10:00am**

**Event begins at 11:00am**

**Tickets \$35**

**Attire is dressy. Guests are encouraged to strut your favorite hat.**

**No baseball caps allowed.**

#### Activities include:

Speakers | Silent Auction | Wine-pull (\$15) | Vendors

Community Resources | Door prizes | 360 Photo Booth (\$5)

*Special silent auction item featuring a sports collectors dream,  
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#### Speakers Topics:

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Aging

Dementia

Blood Type and Nutrition

**For ticket information, please contact Mary Sias at 713-320-9210**

**or Gwen Reed-Lamothe at 832-594-5255.**

**To purchase tickets by credit card or make a donation use QR code**

**or this link: <https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/TX632/55184>**

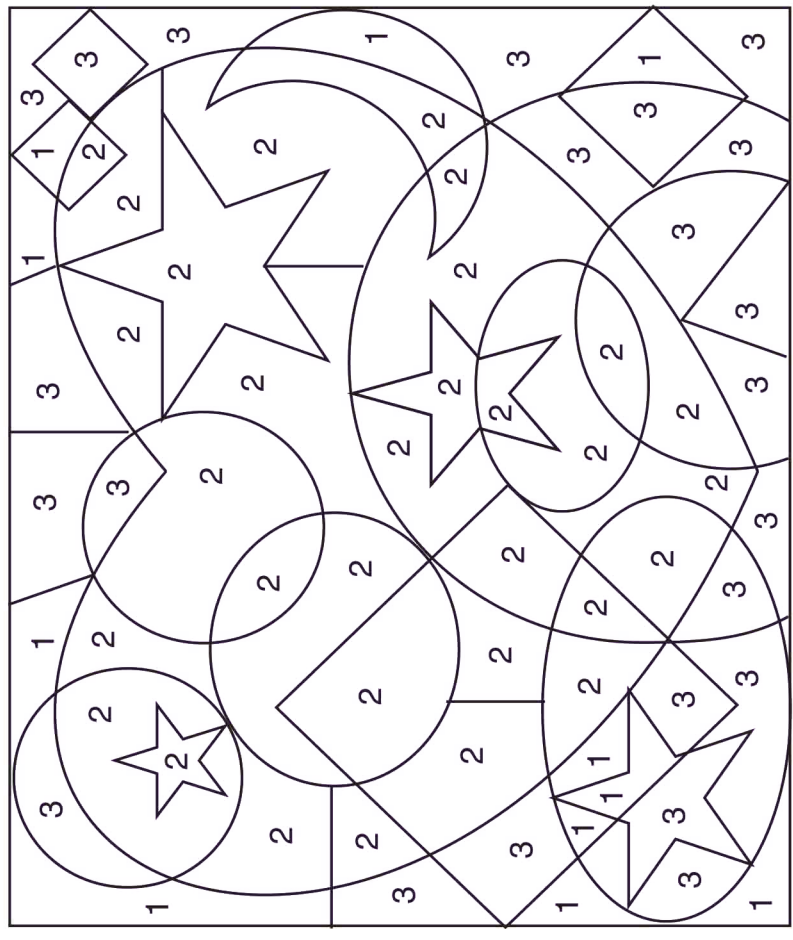
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## A Greater Love

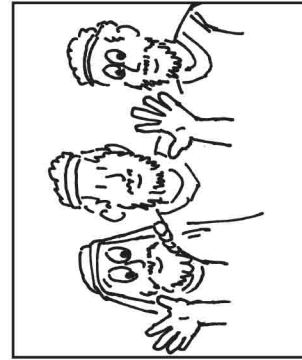
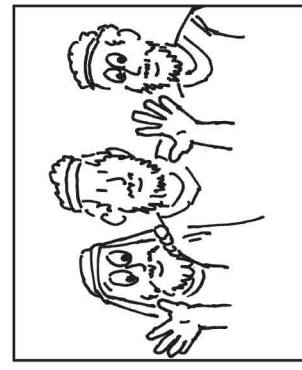
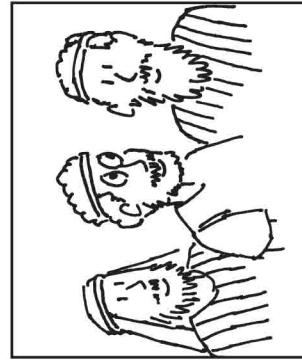
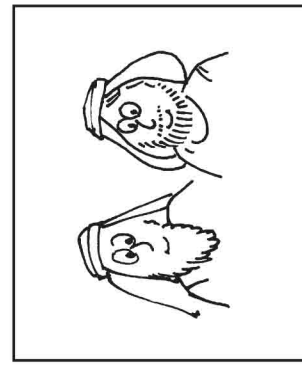
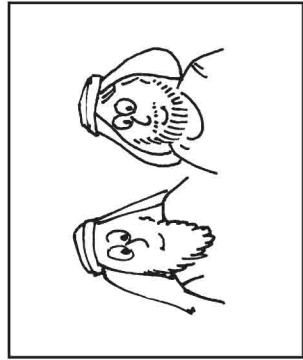
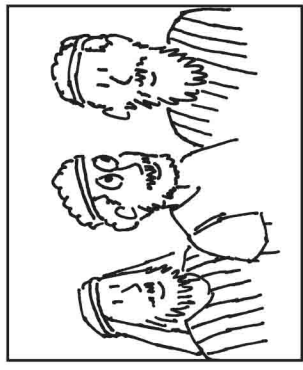
Jesus said, "Love each other as I have loved you."

Shade in the 2's



Jesus said, "You did not choose Me, but I chose you."

Match the disciples.



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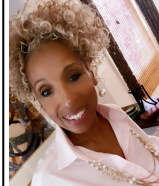


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