

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

Staffed by the Josephites since 1952

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 26, 2026



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Emergency Contact: 409.963.5633 CCE: 713.731.2775
Parish Hall: 713.731.2725 SVdP Conference: 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:

Very Rev. Michael Thompson, SSJ

DEACONS:

Michael V. Jenkins

Darryl K. Drenon

Frank J. Laugermann (Retired)

SACRISTAN

Orell Dargin

PARISH SECRETARY

Shirley M. Foreman.....x113

BOOKEEPER

Stacie Boisseau.....x109

DIR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Unella Baber.....x103

ADULT FORMATION (OCIA)

Deacon Michael V. Jenkins

Tierra Ledet

ST VINCENT de PAUL CONFERENCE

Erica Smith

CONTRIBUTIONS/MEMBERSHIP

Agnes Thompson.....x107

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Hope Jackson

HALL MANAGER

Hilton S. Williams 713.542.0120

PLANT MANAGER/MAINTENANCE

Curtis Jones/Eugene Wilson

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Sat: Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Sun: 7:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday (Tue - Fri): 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

4th Saturdays: 12:00 Noon

CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Jerry Givens 281.772.9276

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

GIVE without Cash or Check

TEXT-TO-GIVE

Text \$ amount to 281-949-7600

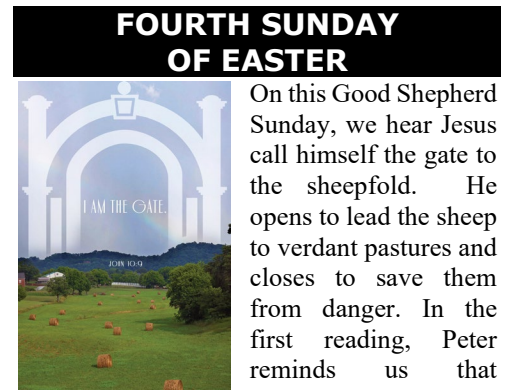


Save the number as a contact in your mobile phone for easy giving.

MASS INTENTIONS		
SAT	04/25/2026	5:00PM
<i>People of the Parish</i>		
SUN	04/26/2026	7:30AM
<i>Anniversary of Death of San Ngo (D)</i> Kieunhi Nguyen		
SUN	04/26/2026	10:00AM
<i>M/M Marvin L. Leftwich (D)</i> Philomena Rose Leftwich		
TUE	04/28/2026	7:00AM
<i>Beatrice Landry (D) – The LaSane Family</i>		
WED	04/29/2026	7:00AM
<i>Deacon Darryl Drenon (L)</i> Special Intention		
THUR	04/30/2026	NO MASS
<i>Deliverance & Protection for the Cynthia Charles, Sons & Brothers (L)</i> Cynthia Charles		
FRI	05/01/2026	7:00AM
<i>Monique Clark (D) –Tywana Navy</i>		
SAT	05/01/2026	5:00PM
<i>Deacon Albert Henry (D) – The Family</i>		



Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee & Nathan Addison IV, Emmoree Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Joseph Alcendor, Clara Barras, Milton E. Bessard, Hattie Blackmon, Ivy Bobb, Hazel S. Brown, Dylan Broussard, Tommy Burton, Jimmy Byas, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Dalton & Julia Dean, Atrica Dozier, Mary Duplechain, Lois Epps, Eugenia Forbes, Paul Garrick Jr, Anthony Gobert, Valerie Williams Goode, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, Beulah Hadrick, Mary Hamilton, Brittany Jacob Hardeman, Mason Harrison, Cheryl Henderson, Donald Henderson, Edmonia Henderson, Anthony Hicks, Diane Houston, Al Jackson Jr, Crystal Jackson, Angela Johnson, Deacon Irvin Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Brooke Joseph, Louella Kelly, Serral Landry, JoAnn LaSane, Barbara Laugermann, Hilary & Patricia Ledet, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Stella Linden, Eugene Mallery, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Donald May, Nona Mayberry, Diane Miles, Cookie Mooring, Debbie Morris, Lester Mose, Carolyn Ollison, Angela Pena, Cynethia Pichon, Margie Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Robin Pichon-Mosley, Catherine Pierre, Michael Pierre, Mildred Pierre, Marcelle Prevost, Melody Ratcliff, Susan Rawls, Effie Rems, Elise Richmond, John & Christine Roberts, Louis Robinson, Oliver Rose, Brian Russell, Grace Russell, Very Rev. Michael Saah-Buckman SSJ, Kerry Samuels, Kevin Simon, Joyce Smith, Joyce Stagg, Jeffery Steptoe, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor, Melvin Thomas, Terral Thomas, Gemma Walcott, Herbert White, Agnes Williams, Patricia Williams, Terrell Wilson, Janice Woods, Alberta Zenon and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family.



