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(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

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TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 19, 2025



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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



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MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	10/18/2025	5:00PM
<i>Ezzard Sam (D) – Lydia & Roger Sam</i>		
SUN	10/19/2025	9:00AM
<i>Jerry Givens (L) – Special Intention</i>		
TUE	10/21/2025	7:00AM
<i>Eric D'Wonne Henderson (L)</i> The Henderson Family		
WED	10/22/2025	7:00AM
<i>David Johnson (D)</i> The Johnson McLaurin Family		
THUR	10/23/2025	7:00AM
<i>Rev. Brian P. Fox, SSJ (D)</i> Theresa Rayme		
FRI	10/24/2025	7:00AM
<i>Rev. Brian P. Fox, SSJ (D)</i> Theresa Rayme		
SAT	10/25/2025	5:00PM
<i>Willie Mae Henderson (D)</i> The Henderson Family		



Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee & Nathan Addison IV, Emmoree Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Joseph Alcendor, Clara Barras, Ivy Bobb, Hazel S. Brown, Tommy Burton, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Sterling Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Dalton & Julia Dean, Mary Duplechain, Lois Epps, Lawrence Frank, Paul Garrick Jr, Anthony Gobert, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, Mary Gordon, Beulah Hadrick, Mary Hamilton, Mason Harrison, Cheryl Henderson, Donald Henderson, Kenneth Joseph Henderson Jr, Anthony Hicks, Diane Houston, Al Jackson Jr, Crystal Jackson, Angela Johnson, Deacon Irvin Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Brooke Joseph, Serral Landry, JoAnn LaSane, Barbara Laugermann, Hilary & Patricia Ledet, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Donald May, Diane Miles, 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, Kevin Simon, Steven Singleton, Joyce Smith, Joyce Stagg, Jeffery Steptoe, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedy Swanks, Erma Taylor, Melvin 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.

THE TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The first reading transports us back to Moses' time, to a battle in which Moses' stamina was gravely tested. In the second reading, Paul encourages Timothy to be persistent in

spreading the Good News. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches his disciples the importance of praying persistently, to keep their faith while continually petitioning God for justice. May we take to heart the words we sing in the psalm today: "Our help is from the Lord."

Pink Sunday

In recognition of all breast cancer survivors, we are asking parishioners to wear pink the weekend of **October 25th and 26th**.



We are taking names of breast cancer patients, survivors and thrivers at Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church. A registration list is in the vestibule of the church and in the Harris Center. Donations are welcome to cover the breast cancer packages that will be given out. This is our chance to make a big difference for our community.

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK**■ Sunday – October 19**

The 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 17:8-13

Ps 121:1-8

2 Tm 3:14—4:2

Lk 18:1-8

■ □ Monday – October 20

Saint Paul of the Cross, Priest

Rom 4:20-25

(Ps) Lk 1:69-75

Lk 12:13-21

■ Tuesday – October 21

Rom 5:12, 15, 17-19, 20-21

Ps 40:7-10, 17

Lk 12:35-38

■ □ Wednesday – October 22

Saint John Paul II, Pope

Rom 6:12-18

Ps 124:1-8

Lk 12:39-48

■ □ Thursday – October 23

Saint John of Capistrano, Priest

Rom 6:19-23

Ps 1:1-4, 6

Lk 12:49-53

■ □ Friday October 24

Saint Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop

Rom 7:18-25

Ps 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93, 94

Lk 12:54-59

■ □ Saturday October 25

Rom 8:1-11

Ps 24:1-4, 5-6

Lk 13:1-9



October 20

NO CCE CLASSES

October 25.....9:30am

PreK – 5th CCE CLASSES

October 26.....2:00pm-4:00pm

TRUNK OR TREAT!

October 27.....6:00pm

6th – 10th CCE CLASSES

November 1.....9:30am

PreK – 5th CCE CLASSES

November 3.....6:00pm

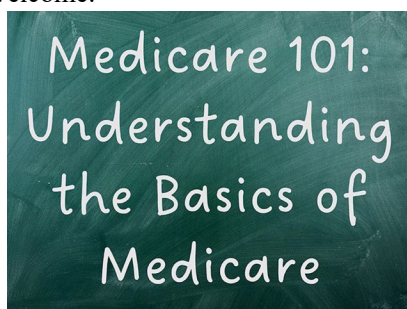
6th – 10th CCE CLASSES

St. Francis Xavier Church is hosting a Blood Drive Donor Coach on Sunday, November 9th, from 8:30am to 1:00pm. Successful donors will receive a FREE *"Give Thanks, Give Life, Give Blood"* T-Shirt!!! Scan below for an appointment:



Sponsor Code: 2389.

Appointments preferred; Walk-ins welcome.



**JOIN US for an
EDUCATIONAL EVENT**

Saturday November 1st 10am - 12pm

St. Francis Xavier Parish Hall

Calling the numbers below will direct you to a licensed sales agent. This event is for educational purposes, and no plan-specific benefits or details will be shared. Not affiliated with or endorsed by the Government or Federal Medicare Program.

