

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

Staffed by the Josephites since 1952

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025



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
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 (OCIA)

Deacon Michael V. Jenkins

SVdP FOOD PANTRY

Closed for Restructure

CONTRIBUTIONS/MEMBERSHIP

Agnes Thompson

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 DIRECTORS:

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

FAITH DIRECT®
inspiring secure giving

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	09/06/2025	5:00PM
	<i>People of the Parish</i>	
SUN	09/07/2025	7:30AM
	<i>Audrey Otis (D) – Rita Albert</i>	
SUN	09/07/2025	10:00AM
	<i>Clarence Clement (D) - Lorita M. Shields</i>	
TUE	09/09/2025	7:00AM
	<i>Thanks to God, Mother Maria, Saint. Joseph, All Souls – Kieunhi Nguyen</i>	
WED	09/10/2025	7:00AM
	<i>Mary L. Zenon (D) - The Zenon Family</i>	
THUR	09/11/2025	7:00AM
	<i>John Savoie (D) – The Savoie Family</i>	
FRI	09/12/2025	7:00AM
	<i>Philomena Leftwich (L)</i>	
	<i>Tywanne Navy</i>	
SAT	09/13/2025	5:00PM
	<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i>	
	<i>Family & Friends</i>	



EDDIE REAN WILSON
1928 - 2025



Florence McChristian passed away on September 2, 2025 at the age of 91 yrs. Funeral arrangements are pending. *Eternal rest grant unto her soul, O Lord, and perpetual light shine upon her.*

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY. HONOR YOUR FAITH.

Write your Last Will and Testament for **FREE**, courtesy of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston.



Go to: MyCatholicWill.com/ArchGH



Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee & Nathan Addison IV, Emmoree Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Joseph Alcendor, Vea Barksdale, Clara Barras, Mary Becher, Ivy Bobb, Hazel S. Brown, Tommy Burton, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Thelma Carmouche, Sterling Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Dalton & Julia Dean, Joseph Dixon, Mary Duplechain, Lois Epps, Delia Fields, Lawrence Frank, Paul Garrick Jr, Anthony Gobert, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, Beulah Hadrick, Mary Hamilton, Mason Harrison, Cheryl Henderson, Donald Henderson, Anthony Hicks, Diane Houston, Al Jackson Jr, Crystal Jackson, Angela Johnson, Deacon Irvin Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Brooke Joseph, Shirley Ann Joseph, Michael LaMothe, Serral Landry, JoAnn LaSane, Barbara Laugermann, Hilary & Patricia Ledet, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Donald May, Diane Miles, Jordan Mills, Dorothy Milstead, Cookie Mooring, Vy. Rev. William L. Norvel SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Angela Pena, Cynethia Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Robin Pichon-Mosley, Catherine Pierre, Michael Pierre, Mildred Pierre, Marcelle Prevost, Melody Ratcliff, Effie Rems, Elise Richmond, John & Christine Roberts, Louis Robinson, Oliver Rose, Brian Russell, Grace Russell, Vy. Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman SSJ, Kerry Samuels, Mary Sias Kevin Simon, Joyce Smith, Joyce Staggs, Jeffery Steptoe, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedy Swanks, Erma Taylor, Melvin Thomas, Gemma Walcott, Mary Ward, Herbert White, Agnes Williams, Patricia Williams, Eddie Rean Wilson, Terrell Wilson, Janice Woods, Alberta Zenon and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family.

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, Wadie Troy Butler, Patrick Clay Jr, Kalah A. Guidry, Angel Guillory, Kerry Hubbard, Kory Hubbard, LaTroy King, Gary Christian Robertson, Anthony Lamar Smith II **Navy:** Alvin Balthazar, Debreanna Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett, Alexander Guillory Jr, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins-Camp, Xavier Henry, Anthony N. Russell **Air Force:** Samuel Houston, Roderick Jones, Joshua Creeks, Joffre Lander **Marines:** Reginald Ward

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus, our teacher, offers lessons today on being a disciple. These lessons can be difficult—we must carry our own crosses, we must renounce all our possessions, we even must hate our own family—but we

gather as a family of faith in this place to hear them and reflect on them. The words of Wisdom may help, as they point out that as much as we try, we cannot possibly conceive the mind of God. Therefore, with faith and humility, let us listen to God's word.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