On this Good Shepherd Sunday, we hear Jesus call himself the gate to the sheepfold. He opens to lead the sheep to verdant pastures and closes to save them from danger. In the first reading, Peter reminds us that repentance acts as a gate as well. Repenting of our sins brings forgiveness and salvation. As we listen to God's word, let us pray that we will recognize the voice of the Lord calling us to repentance and the blessings within.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Sunday – April 26**
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 2:14, 36-41
Ps 23:1-6
1 Pt 2:20-25
Jn 1:1-10
- Monday – April 27**
Acts 11:1-18
Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4
Jn 10:11-18
- Tuesday – April 28**
St. Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr;
St. Louis Grignon de Monfort, Priest
Acts 11:19-26
Ps 87:1-7
Jn 10:22-30
- Wednesday – April 29**
Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin,
Doctor of the Church
Acts 12:24—13:5
Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8
Jn 12:44-50
- Thursday – April 30**
Saint Pius V, Pope
Acts 13:13-25
Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27
Jn 13:16-20
- First Friday – May 1**
Saint Joseph the Worker
Acts 13:26-33
Ps 2:6-11
Jn 14:1-6
- First Saturday May 2**
Saint Athanasius, Bishop,
Doctor of the Church
Acts 13:44-52
Ps 98:1-4
Jn 14:7-14



Father Thompson will be on travel from **Monday** (4/27) thru **Thursday** (4/30). Morning Mass will be celebrated by a visiting Priest on Tuesday & Wednesday, but there will be no Morning Mass on Thursday.



Vincent Edward Landry passed away on March 29, 2026 at the age of 60yrs. Vincent is the Nephew of JoAnne LaSane. Funeral arrangements are pending. *Eternal rest grant unto his soul, O Lord, and perpetual light shine upon him.*



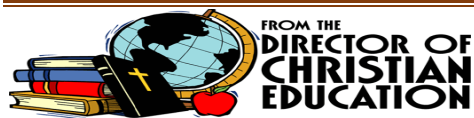
Deacon's Birthday!

Wednesday, April 29th
Mark your salendars
and wish a Happy Birthday to
Deacon Darryl Drenon!

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: Sade Beck, Jacc Blanks, Wadie Troy Butler, Patrick Clay Jr, Kalah A. Guidry, Angel Guillory, LaTroy King, Essence McMillan, Gary Christian Robertson, Anthony Lamar Smith II

Navy: Alvin Balthazar, Debreanna Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett, Mason Guidry, Alexander Guillory Jr, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins-Camp, Xavier Henry, Anthony N. Russell, Robert Lee Smith
Air Force: Samuel Houston, Roderick Jones, Joshua Creeks, Joffre Lander
Marines: Reginald Ward



April 26.....10:00am
First Holy Communion Mass
 April 27.....6:00pm
Last Day for 6th – 10th CCE Classes
 May 16.....5:00pm
Confirmation Mass

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Eucharistic

 Adoration

Friday, MAY 1, 2026
MORNING MASS.....7:00am
ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT WILL BEGIN FOLLOWING MORNING MASS
 7:30am to 12:00pm

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.



ATTENTION GRADUATES

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

- Env/Parish ID No.
- Name of Graduate
- Parent/Guardian (under 18 yrs)
- 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 **May 15, 2026**. You may also sign up to participate online at: www.sfxhouston.com

2026 RAFFLE

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1st Place-\$5000.00 2nd Place-\$2000.00
3rd Place-\$1000.00
4th Place thru 9th Place-\$500.00
******* TICKETS - \$100.00*******

DRAWING – Sunday, June 28, 2026
Only 250 tickets will be sold
Contact:
Theresa Chambers (713) 857-2787
Curtis Jones (713) 417-8341

Tickets will be available for purchase in the lobby of the church on the following dates:
May 2, 3, 9, 10, 17, 23, 24, 30, 31
June 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28
Need Not be Present to Win

Stewardship Reflection

That as we struggle to live a faith-filled life, we recognize we are not alone. Jesus is there to help guide us. “And Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ...’” Acts 2:38 The word “repent” means to turn from sin - to change our thoughts, words and actions. Change that is permanent comes from within – a transformation or conversion of heart. This requires prayer, discipline and perseverance. Change is hard. The first step is recognizing that we are broken and that we need God’s help. The good news - we are not alone in our journey. Ask Jesus daily for guidance and patiently listen for his response.

Scholarships Applications

St. Francis Xavier Scholarships will be awarded to students registered to enter a Catholic School (grades 1 through 12) or registered in a Junior College, College, University, Business or Vocational Training School. **Applications must be received in the Parish Office no later than May 15, 2026.**

KPC 138 Scholarships will be awarded to students who plan to attend a 4-year College/University, Junior College/Community College, or any accredited Business, Vocational or Technical Training program. **Applications must be returned by July 31, 2026.** Applications are available in the Lobby of the Church, the Harris Center.