Ricky Boysaw 936-525-0721

Lee McGriggs 832-229-1125

2026 MASS INTENTION REQUESTS

Mass Intention Request Forms for 2026 will be available on **November 1st**. We can accept only one intention per Mass. Each Mass is said for one person, living spouses or one family. To allow everyone an opportunity to get Mass Intentions approved, please note the following restrictions when submitting your requests:

1. A Mass may be offered for the same individual no more than two times per month (24 times per year).
2. A Mass intention can be scheduled no more than one calendar year in advance, beginning on November 1st.
3. You may request only one (1) Mass per Month on a Weekend (Saturday/Sunday)
4. You may request only one (1) Mass per Week on a Weekday (Tuesday through Friday).
5. Requests will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis in the order in which the request is received in the Parish Office.

The minimum donation for each Mass is **\$10.00**.



Know someone impacted by the Federal Shutdown? Here are some national resources that may provide relief.

<https://feea.org/2025-resources-for-feds/>

FEEA's Grant & Loan Programs

Federal Employee Education & Assistance (FEEA) Fund has both an Emergency Hardship Loan program and Shutdown Grants available for qualifying full-time federal civilian employees.

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, October 11th and Sunday, October 12th was **479**. The 7:30am Livestream received **54** views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream, or bring a friend to come and 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

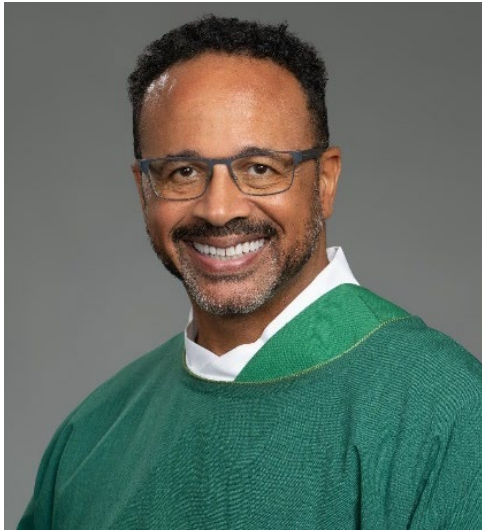
My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, Come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

Stewardship Reflection

That we may be persistent in our stewardship, even when it is not convenient or comfortable. "...proclaim the word, be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient..." 2 Timothy 4:2 It is not always convenient to be a good steward, especially when all the temptations of our busy and materialistic world get in the way. Now add our own pride and ego into the equation and living a stewardship lifestyle may be downright uncomfortable! Remember, God didn't call us to be comfortable. He never said that we would have an easy life. Rather, He called us to be faithful!



Today, every parish across the globe joins together for the only **worldwide collection** mandated by Canon Law—**World Mission Sunday Collection**. Your generosity today supports the **Pope's missions** in more than 1,124 territories where the Church is young or struggling. This year's theme—"Missionaries of Hope Among the Peoples"—is a call to embody the love of God, poured into our heart by the Holy Spirit (cf. Rom 5:5). Your offering today provides hope where despair too often dominates—through the building of churches, formation of seminarians and religious sisters, healthcare clinics, and Catholic schools. Thank you for responding with faith, love, and generosity. As Pope Francis told us, "Each of us is a mission on this earth" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 273). Together, we share in that mission by ensuring that no one is excluded from the invitations to encounter Christ.



THE TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

October 19, 2025

Persist with Trust

Happy Sunday! Today's readings remind us that prayer isn't just something we do...it's who we are as children of God. Jesus tells us to **"pray always without becoming weary,"** because prayer connects us to the heart of God.

Through prayer we can confess, ask forgiveness, intercede, give thanks, or simply sit in silence with our Creator. Prayer is the way we let God mold our hearts...and the way we invite Him to move His hand.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the story of a widow who keeps coming to an unjust judge, begging for justice. She's powerless and overlooked, yet she never gives up. Her persistence wears the judge down, and he grants her request. Jesus' point is clear: if persistence can move an unjust man, how much more will our loving Father respond to those who call on Him in faith?

But persistent prayer isn't easy. When answers don't come quickly, we grow tired or discouraged. Yet prayer is not about getting what we want right away...it's about relationship. It's about trusting God enough to keep showing up, even when we don't see results.

There was a time when my wife, Margaret, and I prayed for a baby girl. After four boys, she said, "God must want us to be a boy family." And she was fine with that. But we weren't the only ones praying, my mother-in-law, *Grace*, was praying right along with us! She already had eleven

grandsons and kept telling the Lord she wanted a granddaughter. So together we formed a small circle of persistent prayer, lifting up the same hope year after year.

Meanwhile, as I was praying for a daughter, God was calling me to the Diaconate...and I kept saying no. I was too busy, too comfortable, too focused on my own plans. But God was patient. He kept molding my heart.

Eventually, when our youngest son Brycen was nine, I said **yes** to that call. And halfway through my formation, Margaret became pregnant again. After years of waiting, and years of Grace's faithful prayers, God answered in His perfect time. He blessed us with our daughter, Brionne: healthy, beautiful, and a living reminder that God's timing is always right.