■ Sunday – September 7

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 9:13-18

Psalms 90:3-6, 12-17

Phlm 9-10, 12-17

Luke 14:25-53

□ Monday – September 8

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mi 5:1-4 or Rom 8:28-30

Psalms 13:6

Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

□ Tuesday – September 9

Saint Peter Claver, Priest

Col 2:6-15

Psalms 145:1-2, 8-11

Luke 6:12-19

■ Wednesday – September 10

Col 3:1-11

Psalms 145:2-3, 10-13

Luke 6:20-26

■ Thursday – September 11

Col 3:12-17

Psalms 150:1-6

Luke 6:27-38

■ Friday September 12

The Most Holy Name of Mary

1 Tm 1:1-12, 12-14

Psalms 16:1-2, 5-7, 8, 11

Luke 6:39-42

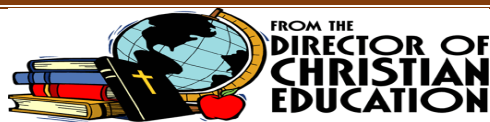
□ Saturday September 13

Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

1 Tm 1:15-17

Psalms 113:1-7

Luke 6:43-49



CCE REGISTRATION

CCE Registration for the 2025-2026 school year will be accepted as follows:

Tuesdays & Wednesdays..9am-4:30pm

Fridays.....9:00am-3:00pm

Registration forms are available in the Vestibule of the Church, the Harris Center and the Parish Website (www.sfxhouston.com). Classes will begin on Monday, September 22nd at 6:00pm for Jr High and High School Students and on Saturday, September 27th at 9:30am for Pre-K and Elementary Students. Call the CCE Office at (713) 731-2775 for additional information.



Bennett James Gunter (4mos) received the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday, August 30, 2025. Bennett is the son of Brandon and Emily Gunter (Back Row). Godparents are James Herring and Christina Contreras (Front Row). Vy. Rev. Michael L. Thompson, SSJ conferred the Sacrament on Baby Bennett.

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, August 30th and Sunday, 31st was 476. The 7:30am Livestream received 79 views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH FALL RAFFLE



Grand Prize!

TOYOTA COROLLA SE

2nd Prize.....\$1000.00 Gift Card

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

4th Prize.....\$400.00 Gas Card

5th Prize.....\$300.00 Macy's Card

Tickets are \$5.00 each. Each household is asked to buy or sell at least 2 books of 20 tickets. Pick up Raffle Books after all Masses this weekend. Call the Parish Office if you would like to receive your Raffle Books in the mail. Go to:

<https://www.church.faithdirect.net/forms/index/632> or Scan the QR Code below to purchase Tickets online.



Drawing: October 19, 2025

Winner Need Not be Present!

The next Bazaar Team Meeting is scheduled for **September 30, 2025**. Volunteer and Shopping Lists are due at this meeting.

KPC LADIES OF GRACE EXEMPLIFICATION August 31, 2025



Congratulations! to the newest members of the KPC Ladies of Grace 4th Degree for St. Francis Xavier Court 138. The new members are seated in the center, left to right: **Gracious Lady Gwendolyn Reed, Gracious Lady Unella Baber and Gracious Lady Cassandra Batchan.**

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 may come to recognize that everything we have is a gift from God and we are called to generously share all of our gifts. "Every one of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:33 When we first hear this statement, it seems that Jesus is making an unrealistic demand upon us. How can we renounce all of our possessions? We need them to live. However, what we must renounce is the belief that they belong to us. Everything that we have belongs to God alone. All of our resources are entrusted to us not only for our own use, but also so that we can help others. Once we renounce the idea that we possess or are entitled to anything, it is much easier to share the many gifts that God has given us. Then we truly are His Disciples.

DSF Cry Out with JOY TO THE LORD!

SCAN HERE TO GIVE



As we prepare for DSF Commitment Weekend next week, let us reflect on how the Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) supports 64 ministries that bring

God's love to those most in need. By supporting DSF, we can **Cry Out with Joy to the Lord!** and share Christ's joy through ministries that shelter the homeless, feed the hungry, and nurture vocations. Let us prayerfully consider our role in this mission of mercy and prepare to respond generously. Our Parish Goal this year is **\$74,300.00**. We have paid **41%** of our goal, **\$30,353.81**. We have a balance of **\$43,946.19**.