The St. Francis Xavier Ministry Fair was held on Sunday, April 19th, in the Parish Hall. Parishioners were given an opportunity to learn about the thirty-two (32) ministries and organizations in this parish and sign up to join a ministry or organization where God may be calling them to serve. Pictured above are the ministry and organization heads who participated in the fair.

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, April 18th and Sunday, April 19th was **400**. The 7:30am Mass Livestream on Sunday received **36** views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream or bring a friend to come and worship with us in the church.



This week we will take up the **Catholic Home Mission Appeal**. Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories are considered mission territories because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities for their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Please be generous. Find more information at www.usccb.org/home-missions.



Some reflections inspired by online copyrighted commentaries and homilies

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Cycle A)

A lot of our lives are lived in response to various calls that are made upon us. Parents are called upon by their children and then, as parents get older, it is the children who often get called upon by their parents. In diverse ways, calls are made upon our time, upon our gifts, upon our energies and resources. We live our lives in response to calls of all sorts. The rapid expansion of new means of communication through social media, FaceTime, What's App, etc. in recent decades can mean that we are called more often and more frequently than in the past decades.

Today is Vocations Sunday and Good Shepherd Sunday. Vocations Sunday will be our emphasis in this liturgical year, as we celebrate and encourage vocations. This Celebration reminds us that the most fundamental call that comes to us in life is the call of the Lord. In the gospel reading this morning Jesus speaks of the shepherd who calls his own sheep one by one and leads them out. He is clearly speaking about himself. Jesus often used images drawn from the life of the people to talk about himself and his message. In the world of Jesus, there were no sheepdogs to help the shepherd in his work with the sheep. The relationship between the shepherd and his sheep was more important than it is today.

The Lord recognizes in that relationship between sheep and shepherd something of his own relationship to us. As the shepherd calls his sheep one by one, so the Lord calls his followers one by one; he calls us by name; he calls us in a way that respects our individuality and uniqueness, by our own particular nature. The general call of baptism to be the Lord's disciple, which is addressed to us all, is then lived out in particular ways in response to the Lord's very personal, daily call to each one of us. The Lord's concern is not just with the community as a whole, but with the individuals who make it up. In the words of today's gospel reading, one by one, the Lord calls his own.

Today is vocation Sunday. It is a day when we remind ourselves that we are called. From our baptism we are all called to follow Jesus as his disciples, to take our lead from him. Within that general call which we all share, we each have a particular call that is in keeping with our own unique gifts and limitations, our own distinctive set of experiences. We live out the call to be the Lord's disciple in a way that is unique to each one of us. We each have to ask ourselves, 'What does it mean for me to live out my calling to be the Lord's disciple?' In his message for Vocations Sunday before he died, Pope Francis says that our response to the Lord's personal call to us 'always requires an exodus from oneself in order to centre one's life on Christ and on his gospel.' It is, he says, 'an exodus that leads us on a journey of

adoration of the Lord and of service to him in our brothers and sisters.' Addressing us all he says, 'I invite you to listen to and to follow Jesus, and to allow yourselves to be transformed interiorly by his words, which are spirit and life... It will help you to participate in a communal journey that is able to release the best energies in you and around you. With this initiative we are ready to respond in our own vocation call to discipleship, but also to encourage our youth to listen to God's call to serve even deeper in relation to Christ as Good Shepherd.

One of the tasks of life for each of us as disciples, whether called as priest, religious sister, deacon, or lay servant of the Lord. Our call is to try and listen to the particular call that the Lord is addressing to each one of us here and now. Given my very particular circumstances as priest and pastoral, the relationships, and commitments I have currently, the unique set of gifts and limitations that are mine, I must constantly pray as to what is the Lord asking of me now? One thing we can be sure of is that whatever the Lord's personal call to each one of us is, it will always be a call towards a life in Jesus the Christ.

In this morning's gospel reading, Jesus declares, 'I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.' The Lord's personal call to each of us will always be in harmony with that fundamental purpose of his coming among us. To use another image in that gospel reading, he is the gate, the gateway, to a full life. When the Lord speaks about life to the full, we might be inclined to think only in terms of eternal life, life beyond this earthly life. Yet, the life that the Lord talks about there is not just a future reality, life beyond death; it is also our present reality. Here and now the Lord wants us to know something of that life to the full which is our ultimate destiny.