That's the lesson of persistent prayer: keep praying with faith that God is listening, even when you don't see movement. Because He's not just preparing the answer, He's preparing *you*.

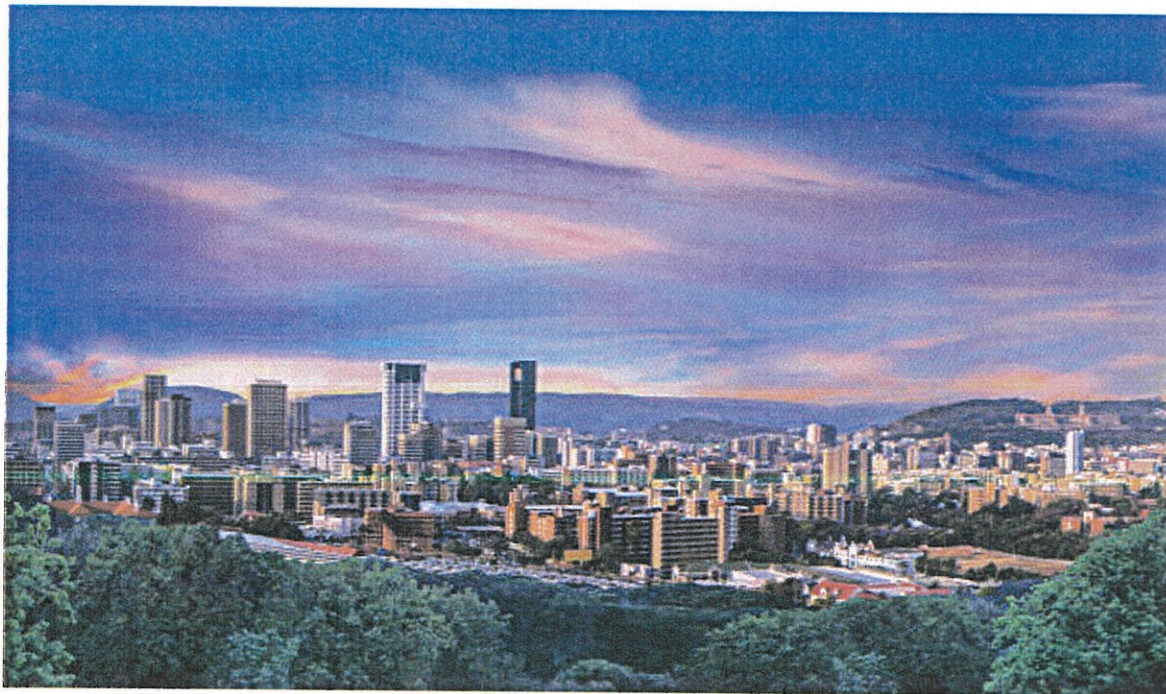
So, brothers and sisters, don't give up on your prayers. Don't grow weary. Pray for our families, our community, and for our world. Pray that God will shape our hearts and move His hand.

And always remember: ***God may not always come when you want Him to, but He's always right on time.*** So...**persist with trust.**

Prayer: Lord, give us the faith to persist in prayer and the trust to wait for Your perfect timing. Amen.

Deacon Darryl

TRAVEL WITH Fr MIKE THOMPSON TO SOUTH AFRICA



WHEN: October 17-28, 2026

WHERE: Pretoria • Ladybrand • Bloemfontein • Magaliesburg
• Johannesburg

COST: \$5999.00 Per person double occupancy, airfare from anywhere in the US included. Also included airport taxes, security fees & fuel surcharges, 4 & 5 star hotels, all breakfasts & dinners (wine included with dinner), transportation on a luxury bus, luggage handling, all gratuities, guided tours and tour fees.

AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA

ROSARY RALLY

Many thanks to all ministries and members of St. Francis Xavier for participation in the 9th Annual Rosary Rally of Our Lady of Fatima. This year the Rosary was led by the Christian Women under the leadership of Sister Cheryl Hurts, and it was supported by KPC Membership Committee, Ct. 138, Chair Gwendolyn Lamothe, Ladies, Knights, and Juniors of KPC Unit 138, under the leadership of Grand Knight Michael Lamothe, Grand Lady Ashton Guerrero, Jr., Knight Commander Jonathan Mose, and Jr. Daughter Counselor Eboni Graham, including prayer readings, greetings, and overall participation. Other participants included ministries of St. Francis Xavier, namely the CCE Youth, under the leadership of Lady Unella Baber and staff, Sisters in the Spirit, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, 55+ Club members, the Journey to 2nd Chance Ministry, and the Usher Ministry to name a few. The rally was one of the largest we've had since its inception in 2017! Thank you for sharing your time to pray publicly for God's people to humble themselves and atone for their sins.





**JOIN US at ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH on
October 26th from 2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Enjoy a Free, Safe and Unique way to
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Costumes are encouraged!

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