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

September 7, 2025

[Jesus said] “Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be My disciple.” Luke 14:27

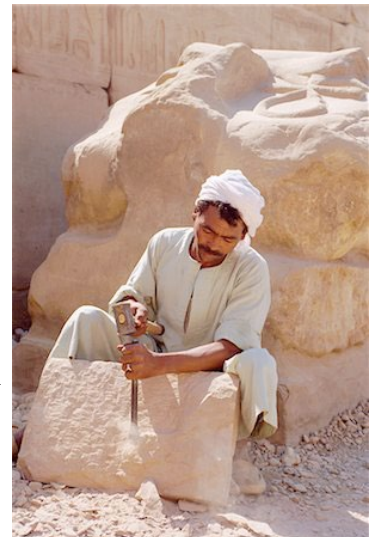
Our crosses shape us, so we can fit in God's Kingdom. Jesus warned the *great crowds* that traveled with Him that discipleship meant placing His purpose above those of both family and self (Luke 14:25- 33). Most U.S. companies and businesses allow their employees to place family needs before company profits. There is even a Federal Law called the Family and Medical Leave Act or FMLA. It allows eligible employees up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave each year for specific family and medical reasons. Jesus has come to earth and is running His Father's business [doing His Father's Will] (cf. Lk 2:49), which we have learned supersedes our own families!

Jesus used strong language to get His point across about discipleship by saying, “*If anyone comes to Me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple*” Luke 14:26. “*Hating*” in this passage meant a *lesser love* (cf. Matt. 10:37). If I were to paraphrase the text, it would read: “*Anyone who wants to be My follower must love Me far more than he does his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, or sister— yes, more than his own life—otherwise he cannot be My disciple.*” The love we have for Christ should be far greater than the love we have for family and ourselves. There was a time that I loved my Mother more than Christ. Following an asthma attack that I had, she said, “*Mike, I would give you the air from my lungs if I could.*” After I realized that I couldn't be a disciple of Jesus, I placed Christ before my Mother. When I did that, Christ began to show and direct me on how to better care for her. You and I can't afford to have anything or anybody before Christ!

Jesus further said, “*Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple*” Luke 14:27. The cross (and Crucifixion) represented death. It is a particular hardship that a follower of Christ has to carry. St. Luke stresses the uniqueness of each disciple's “*own cross*”. The Gospel writer indicated that our

crosses are tailor-made. What is difficult for me, may not be difficult for you. A cross is a thing that God has allowed to crucify and kill your will, your evil inclinations, and your pride. Your cross may be a wayward child that has broken your heart. Your cross may be taking care of an ungrateful parent or an unfaithful spouse. Crosses teach us how to love unlovable people or be faithful in the midst of pain. Your cross can be a divorce that God is using to teach you patience, forgiveness, and kindness. Our crosses chip away at unforgiveness, anger, and malice in us; so we can become Christ-like. Michaelangelo, the great Italian sculptor and painter was working on his masterpiece “*David*” when someone asked, “*What are you trying to do with this piece of marble?*” He said, “*I am trying to get rid of everything that doesn't look like David.*” God is doing the same thing in our lives. He's trying to get rid of everything in us that doesn't look like Jesus.

While walking a man came across some men who were doing some stone work on a church. He walked over and saw a man **chiseling on a rectangle piece of rock**. He asked him, “*where Are you going to put that piece?*” The man **pointed up** and said, “*See that opening by the crucifix; that's where it goes.*”



The worker said, “*I am shaping it down here— so it will fit in up there.*” “*It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships [crosses] to enter the Kingdom of God*” Acts 14:22. **Christ is shaping His disciples down here on earth, so we can fit up there in the Kingdom of God.**

<>< Dcn. Jenkins

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY. HONOR YOUR FAITH.



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON IS
HONORED TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A FREE LEGAL WILL
THROUGH MYCATHOLICWILL.

WILL SERVICES

- ✓ Establish Guardians for your children.
- ✓ Ensure a Catholic funeral and burial.
- ✓ Ensure your assets are directed to the people and ministries you care about most.



MyCatholicWill.com/ArchGH
rbean@archgh.org

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH

1401 FIDELITY ST. - HOUSTON TX 77029



SISTERS IN THE SPIRIT OF HOUSTON COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

SISTERS * TALK * LIVE

WEDNESDAY - OCTOBER 8, 2025



Breast Cancer Awareness



Meet & Greet Time: 5pm – 6pm in Parish Hall
Panel Discussion and Q & A / 6pm - Church
Please Register - Free Event

Register online at <https://olsoshoustontx.flocknote.com/signup/221744> or scan QR code



SIS Gloria Alridge
St. Ignatius of Loyola



Monique Auzenne
St. Philip Neri



SIS Dr. Clarice Campbell
St. Francis of Assisi



Evelyn Clarke
Surviving & Thriving



SIS J. Chynell Fisher
St. Francis Xavier



Tracy Harris
Berean Missionary Baptist Church



SIS Libby Newman
St. Martin de Porres



Joan Taylor
Our Lady Star of the Sea

Committee Chairpersons: SIS Marie Ledet 713.305.4764 • SIS Libby Newman 832.257.3953
Refreshments provided by Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court #139

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Linda Arceneaux, Angela Doucette, Anita Garvey, Morgan Garvey, Gloria Griffin, Nola Hines, Linda Hutson, J Chynell Fisher, Lucille Ford, Diana Carmon-Jones, Francine Haig-Jones, Marie Ledet, Libby Newman, Katie Reed-Roberson, Juanita Thierry, Harriet Thomas, Carol Tyson, Evelyn Wagner-Wright.