The role of the shepherd was to give life to his flock, to protect them from harm by taking them to the sheepfold for the night, and then to lead them out of the sheepfold to pasture in the morning. The Lord spoke of himself as the good shepherd. The Lord calls each of us to be a good shepherd in some shape or form to others. Each of us has some baptismal responsibility for some little flock of our own, no matter our situation on life. The Lord will be calling us to give of ourselves in love to others, so as to experience something of that fullness of life he wants for us. Our fundamental call is to be a loving and caring people, with a mind through which the good Shepherd thinks, a heart through which he loves, a voice through which he speaks and hands through which he works. We thank God for all those who are responding to that call in these trying days.



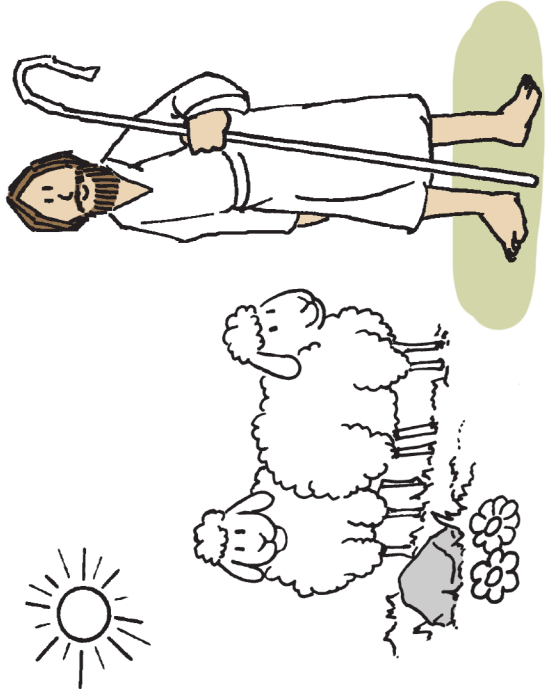
April 19, 2026



What kind of Shepherd is Jesus?

Shade in the letters that have a ♥.

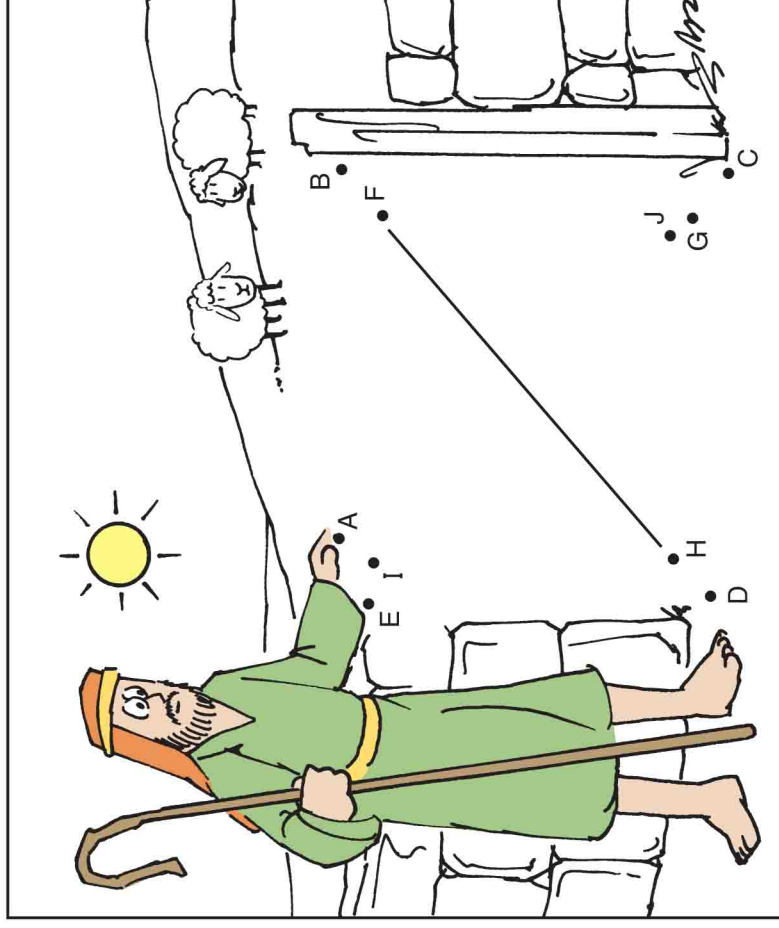
G B S K
J O M R
T S O E
H W N D



The Good Shepherd

The shepherd enters by the gate.

Connect the dots: A B C D E F G H I J



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PRESIDENT & CEO



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Herman J. Mabrie, III, M.D. Justin Mabrie

We encourage you to come by for a tour, reach out for at-need service coordination, or meet with us to develop a pre-need plan.



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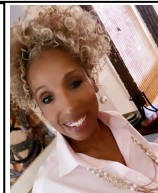


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