Ministers of Hospitality
Fundraiser

Chicken Wings & Fries

\$10 per Order



Saturday September 6th
after the 5pm Mass
Sunday September 7th
after the 7:30am &
10am Masses

Thanks for
your Support

Soda & Water \$1
Desserts \$2

FOR ORDERS

See Any Minister of Hospitality



Mark Gibson
PRESIDENT & CEO



We support the Catholic Faith and appreciate your support. Come for a tour or schedule a preneed or call us in your time of need.

At Haven:

- Ship-Outs
- Coffee Bar
- Flower Shop
- Reception Areas
- Grief Counseling

6605 Schurmer Road*Houston, Texas 77048
Preplanning, Funeral Services & Cremations
Direct: **713-301-9021** Main: **346-618-5284**
m Gibson@havenmemorial.com
www.havenmemorial.com

"Quality that you can see, a name that you can trust"



MABRIE MEMORIAL MORTUARY

Funerals - Memorials - Cremations

We're Here For You

5000 Almeda Rd., Houston, TX 77004
(713) 942-7673, mabriemortuary.com



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.



REGGIE RUSSELL REALTORS

1325 Almeda Genoa, Houston, TX 77047

(713) 434-9999



Jammin J and T Mike

Music at it's best for
Your Special Occassion

(832) 748-3968 or 713) 410-4214



Services: Direct Mail Consulting,
1st Class Mail, Standard/Non-
Profit Mail, Mail Merge, Folding/
Tabbing/Inserting, Mailing Lists,
Postcards, Political Mail, Bulk
Mailing, Courier Services

CALL US TODAY
713-780-9804

ezmailhou@aol.com



RODNEY JACKSON REALTY

Buying | Selling | Leasing | Investing | New Home Construction

"Always Something Different"

cell: 832-878-8556 | office: 713.623.8899



COLDWELL BANKER
REALTY

**Place your
Ad here!**

When it's time for
**Compassion
Integrity
and
Professionalism**
it's time for McCoy and Harrison.



McCoy & Harrison

Funeral Home and Services

A Family Serving Families Since 1925

4918 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Houston, TX 77021

Phone: 713.659.7618
Fax: 713.748.7122

www.mccoyandharrison.com

PATRICIA HEBERT
Independent Travel Advisor

Website:
patriciahebert.inteletravel.com
Contacts:
(409) 223-2372
Email: phebert1947@gmail.com
Let me handle your travel needs!



**Higgins Beauty
Salon**
3606 Nita St
Houston, TX 77051

Karen Higgins
Owner/Stylist

Appointments Call:
(713) 842-1915



MARY KAY®

Gwendolyn Reed

Independent Beauty Consultant

Dermatologists approved skincare for women, men and teens. I can help you with your beauty, health and gift needs.

Website: marykay.com/GReed6

greedlamoth2@aol.com

1-832-594-5255

God First, Family Second, Career Third

Ross Mortuary, Inc.

"SERVICE OF DISTINCTION"

(713) 223-8071 or 223-3296

3618 Lyons Avenue
Houston, Texas 77020
FAX Number 223-5934



Dr. Umekei Smith
KPCL Court #159



Umekei Smith DDS

FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY

Smile Makeovers • Invisalign • Implants and Dentures • HSA
Flex Spending • Most Insurance Accepted
AARP/Medicare Plans Accepted • 7am Appointments Available

713.662.2535

3264 South Loop West | Houston, TX 77025

New Patient Special \$49 EXAM AND XRAYS

BAKER-JONES CO.

SINCE 1951

**Air-Conditioning & Heating
Sales & Service**
(License No. TACLA 1008)

(713) 529-3418

Ronald K. Moss - President
Justin Moss - Vice President



Steven K. Schwartz II, Attorney at Law

Probate & Estate Settlement
Wills & Estate Plans

713-385-0269

www.SchwartzLawHouston.com



SHARON A. ZENON

Notary Public
State Of Texas

Here to meet all your Notary needs; Please
call for appointment. Phone: 713-446-4279

Please support these businesses. They support our parish and community.
For advertising information, contact the Parish Office at (713) 738-2311.